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River Devika

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Why is in news? North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika is nearing completion, it was launched by PM Modi himself: Dr. Jitendra Singh

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space said that **North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika** is nearing completion.

Built at a cost of over Rs 190 crore **on the lines of 'Namami Ganga'**, the Project was launched by the Prime Minister.

The Minister said this while reviewing Liquid Waste Management Project undertaken separately to protect the sanctity of holy Devika River in **Udhampur, J&K**.

River Devika which is considered as the **sister of sacred river Ganga**, has a great religious significance which is why the Liquid Waste Management Project with the network of pipes and manholes connecting all the households under Devika Rejuvenation Project is being constructed by UEED to protect the sanctity of it.

Out of the 190 crore funds allocated for the project, the sharing of allocation is in the ratio of 90:10 by the Centre and UT respectively, Dr. Jitendra Singh added.

About River Devika:

It is also known as **Devika Nagari**.

The river originates from the hilly **Suddha Mahadev temple in Udhampur** and flows down towards western Punjab (now in Pakistan), where **it merges with the Ravi river**.

The Devika **River holds religious significance** as it is revered by Hindus as the sister of the Ganga.

In June 2020, Devika Bridge was inaugurated in Udhampur. Apart from taking care of traffic congestion, the Devika Bridge was also meant to help smooth passage of Army convoys and vehicles.

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