



DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 28-04-2025

GS-1

1. Krishna River

GS-2

2. Simla Agreement

GS-3

3. K. Kasturirangan
4. National Mission for Clean Ganga

Krishna River

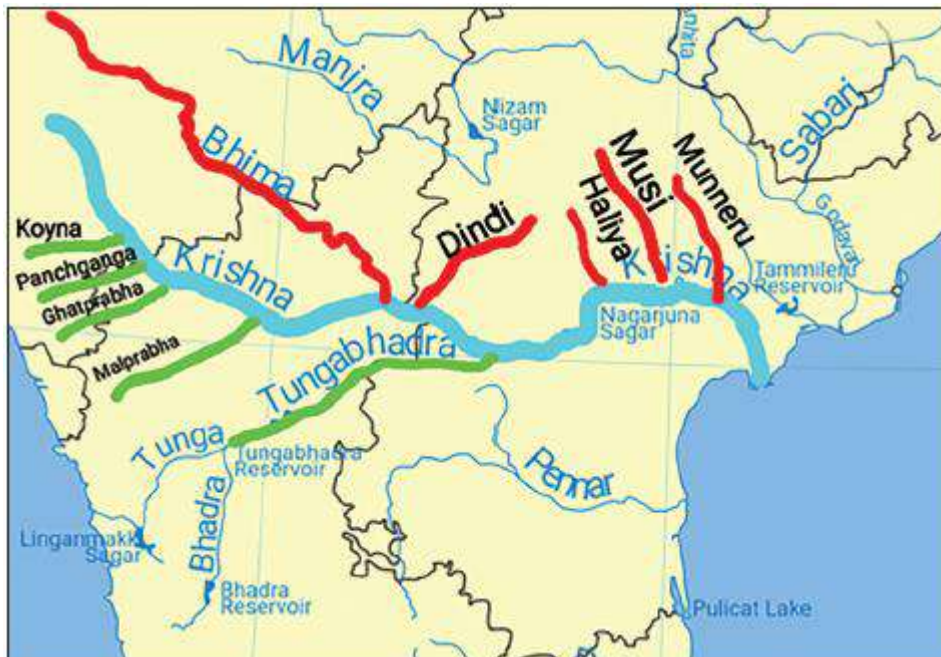
Syllabus: GS-1; Geography- Rivers

Context

- Karnataka sought **additional water releases** from Maharashtra, citing **severe drought** in northern districts (Belagavi, Vijayapura, Bagalkot).

1. Origin & Course

- **Source:** Originates near **Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra)** in the Western Ghats.
- **States Covered:** Flows through **Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Length:** ~1,400 km (4th longest river in India after Ganga, Godavari, and Brahmaputra).
- **Tributaries:**
 - **Left Bank:** Bhima, Dindi, Musi, Palleru, Munneru.
 - **Right Bank:** Tungabhadra, Koyna, Ghataprabha, Malaprabha, Dudhganga.
- **End Point:** Empties into the **Bay of Bengal** at **Hamsaladeevi (Andhra Pradesh)**.



2. Major Dams & Projects

- **Almatti Dam (Karnataka):** On Krishna River.

- **Srisailem Dam (AP/Telangana border):** Hydroelectric project.
- **Nagarjuna Sagar Dam (Telangana/AP):** One of the largest masonry dams.
- **Pulichintala Project (AP):** Irrigation and hydroelectricity.
- **Koyna Dam (Maharashtra):** Part of the **Koyna Hydroelectric Project** (Western Ghats).
- **Bhakra-Nangal-like importance:** Often compared for its irrigation benefits.

3. Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal (KWDT)

- **Inter-state Dispute:** Between **Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.**
- **KWDT-I (1969):** Allocated water shares (Maharashtra - 560 TMC, Karnataka - 700 TMC, AP - 800 TMC).
- **KWDT-II (2010):** Reassessed allocations, included Telangana after bifurcation.
- **Recent Issues:** AP and Telangana disputes over **Srisailem and Nagarjuna Sagar water use.**

4. Ecological & Environmental Concerns

- **Pollution:** Industrial discharge (Hyderabad's Musi River tributary is highly polluted).
- **Deforestation in Western Ghats:** Affects water flow.
- **Sand Mining:** Illegal mining impacts riverbeds.
- **Climate Change:** Reduced rainfall in Western Ghats affects flow.

5. Economic & Agricultural Significance

- **Krishna-Godavari Delta:** Fertile region for rice, sugarcane, and tobacco.
- **Hydropower:** Major contributor to S-W grid (Koyna, Srisailem).
- **Drinking Water:** Supplies Hyderabad, Vijayawada, etc.

Key Facts to Remember

- **Longest tributary:** Tungabhadra.
- **Sacred Sites:** Sangameshwaram (Krishna-Bhima confluence), Vijayawada's **Kanaka Durga Temple.**
- **Wildlife:** Supports **Krishna Wildlife Sanctuary (AP)** – mangrove forests.

Simla Agreement

Syllabus: GS-2; International Relations.

Context

- Pakistan has suspended the 1972 Simla Agreement as part of a series of retaliatory actions in response to India's reaction to the Pahalgam terror attack, which left 26 dead.

About

- The **1972 Simla Agreement** was a landmark peace treaty signed between **India and Pakistan** on **July 2, 1972**, following the **1971 Indo-Pak War**, which led to the creation of Bangladesh.
- The agreement was signed by **Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi** and **Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto** in **Shimla, India**.



Key Provisions of the Simla Agreement:

1. Peaceful Resolution of Disputes

- Both countries agreed to **resolve differences through bilateral negotiations** and peaceful means, avoiding third-party mediation (like the UN).

- The agreement emphasized **durable peace** in the subcontinent.

2. Establishment of the Line of Control (LoC)

- The **Ceasefire Line** (from the 1949 Karachi Agreement) was renamed the **Line of Control (LoC)**.
- This reinforced that **Kashmir was a bilateral issue**, removing any international intervention.

3. Return of Captured Territories

- India returned **around 13,000 sq km of Pakistani territory** captured during the 1971 war but retained some strategic positions.
- **Pakistan recognized Bangladesh** as an independent nation.

4. Commitment to Non-Interference

- Both nations agreed to **respect each other's sovereignty** and not support **insurgency or terrorism** in each other's territories.

Why Pakistan's Suspension Matters

- Pakistan's decision to **suspend the Simla Agreement** is a major escalation following the **Pahalgam terror attack (26 killed)** and India's retaliatory measures (like scaling down the **Beating Retreat ceremony** and halting handshakes at the border).

Implications:

- **Bilateral talks may collapse**, pushing tensions higher.
- **Risk of renewed conflict**, as the Simla Agreement was a key framework for peace.
- **Pakistan may seek international mediation**, which India opposes.

India's Stance

- India has consistently maintained that **Kashmir is a bilateral issue** (as per Simla Agreement) and rejects third-party involvement. Pakistan's move could be seen as **walking back from its commitment to peaceful dialogue**.

K. Kasturirangan

Syllabus: GS-3: Indigenisation of Technology

Context:

- Dr. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan, the former ISRO Chairman, is no more.

Dr. K. Kasturirangan: A Profile

Who He Was

- **Eminent astrophysicist and former Chairman of ISRO** (1994–2003).
- **Secretary to the Government of India and Member of Parliament** (Rajya Sabha, 2003–2009).
- **Awards:** Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan.

Education and Expertise

- Specialized in **high-energy X-ray and gamma-ray astronomy**.
- Held leadership positions in prestigious institutions:
 - **National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)**
 - **Karnataka Knowledge Commission**
- Fields associated with: **Space Science, Satellite Technology, Remote Sensing, Educational Reforms.**

Contributions to India

Space Sector

- **Led India's transition** from experimental satellites to **operational space missions** (1994–2003).
- **Operationalized** India's key launch vehicles:
 - **PSLV (Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle)**
 - **GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle)**
- **Pioneered commercial satellite services:**
 - Leased **INSAT-2E transponders** to **INTELSAT** in 1999.

Thematic Missions

- **Initiated and led** important satellite missions:
 - **EDUSAT (Education)**
 - **INSAT/GSAT (Telemedicine and communication)**

- **RESOURCESAT** (Earth resource monitoring)
- **OCEANSAT** (Oceanography)
- **CARTOSAT** (Cartography)
- **Meghatropiques** (Climate research)
- **ASTROSAT** (Space science)
- **Conceptualized Chandrayaan-1**, India's first mission to the Moon.

Policy and Educational Reforms

- **Chairman of the Committee for National Education Policy 2020**, emphasizing:
 - Flexibility and holistic development in education.
 - Early childhood care, foundational literacy and numeracy.
- Advocated for **“Space for Society”** initiatives:
 - Through the **National Natural Resource Management System (NNRMS)** for using satellites in development sectors like agriculture, water resources, and urban planning.

Legacy

- **Elevated ISRO** to a globally respected, fully operational national space agency.
- **Inspired a new generation** of space missions and **spearheaded educational reforms** for a knowledge-driven India.

National Mission for Clean Ganga

Syllabus: GS-3: Environment - Conservation of Rivers

Context:

NMCG Approves Annual Master Plan to Promote River-Sensitive Urban Planning Under RCA.

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)

What it is:

- Implementation arm of the **National Ganga Council** for rejuvenation and management of the river Ganga.
- Registered on **12th August 2011** under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860**.

Ministry Involved:

- **Ministry of Jal Shakti** (Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation).

Objectives:

- Prevent and control pollution in the river Ganga.
- Ensure continuous and adequate flow of water for Ganga's rejuvenation.
- Implement integrated river basin management strategies.

Key Features:

- **Two-tier management structure:**
 - **Governing Council** and **Executive Committee**, both headed by the **Director General**.
- **Executive Committee** empowered to approve projects up to ₹1,000 crore.
- **State Program Management Groups (SPMGs)** act as state-level implementing bodies.
- Functions within a **five-tier structure**: National → State → District → Sub-district → Village.

River Cities Alliance (RCA)

What it is:

- A dedicated platform for river cities to exchange ideas, share best practices, and collaborate on sustainable urban river management.

Launched in:

- **2021** by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** and the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**.

Objective:

- Promote networking and knowledge-sharing among river cities.
- Build capacity for sustainable and river-sensitive urban planning.
- Provide technical support and innovation-sharing opportunities.

Key Features:

- Open to all river cities in India.
- Started with **30 member cities** such as Varanasi, Dehradun, Chennai, and Pune.
- **Secretariat** housed at the **National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA)**.

