



## Why in news ?

- **E**very March 3, the United Nations World Wildlife Day is observed.

## United Nations World Wildlife Day



- This global event is marked annually to celebrate and promote awareness of the wild fauna and flora of the planet.
- The date also marks the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973.

## CITES



- This agreement is effective from 1st July, 1975.
- India joined it on October 18, 1976, almost a year after its entry into force, and became the 25th member to join the convention.
- Currently there are 183 parties to CITES.
- The purpose of CITES is to prevent international trade in the existence of threatened species.

