

India Rejects Pakistan's Allegations on Deliberate Chenab River Water Release

The MEA clarified that the rise in Chenab river levels was caused by intense monsoon rainfall in Jammu, rejecting claims of deliberate flooding.

A diplomatic clarification on river basin hydrology and monsoon water flows between India and Pakistan under transboundary river management.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- **MEA** spokesperson **Randhir Jaiswal** rejected Pakistani media claims alleging that India deliberately released river waters to flood downstream areas.
- The sudden increase in **Chenab River** flow was driven by heavy monsoon rainfall in **Jammu** and adjoining catchment areas between **July 20 and 23, 2026**.
- Pakistan's **Flood Forecasting Division** in **Lahore** had also issued advisories acknowledging heavy monsoon precipitation across the region.
- India emphasized that natural **catchment rainfall** dictated river flow dynamics rather than artificial upstream reservoir regulation.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Chenab River originates near the **Bara-lacha La Pass** in Lahaul-Spiti district of **Himachal Pradesh** as two streams, Chandra and Bhaga.

The **Indus Waters Treaty** (IWT) was signed on **September 19, 1960** between India and Pakistan, brokered by the **World Bank**.

Under the **1960** treaty, Eastern Rivers (**Sutlej, Beas, Ravi**) were allocated to India, while Western Rivers (**Indus, Jhelum, Chenab**) were allocated to Pakistan.

The **Baglihar Dam** and **Salal Hydroelectric Project** are major run-of-the-river power projects built on the **Chenab River** in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Indus Waters Treaty was signed in **Karachi** by Indian Prime Minister **Jawaharlal Nehru** and Pakistani President **Ayub Khan**.

The **Ratle Hydroelectric Plant** (**850 MW**) is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric power project currently under construction on the Chenab River in **Kishtwar** district.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Indus Waters Treaty signed Sept 19, 1960: Eastern rivers (Sutlej, Beas, Ravi) to India; Western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, Chenab) to Pakistan.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for questions on Indian River Systems (Chenab River), Water Treaties (Indus Waters Treaty 1960), and Hydropower projects.

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