

Environmental Flow (e-flow)

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Environmental Flow (e-flow) Latest News

Recently, the Union Jal Shakti Minister led a comprehensive meeting focused on the environmental flow (e-flow) of the Ganga River and its tributaries.

About Environmental Flow

- Environmental flow refers to the **quantity, timing, and quality of water flow** required to **sustain freshwater ecosystems** and the livelihoods that depend on them.

Problems in Indian Rivers e-Flow

- In recent decades, extensive interventions in river flow—such as the construction of dams and barrages, pollution, and encroachments—have **severely impacted the ecological balance of rivers**.
- To address these issues, the concept of “Environmental Flow” has been introduced, emphasizing the need to maintain a minimum water flow to ensure the health of river ecosystems.

Significance of Environmental flow

- It is critical for maintaining the ecological integrity of rivers and their estuaries.
- E-flow also ensures significant benefits for human welfare, especially in areas where water use is highly competitive and regulated.
- E-Flow studies consider the habitat and flow requirements of key fish species to ensure the survival of aquatic life and balanced river flow.
- This contributes to **long-term ecological and economic benefits for society**.

Source: PIB

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