



Godavari River

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Why in News

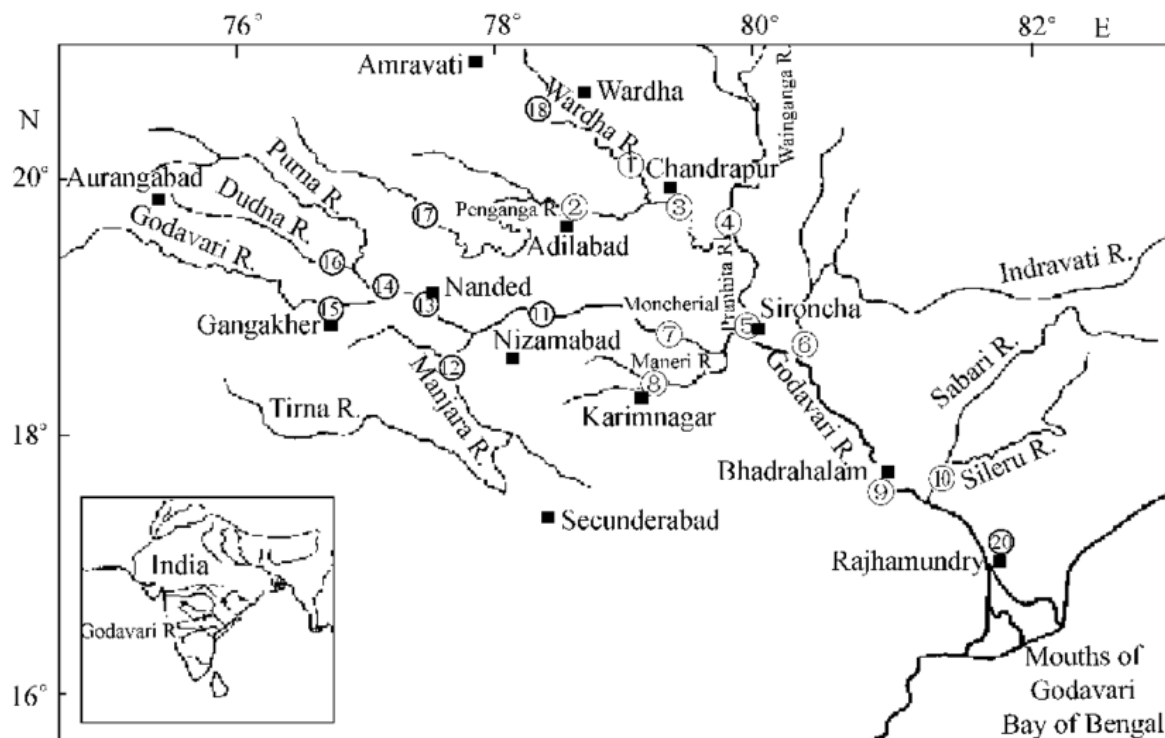
The Godavari water is to be released into the irrigation canals in East and West Godavari districts from the **Polavaram irrigation** project site up to 15th April 2021 against the previous deadline of 31st March 2021.

Work on the **cofferdam** is scheduled to commence in April.

Key Points

Godavari River:

- The Godavari is the **largest Peninsular river system**. It is also called the **Dakshin Ganga**.
- **Source:** Godavari river rises from **Trimbakeshwar near Nasik** in Maharashtra and flows for a length of about 1465 km before **outfalling into the Bay of Bengal**.
- **Drainage Basin:** The Godavari basin extends over states of Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha in addition to smaller parts in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Union territory of Puducherry.
- **Tributaries:** Pravara, Purna, Manjra, Penganga, Wardha, Wainganga, Pranhita (combined flow of Wainganga, Penganga, Wardha), Indravati, Maner and the Sabri.
- **Cultural Significance:** **Kumbh Mela** also takes place on the **banks of the Godavari river in Nashik**.
 - Other locations for Kumbh are the **Shipra river in Ujjain**, the **Ganges in Haridwar**, and the **confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and the mythical Saraswati river in Prayag**.
- **Godavari River Dispute:** **Godavari river water sharing** is bone of contention among Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Karnataka.
- **Important Projects on Godavari:**
 - Polavaram Irrigation Project.
 - **Kaleshwaram**.
 - **Sadarmatt Anicut** across river Godavari is one among the two irrigation projects in the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) Register of **Heritage Irrigation Structures**.
 - **Inchampalli:** The Inchampalli project is proposed on the Godavari River about 12 km downstream of the **confluence of Indravati with the Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh**.
 - It is a joint project among the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Sriram Sagar Project (SRSP):** The Sriram Sagar Project is a multipurpose project, located across the Godavari River near Pochampad of Nizamabad District in Telangana.



Polavaram Irrigation Project:

- Polavaram Project is located **in Andhra Pradesh on the river Godavari**, near Polavaram village.
- It is a **multi-purpose irrigation project** as the project once completed will provide Irrigation benefits and will generate **HydroElectric Power**.
In addition, this project will also supply drinking water.
- It will facilitate an **inter-basin transfer to the Krishna river basin** through its Right canal.
- It will also provide indirect benefits such as development of **Pisciculture** (breeding and rearing of fish), tourism and urbanisation.
- The Project has been **accorded national project status by the union government in 2014** (under Section-90 of **Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014**).

Cofferdam

- A cofferdam is defined as a **temporary barrier** in or around a body of water which allows the process of **de-watering, diversion, or damming of water within an enclosed area**.
- The major purpose of any cofferdam type is to hold back overwhelming or inconvenient waters and create a dry work environment.
- This allows a project to proceed with as little resistance and as much safety as possible.



Source:TH