

Shahpur Kandi Barrage Completed

Why In News

- India has marked the completion of the **Shahpur Kandi Barrage** on the Ravi River, stopping the water flow to Pakistan, and signifying a strategic shift in water management on February 25, 2024.
- This long-awaited project, overcoming delays spanning over three decades, now redirects **1,150 cusecs of water towards irrigation purposes in the Kathua and Samba districts** of Jammu and Kashmir.

Shahpur Kandi dam pondage process begins

Flow of Ravi water to Pak fully stopped, 32000 hac J&K land to be irrigated

Official sources said that this prestigious Irrigation and Hydel Power Generation Project faced many wrangles and is very closer to its completion after three decades. With the completion of barrage work, the process of pondage at Shahpur began hard-ly two days ago. With this, the

After 40 yrs, project is ready with Modi's efforts: Dr Jitendra

Gopal Sharma

JAMMU, Feb 23: The flow of river Ravi water to Pakistan has been fully stopped with the completion of Shahpur Kandi barrage (dam), bordering Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. With this, 1150 cusecs of water share of J&K will now irrigate over 32000 hectare land of the Kathua and Samba districts of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.



Shahpur Kandi dam on Ravi river near Lakhapur.

Indian authorities as per Indus Water Treaty, will make maximum use of the water. (Contd on page 6 Col 5)

All You Need To Know

- India has **stopped the flow of water** from the Ravi river into Pakistan by building a dam that was waiting for **completion for 45 years**.
- India has exclusive rights to the water of **Ravi under the 1960 Indus water treaty** signed under the supervision of the World Bank.
- The **Shahpur Kandi barrage** located in **Punjab's Pathankot district** was held up by a domestic dispute between **Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab**.
- But that led to substantial chunk of water that belongs to India, going to Pakistan all these years. Previously, under the 1960 Indus Water Treaty, a portion of the Ravi River's water flowed into Pakistan via the Lakhapur dam.

RAVI WATER FLOW TO PAK STOPPED

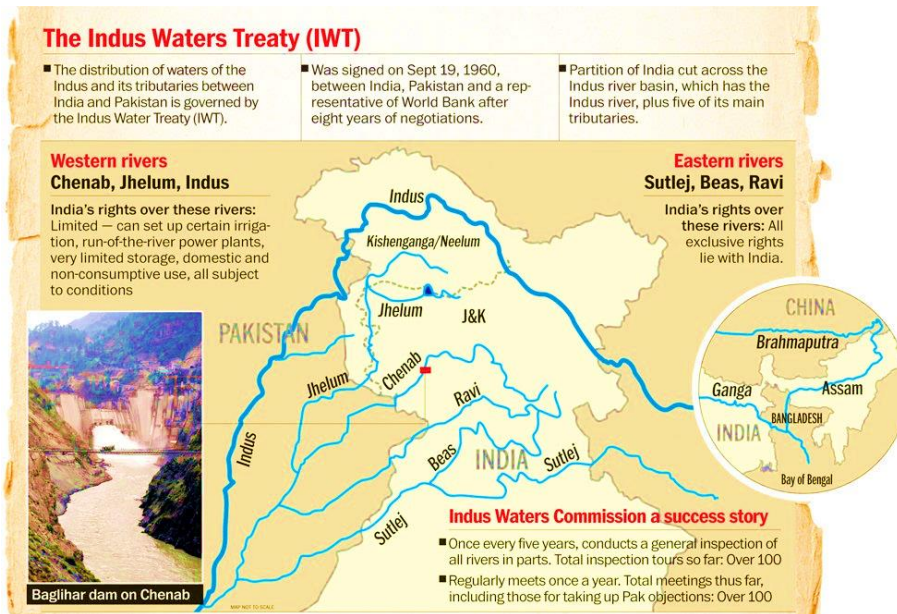


- Under the **Indus water treaty**, India has **full rights over the water of Ravi, Sutlej and Beas**, while Pakistan has rights over the water of **Indus, Jhelum and Chenab**.
- In **1979**, **Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir** governments signed an agreement to build **Ranjit Sagar Dam** and downstream **Shahpur Kandi barrage** to stop water to Pakistan.

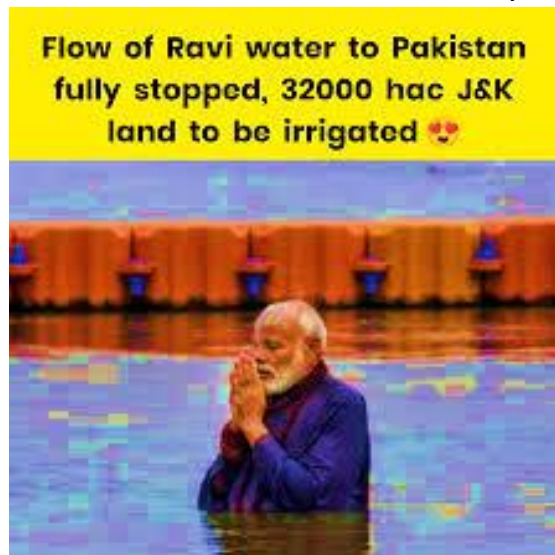


- The agreement was signed by **Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah**, then chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir and his Punjab counterpart **Parkash Singh Badal**.

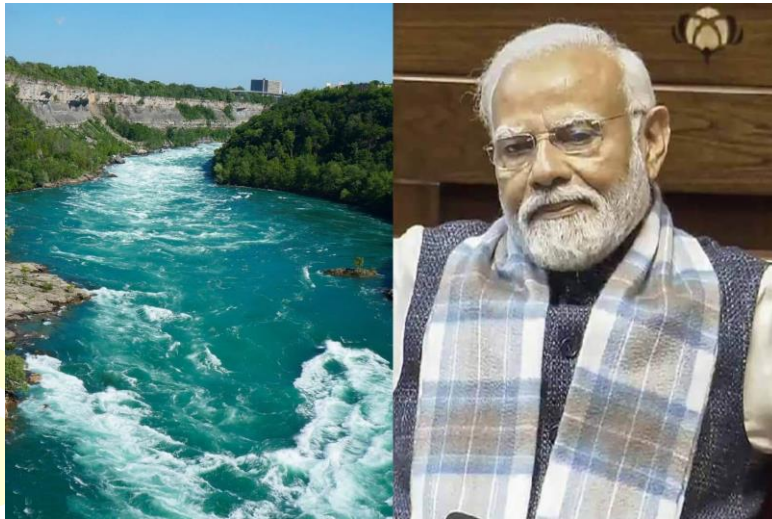
- In **1982**, former Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** laid foundation for the project, which was expected to be completed by 1998.
- While construction of **Ranjit Sagar Dam** was completed in 2001, Shahpur Kandi barrage couldn't materialise and water from Ravi river continued flow into Pakistan.



- In **2008**, Shahpur Kandi project was declared national project but construction work started in 2013.
- Ironically, the project was again stalled due to disputes between Punjab and J&K in 2014.
- **Finally in 2018**, the Centre mediated and brokered an agreement between the two states. The work, which started soon after, is finally over.



- The water which was going to Pakistan will now be used to irrigate two key districts of Jammu and Kashmir -- **Kathua and Samba**. 1150 cusecs of water will now irrigate 32,000 hectares of land in the Union Territory.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** will also be able to get 20 per cent of the hydel power generated from dam.
- The 55.5 meters high **Shahpurkandi Dam** is part of a multi-purpose river valley project that includes two hydel power projects with a total installed capacity of 206 MW. It is built on river Ravi, 11 km downstream of Ranjit Sagar Dam Project.



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