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Topic: For Prelims and Mains

Karnataka ordered to release 9.19 tmcft :

Why in news? The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) on recently **ordered Karnataka to release 9.19 tmcft of water for the month of June from the Biligundlu reservoir to the Mettur Dam in Tamil Nadu.**

Cauvery Water Management Authority:

- The authority will decide the sharing of the river water among the States/UT of:
 1. Karnataka
 2. Kerala
 3. Tamil Nadu
 4. Puducherry
- The authority's mandate will be to **monitor the storage, apportion shares**, supervise operation of reservoirs and regulate water releases with the assistance of the Regulation Committee.
- It will regulate water release by **Karnataka at the Biligundulu gauge and discharge station.**

- The CWMA will determine the total residual storage in the specified reservoirs on **June 1 every year.**
- The share of each State will be determined on the basis of the flows together with the available **carry-over storage in the reservoirs.**
- The withdrawals will be allowed on the basis of the **share worked out for each State.**
- If the Authority finds that any Government of the party States do not cooperate in implementing the decision or direction of the Tribunal, it can seek the help of **the Central Government for implementation of the Award of the Tribunal.**

Composition and tenure:

Chairman:

- The chairman of the authority will be appointed by the Central government for a tenure of **five years.**
- He has to be a senior and eminent **engineer with wide experience in water resource management or an IAS office in the rank of secretary or additional secretary.**

Part-time members:

- Two members will be representatives of the Central Government of the rank of Joint Secretary to be nominated by:
 - The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
 - The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
- Four part-time members from party States who will be administrative secretaries in charge of Water Resource Departments.
- These shall be nominated by the three State governments and Union territory administration respectively.

Central Water Commission :

- Central Water Commission is **a premier Technical Organization of India in the field of Water Resources and is presently functioning** as an attached office of the Ministry of Water Resources,
- River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India.

Functions:

- The Commission is entrusted with the general responsibilities of initiating, coordinating and furthering in consultation of the State Governments concerned,
- Schemes for control, conservation and utilization of water resources throughout the country,
- For purpose of Flood Control, Irrigation, Navigation, Drinking Water Supply and Water Power Development.
- It also undertakes the investigations, construction and execution of any such schemes as required.

CMFRI develops capsule to fight hypertension :

Why in news? The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has come up with a **nutraceutical product** from the sea to combat hypertension.

- This is sixth in a series of **nutraceutical products** developed by the CMFRI.
- The product, **CadalminTM** Antihypertensive extracts (**Cadalmin AHe**), was developed from seaweeds commonly available in Indian coastal waters and are known for their extraordinary medicinal properties

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has released the product at a function held at the CMFRI.

Properties of 'Cadalmín AHe':

- ✓ Bioactive pharmacophore leads from seaweeds were used to develop this product, which can be administered orally to regulate hypertension.
- ✓ The extract contains 100% natural marine bioactive ingredients from selected seaweeds by a patented technology, and would be made available in 400 mg capsules.

- ✓ The institute has already developed and commercialized natural products for diseases such as **diabetes, arthritis, cholesterol, and hypothyroid.**

What is Seaweed?

Seaweed, or macroalgae, refers to several species of macroscopic, multicellular, **marine algae**. The term includes some types of **Rhodophyta, Phaeophyta and Chlorophyta macroalgae**.

About the ICAR :

- The ICAR is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India**.
- Formerly known as Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, it was established on **16 July 1929** as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- The ICAR has its headquarters at **New Delhi**.
- The Council is the **apex body** for co-coordinating, guiding and managing research and education in agriculture including horticulture, fisheries and animal sciences in the entire country.
- With **101 ICAR institutes** and 71 agricultural universities spread across the country this is one of the largest national agricultural systems in the world.
- It has played a major role in promoting excellence in **higher education in agriculture**.
- It is engaged in cutting edge areas of science and technology development and its scientists are internationally acknowledged in their fields.

Anthropocene epoch:

WHY IN NEWS?

Recently, a 34-member panel of the Anthropocene Working Group (**AWG**) voted 29-4 in favour of designating a new geological epoch — the **Anthropocene**. The vote signals the end of the **Holocene Epoch**, which began 11,700 years ago.

About:

According to *Nature*, the panel plans to submit a formal proposal for the new epoch by 2021 to the **International Commission on Stratigraphy**, which oversees the **official geologic time chart**.

About Anthropocene:

The term 'Anthropocene' was coined in 2000 by Nobel Laureate Paul **Crutzen and Eugene Stoermer** to denote the present geological time interval in which **human activity** has profoundly altered many **conditions and processes on Earth**.

The phenomena associated with the Anthropocene :

It includes an order-of-magnitude increase in erosion and sediment transport associated with **urbanization and agriculture**, marked and abrupt anthropogenic perturbations of the cycles of elements such as **carbon, environmental changes generated** by these perturbations, including global warming, sea-level rise, and **ocean acidification, rapid changes** in the biosphere and finally proliferation and global dispersion of many new 'minerals' and **'rocks' including concrete**, fly ash and plastics, and the myriad **'techno fossils'** produced from these and other materials.

About the International Commission on Stratigraphy:

- ✓ It is sometimes referred to by the unofficial name "International Stratigraphic Commission".
- ✓ It is a daughter or major subcommittee grade scientific daughter

organization that concerns itself with stratigraphy, **geological, and geochronological matters on a global scale.**

Parent organization: International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS)

