



## Ramsar Convention

# RAMSAR CONVENTION

### About

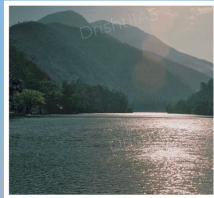
- Also known as the Convention on Wetlands.
- An intergovernmental treaty, adopted in 1971, in Ramsar, Iran.
  - Entered into force in 1975.
- Wetlands that are of international importance are declared as Ramsar sites.
- **Largest Ramsar Site in World: Pantanal: South America**

### Montreux Record

- Adopted in Montreux (Switzerland) in 1990.
- Identifies Ramsar sites that need priority conservation attention at national or international level.

### Wetlands

- A place in which the land is covered by water – salt, fresh, or somewhere in between – either seasonally or permanently.
- Take many forms including rivers, marshes, bogs, mangroves, mudflats, ponds, swamps, billabongs, lagoons, lakes, and floodplains.
- **World Wetlands Day: 2<sup>nd</sup> February**



### India & Ramsar Convention

- Came into force in India: **1982**
- **Total Number of Ramsar Sites: 85**
  - Chilika Lake (Odisha), Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan), Harike Lake (Punjab), Loktak Lake (Manipur), Wular Lake (Jammu and Kashmir), etc.
- **Related Framework in India**
  - The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as regulatory framework for conservation and management of wetlands.
  - The 2017 Rules decentralise wetlands management and provide for the constitution of the State Wetlands Authority or Union Territory Wetlands Authority.

### Key Facts

- **Largest Ramsar Site:** Sunderbans, West Bengal
- **Smallest Ramsar Site:** Vembannur Wetland Complex, Tamil Nadu
- **State with the maximum number of Ramsar Sites:** Tamil Nadu (14)
- **Wetlands in Montreux Record:**
  - Keoladeo National Park: Rajasthan
  - Loktak Lake: Manipur



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