



# Ganga Connect Exhibition: UK

## Why in News

Recently, the **Ganga Connect exhibition** concluded in London on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

- It was inaugurated in Glasgow, Scotland after the successful culmination of [COP-26 \(Conference of parties\)](#) on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.
- **10 key strategic initiatives** were announced during the exhibition

## Key Points

### ▪ About:

- It is a global exhibition **that will showcase multiple facets of the river basin and connect with interested parties.**
- It has been a major effort of the [National Mission for Clean Ganga](#), the High Commission of India and **C-Ganga (Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies)** to engage with the international community of scientists, technology companies, policy makers, industry, investors and finance professionals.

### ▪ Objective:

- To showcase the level of development in the [Ganga River basin](#) to a global community of environmental stakeholders..

### ▪ Significance:

#### ◦ **Creating Awareness:**

- It is significant from the point of view of **preserving and protecting Ganga** and its ecosystem and creating widespread awareness about the river basin.
- It demonstrates the **deep spiritual and philosophical connect** that Indians have with the river.

#### ◦ **Understanding Ecosystem:**

- The Ganga Connect exhibition offers a **clear and deep understanding** of the size, magnitude and complexity of the **Ganga riverine ecosystem.**

#### ◦ **Enables Engagement:**

- It **enables engagement with interested parties** and the diaspora who want to get involved in the rejuvenation, restoration and conservation of the river system.

#### ◦ **Development of Environmental Solution:**

- It **emphasizes** on river Ganga as a major lab for global technology and the scientific community **to develop cutting-edge environmental solutions.**

## Key Initiatives Announced

**Ganga Connect  
UK Community**

- The chapters established are: **Scotland - Ganga Connect, Wales -Ganga Connect, Midlands - Ganga Connect, London - Ganga**

<b>Engagement Chapters</b>	<p><b>Connect.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each chapter will have conveners who will connect various interest groups with the NamamiGangeprogramme including scientists, technology companies, investors and community members.</li> </ul>
<b>Twinning of Rivers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It has been announced to share knowledge, best practices and experiences of river basin management including community engagement programmes.</li> </ul>
<b>Scotland - India Water Partnership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This partnership builds upon the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) of <b>National Mission for Clean Ganga</b> and Government of Scotland MOU of 2017.</li> <li>It will channel the high level of interest amongst <b>Scottish entities specialising in water into entering the Indian market and the <a href="#">Namami Gange programme</a></b> will act as a major platform for Scottish entities to enter the Indian market.</li> </ul>
<b>Impact Project using Arth Ganga Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will be developed on the model of rejuvenation and economic development of the <b>River Clyde in Glasgow</b>. It will include many aspects such as <b>sustainable tourism, river front development, sustainable transport and other activities.</b></li> <li>It will <b>create significant livelihood opportunities and bring new economic activities</b> but in a manner that creates a model approach of environmentally sustainable development.</li> </ul>
<b>Ganga Finance and Investments Forum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of investors and finance companies have come together to establish the Ganga Finance and Investments Forum (GFIF) to develop state of the art <b>financial instruments</b> such as <b>river bonds, blue bonds, impact and outcome bonds, credit enhancement and guarantee instruments.</b></li> <li>It will also provide ongoing <b>support to NMCG and the Namami Gange programme</b> for continuous funding and project finance for various initiatives.</li> </ul>
<b>Environment Technology Verification (ETV) programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three innovative technologies are selected and on-boarded onto the ETV programme:</li> <li>This takes the total number of companies in the ETV programme to over 40 of which 14 are from the UK.</li> </ul>
<b>Tech &amp; Innovation Financing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support the successful candidates a partnership with OPG Power Ventures, a company listed on the <b><a href="#">AIM (Alternative Investment Fund)</a></b> segment of the London Stock Exchange, is being established that will create up to a Rs 30 crore facility to <b>fund technologies and innovations.</b></li> </ul>
<b>UK-India Scientific Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of scientists and research institutions have agreed to come together to form a <b>knowledge pool for exchange of scientific and technological ideas</b> leading to development of collaborative research.</li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration bridge between India and the UK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scientists and academics from various institutions have agreed to establish a collaboration bridge between India and the UK <b>to work meticulously on river rejuvenation and conservation.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Global Youth for Ganga</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will <b>engage in interdisciplinary discussions, raising worldwide awareness, and encouraging engagement in the Clean Ganga Mission</b>, bringing together young students, researchers and professionals across the globe.</li> <li>The aim is to make Clean Ganga a reality and also to inspire the rest of the world to take similar initiatives in their states down to the very grassroot level.</li> </ul>
<b>Clean Ganga Charity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The charity set up process has been expedited and it will be set up soon with a view to start mobilising communities and friends of Ganga in the coming months.</li> </ul>

**Source: PIB**

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/ganga-connect-exhibition-uk>

