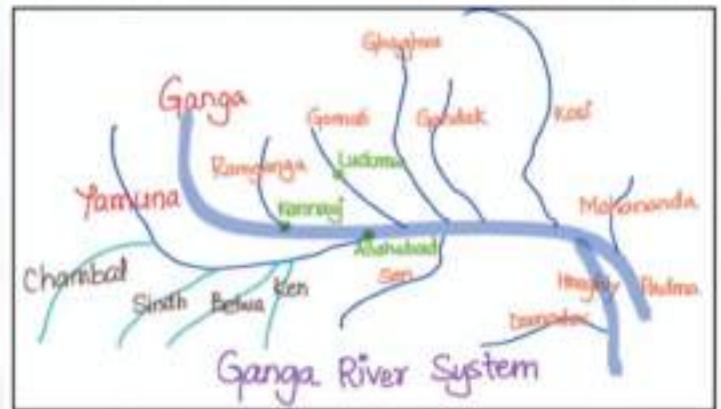


GANGA RIVER SYSTEM

Ganga



- The Ganges River originates from a cave called Gaimukh in the Gangotri Glacier in Uttarakhand.
- Name known at birth – Bhagirathi
- Moola Ganga/ Root Ganga Known as – Bhagirathi
- Tehri Dam – Bhagirathi River – Uttarakhand
- Highest dam in India - Tehri Dam (260.5 m / 855 feet)
- "Anti-Tehri Dam agitation" is an agitation against Tehri Dam.
- This agitation was led by Sundar Lal Bahuguna.
- In Uttarakhand Sadhopant Glacier The Alaknanda river, which originates from , joins the Bhagirathi at Devprayag and then flows as the Ganga.
- Mandakini is the main tributary of Alaknanda., Nandakini, Pindar, Dhauliganga
- The rivers that are considered as the tributaries of the Ganges are - Bhagirathi, Alaknanda, Nandhakini, Mandakini, Dhauliganga, Pindar.
- The Nandhakini River originates from the glaciers beneath the Nanda Ghundi mountain range near the Nanda Devi National Park, located in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.
- The Mandakini River originates from the Chorabari/Kedarnath glaciers in Uttarakhand.
- The Pindar River originates from the Pindari Glaciers in Uttarakhand.
- Dhauliganga originates from Nithi Pass in Uttarakhand.
- Tapovan Dam – Dhauliganga – Uttarakhand

Meeting points

1. Alaknanda + Mandakini – Rudraprayag
2. Alaknanda + Nandakini – Nandprayag
3. Alaknanda + Pindar - Karnaprayag
4. Alaknanda + Dhauliganga – Vishnuprayag
5. Alaknanda + Bhagirathi – Devprayag

Badrinath is located on the banks of the Alaknanda.

Kedarnath is located on the banks of Mandakini.

Ganga

- Length – 2525km
- The largest river in India
- The largest river basin in India
- India's holy river
- The river is described as the secret place of India.
- National river of India
- 2008 November 4 Declared as the national river of India on
- India's National Aquatic Animal – Gangetic Dolphin (2009 October 5)
- The Ganges River enters the plains at Haridwar, Uttarakhand.
- The river that flows through the most states in India
- States of India where the Ganga River flows - 5 (Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal)
- Indian states where Ganga and its tributaries flow - 8
- Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
- The state in India where the Ganga River flows the longest is Uttar Pradesh (1450 km)

Major cities in India on the banks of the Ganges

- Haridwar, Rishikesh – Uttarakhand
- Kanpur, Kannauj, Varanasi, Allahabad – Uttar Pradesh
- Patna, Buxar – Bihar
- Plassey, Farakka, Murshidabad – West Bengal

- The largest city on the banks of the Ganges – Kanpur
- The river with the most tributaries in India
- The major tributaries of the Ganges are - Yamuna, Son, Damodar, Gandaki, Gomti, Ghagra, Kosi, Ramganga, Varuna, Asi, Punpun, and Mahananda.
- The longest tributary of the Ganges is – Yamuna

Yamuna

- Originates from the Yamunotri glacier in Uttarakhand
- The longest tributary of the Ganges
- Length –1376 m
- Allahabad/PrayagrajIt merges with the Ganges.
- The river known as Kalindi in the Vedas
- Major towns on the banks of the Yamuna - Delhi, Agra, Mathura
- Taj MahalIt is located on the banks of the Yamuna.
- Major tributaries of Yamuna - Chambal, Sindh, Betwa, Ken, Tons, Banganga (Rajasthan)
- Tributaries that originate from the peninsular plateau and join the Himalayan river - Chambal, Sindh, Betwa, Ken, Banganga

Chambal

- Originates from the Janpav Hills in the Vindhya Range of Madhya Pradesh
- Length -1024 km
- The longest tributary of the Yamuna
- Known as Chamranvati in the Puranas
- Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh and Kota in Rajasthan are located on the banks of the Chambal.
- Kshipra is the main tributary of Chambal.
- Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh is located on the banks of the Kshipra River.

- Rana Pratap Sagar Dam – Chambal – Rajasthan
- Jawahar Sagar Dam – Chambal – Rajasthan
- Gandhi Sagar Dam – Chambal – Madhya Pradesh

Bethva

- It originates in the Vindhya mountain range in Madhya Pradesh, flows through the Malwa Plateau and joins the Ganges in Uttar Pradesh.
- The river known as Vetravati in ancient times
- The cities of Vidisha and Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh are located on the banks of the Betwa River.
- Rajghat Dam – Betwa – Uttar Pradesh (Joint project of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh)
- Religious Dam – Betwa – Uttar Pradesh

Ken

- Originates from the Kaimur Range in Madhya Pradesh
- A river flowing through Panna National Park in Madhya Pradesh

Tones

- A tributary of the Yamuna from the north, originating in the Himalayas
- Dehradun is located on the banks of the Tons River.
- The river known as Tamasya in Puranas
- The Pabbar is a tributary of the Tonsin River.
- The rivers Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati meet at Prayagraj in Allahabad. This confluence is called Triveni Sangam.
- The Kumbh Mela is held once every 12 years.

Places where Kumbh Mela is celebrated - 4

1. Haridwar - Ganga - Uttarakhand
2. Allahabad - Ganga - Uttar Pradesh
3. Nashik – Godavari – Maharashtra
4. Ujjain – Kshipra – Madhya Pradesh

- The Ardha Kumbh Mela is held once every 6 years.
- Places where the Ardha Kumbh Mela is held - Haridwar, Allahabad
- The Maha Kumbh Mela takes place once in 144 years.
- Maha Kumbh Mela is held in Prayagraj, Allahabad.
- The last Maha Kumbh Mela was held in 2024.
- The place where the tributaries Varuna and Asi join the Ganges – Varanasi

Ramganga

- Originates from the Namik Glacier in Uttarakhand
- Flowing through Jim Corbett National Park
- It joins the Ganges at Kannauj in Uttar Pradesh.

Gomati

- A tributary of the Ganges originating in the northern plains.
- Lucknow is located on the banks of the Gomti River.
- The river known as the daughter of sage Vasishtha
- Gomti is a river famous for Ekadashi bathing.

Ghaghra

- Originates from Lake Manasa Sarovar in Tibet
- The tributary of the Ganges that carries the largest amount of water
- The river known as Karnali in Nepal
- The river known as Sarayu in the Ramayana
- Ayodhya is located on the banks of the Ghaghra.
- The river known as the sorrow of Uttar Pradesh
- Kali is a tributary of Ghaghra.
- The river that flows as the border between India and Nepal - Kali
- In 1996, India and Nepal signed the Kali River Water Treaty.
- Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao signs Kali River Water Treaty

Zone

- The most important tributary river from the south of the Ganges
- The most important tributary of the Ganges, originating from the peninsular plateau
- Originates from the Amarkantak peak in the Michaela range in Madhya Pradesh
- Nehru Setu –Zone - Bihar
- Pataliputra is located Zone On the bank of the river
- The main tributary of the Son River is the Rihant.
- Govind Ballabh Pant Sagar Dam / Rihanth Dam – Rihanth - Uttar Pradesh

- The lake formed as a result of the construction of the Rihant Dam - GovindBallabh Pant Sagar (Uttar Pradesh)
- The largest man-made lake in India -GovindBallabh Pant Sagar

Gandaki River

- Tibetan Originating from the plateau
- Gandaki is known by the name Narayani in Nepal.
- Entering India at Champaran, Bihar
- Kanwar Lake, the largest oxbow lake in India, was formed by the diversion of the Gandaki River.
- Oxbow lakes are lakes formed by the meandering of a river.
- The only oxbow lake in Kerala – Vainthala – Chalakudypuzha – Thrissur
- Valmiki National Park The river that flows through it is Gandaki.

Cozy

- 7 Rivers originating from mountains
- Known as Kaushika in the Vedas
- The most dangerous river in India
- The river known as the sorrow of India, the sorrow of Bihar
- The river that flows into the Ganges near Patna
- Arun is the main tributary of Kosi.
- Joint intelligence cooperation between India and Nepal The plan is – Kosi Diversity Project
- The last tributary of Ganga in India, which joins Ganga - Mahananda

Hooghly

- The largest tributary of the Ganges (divides at Farakka)
- A tributary of the Ganges that flows through West Bengal
- The cities of Kolkata and Howrah are located on the banks of the Hooghly.
- Port located on the estuary of Hooghly – Haldia
- India's only major port located on a river
- The world's largest tea exporting port
- Nepal, Bhutan and the North Eastern states are most dependent on Haldia Port.
- The bridges Vidyasagar Setu, Vivekananda Setu, Nivedita Setu, and Rabindra Setu (Howrah Bridge) are located across the Hooghly River.
- The main tributaries of Hooghly are – Damodar, Rupnarayan, Ajay

Damodar

- River originating from the Chotanagpur plateau
- River flowing through the Chotanagpur plateau
- The river known as the biological desert
- The river that symbolizes the sorrow of Bengal – Damodar

Damodar Valley Project

- The first multi-purpose project of independent India
- Beginning - Inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru on 7 July 1948
- A project built in India based on the Tennessee Valley model in America
- The first dam as part of the Damodar Valley Project - Tilaiya Dam
- (Built on the Barakar River, a tributary of the Damodar River. Beneficiary states of the Damodar Valley Project - Jharkhand, West Bengal)
- National Waterway 1 – connects Allahabad to Haldia (1620 km)
- The longest national waterway in India – National Waterway 1
- The article "On the banks of Hoogli" was written by Rudyard Kipling.
- The Hooghly river valley is famous for jute cultivation.
- The Ganges River enters Bangladesh from India near Farakka in Bengal.
- GangaAction planInaugurated by Rajiv Gandhi in Varanasi in 1986
- Namami Gange, a new project launched by the Government of India to protect the Ganga River (June 2014)
- India and Bangladesh signed the Ganga Water Treaty in 1996.
- The dam built across the Ganges in West Bengal –Farakka Barrage (1986)
- The longest bridge built across the Ganges – Mahatma Gandhi Setu (Patna to Hajipur) 5750 meters
- Two famous suspension bridges in Rishikesh across the Ganges - Ramdhula and Lakshmandhula
- In Bangladesh, the Ganges River is known by the name – Padma, the destroyer of fame.
- The Padma River joins the Brahmaputra near Chandpur in Bangladesh.
- The name of Brahmaputra in Bangladesh is – Jamuna
- These rivers then flow down under the name of Meghna and fall into the Bay of Bengal.
- The delta formed as a result of the deposition of the Ganges and Brahmaputra – Sundarbans
- The largest delta in the world – Sundarbans

Sorrow rivers

- India's Sorrow – Kosi
- Bihar's sorrow - Kosi
- Odisha's sorrow – Mahanadi
- The Sorrow of Bengal – Damodar
- Sadness in Indian rivers – Damodar
- The sorrow of Uttar Pradesh - Ghaghra
- The Sorrow of Assam – Brahmaputra
- Karnataka's sorrow - Dhoni
- China's Sorrow – Huanghou

Other Ganges

- South Ganga – Godavari
- Ardha Ganga – Krishna
- Telugu Ganga – Krishna
- Patala Ganga – Krishna
- Old Ganga – Godavari
- Malwa Ganga – Betwa
- Ganga in Kerala – Bharathapuzha

Difference between padma , meghna and Jamuna

Padma

1. Tributary of Ganga
2. Separates from Ganga mainstream at Farakka barrage, West Bengal (Another channel is Hooghly)
3. Flows with the name Padma till Chandpur in Bangladesh where it meets Meghna River.

Jamuna

1. Tributary of Brahmaputra
2. Separates from mainstream at the point where Brahmaputra meets Teesta in Bangladesh and known as Jamuna
3. Flows with the name Jamuna till Goalundo ghat in Bangladesh where it meets Padma River.

Meghna

1. Barak river in India divides into two streams Surma and Kushiara in Karimganj district in Assam
2. Surma and Kushiara rejoin at Kishoreganj district in Bangladesh to be known as Meghna
3. Upto Chandpur in Bangladesh, it is known as Upper Meghna
4. After meeting Padma in Chandpur, it is known as Lower Meghna
5. Meghna flows into the Bay of Bengal in Bhola district, Bangladesh.

IMPORTANT SOURCES USED

- Class IX — Contemporary India – I
- Class XI — Practical Work in Geography
- Class XI — India: Physical Environment
- Class XII — India: People and Economy

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. Find the correct statement from the following regarding the origin of the Ganges River:

(i) The Ganges originates from a cave called Gaimukh in the Gangotri glacier of Uttarakhand.

(ii) At its source, the river is known as 'Bhagirathi'.

- A) (i) only is correct
- B) (ii) only is correct
- C) (i) and (ii) both are correct
- D) both are wrong

Answer: C) (i) and (ii) both are correct

2. What is the height of the Tehri Dam, the tallest dam in India?

- A) 116 metres**
- B) 225 metres**
- C) 260.5 metres**
- D) 300 metres**

.Answer: C) 260.5 metres

3. Which river is known as the 'Old Ganges' or 'Southern Ganges'?

- A) Godavari**
- B) Krishna**
- C) Kaveri**
- D) Narmada**

Answer: A) Godavari

4. Find the correct pair of tributaries of the Ganges River:

(i) Padma - The main tributary of the Ganges in Bangladesh.

(ii) Hooghly - The distributary that separates from the Ganges in West Bengal

- A) (i) only is correct**
- B) (ii) only is correct**
- C) Both (i) and (ii) are correct**
- D) Both are wrong**

Answer: C) (i) and (ii) are correct