

Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management (CWCM)

February 4, 2021

In news : Recently the Union government announced the establishment of Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management (CWCM)

Key updates

On the occasion of the World Wetland Day and as a part of its commitment towards conservation, restoration and management of India's wetlands, the Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change announced the establishment of a Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management (CWCM), as a part of the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai, an institution under the Ministry

Key facts

- India has nearly 4.6% of its land as wetlands, covering an area of 15.26 million hectares and has 42 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites), with a surface area of 1.08 million hectares.
- The year 2021 also commemorates the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971 in Ramsar, Iran, celebrated annually as World Wetlands Day.

About the Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management (CWCM)

- As per the Minister, the dedicated Centre which was launched recently would address specific research needs

and knowledge gaps and will aid in the application of integrated approaches for conservation, management and wise use of the wetlands

- The Centre will help in building partnership and networks with relevant national and international agencies.
- WCM would serve as a knowledge hub and enable exchange between State/ UT Wetland Authorities, wetland users, managers, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners.
- The Centre would also assist the national and State/ UT Governments in the design and implementation of policy and regulatory frameworks, management planning, monitoring and targeted research for its conservation.

National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management(NCSCM)

- The National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai is a research institute under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India with a vision to manage the Indian coast in a sustainable manner.
- NCSCM is mandated to disseminating knowledge pertaining to coastal management by capacity building at all levels for the benefit of coastal communities and stakeholders.
- NCSCM's Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Plan has been developed on international standards that can be replicated in other parts of the World.
- Survey of India and NCSCM have mapped the Hazard Line for the entire coast of India, which includes vulnerability mapping of flood, erosion and sea level rise

The aims and Objectives of the Center are:

- Strive for being a World Class Knowledge Institution related to coastal zones, environment, resources and processes
- To promote integrated and sustainable management of the

coastal and marine areas in India for the benefit and wellbeing of the traditional coastal and island communities, and

- Advice the Union and State Governments and other associated stakeholder(s) on policy, and scientific matters related to Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

The six research divisions of the NCSCM are: Geospatial Sciences, Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Integrated Social Sciences & Economics, Coastal environmental impact assessment, Conservation of Coastal & Marine Resources, Knowledge, Governance and Policy, and Futuristic Research and Integrated Island Management Unit.