

## Subansiri Dam

Despite <u>National Green Tribunal's</u> order of not resuming construction or concretization work at Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Project (LSHP) till safety issues are resolved, massive concretization has been



carried out at the Subansiri hydroelectric project. //

- Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project (SLHEP), is an under-construction gravity dam on the Subansiri river along the border of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
  - **Subansiri River (gold river),** originates in the Tibet Plateau and enters India through Miri hills in Arunachal Pradesh.
  - It is the **largest tributary** of Brahmaputra River.
- Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project had been kept pending due to local agitation over several dam safety and administrative issues involved in the implementation of the project like:
  - SLHEP contravenes the 1980 Brahmaputra Board Act by transferring the work of Water Resources Department of Subansiri Basin from the Brahmaputra Board to the public and private sector.
  - Increased seismic threat level to the dam, assessed by Indian Institute of Technology at Roorkee.

## **Gravity Dam**

- **Gravity dam** is constructed from **concrete** or **cement** (unlike mud and masonry stones used in embankment).
- It is designed to hold back water by primarily utilising the weight of the material alone to resist the horizontal pressure of water pushing against it.

## **Other Controversial Dams**

- Sardar Sarovar Dam: The Sardar Sarovar Dam is a gravity dam (2<sup>nd</sup> largest concrete gravity dam by volume in the world) on the **Narmada river** near **Navagam**, Gujarat.
  - Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan, receive water and electricity

- supplied from the dam.
- Dam is alleged to displace around 2.5 lakh villagers.
- MullaPeriyar Dam: It is a gravity dam on the Periyar River in Idukki district of Kerala but it is owned and operated by the Tamil Nadu government.
  - There is an ongoing contention between Kerala and Tamilnadu governments over the height of the dam.
- **Polavaram project:** It is an under-construction multi-purpose National **project** on the **Godavari River** in the West Godavari District and East Godavari District in **Andhra Pradesh**.
  - The project will submerge villages in Chhattisgarh and Odisha.
- **Kishanganga Hydroelectric Plant** is a **run-of-the-river** hydroelectric scheme that is designed to divert water from the Kishanganga River to a power plant in the **Jhelum River basin** and is located in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
  - World Bank's court of arbitration failed to resolve the dispute between India and Pakistan over Indus water treaty issue.

