



Wetland City Accreditation

Why in the News?

The [Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change \(MoEF&CC\)](#) has recently submitted **three nominations from India for the [Wetland City Accreditation \(WCA\)](#).**

- **The nominated cities include Indore** (Madhya Pradesh), **Bhopal** (Madhya Pradesh), and **Udaipur** (Rajasthan).

Key Points

- Udaipur city is surrounded by **five major wetlands: Pichola, Fateh Sagar, Rang Sagar, Swaroop Sagar, and Doodh Talai.**
- These wetlands are an integral part of the city's culture and identity, **help maintain the city's microclimate, and provide a buffer from extreme events.**
- The ongoing [Amrit Dharohar initiative](#) by the **MoEF&CC** aligns with WCA goals, promoting the conservation values of [Ramsar Sites](#).

Other Nominated Cities For the WCA

- **Sirpur Lake**, a Ramsar Site in Indore, has been recognised as an important site for **water bird congregation and is being developed as a Bird Sanctuary.**
- **Bhoj Wetland**, Ramsar Site is Bhopal's lifeline, equipped with the **world-class wetlands interpretation centre, Jal Tarang.**

Wetland City Accreditation (WCA)

- The WCA is a **voluntary accreditation system established by the Ramsar Convention** during the **Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP) 12**, 2015 to recognize cities that have taken exceptional steps to safeguard their urban wetlands.
 - The WCA is **valid for 6 years.**
- The scheme **aims to promote the conservation and wise use of urban and peri-urban wetlands**, as well as sustainable socio-economic benefits for local populations.