

New Ramsar Site in Madhya Pradesh

Why in News?

Recently, the centre declared the **Tawa Reservoir** in **Madhya Pradesh** as a new **Ramsar Site**.

Key Points

- The Tawa Reservoir:
 - It is situated at the confluence of the Tawa and Denwa rivers near Itarsi town, was originally built for irrigation and now also supports power generation and aquaculture.
 - The reservoir lies within the <u>Satpura Tiger Reserve</u>, bordering the <u>Satpura National</u>
 <u>Park</u> and Bori Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - River Malani, Sonbhadra, and Nagdwari are the major tributaries of the Tawa reservoir.
 - The Tawa River, a left-bank tributary of Narmada river, originates in the Mahadeo Hills
 of Chhindwara district, flows through Betul district, and meets the Narmada River in
 Narmadapuram district.
 - It is the longest tributary of the Narmada river.
 - The reservoir hosts <u>Spotted deer</u> and <u>Painted Stork.</u>

The Ramsar Convention

- The <u>Ramsar Convention</u> is an international treaty signed in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, under the auspices of <u>UNESCO</u>, aimed at conserving wetlands of international importance.
 - In India, it came into force on 1st February 1982, under which wetlands of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.
- Montreux Record is a register of wetland sites of International Importance where changes in ecological character have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of technological developments, pollution or other human interference.
 - It is maintained as part of the Ramsar List.

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