

Narmada Landscape Restoration Project (NLRP)

The Narmada Landscape Restoration Project is a collaborative and participatory approach that will demonstrate the interdependence of the upstream sustainably managed forest and farm practices on downstream water resources.

On December 4, 2020, the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal for its implementation.

About Narmada Landscape Restoration Project

- National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) Ltd. is one of India's largest integrated energy company, under the Ministry of Power. The organisation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal for the implementation of NLRP
- The project is in partnership with a grant in aid from NTPC Ltd and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in equal proportions
- It is a **4-year project** and will be carried out in **Khargone District of Madhya Pradesh**
- The implementation of the project will be in the catchments of selected **tributaries of the River Narmada between Omkareshwar Dam and Maheshwar Dam**
- Apart from NTPC and IIFM, a third aid will be provided to the project in the form of the **Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)**. All three organisations together will be implementing the project

Omkareshwar Dam

It is one of the major dams of the downstream dams of the Indira Sagar Project. It is a gravity dam and is named after the Omkareshwar temple. It was constructed between 2003 and 2007.

Maheshwar Dam

It is one of the many planned dams and hydropower plants in the Narmada basin, known as Narmada Valley Development Plan (NVDP) and was launched in 1975. It has the capacity to provide 400MW electricity.

Candidates can also check the [List of Hydropower Plants in India](#) at the linked article.

Objectives of NLRP

The project has been initiated with two major objectives:

1. To demonstrate the interdependency of the upstream sustainably managed forest and farm practices on downstream water resources
2. To establish an incentivisation mechanism that can continue to support the riparian forest and farm communities of the Narmada basin to maintain sustainable landscape practices

This will also have a positive impact on the quality and quantity of water in the Narmada tributaries.

Related Links	
Sardar Sarovar Dam	Major Indian River System
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List of World Longest Rivers	National Water Informatics Centre (NWIC)

Advantages of Narmada Landscape Restoration Project

The NLR Project is being implemented after considering its advantages for the environment and people. Given below are a few benefits of this project:

- Through this project, NTPC intends to uplift the socio-economic condition of the society and work towards the sustainable development of the nation
- The quality and quantity of water in Narmada and its Tributaries shall improve
- The incentivisation mechanism and its resultant improvement may majorly Benefit the city of Indore, as approximately 60% of its municipal water supply from River Narmada
- Through this project, NTPC is promoting and extending support to demonstrate nature-based solutions for a healthy environment and ecosystem services

About Narmada River

- The Narmada River is also known as "Life Line of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat"
- It is the longest flowing west river and one of only three major rivers in peninsular India that run from east to west
- The Narmada basin, hemmed between Vindya and Satpura ranges, extends over an area of 98,796 km²
- Teak and India's best hardwood forests are found in the Narmada River basin
- Sardar Sarovar and Indira Sagar Dam are the major Hydropower projects in the basin

The [Narmada Bachao Andolan](#) was an Indian social movement led by native tribes, environmentalists and human rights activists against the construction of a number of large dams under the Narmada Dam Project. Candidates can visit the linked article and read more about the project.

Organisations involved with Narmada Landscape Restoration Project

Given below is a brief about the multiple organisations which will together contribute towards the implementation of NLRP.

- **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)**
 - It is a central Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) and became a Maharatna company in 2010

- It was established in 1975 and is located in New Delhi
- **Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM)**
 - It is an autonomous, public institute which was established by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in 1982
 - Its main objective is to fulfil the need for managerial human resources in the field of Forest and Natural Resource Management
- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)**
 - It is an independent agency of the US Federal government and was formed in 1961
 - It is one of the largest official aid agencies in the world and will do the same for NLRP, along with NTPC
- **Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)**
 - It is a treaty-based international organisation which was formed in 2010
 - GGGI promotes methods of Green growth by a balance of economic growth and environmental sustainability

All the above-mentioned four organisations will play an important role in this 4-year project for the landscape restoration of Narmada.

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