



**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.

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## CITES Appendices

Appendix	Protection Level
I	Species threatened with <b>extinction</b> ; trade only in exceptional circumstances
II	Species <b>not necessarily threatened</b> but could become so if trade is not controlled
III	Species protected in <b>at least one country</b> , 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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