Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project

***Prelims**: Current events of national and international importance| Indian Geography*

Why in news?

Recently Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on May 2025, to implement the Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project.

- The long pending agreement was finalized during a meeting of the Madhya Pradesh-Maharashtra Inter-State Control Board in Bhopal.

Tapti River
• **Origin** – Multai, Betul district, Madhya Pradesh. • **Length** - 724 km • It flows through Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Gujarat and empties into Arabian Sea near Surat, Gujarat. • **Major Tributaries** - **Left bank -** Purna, Girna - **Right bank -** Vaghur, Panjhra

- **Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project -** The project involves *constructing three canals* in the Tapti River, to address the draught of *Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra*.
- **Objective** - The project channels river water into *the soil and underground aquifers* to raise groundwater levels and help farmers access water through wells and borewells.
- **Funding** - The central government will fund *90% of the project* cost.
    - The remaining *10% will be shared* by the state governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
- **Canals** - Three canals that are constructed in Tapti River to divert water are,
    - Right Bank Canal (MP)
    - Left Bank Canal (MP)
    - Left Bank Canal (Maharashtra)
- **Water allocation** - Annually 31.13 thousand Million Cubic Feet (TMC) is diverted and shared between as,
    - **Madhya Pradesh** - 11.76 TMC
    - **Maharashtra** - 19.36 TMC
- **Significance** - It will address water needs in *North Eastern* Maharashtra (including Nagpur) and provide irrigation support to *Southern and South Eastern* districts of Madhya Pradesh.
- The ***Jamghat Project***, part of this initiative, will ensure water supply for Nagpur city for the next 30-40 years.
- It will boost irrigation for Vidarbha and North Maharashtra.
- **Environmentally friendly** - By adopting a groundwater recharge approach instead of traditional reservoir methods, the project minimizes environmental impact and avoids

displacement of communities.

References

1. The New Indian Express| Tapti Basin Mega Recharge Project
2. The Hindu| MP Maharashtra ink MoU for Tapti Basin Project

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