Historic Agreement on Narmada River

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Infrastructure*

Why in News?

The Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra governments reached an agreement on pending issues related to the Narmada Project.

- It relates to the cost-sharing arrangements for the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project.
- This also resolved the decades-old dispute regarding the displacement of people from flood-affected areas and compensation for land in the Narmada River Project.
- **Sardar Sarovar Dam -** It is one of 25 major dams planned on the Narmada River and stands as the largest among them.
- It is the ***one of the largest concrete dams in the world*** by the volume of concrete used in its construction.
- Sardar Sarovar Dam is located in Gujarat's Narmada district, right on the border between Gujarat and Maharashtra.
- To its west lies the Malwa plateau of Madhya Pradesh, where the Narmada River cuts through rugged hill tracts before reaching the Mathwar hills.
- With a spillway discharge capacity of 30 lakh cusecs (85,000 cumecs), it ***ranks 3rd in the world,*** behind China's Gezhouba (1.13 lakh cumecs) and Brazil's Tucuruí (1.0 lakh cumecs).
- At 163 metres, the dam is ***India's third-highest concrete dam***, after Bhakra (226 metres) in Himachal Pradesh and Lakhwar (192 metres) in Uttarakhand.
- By volume of concrete used in a gravity dam, it is the *second largest globally* with 6.82 million cubic metres, only the Grand Coulee Dam in the United States (8.0 million cu.m.) is larger.
- Overlooking the reservoir stands the ***Statue of Unity, the world's tallest statue,*** built as a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Reference

[The Indian Express | NWDT Award Projects]