



Tungabhadra Dam

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Why in News

Recently, the Vice President visited the Tungabhadra dam in Karnataka.

Key Point

- **About:**
 - Tungabhadra dam also **known as Pampa Sagar** is a multipurpose dam built across **Tungabhadra River** in Hosapete, Ballari district of Karnataka. It was built by Dr. Thirumalai Iyengar in 1953.
 - Tungabhadra reservoir has a storage capacity of 101 TMC (Thousand Million Cubic feet) with **catchment area spreading to 28000 square kms**. It is about **49.5 meters in height**.
- **Importance:**
 - It is the **life-line of 6 chronically drought prone districts** of Bellary, Koppal and Raichur in **Karnataka** (popularly known as the **rice bowl of Karnataka**) and Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool in neighbouring **Andhra Pradesh**.
 - Besides irrigating vast patches of land in the two states, it also **generates hydel power and helps prevent floods**.

Tungabhadra River



- It is a sacred river in southern India that **flows through the state of Karnataka to Andhra Pradesh**. The ancient name of the river was **Pampa**. The river is approximately 710 km long, and it drains an area of 72,200 sq km.
- It is **formed by the confluence of two rivers, the Tunga River and the Bhadra River**. Both Tunga & Bhadra Rivers originate on the eastern slopes of the **Western Ghats**.
- The greater part of the Tungabhadra's course **lies in the southern part of the Deccan plateau**. The river is fed mainly by rain, and it has a monsoonal regimen with summer high water.
- Its **Major tributaries** are the **Bhadra**, the **Haridra**, the **Vedavati**, the **Tunga**, the **Varda** and the **Kumdavathi**.
- It **flows in a more or less northwest direction** before joining the eastern river **Krishna**. The Krishna River finally ends into the Bay of Bengal.

Source: IE