



**24<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 2023**

*Theme: "Rights of Rivers"*

## **History of World Rivers Day**

In 2005, the UN launched the "Water for Life" decade. This was done to create awareness among the public about the need for care of water resources. Mark Angelo initiated a moment to clean the Thompson River in British Columbia in September 1980 and its success was marked as BC Rivers Day. Following BC Rivers Day, a number of river enthusiasts gathered to organize the inauguration of World Rivers Day. It is celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every September. This year, it will be observed on 24<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Theme**

The theme for World Rivers Day is, "*Rights of Rivers*". It lays an emphasis on protecting rivers that remain in a healthy state, while also striving to restore those that have been damaged in the past. The importance of World Rivers Day is to prevent contamination of the water of all rivers, and to acknowledge the importance of the "arteries of our planet" and our need to protect them.

## **World River Day Significance**

- World Rivers Day is celebrated with the aim to increase public awareness about the values of rivers and work together towards their protection.
- This day provides an opportunity to improve stewardship of all rivers around the world.
- The conservation of rivers is of paramount importance for several reasons, including ecological, economic, cultural and social aspects.
- This day holds a great significance as it highlights the need for conservation of rivers to maintain a healthy environment, sustain human livelihoods and preserve the rich biodiversity.



- They support a wide variety of flora and fauna and provide crucial habitats for fish, amphibians and other wildlife.

## Facts about Rivers

- ◆ The Amazon is considered the world's largest river by volume and disputed largest in length.
- ◆ The Congo River is the world's deepest recorded river at 720 feet (220 meters) deep.
- ◆ Rio Negro is a tributary of Amazon River and the largest black water river in the world.
- ◆ The Nile River passes through the maximum numbers of 11 countries.
- ◆ Bangladesh has the highest number of rivers (about 700) and is known as the 'land of rivers.'
- ◆ The Citarum River in Indonesia is the most polluted river of the world.

## Rivers of Nagaland

The major rivers of Nagaland are Doyang, Dikhu, Dhansiri, Tizu, Milak, Dzu, Langlong, Zungki, Likimro, Lanye and Dzudza. There are other lesser-known rivers in Nagaland such as Manglu, Tsurong, Nanung, Tsurang or Disai, Tsumok, Menung etc.

- Rivers which flow westward and flows into Brahmaputra: Doyang (flows into Dhansiri), Dikhu, Dhansiri.
- Rivers which flow eastwards and flows into Chindwin River in Burma: Tizu river.

*Did you know?*

There are approximately 165 major rivers in the world.



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