

Fact Sheet

The Ramsar Convention and Ramsar sites in India

The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, called the Ramsar Convention, is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

Negotiated through the 1960s by countries and non-governmental organizations that were concerned at the increasing loss and degradation of wetland habitat for migratory waterbirds, the treaty was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975. It is the only global environmental treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem, and the Convention's member countries cover all geographic regions of the planet.

Wetlands under the Convention's mission include lakes and rivers, swamps and marshes, wet grasslands and peatlands, oases, estuaries, deltas and tidal flats, near-shore marine areas, mangroves and coral reefs, and human-made sites such as fish ponds, rice paddies, reservoirs, and salt pans.

Following is a list of Indian wetlands of international importance listed under the Ramsar convention:

Sl No	Name of wetland	Date of declaration	State
1	Ashtamudi Wetland	19/08/2002	Kerala
2	Bhitarkanika Mangroves	19/08/2002	Orissa
3	Bhoj Wetland	19/08/2002	Madhya Pradesh
4	Chandertal Wetland	08/11/2005	Himachal Pradesh
5	Chilika	01/08/1981	Orissa
6	Deepor Beel	19/08/2002	Assam
7	East Calcutta Wetlands	19/08/2002	West Bengal
8	Harike Lake	23/03/1990	Punjab
9	Hokera Wetland	08/11/2005	Jammu and Kashmir
10	Kanjli	22/01/2002	Punjab
11	Keoladeo National Park (MR)	01/10/1981	Rajasthan
12	Kolleru Lake	19/08/2002	Andhra Pradesh
13	Loktak Lake (MR)	23/03/1990	Manipur
14	Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary	19/08/2002	Tamil Nadu
15	Pong Dam Lake	19/08/2002	Himachal Pradesh
16	Renuka Wetland	08/11/2005	Himachal Pradesh
17	Ropar	22/01/2002	Punjab
18	Rudrasagar Lake	08/11/2005	Tripura
19	Sambhar Lake	23/03/1990	Rajasthan
20	Sasthamkotta Lake	19/08/2002	Kerala
21	Surinsar-Mansar Lakes	08/11/2005	Jammu and Kashmir
22	Tsomoriri	19/08/2002	Jammu and Kashmir
23	Vembanad-Kol Wetland	19/08/2002	Kerala

24	Wular Lake	23/03/1990	Jammu and Kashmir
25	Upper Ganga river (Brijghat to Narora stretch)	08/11/2005	Uttar Pradesh

MR-sites under Montreaux Record, which is a register of wetland sites on the List of Wetlands 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.

Source: www.ramsar.org