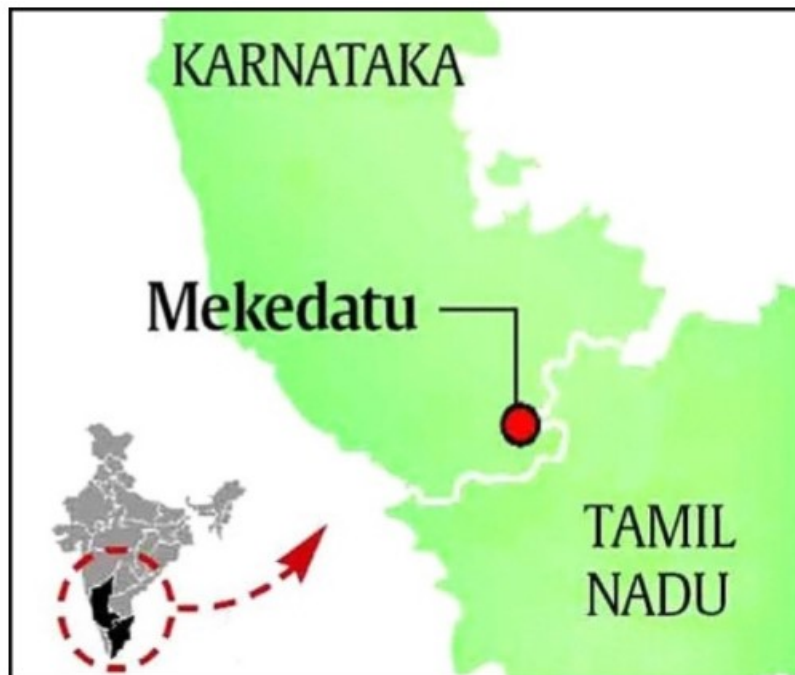


Mekedatu Project

Mekedatu Project:

- Mekedatu project is a balancing reservoir and drinking water project built at the confluence of the **Cauvery and Arkavathi rivers** by the Karnataka Government.
- **Purpose:**
 - The project is aimed at solving the drinking water problems of the Bengaluru and Ramanagara district.
 - It would also generate **400 MW of hydroelectric power**.
- **Dispute:** The Tamil Nadu Government has objected to the project saying Karnataka had not sought prior permission for the project.
- Tamil Nadu has also filed a petition in the Supreme Court in 2018 seeking a stay on the project.



Objections by Tamil Nadu Government:

- Mekedatu project would affect the flow of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu.
- Karnataka has no right to construct any reservoir on an inter-state river without the consent of the lower riparian state i.e. Tamil Nadu in this case.
- The project is also **against the final order of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT)**. During that, the SC held that no state can claim exclusive ownership or assert rights to deprive other states of the waters of inter-state rivers.
- Almost 63% of the forest area of the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary will be submerged in the project.

Arunachal Pradesh State

Arunachal Pradesh:

- Prime Minister of India extended his wishes to the people of **Arunachal Pradesh** on its **36th Statehood Day**.
- Through the **55th amendment to the Indian Constitution in 1986**, Arunachal Pradesh became the 24th state of the Indian Union on 20th February, 1987.
- **Historical Background:**