Nagoya Protocol

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Environment*

Why in News?

India emerges as a global leader in issuing Compliance Certificates under the Nagoya Protocol.

- **Nagoya Protocol** – It is a *legally binding* international agreement as a *Supplementary agreement* under the *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).*
- **Aim** – To ensure the *fair and equitable sharing of benefits* arising from the use of genetic resources.
    - Unlike the Cartagena Protocol (biosafety/GMOs), the Nagoya Protocol focuses on benefit sharing and compliance.
- **Adopted & Enforced –** Adopted in October 2010, Nagoya, Japan, and enforced on 12 October 2014.
- **Objectives**
    - Ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources.
    - Contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
    - Provide legal certainty and transparency for providers and users of genetic resources.
- **3 core Pillars**
    - **Access -** Prior Informed Consent (PIC) from the provider country.
    - **Benefit-Sharing -** Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) for sharing benefits.
    - **Compliance -** Ensure resources are accessed legally in line with PIC and MAT.
- **Ratified Members** – As of August 2025, the protocol has been ratified by 142 parties, including the European Union and most UN member states.
- Major non-parties include the USA, Canada, and Russia.
- **Coverage –** It covers genetic resources, traditional knowledge and benefits from utilisation.

India & Nagoya Protocol

- India *ratified* this protocol in 2012.
- **Implementation –** National Biodiversity Authority at the central level, State Biodiversity Boards/ Union territory Biodiversity Councils at the state level and Biodiversity Management Committees at the local level under the *Biological Diversity Act, 2002.*

Recent achievement

- **Global leader in issuing IRCCs** – India has *emerged as the global leader* in issuing Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs), accounting for *over 56% of all certificates* issued worldwide.
- **IRCCs –** These are *official proof* that Prior Informed Consent (PIC) has been obtained & Mutually Agreed Terms (MATs) are established between users and providers of genetic resources.
- The details are then uploaded to the ABS Clearing-House.
- **Access & Benefit Sharing (ABS) Clearing-House** – India has issued 3,561 IRCCs out of a global total of 6,311, placing it far ahead of all other countries in implementing the protocol.
- **Global comparison –** France (964), Spain (320), Argentina (257), Panama (156), Kenya (144).
- **Latest Development (2026) –** India submitted its *1st national implementation report*, reaffirmed as a *global leader in ABS compliance certificates*.

References

1. **PIB | Nagoya Protocol**
2. **CBD | Nagoya Protocol**

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