



Wular Lake Contribution to J&K Fish Production

Why in News?

The Jammu and Kashmir government dismissed reports claiming that the degradation of [Wular Lake](#) has had a negative impact on the fishing community.

Key Points

- **Discussion on Wular Lake and Its Impact on Fishermen:**
 - A question was raised in the Assembly regarding **the impact of Wular Lake's deterioration on the fishing community.**
 - **The Minister In-Charge of Forest, Ecology & Environment Department denied claims** of adverse effects on fishermen in a written reply.
 - He stated that **Wular Lake contributes nearly 60% of Kashmir's total fish production.**
 - The lake currently supports 5,200 registered fishermen, and fish production has increased over the past three years.
- **Fish Production Statistics:**
 - In **2023-24, the fish production recorded** was:
 - 1,215.25 metric tonnes (MT) of local fish
 - 3,378.611 MT of carp
- **Restoration Efforts for Wular Lake:**
 - In response to another query on restoring Wular Lake's pristine condition, the minister highlighted **significant conservation measures undertaken.**
 - The government **recognizes Wular Lake as a wetland** of international importance under **the Ramsar Convention.**
- **Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA):**
 - The government has established the Wular Conservation and Management Authority (WUCMA) to oversee lake restoration.
 - WUCMA has been implementing a **Comprehensive Management Action Plan (CMAP)**, which includes:
 - Survey and demarcation of the wetland.
 - Improving water regimes of Wular and associated wetlands to restore ecological services and economic benefits.
 - Biodiversity conservation efforts to maintain the lake's environmental balance.

Ramsar Convention

- **The Ramsar Convention** is an international treaty signed in 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, under the auspices of **UNESCO**, 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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