

# **Indus Treaty with Pakistan put on hold**

Published On: 24-04-2025

#### Context

• India will hold the **1960 Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan** "in abeyance with immediate effect", Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri announced on Wednesday. It is part of the five pronged response that was decided upon after Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the **Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)** in the aftermath of the terror strike in Pahalgam that left 26 dead

## THE 5 DECISIONS

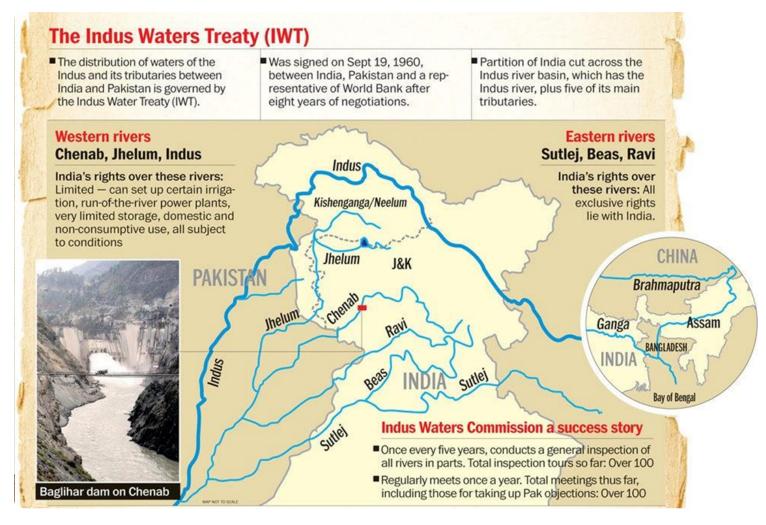
- Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 put on hold
- Attari Integrated Check Post shut
- SAARC visa scheme for Pakistanis stopped
- Military advisers in Pak mission to leave
- High Commission strength cut to 30

#### **SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme**

- The SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme was launched in 1992. The leaders at the Fourth Summit (Islamabad, 29-31 December 1988), while realizing the importance of having people to people contacts, among the peoples of SAARC countries, decided that **certain categories of dignitaries should be entitled to a Special Travel document**, which would **exempt them from visas within the region**. As directed by the Summit, the Council of Ministers regularly kept under review the list of entitled categories.
- Currently, the list included **24 categories** of entitled persons, which include **Dignitaries**, **Judges of higher courts**, **Parliamentarians**, **Senior Officials**, **Businessmen**, **Journalists**, **Sportsmen etc.**
- The **Visa Stickers are issued** by the respective Member States to the entitled categories of that particular country.

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## **Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)**

- It is headed by the **Prime Minister.**
- The Committee discusses, debates, and is the apex body when it comes to the **appointments of the officials in the national security bodies.**
- It also makes all the important decisions on defence policy and expenditure and, generally, all matters of India's security.
- Members: PM, Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, Finance and External Affairs.

### **Cabinet Committee**

- Cabinet Committees are **extra-constitutional**, meaning, they are **NOT mentioned in the Indian Constitution**.
- They are designed to **reduce the burden on the Union Cabinet** by allowing smaller groups of ministers to make decisions on specific policy areas.
- They are constituted or reconstituted when a new government takes over or the Cabinet undergoes a reshuffle.
- There are a total of **8 cabinet committees**:

1Cabinet Committee on **Economic Affairs**.

2Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.

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3Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth.

4Cabinet Committee on Security.

5Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.

6Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.

7Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.

**8Appointments Committee** of the Cabinet.

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