

Rajasthan to Get its Share of Yamuna Water

Why in News?

Recently, Rajasthan Chief Minister asserted that the state will get its share of **Yamuna water** as per the allocations specified in the 1994 agreement with Haryana.

Key Points

- Haryana and Rajasthan recently signed an agreement to jointly prepare a detailed project report
 for the transfer of Rajasthan's share of Yamuna water from Hathnikund in Haryana through
 underground pipelines and its subsequent utilisation in areas such as Jhunjhunu and Churu.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed after a meeting between Haryana and Rajasthan CM on 17 February 2024.
 - The issue of water sharing has been a point of contention for over two decades since the signing of the MOU on May 12, 1994, allocating water shares among co-basin states.

Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal

- The Issue stems from a controversial 1981 water-sharing agreement drawn up when Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966.
- Punjab:
 - Punjab vehemently opposes sharing any additional water with neighboring states.
 They stress that Punjab lacks surplus water and highlights the reduction in their water allocation over the years.
 - Many areas in Punjab may go dry after 2029 and the state has already over-exploited
 its groundwater for irrigation purposes as it fills granaries of the Centre by growing wheat
 and paddy worth Rs 70,000 crore every year.
 - Water in about 79% of the state's area is over-exploited and in such a situation, the government says sharing water with any other state is impossible.

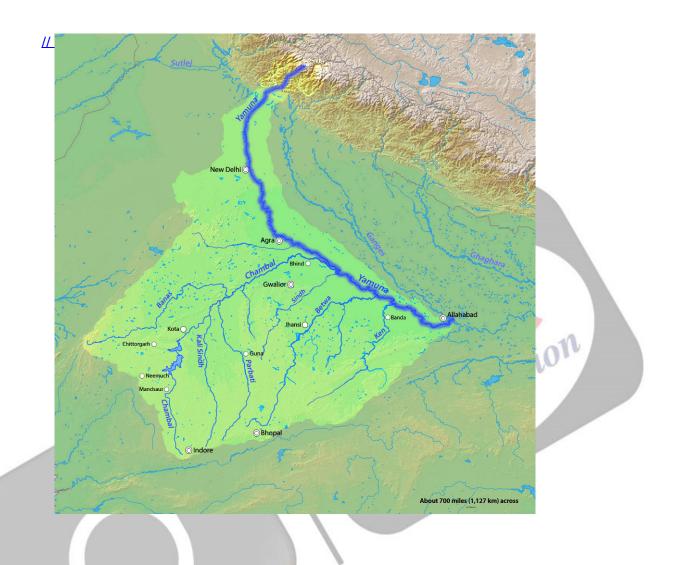
Haryana:

- Haryana strongly advocates for the canal's completion, citing a looming water crisis and asserting that Punjab has been utilizing Haryana's share of water.
- It says that providing irrigation is tough for the state and there was a problem of drinking water in **southern parts of Haryana**, where groundwater has depleted up to 1,700 feet.
- Haryana has been citing its contribution to the central food pool and arguing that it is being denied its rightful share in the water as assessed by a tribunal.

Yamuna River

- The Yamuna River is one of the major tributaries of the Ganges in Northern India.
 - It forms an integral part of the **Yamuna-Ganga Plain**, one of the world's most extensive alluvial plains.
- Source: It has its source in the Yamunotri Glacier at an elevation of 6,387 meters on the southwestern sides of Banderpooch crests in the lower Himalayan ranges.
- Basin: It meets the Ganges at the Sangam (where Kumbh mela is held) in Prayagraj, Uttar
 Pradesh after flowing through Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.
- Important Dam: Lakhwar-Vyasi Dam (Uttarakhand), Tajewala Barrage Dam (Haryana) etc.

- Important Tributaries: Chambal, Sindh, Betwa and Ken.
 Government Initiatives Related to Yamuna River:
- - Yamuna Action Plan
 - Delhi Government's Six-Point Action Plan to Clean Yamuna by February 2025.



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