



# Irrigation Projects in MP

## Why in News?

The Deputy Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh reviewed the **Sitapur-Hanumana Lift Irrigation, Bansagar Project**, and other pending schemes in Rewa, urging timely completion of construction work.

## Key Points

- **About Sitapur-Hanumana Lift Irrigation Project:**
  - This project is helpful in **strengthening** the irrigation system of **Mauganj, Sidhi and Singrauli districts**.
  - Through this project, **1 lakh 20 thousand hectares** of agricultural land in a total of **653 villages will be connected with irrigation facilities**.
  - **Administrative approval of Rs 4,167 crore** has been given by the state government for this project .
  - **Challenges:**
    - The dam proposed in this project is to be built on **the Son River** in **Amiliya area of Sidhi district** .
    - The area falls under **the Son Gharial Sanctuary**, making **environmental and wildlife clearance mandatory**.
    - Emphasizing environmental protection, officials were instructed to ensure that no harm is caused to **gharial conservation** efforts.
- **Bansagar Dam:**
  - **Bansagar Dam** is located on **the Son River** in **Rewa district** of Madhya Pradesh .
  - It is a **multi-purpose project**, aimed at ensuring irrigation, hydropower generation and water supply.
  - Authorities have been directed to accelerate the construction of the 18 km **Bela Minor Canal**, tunnel lining in Chuhiya Valley, aqueduct development, and canal lining.
    - **Bela Minor Canal** is a tributary canal of the Bansagar Project.
    - The total length of this canal is **51 km, out of which only 21 km of work** has been completed so far.
  - **Benefits:**
    - On completion of the dam and canal project, irrigation facilities will be ensured in lakhs of hectares of area in **Rewa, Mauganj, Sidhi and Singrauli districts**.
    - This project will provide **sustainable irrigation facilities to millions of farmers, leading to crop diversification, increased productivity, and improved income**.

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## Son Gharial Sanctuary

- It is an **important sanctuary located in the Son River** area of Madhya Pradesh, which was **established in 1981** with the aim of conserving gharials and increasing their numbers.
- Under this sanctuary, a total area of 210 km has been protected including 161 km of **Son River**, 23 km of **Banas River** and 26 km of **Gopad River**.
- This sanctuary comes under **Project Crocodile**, the main attraction of the sanctuary is the sandy habitats, which mainly include gharial, **Indian soft shell turtle (Chitra Indica)** and **Indian skimmer (Rynchops albicollis)**.
  - These areas provide protection to various endangered species.

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