



Haryana-Delhi Yamuna Water Dispute | Haryana | 29 Jan 2025

Why in News?

The **Haryana-Delhi dispute** over the [Yamuna river](#) has once again become a key political issue. Delhi Chief Minister (CM) has accused the **Haryana government** of contaminating the Yamuna with untreated sewage and industrial waste.

Key Points

- **Water Contamination Allegations:**
 - Delhi Chief Minister termed Haryana's actions as "**water terrorism**" and wrote to the Election Commission, citing a **Delhi Jal Board (DJB) report** that claimed [ammonia levels](#) in the **Yamuna** had surged beyond treatable limits.
 - The **ammonia levels** have steadily increased in the water coming from Haryana to Delhi via **River Yamuna** due to mixing of untreated sewage or industrial waste from Haryana.
- **Legal and Political History:**
 - The [Yamuna water-sharing dispute](#) is a long-standing dispute, ongoing since 1995.
 - **1994 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU):** Five states (Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Himachal Pradesh) signed an MoU in 1994 to regulate Yamuna water distribution.
 - The [Supreme Court](#) had intervened in **1995** and **1996** to ensure Delhi's water supply from Haryana. Despite multiple petitions and legal battles, the issue remains unresolved.
 - The Supreme Court has ruled multiple times that Haryana must ensure Delhi's rightful share of water.
- **Recent Developments:**
 - In 2018, the Supreme Court directed the **Chief Secretaries of Delhi and Haryana** to resolve water disputes.
 - In 2021, the Delhi government accused Haryana of **withholding Yamuna water**, Haryana countered that Delhi's crisis was due to "**internal mismanagement.**"
 - In July 2023, floods in Delhi led to fresh accusations, with the Delhi Government claiming Haryana deliberately released **excess water** from the [Hathnikund Barrage](#).
 - In June 2024, Delhi CM accused Haryana of "**conspiring against Delhi**" and launched an **indefinite hunger strike**, which she ended after five days due to health concerns.
- **Impact on Delhi Residents:**
 - The dispute has led to **severe water shortages** in Delhi, particularly in summer months.
 - **Elevated ammonia levels** pose a threat to **public health, complicating water treatment processes.**
- **Future Outlook:**
 - The dispute remains unresolved despite legal interventions.
 - The upcoming elections could further intensify political rhetoric around the issue.
 - A long-term **sustainable solution** is needed to address Delhi's water security concerns.

Yamuna

- The river Yamuna, a major tributary of river Ganges, originates from the **Yamunotri glacier near Bandarpoonch peaks** in the Mussoorie range of the lower Himalayas in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand.

- It meets the Ganges at the Sangam in **Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh** after flowing through Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.
- Length: 1376 km
- **Important Dam:** Lakhwar-Vyasi Dam (Uttarakhand), Tajewala Barrage Dam (Haryana) etc.
- **Important Tributaries:** **Chambal**, Sindh, **Betwa and Ken**.

