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Q85

Recently, linking of which of the following rivers was undertaken? (a) Cauvery and Tungabhadra (b) Godavari and Krishna (c) Mahanadi and Son (d) Narmada and Tapti Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Current Affairs and GK

Current events, government schemes, miscellaneous GK - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Cauvery and Tungabhadra are east-flowing Peninsular rivers with their own disputes and reservoirs; a recently undertaken interlinking of this pair was not the project in the news this question uses. This option is not the key.

(b) Official key

The Godavari-Krishna link (**Pattiseema** lift irrigation / **Polavaram**-Krishna transfer in Andhra Pradesh) was the **inter-basin transfer** actually taken up and inaugurated in this period, moving Godavari surplus toward the **Krishna delta**. That is why (b) is the official key.

(c)

Mahanadi and Son belong to different basins (**Bay of Bengal vs Ganga**). No such completed linking was the contemporary news item. This option is wrong.

(d)

Narmada and Tapti are parallel west-flowing rivers; their linking was not the project undertaken in the news. This option is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (b) Godavari and Krishna. Andhra Pradesh operationalised a link to divert Godavari water into the Krishna system to stabilise delta irrigation, billed as an early National Perspective Plan-style transfer. Cauvery-Tungabhadra, Mahanadi-Son and Narmada-Tapti were not that completed pairing. River-linking questions often test which pair actually moved water, not which pair exists on a map.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Pattiseema

Lift scheme on Godavari (West Godavari) feeding the Polavaram right canal toward Krishna

National Water Development Agency

Prepares interlinking of rivers proposals

Ken-Betwa

Another ILR project, in the **Ganga basin**, distinct from this pair

Polavaram

National project on the Godavari in Andhra Pradesh

Inter-basin transfer

Moving water across a drainage divide

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