

Geography in the News

May 2025

Can India stop river water flowing into Pakistan?

Geography in the News aims to stimulate discussion about the relevance of geography to our lives and its importance in helping us to make sense of the world around us. We have selected a relevant news article with links to our A-Level specification and suggested questions you can discuss with your class.



Article: This issue relates to an article, written by Environment correspondent, Navin Singh Khadka, for the BBC.

Introduction

This article explores the potential implications of India suspending a water sharing treaty with Pakistan following the recent terror attack in Kashmir.

[Click here to access the article](#)

Discussion prompts:

- Explain how the physical geography of the Indus basin gives India a potential advantage in water resource management over Pakistan.
- Suggest how the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty by India could increase regional water insecurity
- Suggest how effective the Indus Waters Treaty has been in managing transboundary water conflict between India and Pakistan since 1960
- Suggest the potential consequences for regional geopolitics if India were to develop infrastructure to control more of the Indus basin's water flow.

Specification links:

A level

5.2c Humans disrupt the drainage basin cycle by accelerating processes (deforestation, changing land use) and creating new water storage reservoirs or by abstracting water.

5.8c The potential for conflicts to occur between users within a country and internationally over local and trans-boundary water sources.

7.7a Political spheres of influence can be contested leading to tensions over territory and physical resources.