

- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: d)

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat is a treaty for conservation and sustainable use of such sites. It is named after Ramsar, the Iranian city where the treaty was signed in 1971, and places chosen for conservation under it are given the tag 'Ramsar site.'

The convention, signed in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar, is one of the oldest inter-governmental accord for preserving the ecological character of wetlands.

Also known as the Convention on Wetlands, **it aims to develop a global network of wetlands for conservation of biological diversity and for sustaining human life.** Wetlands provide a wide range of important resources and ecosystem services such as food, water, fibre, groundwater recharge, water purification, flood moderation, erosion control and climate regulation.

Over 170 countries are party to the Ramsar Convention and over 2,000 designated sites covering over 20 crore hectares have been recognised under it.

The Ramsar Convention works closely with six other organisations known as international organization partners (IOPs). These are:

- BirdLife International
- **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- Wetlands International
- WWF International
- Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)

These organizations support the work of the convention by **providing expert technical advice, helping implement field studies, and providing financial support.** The IOPs also participate regularly as observers in all meetings of the conference of the parties and as full members of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel.

[Source](#)

24) Recently the Lonar lake in Maharashtra was added to the list of recognised Ramsar sites. What does it mean?

1. Facilitate development of lake and policies for its wise use.
2. Encourage international cooperation and expert advice on problems of Lonar wetland.
3. Help ensure survival of representative natural eco-systems of Lonar as well as rare and endemic species

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) 1, 2
- b) 1, 3
- c) 2, 3
- d) 1, 2, 3

Solution: d)

The world-famous Lonar crater in Buldhana district has been added to 'Ramsar sites', getting the highest level of protection.

WHAT IT MEANS

- * Increased publicity and prestige for Lonar wetlands
- * Access to aid through grant fund
- * Facilitate development of lake, policies for its wise use