



ENVIRONMENT CONVENTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS



For Different SSC & Railway Exams

**ENVIRONMENT CONVENTIONS, ORGANISATIONS & RELATED FACTS - RRB
NTPC & SSC**

Static GK is an integral part of the general awareness section. Therefore, we regularly provide you with Free Static GK E-books along with Current Affairs E-books to boost up your preparation. This e-book covers Environment topics relevant from Railways, SSC, and other competitive exams point of view.

- **INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS & ORGANISATIONS**
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- **LIST OF ENVIRONMENT RELATED ACT & POLICIES**
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The following topics have been covered in this ebook, which sums up the complete environment concepts along with our previous E-book on environment topic

Link for that ebooks

1. <http://bit.ly/Environmentissues>
2. <http://bit.ly/FloraandFaunaOfIndia2020>

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS / PROTOCOLS/ SUMMITS

<u>Conventions/Protocols/ Summits</u>	<u>Features</u>
Ramsar convention on wetlands	It is also known as waterfowl convention. Only International treaty that deals with a particular ecosystem (wetlands). Signed in 1971 and came into force in 1975. This convention adopted in Ramsar city, Iran. 37 Ramsar sites are listed in India (According to 2020 data).
United Nations Conference on Human Environment (Stockholm declaration)	It is held in Stockholm (Sweden). Signed in 1972. UN's first major conference on international environmental issues.
World Heritage Convention	The protection of Cultural and Natural heritage. Signed in 1972 and came into effect in 1975. Adopted by UNESCO. 38 world heritage sites are listed (30 cultural sites, 7 natural sites, 1 mixed sites).
Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of flora & fauna (CITES)	It is also known as Washington Convention . International treaty to protect the endangered species from commercial trade. Signed in 1973 & came into force in 1975. Administered through the UNEP. 183 parties (the conservation agreement with the largest membership).
Convention on migratory species (CMS)	This convention is known as Bonn Convention Convention to conserve aquatic, avian & terrestrial migratory species. Adopted in 1979 . Under the purview of UNEP.
Nairobi Declaration	Mentioned Sustainable development goals Adopted in 1982 (10 th anniversary of Stockholm declaration).
Vienna Convention	Convention for the protection of the Ozone layer . Adopted in 1985 (came into force in 1988). For the protection of Ozone layer
Montreal protocol	To control production and consumption of ozone depleting substances. Signed in 1987 .
Basel convention	To control the trans-boundary movements of the hazardous wastes. And their disposals. Adopted in 1989 . India is a party to the basel convention.
United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).	Earth summit held in Rio de Janerio (Brazil), 1992. It is also known as Rio summit/ conference . Major issues addressed:-

<p><u>Two important binding agreements of Rio summit</u></p>	<p>Scarcity of water Vehicle emissions Global climate change Toxic components Major outcomes:- Rio declarations consist of 27 principles deals with the sustainable development goals. Agenda 21 (action plan for UN, governments & other groups to protect environment for 21st century).</p>
<p>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).</p> <p>2) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).</p>	<p>Convention to control the Green House Gases (GHGs). Adopted in 1992 (came into effect in 1994). Headquarters: - Bonn, Germany. It is not a legally binding one and India is signatory of UNFCCC.</p> <p>Important legal binding document produced in the Rio earth summit (1992). Conservation of bio-diversity (it covers all species, eco-system & genetic resources).</p>
<p>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)</p>	<p>Only legally binding international agreement linking to sustainable land management (combat land degradation) Adopted in 1994. Headquarters: - Bonn, Germany. Origin: - Direct recommendation of Rio earth summit's Agenda 21.</p>
<p>Kyoto Protocol</p>	<p>Commitments to reduce Green House Gas (extension of UNFCCC). Signed in 1997 (came into effect in 2005). Adopted in Kyoto, Japan. Main mechanisms under the protocol:- Carbon trading (Emission and offset trading), Clean development mechanism. Protocol added certain GHGs :- Carbon dioxide, Hydrofluorocarbons, Methane, Nitrous oxide, Sulphur hexafluoride etc. Protocol listed Countries:- Annex I :- Industrialized countries and Economies in transition (EIT) Annex II :- Developed countries Annex B :- Annex I countries with compulsory binding targets. Non – Annex I :- Developing countries (India) LDCs :- Least developed countries</p>
<p>Rotterdam convention</p>	<p>Convention deals with banned pesticides and industrial chemicals that create severe health</p>

	<p>issues.</p> <p>Adopted in 1998, Rotterdam, Netherland.</p> <p>Legally binding obligations (Prior Informed Consent).</p>
Cartagena protocol	<p>Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p> <p>Adopted in 2000.</p> <p>First protocol on CBD (safe handling of Living modified Organisms (LMOs)).</p>
Stockholm convention	<p>This convention deals with the POP (Persistent Organic Pollutants).</p> <p>Signed in 2001 (Came into effect into 2004).</p> <p>POPs are chlorine pesticides, such as DDT, industrial chemicals, most notably polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB), as well as unintentional by-products of many industrial processes, especially polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDD) and dibenzofurans (PCDF), commonly known as 'dioxins'.</p>
Rio+20	<p>Sustainable development conference</p> <p>Held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2012)</p> <p>20th anniversary of Rio earth summit.</p>
Nagoya Protocol	<p>Supplementary agreement to CBD.</p> <p>Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources & the Fair & Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.</p> <p>Adopted in 2014.</p>
Paris agreement	<p>To combat climate change.</p> <p>Signed in 2015.</p> <p>Objectives:-</p> <p>Reduce global greenhouse emissions to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5°C.</p> <p>Developed countries to provide financial & technological support to the developing countries to combat climate change.</p>
Kigali agreement	<p>Added new substances to the list of substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol (Ozone layer depletion).</p> <p>Adopted in 2016</p> <p>- Kigali, the capital of Rwanda.</p>
Minamata convention	<p>International treaty designed to protect human health and the environment from emissions of mercury and its compounds.</p> <p>Came into Effect in 2017 (signed in 2013).</p>

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS / FORUMS

<u>ORGANISATIONS</u>	<u>FEATURES</u>
International Whaling Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To Regulate Whaling.- Founded in 1946.- Headquarters:- Cambridge, UK
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- World's oldest and largest global environmental organisation.- International Organization related to the nature conservation.- Founded in 1948.- Headquarters:- Gland, Switzerland- Produces Red List of Threatened species.
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- UN's specialized agency deals with earth's atmosphere, its interaction with the land, oceans, the weather & climate.- Headquarters:- Geneva, Switzerland.- Founded in 1950
World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- International organization for conservation of the environment.- Founded in 1960- Headquarters:- Gland, Switzerland- It is an NGO.- <u>Reports & programmes</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Living Planet Report✓ Marine Stewardship Council✓ Earth Hour
Green peace	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Non-Government environmental organization.- Founded in 1971.- Headquarters:- Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate UN's environmental activities and assists the developing countries for implementing environment policies and practices. - Stockholm conference in 1972 created UNEP. - Headquarters: - Nairobi, Kenya.
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). - Founded in 1988.(by UNEP & WMO) - Headquarters:- Geneva, Switzerland
Arctic Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mainly to protect the arctic ecosystem. - Founded in 1989 (Initiative of Finland) - India is an Observer country.
Global Tiger Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Intergovernmental body to protect the tiger species in 14 tiger range countries. - Founded in 1994 - Secretariat:- New Delhi
REDD & REDD+	<p><u>REDD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN programme on reducing emissions from deforestation & forest degradation. - Founded in 2008 - Headquarters:- Geneva, Switzerland. <p><u>REDD+</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN programme on reducing emissions from deforestation & forest degradation + Enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.
International Solar Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A group of nations that lies within the Tropics (Initiative by India). - Founded in 2017 (Aftermath of Paris agreement). - Headquarters:- Gurugram, India.

Related facts

- **Brundtland report:-** A report introduced Brundtland commission 1987 that gave the concept of 'Sustainable development'.
- **Agenda 21:-** Action plan of UN related to the sustainable development (Outcome of Rio Summit, 1992).
- **Montreux Record :-** a register of wetland sites (list of wetlands of international importance where changes occurred to the ecosystem as a result of Anthropogenic activities like pollution, technological development). Two sites are in Montreux record (According to January 2020) :
Loktak Lake (Manipur)
Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)
- **Chilka lake (Odisha)** removed from the montreux record due to the improvement in ecosystem conditions.
- **Green Belt movement:-** It is a Non – Government environment Organisation (focused on planting of trees, environment conservation & women's rights) based in Nairobi, Kenya. Founded in 1977 by Wangari Maathai.

INDIAN ORGANISATIONS

<u>ORGANISATIONS</u>	<u>FEATURES</u>
➤ <u>Animal Welfare Board Of India</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formed in 1962. - Headquarters at Chennai. - Pioneer of Animal Welfare Board:-Shrimathi Rukmini Devi Arundale. - Aim:- Prevention of cruelty to animals.
➤ <u>Central Pollution Control Board</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formed in 1974 - Under the purview of Ministry of Environment, forests & Climate change. - Function:- Pollution related Guidance, technical support to central & state authorities.
➤ <u>Centre for Science & Environment (CSE)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An NGO & a think tank in environment development issues in

	<p>India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formed in 1980 - Headquarters:- New Delhi
➤ <u>Wildlife Trust of India</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is an Non-government Organisation. - Founded in 1998. - Protection of wildlife with the support of local communities.
➤ <u>National Bio-diversity Authority</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established in 2003. - Based on National Biodiversity Act, 2002. - Headquarters:- Chennai, Tamilnadu. - State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) focus are on advising the State Governments, subject to any guidelines issued by the Central Government, on matters relating to the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of biological resources.
➤ <u>Wildlife Crime Control Bureau</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formed in 2007 - Based on Wildlife protection Act, 1972 - Headquarters:- New Delhi - Aim:- Control the wildlife crimes.
➤ <u>National Tiger Conservation Authority</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formed in 2005 - Under the chairmanship of Minister of Environment & forests. - Aim:- Protection measures for tiger species including its future conservation plan, estimation of tiger population etc.
➤ <u>National Green Corps</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programme of ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate change. - Formed in 2001-2002. - Aim:- To spread Environment awareness among school children.

LIST OF INDIAN ACTS & POLICIES

Acts	Year
• Indian Wildlife Protection Act,	1972
• Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act	1974
• Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act	1981
• Environment Protection Act,	1986
• National Forest Policy	1988
• Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules	1989
• Coastal Regulation Zone	1999
• Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules	2000
• Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules	2000
• Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) (Amendment) Rules	2002
• National Biological Diversity	2002
• Wetlands(Conservation & Management Rules)	2010
• National Green tribunal Act	2010

ENVIRONMENT RELATED INDEX & REPORTS

Index/Reports	Published by
Environment Performance Index	biennial index prepared by Yale University and Columbia
World Air Quality Report	Pollution tracker IQAir and Greenpeace
Air Quality Index in India	Central Pollution Control Board
World Water Development Report	UN-Water
Emission Gap Report	UNEP
Global Environment Outlook	UNEP

Global Climate Report	WMO
Climate Change Performance Index	Germanwatch and the Climate Action Network (CAN)
Climate Change and Land Report	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

ENVIRONMENT RELATED DAYS

World Wetland Day	February 2
World Forest Day	March 21
World Water Day	March 22
World Meteorological Day	March 23
Earth Month	April
Earth Day	April 22
International Migratory Bird Day	May 14
Endangered Species Day	May 16
Biodiversity Day	May 22
Clean Air Day	June 2
World Environment Day	June 5
World Oceans Day	June 8
World Day to Combat	June 17

Desertification and Drought Ozone Day	September 16
World Habitat Day	1st Monday of October
World Food Day	October 16
International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	November 6
World Fisheries Day	November 20

Practise Questions

1. When was National Green Tribunal Act passed?
 - a) 2010
 - b) 2000
 - c) 2012
 - d) 2001
2. Headquarters of International Solar Alliance is located at?
 - a) Geneva, Switzerland
 - b) Bonn, Germany
 - c) Gurugram, India
 - d) Vienna, Austria
3. Which day is observed as Ozone day?
 - a) August 12
 - b) October 10
 - c) June 5
 - d) September 16
4. Montreux Records related to _____?
 - a) Desertification

- b) Wetlands
- c) Threatened Species
- d) Climate change

5. Minamata Convention is an international treaty to control the emission of _____?

- a) Mercury
- b) GHGs
- c) Carbon dioxide
- d) Chlorofluorocarbon

Answers

1. a)	2. c)	3. d)	4. b)	5. a)
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