



Proposal to Develop Wetlands as Ramsar Sites

Why in News?

Recently, the Rajasthan government has sent a proposal to the Union environment ministry to develop 5 [Wetlands](#) in the state as [Ramsar sites](#).

- Before this, [Sambhar Lake](#) was declared as a Ramsar site in march 1990 and [Keoladeo Ghana National Park](#) declared in October 1981.

Key Points

- The State Wetland Authority has proposed **Khinchan bird sanctuary in Jodhpur, Chandlai in Jaipur, Kanwas Pakshi Vihar in Kota, Lunkaransar in Bikaner, and Menar Lake in Udaipur district.**
 - According to the officials, all 5 wetlands fall into the Central Asian Flyway, which is **used by migratory birds that start flying to this region from November onwards till February for warmer temperatures.**
- At these sites, the **state pollution control board is taking action to stop industrial effluents from being released into the water.** Efforts to stop encroachment are also being done.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

- It is an **intergovernmental treaty**, adopted on **February 2, 1971**, in the Iranian city of Ramsar, on the southern shore of the [Caspian Sea](#).
- In India, it came into force on February 1, 1982, under which wetlands of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.
 - As of 2023, **the total Ramsar sites in India are 75.**
- The Ramsar tag **helps in better maintenance and management of a wetland** and aids tourism for the region.

Ramsar Sites

Total Sites: 75 (August 2022)



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