

## Ken-Betwa River linking project

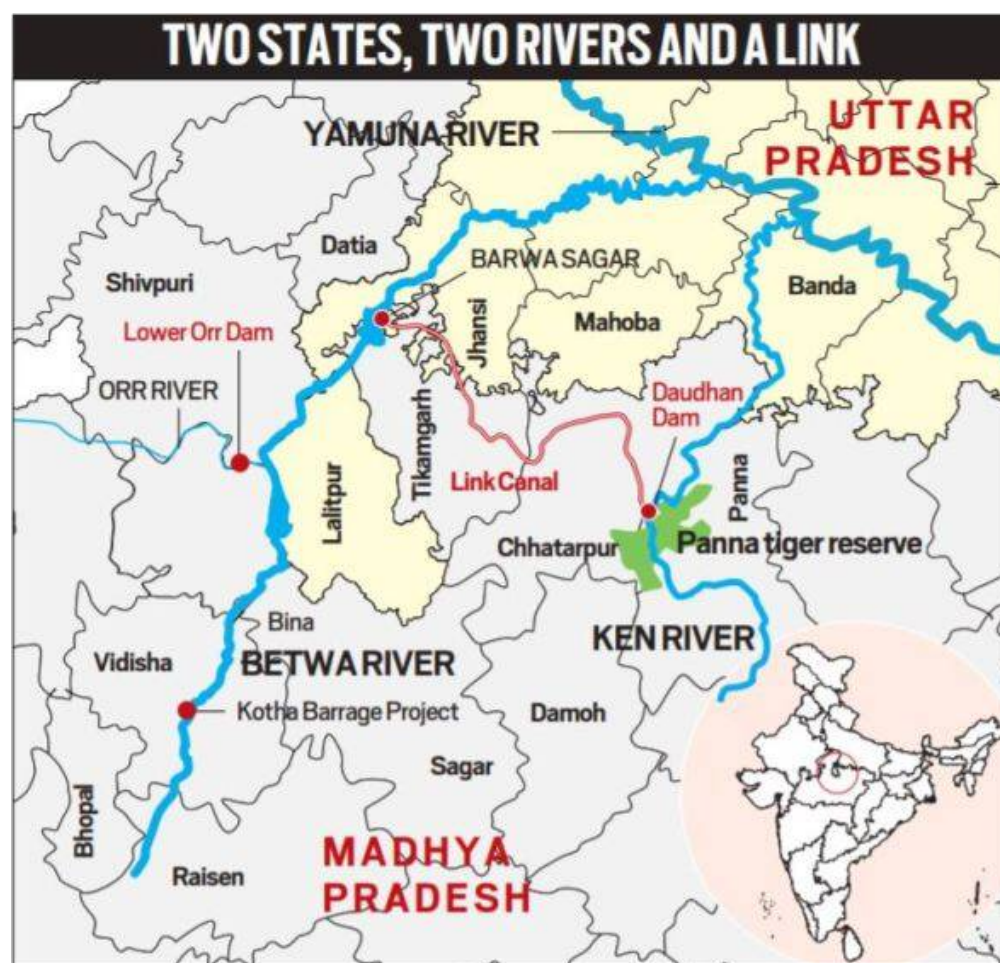
### Why in News?

Recently, Foundation for Ken-Betwa river-linking project has been laid.

- **Ken-Betwa Link Project (KBLP)** - It involves transferring surplus water from the Ken River in Madhya Pradesh to the Betwa river in Uttar Pradesh, both the river are tributaries of Yamuna.
- It is the first project under the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers.

In 2021, a memorandum of agreement was signed among the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh to implement the Ken-Betwa Link Project.

- **States concerned** - Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.



- **Phases**- The project has two phases, with four components.

- **Phase I** - It involves construction of Daudhan Dam, Ken-Betwa Link Canal and power houses.
  - **Ken-Betwa Link Canal** - It will be 221 km in length, including a 2-km tunnel.
  - **Daudhan dam irrigation project** - The project involves building a 77-metre tall and a 2-km wide Dhaudhan dam.
  - It will be constructed inside the Panna Tiger Reserve.
- **Phase-II** - It consists of Lower Orr Dam, Bina Complex Project and Kotha Barrage.
- **Special Purpose Vehicle** - An SPV called Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA) will be set up to implement the project.
- **Time period** - KBLP project is proposed to be implemented in eight years.
- **Benefits** - The project is expected to
  - Provide annual irrigation to 10.62 lakh hectares (8.11 lakh ha in MP and 2.51 lakh ha in UP) of land in Bundelkhand region.

*Bundelkhand region spreads across 13 districts of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.*

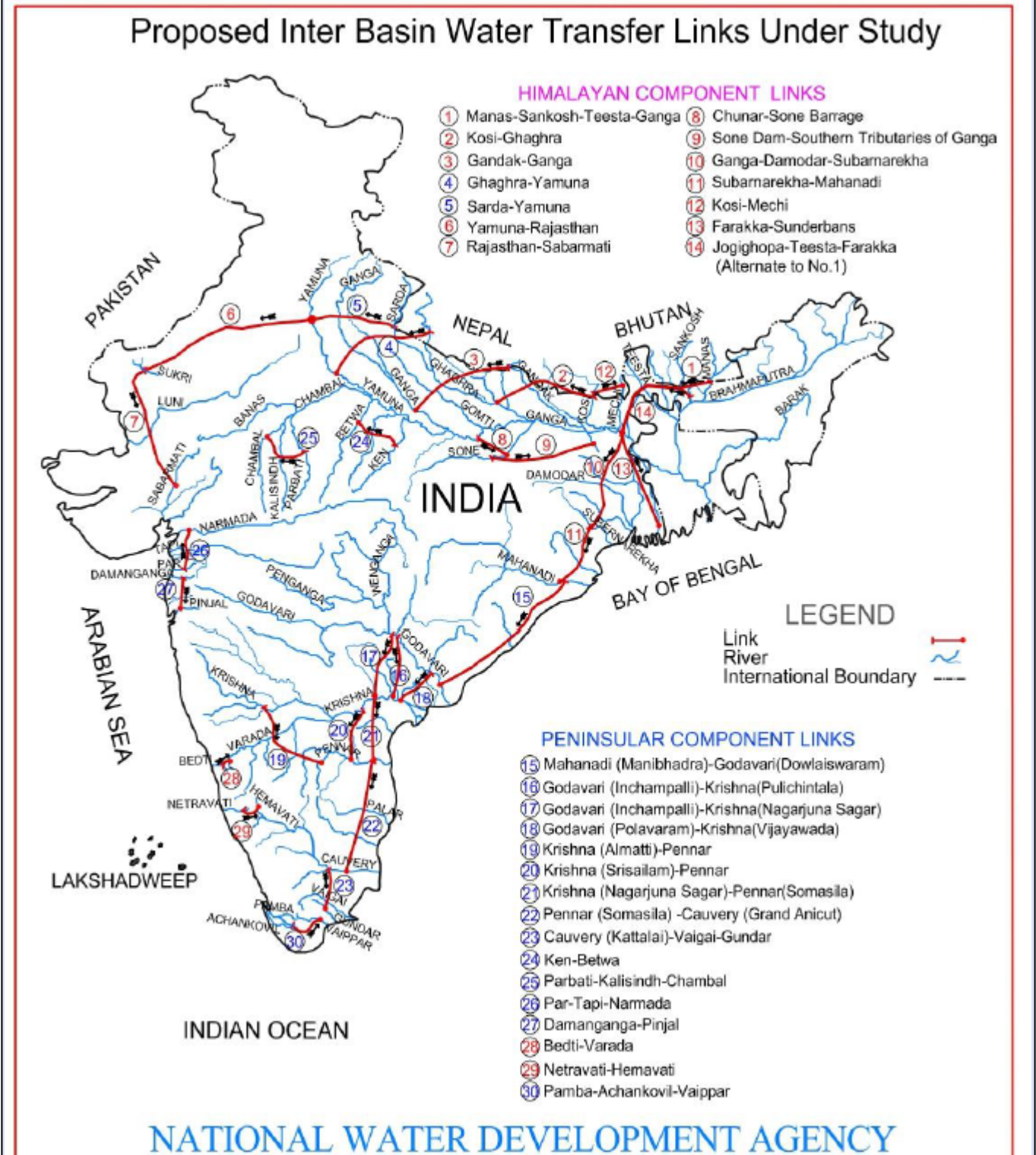
- Supply drinking water to about 62 lakh people.
- Generate 103 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of solar power.
- **Issue** - Submergence of around 98 sq. km of Panna national park.
- Felling of about two to three million trees.

**National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers**

- National River Linking Project was conceived in 1980 for transferring water from water surplus basins to water-deficit basins.

- **2 components**

- Peninsular component - 16 projects.
- Himalayan rivers - 14 links.



**Reference**

[The Indian Express | Ken Betwa Project](#)



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