

River Cities Alliance

November 27, 2021

In news- The Union Minister of Jal Shakti in **partnership with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** has launched the River Cities Alliance recently

About the River Cities Alliance(RCA)-

- It is the **first-of-its-kind dedicated platform for river cities in India.**
- **It will focus on three broad themes-** Networking, Capacity Building and Technical Support.
- **The Secretariat of the Alliance will be set up at the National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA),** with National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) support.
- **The primary objective of RCA is to provide the member cities with a platform to discuss and exchange information** on aspects that are vital for sustainable management of urban rivers such as:
 - Minimizing their water footprint.
 - Reducing impacts on river and water bodies.
 - Capitalizing on natural, intangible, architectural heritage and associated services.
 - Develop self-sufficient, self-sustainable water resources through recycle, reuse strategy.
- It will **work towards adopting and localizing national policies and instruments with key river-related directions, prepare their Urban River Management Plans** and develop city-specific sectoral strategies that are required for sustainable urban river management.
- The Alliance gives **opportunities to these cities to strengthen governance aspects for river cities and improves their liveability to attract external economic investments.**
- It will **also provide opportunities to access state of the art knowledge and frameworks** as well as an

opportunity to serve as the site for unique demonstration projects which will be implemented by NIUA and NMCG.

- **The 30 member cities include** Haridwar, Rishikesh, Kanpur, Ayodhya, Patna, Howrah, Ayodhya, Varanasi, Prayagraj, etc. **from Ganga basin states** and Aurangabad, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bhubaneswar, Pune, Udaipur, Vijayawada, etc. **from non-Ganga basin states.**

National Institute for Urban Affairs (NIUA)-

- It is India's leading national think tank for research, training and information dissemination in urban planning, development and management .
- It was **established in 1976 as an autonomous body under the Societies Registration Act.**
- As a hub for the generation and dissemination of cutting-edge research in the urban sector, NIUA seeks to provide innovative solutions to address the challenges of a fast urbanising India, and pave the way for more inclusive and sustainable cities of the future.