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# Crocodile farming in Asia needs a push

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**According to a report, the global crocodile farming market is projected to grow at 5 per cent CAGR during the forecast period of 2022-2030. But on the other hand,Crocodile farming, which is one of the growing industries in Asia and Australia, is facing challenges due to the export restrictions in many countries. Amendments in export policy and better infrastructure will give a big push to the crocodile farming industry in Asia.**



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Recently 22 freshwater baby crocodiles were seized in Thailand, a man was selling baby crocodiles on Tik Tok. Phuket Provincial Fisheries office took action against the man and found crocodiles in a small pool. The farmer was selling baby crocodiles on social media due to restrictions on crocodile exports.

Crocodile farming is a popular business in Asia. Countries like Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Cambodia and Bangladesh are having crocodile farming companies. The purpose of crocodile farming is to get meat, skin, oil, medicine and other things. Crocodile meat is known for low cholesterol and high protein. Luxury brands use crocodile skin to make expensive fashion products. In Malaysia, Thailand and Papua Guinea crocodile related events are getting popular. The farming and breeding of crocodiles are also beneficial for the growth of tourism in these countries. But due to trade restrictions farms are suffering losses.

In Thailand, there are many crocodile farms across the country, but the crocodile farm business is dwindling due to the regulations on cross-border trade. Crocodile farmers in Thailand have demanded relaxation in regulations. During the pandemic, there were tight regulations on the export of crocodile meat and skin. Thailandâ??s crocodile industryâ??s $ 200

million annual sales plunged which is around 90 per cent.

In Cambodia, farmers are seeking help from the government to find more international markets for export. Cambodian farmers export crocodiles to Vietnam and Thailand. During the pandemic price of crocodiles has dropped drastically. Previously farmers were selling per crocodile for $500 to $800, but now the price of the crocodile has dropped to $30 to $40 per head.

Bangladeshâ??s first commercial crocodile farm suffered serious losses during the pandemic, as many crocodiles died due to food shortages and a complete halt in the export of crocodiles. The Reptile's Farm is located at Hatibeer of Mymensingh's Bhaluka upazila and it shipped 1507 skins between 2014 and 2019. The farm has been exporting skin to Japan for the last five years. The farm is now having more than 2,500 crocodiles out of 93 at the breeding stage and 500 are ready to shed skins that could be processed and exported. The farm is waiting to relax export restrictions and plans to export 1,000 skins annually. A piece of skin can bring $600 to $700.

Vietnamâ??s crocodile farming is also facing heavy losses as the pandemic affected meat export. Vietnamese traders were dependent on China. HCM City in Vietnam is a crocodile hub of the country. The city is farming 2 lakhs animals every year. City also developed eco-tourism but during covid 19 outbreak cityâ??s revenue dropped by 80 per cent. Vietnamese farmers are expecting planning and investment for the development of the industry.

According to a report, the global crocodile farming market is projected to grow at 5 per cent CAGR during the forecast period of 2022-2030. According to a United Nations Environment report in 2017 more than two million crocodile skins are traded annually across the world.

There are around 27 species of crocodile in the world, all species are listed under Convention on International trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) but most of them are used for trade. Nine species are used for meat across the world. Nile crocodiles and New Guinea crocodiles are two species considered to have stable wild populations and low-concern conservation status by the International Union for Conservation status. There are three other species which are having stable populations and low conservation concerns mugger, saltwater crocodile and Morelet crocodile. These three types of crocodiles are raised for fashion and accessories purposes. Species like the American alligator, spectacled caiman, and broad-snouted caiman are raised for meat purposes.

Crocodile farming is one of the growing industries in Asia and Australia, Due to the export restrictions many of the crocodile farms in Asia are in problem. On the other hand, luxury brands are also entering into crocodile farming. French fashion brand Hermes built one of the biggest crocodile farms in Australia, which can hold 50,000 saltwater crocodiles.

**Crocodile farms in Asia**

Sriracha Farm Asia is one of the oldest crocodile farms in Thailand, supplying fresh and processed crocodile meat. The company also supplies crocodile skin. For more than three decades the company has been into crocodile farming.
Samutprakarn Crocodile Farm and Zoo is one of the oldest and largest crocodile farms in Thailand, the Samutprakarn Crocodile Farm and Zoo is a popular tourist attraction that is home to over 100,000 crocodiles.
Pattaya Crocodile Farm is located in the coastal city of Pattaya, this crocodile farm offers daily crocodile shows and other attractions for visitors.

Koorana Crocodile Farm is from Australia and has operations in Indonesia, this company breeds and raises saltwater crocodiles for meat, skin, and other products. It has operations in both Australia and Indonesia.

CROCODYLUS PARK is also from Australia and has operations in Indonesia CROCODYLUS PARK breeds saltwater crocodiles for meat, skin, and other products. Park also offers tours and educational programs to visitors.

Malindo Feedmill Company is a leading producer of animal feed in Indonesia, including feed for crocodile farming.

Taman Buaya Indonesia is a crocodile farm, and the zoo is located in the city of Medan in North Sumatra and is one of the largest crocodile farms in Indonesia.

Langkapuri Crocodile Farm in Malaysia located in the state of Sabah on the island of Borneo, this crocodile farm breeds and raises saltwater crocodiles for their meat and skin.

Crocodile farming, which is one of the growing industries in Asia and Australia, is facing challenges due to the export restrictions in many countries. Amendments in export policy and better infrastructure will give a big push to the crocodile farming industry in Asia.

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