



April - 02

NATIONAL

114th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC)

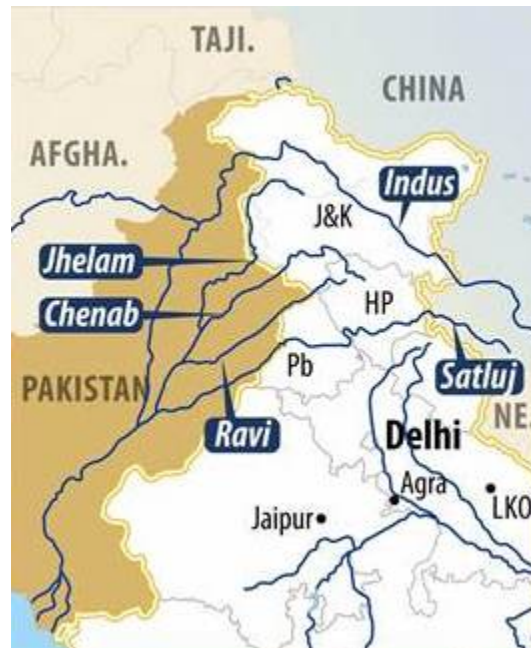
- ❖ The 114th meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission (PIC) between India and Pakistan has started in New Delhi to hold technical deliberations on various issues.
- ❖ The PIC is mandated to establish and maintain cooperative arrangements for the implementation of the treaty and to promote cooperation between the two sides in developing the Indus water systems.
- ❖ The meeting of the PIC is held alternately in India and Pakistan at least once every year as mandated by the Treaty.
- ❖ India's Indus water commissioner PK Saxena and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) officials will be part of the Indian delegation for the annual meeting.
- ❖ The Indus Water Treaty (IWT) is a water-distribution treaty between India and Pakistan signed in 1960. The treaty was signed by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Pakistan's President Ayub Khan. It was brokered by the World Bank.
- ❖ The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) deals with river Indus and its five tributaries, which are classified into 2 categories:

Eastern rivers:

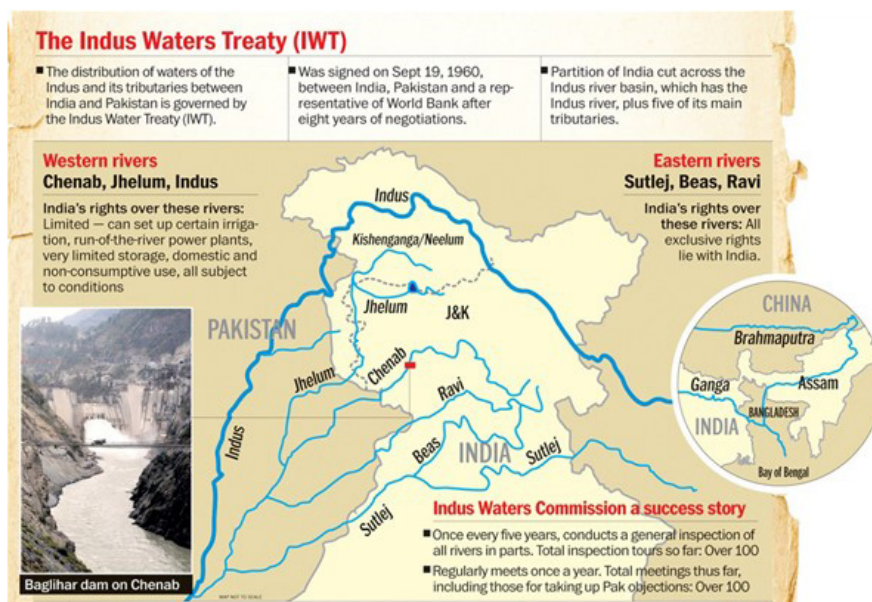
1. Sutlej
2. Beas
3. Ravi

Western rivers:

1. Jhelum
2. Chenab
3. Indus



- According to the treaty, all the water of **eastern rivers** shall be available for unrestricted use in India.
- According to the treaty, India should give the unrestricted water flow of **western rivers** to Pakistan.





ENVIRONMENT

Jawad Rahim - acting chairperson of NGT

- ❖ The Supreme Court appointed Justice Jawad Rahim, a former judge of the Karnataka High Court, as acting chairman of the National Green Tribunal NGT, 3 months after the previous chairperson retired.
- ❖ The NGT's previous chairman, Justice Swatanter Kumar—a former Supreme Court judge—retired in December 2017.
- ❖ The order came from a three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra on a petition filed by NGT Bar Association.
- ❖ Justice Rahim will discharge his duties until a regular appointment is made and will take part in the selection process of other members of the NGT.

STATES

Videsh Aaya Pradesh ke Dwaar

- ❖ The External Publicity and Public Diplomacy Division of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) launched 'Videsh Aaya Pradesh ke Dwaar', an engagement programme with regional media in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- ❖ The initiative aims to enhance public diplomacy outreach of MEA and its commitment to take objectives of foreign policy to people at grassroot-level.
- ❖ It involves engagement MEA with regional media based in different cities across the country to communicate foreign policy priorities in simple terms.
- ❖ It also intends to create a pool of media professionals interested in foreign policy and guide them in connecting with MEA.

11th Rashtriya Rifles Conference 2018

- ❖ The 11th Rashtriya Rifles (RR) Biennial Conference is being conducted at Nagrota in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) from 26 to 27 March, 2018.
- ❖ The Chief of the Army Staff has headed this conference.
- ❖ The Rashtriya Rifle is a wing of Indian army under the Ministry of Defence
- ❖ The Rashtriya Rifles is a counter-insurgency force made up of soldiers deputed from other parts of the Indian Army.
- ❖ The force is currently deployed in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

UNESCO's Executive Board

- ❖ The Union Government nominated Professor JS Rajput, former Director of NCERT, as India's representative to the Executive Board (EXB) of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ❖ The elections for the Members of the EXB for the term 2017-21 took place on November 8, 2017.
- ❖ In that, India won with 162 votes in Group IV during the 39th session of the General Conference which was held from October 30 to November 14, 2017.

Executive Board of UNESCO

- ❖ The Executive Board of UNESCO has a four-year term of office and 58 seats.
- ❖ The executive board is one of the constitutional organs of UNESCO and is elected by the General Conference.
- ❖ The board examines the work of the organization and the corresponding budget estimates.
- ❖ It is the main organ responsible for all policies and programmes of UNESCO.

Lalit Kala Akademi

- ❖ President of India has appointed M L Srivastava, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Culture's as Protem Chairman of the Lalit Kala Academy.
- ❖ The Lalit Kala Akademi or National Academy of Art is India's National Academy of Fine Arts.
- ❖ It is an autonomous organization, established at New Delhi in 1954 to promote and propagate an understanding of Indian art, both within and outside the country.
- ❖ It is the Government's apex cultural body in the field of visual arts in India.
- ❖ The Akademi was inaugurated in New Delhi in 1954, by India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and It fully funded by the Ministry of Culture.
- ❖ It has substantial independence in making decisions related to national and international exhibitions, events and providing financial assistance to artists and art organizations through scholarships and grants.



SPORTS

2018 Formula One Australian Grand Prix

- ❖ German's Sebastian Vettel, currently driving in Formula One for Scuderia Ferrari, has won the championship in the 2018 Formula One Australian Grand Prix tournament in Melbourne, Victoria.
- ❖ He is a four-time Formula One World Champion, having won the championship in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 with Red Bull Racing.

8th Hockey Senior Men National Championship India 2018

- ❖ Hockey Punjab has won the 8th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship title at the Padma Shri Mohammad Shahid Synthetic Hockey Stadium in Lucknow.
- ❖ In the final, they defeated Petroleum Sports Promotion Board by 2-1.
- ❖ In the Bronze medal match, defending champions Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) defeated Air India Sports Promotion Board by 5-3 on penalties after the scores were tied at 1-1.
