



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivar Kamarajar"

96 Ramsar sites

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Context

- India has added **Siliserh Lake (Rajasthan)** and **Kopra Reservoir (Chhattisgarh)** to the **List of Wetlands of International Importance** (Ramsar List). With this, India now has **96 Ramsar sites**, reflecting its commitment to wetland conservation.

Siliserh Lake



- Location:** Paitpur, Alwar District, Rajasthan
- Ecological Zone:** Semi-arid; falls in the **buffer zone of Sariska Tiger Reserve**
- Origin:** Human-made wetland, created in **1845 AD** by **Maharaja Vinay Singh** via a bund across a tributary of **River Ruparel**
- Biodiversity Highlights:**
 - Birds:** **Egyptian Vulture, Black Stork**
 - Mammals:** **Tiger, Leopard, Indian Pangolin, Sambar**
- Significance:** Supports **migratory and resident species**, and acts as a **water resource in semi-arid landscape**



- Location:** Bilaspur District, Chhattisgarh

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: **044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477** / Whatsapp : **09710729833**

- **Type:** Reservoir in **upper catchments of River Mahanadi**
- **Ecological Features:** Extensive open water with **shallow, nutrient-rich backwaters**
- **Biodiversity Highlights:**
- **Birds:** **Bar-headed Goose, Egyptian Vulture, River Tern, Greater Spotted Eagle**
- **Threats:** Siltation, **invasive alien species**, intensive agriculture in surrounding landscape

About Ramsar Convention and List

- **Genesis:** Adopted in **Ramsar, Iran, 1971**
- **Objective:** Promote **conservation and wise use of wetlands** worldwide
- **Membership:** Nearly **90% of UN member states**, including India, are **Contracting Parties**
- **Significance of Listing:**
- Recognized internationally as **wetlands of significant ecological, cultural, or hydrological value**
- Wetlands receive **special protection at the national level**
- **Criteria for Designation:** Wetlands must meet at least **one of nine criteria**, such as:
- Support **rare, vulnerable, or endangered species**
- Important for **biodiversity, waterbirds, fish, or hydrology**
- Represent **unique wetland types or ecological functions**