



Vamsadhara River Water Dispute

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Why in News

The **Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha** will hold talks to clear out all differences with regard to the **sharing of Vamsadhara river waters**.

Andhra Pradesh wants to build the **Neradi bridge** across the river which will be possible only after Odisha's consent.

Key Points

- Andhra Pradesh also wants to complete the **inter-linking of its Nagavali river with the Vamsadhara** and expand the **Madduvalasa Reservoir project** soon.
Madduvalasa Project is a **Medium Irrigation Project** with a reservoir across **Suvarnamukhi** river, a **tributary of Nagavali** river.
- **Agriculture is the only assured economic activity** for the people living in the backward region and in the **absence of rapid industrialisation**, there is a need to **concentrate on irrigation projects** to make agriculture a viable activity.
- **Background:**
 - In **February 2006**, Odisha sent a complaint to the Central Government under **Section 3 of the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956** regarding its water disputes with Andhra Pradesh pertaining to **Inter-State River Vamsadhara**. It demanded for the constitution of an **Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunal** for adjudication.
 - **Grievances of Orissa:**
 - **Adverse effect** of undertaking the **construction of a canal** (called a flood flow canal at Katragada, Andhra Pradesh) taking off from the river Vamsadhara.
The flood flow canal would result in **drying up the existing river bed** and consequent shifting of the river **affecting the groundwater table**.
 - **Failure of Andhra Pradesh** to implement the terms of the inter-state agreement relating to use, distribution and control of waters of vamsadhara and its valley.
 - Odisha also raised the issue of **scientific assessment** of available water in Vamsadhara at Katragada and Gotta Barrage, Andhra Pradesh and the basis for sharing the available water.

Major Inter-State River Disputes	
River (s)	States
Ravi and Beas	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan
Narmada	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan
Krishna	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana
Vamsadhara	Andhra Pradesh & Odisha
Cauvery	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry
Godavari	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha
Mahanadi	Chhattisgarh, Odisha
Mahadayi	Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka
Periyar	Tamil Nadu, Kerala

Vamsadhara River

- It is an **east-flowing** river which originates in **Kalahandi district of Odisha**, flows in Odisha, along its boundary with Andhra Pradesh and finally **joins the Bay of Bengal at Kalingapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.**
- It is the **main river of north-eastern Andhra** region and the **Boddepalli Rajagopala Rao Project** was constructed on it to meet the irrigation needs of the region.

VAMSADHRA RIVER

