



Farakka Barrage | West Bengal | 25 Mar 2025

Why in News?

The Union Government has decided to commission [the Farakka Barrage](#) shortly, despite the concerns raised by the Bangladesh delegation during the talks in February 2025.

Key Points

- **Project Timeline and Cost:**
 - The construction of the **Farakka Barrage** took nearly **12 years to complete**, with an **expenditure exceeding Rs 130 crore**.
- **Concerns Raised by Bangladesh:**
 - The Bangladesh delegation, led by the Minister for Flood Control and Water Resources, **reiterated long-standing concerns**
- **Efforts to Address Bangladesh's Concerns:**
 - The **Union Government has consistently worked to dispel apprehensions**, first expressed by the erstwhile East Pakistan Government and now by Bangladesh, regarding the **potential impact of the Farakka Barrage** on their country.

Farakka Barrage

- **Location:** Built on [the Ganga River](#) in **Murshidabad district, West Bengal**, around 18 km from the Bangladesh border.
- **Commissioning:** Operational since **21st April 1975**, after 12 years of construction at a cost of Rs 130 crores.
- **Purpose:** Diverts 40,000 cusecs of water into the Farakka Feeder Canal to **clear silt from the Bhagirathi-Hooghly River**, ensuring smooth navigation for Kolkata Port.
- **Water-Sharing Agreements:** India and Bangladesh have signed multiple agreements, including the **1977 Farakka Agreement** and the [1996 Ganga Water Treaty](#), to regulate Ganga water distribution.