

Periyar River

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Periyar River Latest News

The Kerala High Court recently stressed the need for a unified authority to monitor the cleanliness of the Periyar River.

About Periyar River

- It is the **longest river in Kerala**.
- It is known as the **“lifeline of Kerala”** because it is an important source of **irrigation and power generation**.
- **Course:**
 - It **rises** in the Sivagiri Hills of the **Western Ghats** range near the **border with Tamil Nadu**.
 - It **flows north through Periyar National Park into Periyar Lake**, an artificial reservoir created in 1895 by the construction of a dam across the river.
 - It further **flows into the Vembanad Lake before emptying into the Arabian Sea** about 24 km **north of Kochi**.

- **Total Length: 244 kilometers**
- It is **one of the few perennial rivers of the region** and is a crucial source of drinking water.
- About **25 percent of Kerala's industries** are located along its banks.
- **Major Tributaries: Muthirapuzha River, Mullayar River**, Cheruthoni River, Perinjankutti River and the Edamala River.
- It plays a major role in generating hydro electricity.
 - The **largest hydroelectric project** is the **Idukki Hydroelectric Project**, which generates a **significant portion of the electricity for Kerala** state.
 - **Other dams** constructed across the river are **Neriyamangalam, Pallivasal**, Panniyar, Kundalam, Chenkulam, and **Mullaperiyar**.
- The **birthplace of Sankaracharya, the greatest Advaita philosopher**, is at **Kalady**, which is situated on the bank of the Periyar.

News: TP

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/key-facts-about-periyar-river/>

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