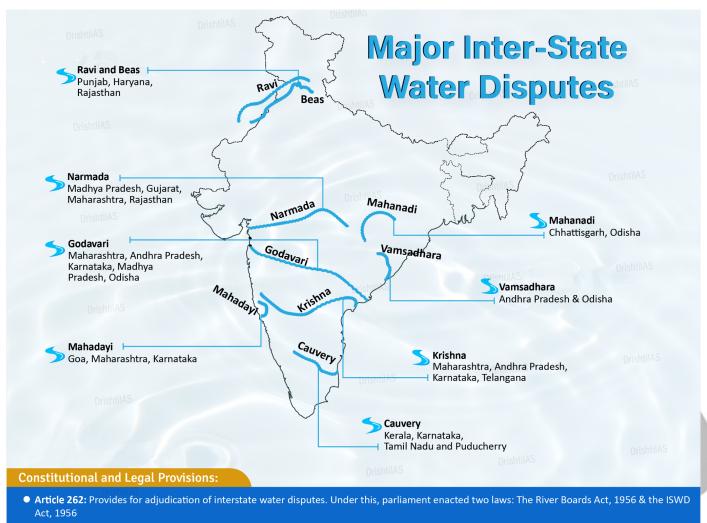


Mhadei River Water Dispute

Source: TH

A recent study recommending the diversion of water from **Mhadei**'s tributaries to the **Malaprabha River** in Karnataka, without major impacts on Goa has sparked protests in Goa, reigniting the decadeslong **inter-state water dispute** with Karnataka over water sharing.

- The <u>Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal's (MWDT)</u> allotted Karnataka 13.42 thousand million cubic feet (tmcft) to Karnataka.
- About Mhadei River: It originates in the <u>Western Ghats</u> (<u>Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary</u>, Karnataka), flows through Goa (basin cover 78%), Karnataka (18%), and <u>Maharashtra</u> (4%) emptying into the Arabian Sea.
 - Tributaries: Kalasa, Banduri, Mapusa, Ragada, Nanuz, Valvoti, Nerul, St. Inez Creek, Dudhsagar, Kotrachi Nadi, and Rio de Ourém.
 - It is connected to the Zuari River through the Cumbarjua Canal.
 - Features: It is known for <u>Dudhsagar Falls (Mollem National Park and Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary)</u> and **Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary** on Chorao Island.
- About Malaprabha River: It is a tributary of the <u>Krishna River</u> and originates in Kanakumbi village in Western Ghats in Belgaum, Karnataka.
 - Aihole, Pattadakal, and Badami, all UNESCO sites, are located along its banks.



- The River Boards Act, 1956: Establishment of river boards for the regulation of inter-state rivers
- The ISWD Act, 1956: Central government establish a temporary tribunal to resolve water disputes between two or more states [Amended in 2002; Mandated a 1 year time frame to set up the water disputes tribunal and a 3 year time frame to give a decision (Sarkaria Commission)]
- State List (Entry 17): Deals with water
- Union List (Entry 56): Parliament has the authority to regulate and develop inter-State rivers and river valleys if it's deemed necessary for the public interest

Read More: Mhadei River

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