



# Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project

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## Why in News?

**Madhya Pradesh (MP)** and **Maharashtra** have signed a **memorandum of understanding (MoU)** to jointly implement the **Tapti (Tapi) Basin Mega Recharge Project in MP**, the **world's largest groundwater recharge scheme** aimed at ensuring **optimal utilization of river water resources** for irrigation across both states.

## What is the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project?

- **About:** It is a **joint inter-state groundwater recharge initiative** under which Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra will jointly develop **three Tapti River streams** originating from **Multai, MP**.
  - It is the **third major inter-state river project** involving MP, following the **Ken-Betwa Link Project** (MP & UP) and the **Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project** (MP & Rajasthan).
- **Key Features:**
  - **Water Allocation:** The project plans to **divert water from the Tapti River to northeastern Maharashtra for drinking water** and to support **irrigation in southern and southeastern Madhya Pradesh**.
    - Total usage is **31.13 thousand million cubic feet (TMC)**, with **11.76 TMC allocated to MP** and **19.36 TMC for Maharashtra**.
    - The project includes **construction of a diversion weir** at the MP-Maharashtra border and development of **right and left bank canals in both states**.
    - The **project entails the use of 3,362 hectares of land in Madhya Pradesh**, with no displacement or rehabilitation needed.
  - **Beneficiary Districts:** The project covers the **Burhanpur and Khandwa districts of MP and Akola, Amravati, and Buldhana in MH**, which have historically faced groundwater stress and erratic rainfall.

## Key Facts Related to Tapti River

- **Geography:** The Tapti River, India's **second-longest west-flowing river** after the [Narmada](#), flows through **Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat**.
  - It is one of the 3 major rivers in India that **flow westward**, along with the **Narmada** and **Mahi**.
  - It drains into the **Arabian Sea** at the **Gulf of Khambhat** in Gujarat.
- **Basin Area & Terrain:** The Tapi basin, bounded by the **Satpura range (north)**, **Mahadeo hills (east)**, **Ajanta and Satmala hills (south)**, and the **Arabian Sea (west)**.
  - It flows between the **Satpura Range and Mahadeo Hills**, running **parallel to the Narmada River** to the north, separated by the main part of the Satpura Range.
- **Tributaries:** The Tapti has **14 major tributaries: 4 right-bank** (Vaki, Aner, Arunawati, Gomai) and **10 left-bank** (Nesu, Amravati, Buray, Panjhara, Bori, Girna, Waghur, Purna, Mona, Sipna).
  - **Purna River** is the **main left-bank tributary**, providing perennial flow.
- **Dams and Projects:** **Ukai Dam** (Gujarat), **Hathnur Dam** (Maharashtra)

## What is the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Interlinking Rivers?

Click Here to Read: [National Perspective Plan \(NPP\) for Interlinking of Rivers](#)

### UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

#### **Prelims:**

**Q. The Narmada river flows to the west, while most other large peninsular rivers flow to the east. Why? (2013)**

1. It occupies a linear rift valley.
2. It flows between the Vindhya and the Satpuras.
3. The land slopes to the west from Central India.

**Select the correct answer using the codes given below:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) None

**Ans: (a)**

#### **Mains:**

**Q. The interlinking of rivers can provide viable solutions to the multi-dimensional inter-related problems of droughts, floods, and interrupted navigation. Critically examine. (2020)**

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/tapti-basin-mega-recharge-project-1>