

THE INDUS RIVER SYSTEM

THE INDUS

- Also known as **Shindu**, is western most Himalayan river
- It originates **from a glacier near Bakhar Chu in Tibetan** region of Kailash mountain range
- In Tibet it is also known as "**Singi Khamban** "
- It receives the Kabul river on its **right bank**. The other important tributaries joining the right bank of the Indus are **the Khurram, the Tochi, the Gomal, the Viboa and the Sangar. They all originate in the Sulaiman ranges.**
- **NUBRA** river is a tributary of Indus, originates from siachen glacier
- Receives its left bank tributaries 'Panjnad' **a little above Mithankot**. The Panjnad is the name given to the five rivers of Punjab, namely **the Satluj, the Beas, the Ravi, the Chenab and the Jhelum**. It finally discharges into the Arabian Sea, east of Karachi.
- The Indus flows in India only through Jammu and Kashmir
- **Stakna Hydroelectric Project** is located on Indus in leh district of J&K
- Name of our country "**India**" is derived from the Indus River. In ancient times, "**India**" initially referred to those regions immediately along the east bank of the Indus, but by 300 BC, Greek writers including Herodotus and Megasthenes were applying the term to the entire subcontinent that extends much farther eastward

THE JHELUM

- Jhelum river originates from a magnificent spring called **“Chashma Verinag”** situated at the foot hills accommodating **Banihal pass** in the south eastern corner of the Kashmir Valley.
- The Jhelum is also known as **Vyeth** in Kashmiri, **Vetesta** (वितस्ता) in Sanskrit and **Hydaspes** in Greek.
- It flows through Srinagar and the Wular lake before entering Pakistan through a deep gorge.
- It joins the Chenab near Jhang in Pakistan.
- The waters of the Jhelum are allocated to Pakistan under the terms of the **Indus Waters Treaty**.
- **Battle of the Hydaspes was fought between Alexander the Great and The great Indian king Porus.**
- Kishanganga Hydroelectric Plant Uri-I and Uri-II Hydroelectric Projects are situated on Jhelum
- **Dal lake** is also said to be old flood spill channel or **ox-bows** of the Jhelum River

THE CHENAB

- The Chenab is the largest tributary of the Indus.
- The Chenab river was called **Asikni (असिकनी)** in the Rigveda
- It is formed by two streams, the Chandra and the Bhaga, which meet at Tandi near Keylong in Himachal Pradesh. Hence, it is also known as **Chandrabhaga**.
- **The Chandra and the Bhaga originate from the south-west and north-west faces of Bare-lacha-la pass respectively in the Himalayan canton of Lahul and Spiti valley in Himachal Pradesh.**
- joined on the right by its biggest tributary, the **Marusudar** at Bhandalkot.
- The waters of the Chenab were allocated to **Pakistan** under the terms of the **Indus Waters Treaty**.
- **Dul Hasti and Ratle Hydroelectric Plant** - are power station of run-of-the-river type in Kishtwar District

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THE RAVI

- The Ravi is an important tributary of the Indus.
- It rises **west of the Rohtang pass in the Kullu hills of Himachal Pradesh** and flows through the Chamba valley of the state.
- Join the Chenab near **Sarai Sidhu, Pakistan.**
- The waters of Raavi are allocated to **India under Indus Water Treaty.**
- The Raavi River was known **as Iravati (इरावती,)** in Vedas.
- According to Yaska **Part of the battle of the ten kings was fought on a River,** which refers to the Iravati River (Raavi River) in the Punjab.
- The major multipurpose project built on the river is **Ranjit Sagar Reservoir & Dam** (also known as Thein Dam as it is in Thein village)
- Chamera - I,II and III Hydroelectric Projects are located on the Ravi river in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh.
- The **Shahpurkandi Dam** project is located on the Ravi River in Gurdaspur, Punjab. This Dam was approved by the Union government as a **national project. Funding for Central Assistance to Shahpur Kandi Dam project shall be made through NABARD under existing system for funding of 99 PMKSY-AIBP (Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana -accelerated irrigation benefit scheme) projects under LTIF (long term irrigation fund)**

THE BEAS

- The Beas originating from the **Beas Kund** near the Rohtang Pass.
- it meets the Satluj near **Harike, Ferozepur district of the Punjab.**
- **The Indira Gandhi Canal** is the longest canal of India. It starts from the Harike Barrage at **Harike**
- As of 2017 the river is home to a tiny isolated population of the **Indus dolphin.**
- Rig-veda called it the river **Vipas**, which means unfettered, in later Sanskrit texts it's been called **Vipasa**, Yāska identifies it with **Argrikiya.**
- **Maharana Pratap Sagar** (महाराणा प्रताप सागर), also known as **Pong Reservoir** was created by building **Pong Dam** on the Beas River in the Kangra district of the state of Himachal Pradesh.
- Maharana Pratap reservoir or lake is a well-known **wildlife sanctuary** .

THE SATLUJ

- The Satluj originates in the '**Raksas tal**' near **Mansarovar** in Tibet.
- In Tibet satluj is known as **Langchen Khambab / Zangbo**.
- The Satluj River is also known as Satadree / Shatarudra.
- It flows almost parallel to the Indus for about 400 km before entering India, and comes out of a gorge at **Rupar**.
- It passes through the **Shipki La** on the Himalayan ranges and enters the Punjab plains.
- It is an antecedent river.
- It is a very important tributary as it feeds the canal system of the Bhakra Nangal project.
- It is the **longest of the five rivers** that flow through the historic crossroads region of Punjab in northern India and Pakistan.
- The waters of the Satluj are allocated to India under the Indus Waters Treaty.
- It is the easternmost tributary of the Indus River.
- Ropar Wetland in Punjab state is located on the Satluj river basin.
- **Bhakra Dam** is a concrete gravity dam on the **Satluj River in Bilaspur**, Himachal Pradesh. The dam forms the **Gobind Sagar reservoir**.
- **Nangal Dam** is another dam in Punjab downstream of Bhakra Dam. However, sometimes both the dams together are called **Bhakra-Nangal Dam** though they are two separate dams.
- The **Nathpa Jhakri Dam** is a concrete gravity dam on the Satluj river in Himachal Pradesh
- **Gang Canal** of Rajasthan is an irrigation system of canals laid down by Maharaja Ganga Singh of Bikaner in his princely state in the present district of Sri Ganganagar. It is fed from the **Sutlej River near Firozpur**, Punjab.