



Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project

Why in News?

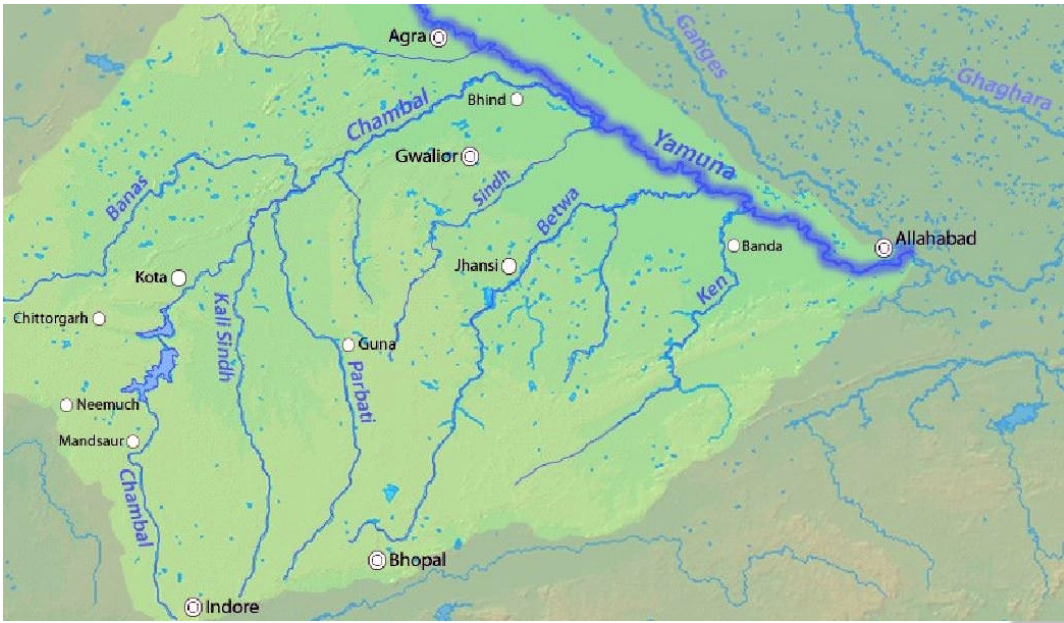
Recently, the Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh governments inked a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP)**.

Key Points

- MoU will pave the way for the availability of drinking water and irrigation in **13 districts** of Rajasthan and will also play a huge role in changing the economic conditions of the region.
- The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP), an **ambitious drinking and irrigation water project**, was announced by the state government in the state budget 2017-18 as a permanent solution to the problem of drinking and irrigation water in 13 districts of eastern Rajasthan.
 - The districts included **Jhalawar, Baran, Kota Bundi, Sawai Madhopur, Ajmer, Tok, Jaipur, Dausa, Karauli, Alwar, Bharatpur and Dholpur**.
- ERCP aims to harvest surplus water available during rainy season in rivers in Southern Rajasthan such as **Chambal and its tributaries**, including **Kunnu, Parvati, Kalisindh**, and use this water in south-eastern districts of the state, where there is scarcity of water for drinking and irrigation.
 - ERCP is planned to meet drinking and industrial water needs of the southern and south eastern Rajasthan, for humans and Livestock till the year 2051.

Chambal River

- **About:** It originates at the **Singar Chouri peak** in the northern slopes of the **Vindhya mountains** (Indore, Madhya Pradesh). From there, it flows in the North direction in Madhya Pradesh for a length of about 346 km and **then follows a north-easterly direction for a length of 225 km through Rajasthan**.
 - It **enters UP** and flows for about 32 km before joining the **Yamuna River** in Etawah District.
 - It is a rainfed river and its **basin is bounded by the Vindhyan mountain ranges and the Aravallis**. The Chambal and its tributaries drain the Malwa region of northwestern Madhya Pradesh.
 - The **Hadauti plateau in Rajasthan** occurs in the upper catchment of the Chambal River to the southeast of the Mewar Plains.
- **Tributaries:** Banas, Kali Sindh, Sipra, Parbati, etc.
- **Main Power Projects/ Dam:** Gandhi Sagar Dam, Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, Jawahar Sagar Dam, and Kota Barrage.
- The **National Chambal Sanctuary** is located along river Chambal on the tri-junction of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. It is known for critically endangered gharial, the red-crowned roof turtle, and the endangered Ganges river dolphin.



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