



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Hirakud dam

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Why is in news? Odisha to rehabilitate those displaced by Hirakud dam

The Odisha government announced a plan for giving land rights to 1,749 families in Jharsuguda district, who had lost their land amid the construction of the Hirakud dam across the Mahanadi in the 1950s.

Hirakud Dam is **built across the Mahanadi River**, about 15 kilometres (9 mi) from Sambalpur in the state of Odisha in India.

With successful irrigation provided by the dam, **Sambalpur** is called the **rice bowl of Odisha**.

It is the **longest earthen dam in the world**.

Behind the dam extends a lake, Hirakud Reservoir, 55 km (34 mi) long.

It is **one of the first major multipurpose river valley projects** started after India's independence.

Hirakud Reservoir was **declared a Ramsar site** on 12 October 2021.

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Mahanadi River Basin

