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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

11 May 2024

Telangana State Regional News

<p><b>South India Faces Severe Water Scarcity: CWC Report</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South India's reservoirs are at <b>just 15% of their total live storage capacity, below the 10-year average for this time of year.</b></li> <li>• Storage levels have been decreasing week-on-week, impacting not just the south but the entire country.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of the latest data, the southern region's reservoir capacity is 16%, down from 17% the previous week.</li> <li>• Nationally, out of 150 monitored reservoirs, the total live storage capacity is 69.35% of the estimated capacity, but the current live storage available is only 27%.</li> </ul> <p><b>Regional Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The southern region, including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, has a total live storage capacity of 53.334 BCM.</li> <li>• The available live storage in these reservoirs is 7.921 BCM, constituting only 15% of their total capacity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>TSPCB Short Film Contest: Promoting Environmental Awareness in Telangana</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB) is organizing a short film contest to raise awareness about environmental management.</b></li> <li>• The contest invites individuals from Telangana who are passionate about protecting the environment.</li> <li>• Participants can create videos or films showcasing achievements and developments in pollution control.</li> <li>• The videos should highlight best environmental practices adopted by individuals, communities, NGOs, industries, and businesses.</li> <li>• The aim is to promote a brighter, cleaner, and healthier world through environmental management.</li> <li>• Selected videos will be featured on TSPCB's YouTube channel, and participants will receive Rs. 7,500 for each selected video.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CCMB</b></p>	<p><b>Context:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCMB in Hyderabad has developed an Environmental DNA-based quantitative PCR assay.</li> <li>• <b>This assay is used to map the presence and spread of invasive armoured sailfin catfish in the water bodies of the Eastern Ghats.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Issue with Catfish:</b></p>



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- Armoured sailfin catfish were introduced for their **appearance and algae-cleaning abilities**.
- However, they have spread to **60% of Eastern Ghats' water bodies, damaging the ecosystem**.
- Their proliferation is a concern in biodiverse countries like India.

### Significance of the Assay:

- Conventional detection methods are limited to smaller areas and are labor-intensive.
- **The environmental DNA approach is reliable, accurate, and cost-effective.**
- **It can be applied across large landscapes, like Eastern Ghats water bodies, in a few months.**

### Central Water Commission

- **Overview:** CWC is an attached office of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- **Responsibilities:** CWC is responsible for initiating, coordinating, and furthering schemes for control, conservation, and utilization of water resources throughout India, in consultation with the State Governments. This includes flood control, irrigation, navigation, drinking water supply, and water power development.

### Functions:

- Undertakes investigations, construction, and execution of water resource schemes as required.
- Divided into three wings: Designs and Research (D&R) Wing, River Management (RM) Wing, and Water Planning and Projects (WP&P) Wing.
- Human Resources Management Unit, headed by a Chief Engineer, manages HR, financial, training, and administrative matters.
- **Leadership:** CWC is headed by a chairman who holds the status of Ex-Officio Secretary to the Government of India.
- **Training:** The National Water Academy in Pune is responsible for training Central and State in-service engineers under the guidance of the Chairman.
- **Headquarters: Located in New Delhi.**



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