

Concerns in Kishanganga Dam Project

What is the issue?

\n\n

In providing security for the Kishanganga dam sabotage is a major concern rather than shelling by Pakistan.

\n\n

What is the significance of Kishanganga dam?

\n\n

\n

- Kishanganga dam is located in the Gurez Valley of Bandipora district, north of Srinagar and lies to the north of Wular Lake.

\n

- It is a 330 MW power project, and is expected to generate 1,713 million units per annum by diverting water from Kishanganga River to an underground powerhouse.

\n

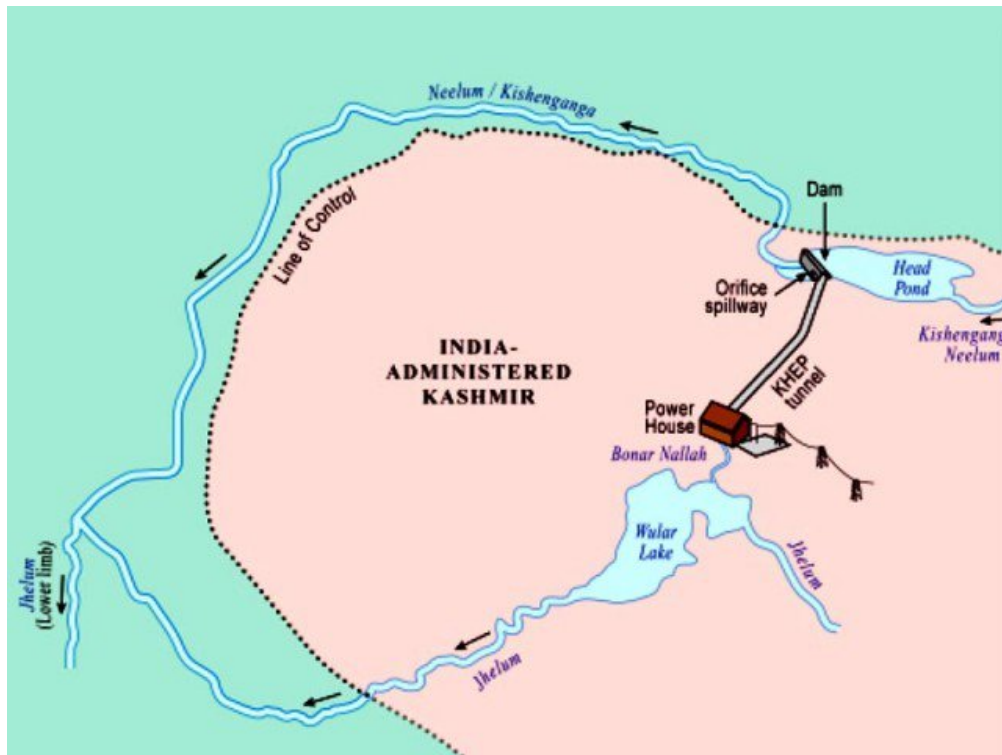
- The project is operated by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC), will benefit several north Indian states and will provide 12% of its generated power to J&K.

\n

- The presence of this dam in LOC shows India's confidence in handling any challenge posed by Pakistan.

\n

\n\n



\n\n

Why India is confident about the security of the Dam?

\n\n

\n

- The biggest defence for the dam is its proximity to the villages in Pakistan occupied Kashmir which are located only 10kms downstream of the river, right after the LoC.

\n

- Therefore, any act to destroy the dam would actually pose the greatest danger to Pakistan.

\n

- And with the respect to the Indian villages downstream Kishanganga in Gurez, all six villages were shifted uphill while constructing the dam.

\n

- However, even if the dam is targeted, shelling from across the LoC does not pose any real danger as the dam is located in a gorge and not in the direct line of fire.

\n

- In the event that a shell does hit the dam, it can withstand shelling as it's a very heavy structure.

\n

\n\n

What are the concerns of security in the Kishanganga project?

\n\n

\n

- There is a serious concern of sabotage in the dam by individual or groups, which too would pose same dangers of flooding downstream.
- The river is wide enough to cause huge flooding at a discharge of about 2,000 cumec (cubic metres per second).
- But the extent of damage to the structures and how it will affect the region and consequent power supply are unclear now.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Indian Express

\n

