



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Per. unthalaivar Kamarajar"

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)

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Context: The 20th Conference of Parties (CoP20) to CITES was held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

Key Highlights of CoP20

Species Added: 77 species were added to CITES appendices.

oNotable inclusions in **Appendix I:**

§Oceanic whitetip shark

§Whale shark

India's Stand: Successfully opposed the **EU proposal to list guggul in Appendix II**, citing need for **comprehensive population assessments** first.

CITES Appendices

Appendix	Protection Level
I	Species threatened with extinction ; trade only in exceptional circumstances
II	Species not necessarily threatened but could become so if trade is not controlled
III	Species protected in at least one country , requesting assistance from others

Significance of CoP20

Strengthens **global biodiversity conservation**.

Highlights the need for **science-based decision-making** in trade regulation.

Reaffirms **India's proactive role** in safeguarding species like guggul, balancing conservation with sustainable use.

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