



spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



## Biodiversity & Conservation:

### Global Trends & Reports:

**Continuing Decline:** New reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) indicate a continued global decline in biodiversity and nature's capacity to contribute to people. This is attributed to habitat stress, overexploitation, unsustainable resource use, and pollution.

**Land Degradation:** Worsening land degradation, driven by human activities, is undermining the well-being of a significant portion of humanity, driving species extinctions, intensifying climate change, and contributing to human migration and conflict.

**2025: A Critical Year:** 2025 is being highlighted as a critical year for animal conservation, with several species facing extinction. Emerging issues of concern include impacts from extracting rare earth elements.

**Climate-Critical Fungi:** A significant finding reveals that 83% of Earth's climate-critical fungi are still unknown to science, underscoring the vastness of undiscovered biodiversity crucial for climate regulation.

**Tropical Tree Deaths:** Scientists have identified ordinary thunderstorms, intensified by climate change, as a surprising culprit in the accelerated death of tropical trees, in addition to heat and drought.

**Honey Bee Threat:** Feral honey bees are posing a threat to native ecosystems in Southern California by monopolizing pollen sources and overwhelming native pollinators, removing up to 80% of pollen in some areas.

### Policy & Frameworks:

**Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF):** The GBF, adopted in December 2022, continues to be a central guiding document. While not legally binding, it is expected to drive significant changes in national policies and regulations to achieve its goals, including the "30 by 30" target (conserving 30% of land and sea by 2030).

**Implementation Progress:** As of mid-2025, only 44 out of 196 parties have developed new biodiversity plans to align with the GBF.

**UNESCO's Role:** UNESCO's World Heritage Convention is being highlighted as a key instrument to support GBF implementation, with recommendations developed to improve alignment and mobilize international financing.

**Integrated Climate and Biodiversity Action:** The UK government, among others, is emphasizing an integrated approach to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss, highlighting joined-up solutions across various sectors.

### New Technologies & Research:

**Species Detection Technology:** "Revolutionary technology" using near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) scanners is being developed to make species detection in the wild easier and more efficient, with promising results in identifying amphibian species.

**Fig Trees and Carbon Sequestration:** Kenyan fig trees are showing a remarkable ability to convert internal crystals into limestone-like deposits, locking away carbon and suggesting a novel approach to climate change mitigation.





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



**Pygmy Bluetongue Skink Relocation:** Scientists in South Australia are testing a bold relocation plan to help endangered pygmy bluetongue skinks cope with warming and drying habitats.

**Ancient Ecological Alliance:** New fossil evidence confirms that mastodons were vital seed spreaders for large-fruited trees in South America, highlighting long-lost ecological relationships.

**Ocean Viruses and Photosynthesis:** Over 200 new giant viruses have been uncovered in ocean waters that manipulate photosynthesis in algae, demonstrating their significant role in marine ecosystems.

**Country-Specific Developments (India Focus due to current location):**

**India's Conservation Efforts:** India is actively expanding wetland protection (89 Ramsar sites) and notifying Biodiversity Heritage Sites. The "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" (Plant4Mother) campaign, launched by the Prime Minister in 2024, has resulted in 142 crore plantations.

**National Wildlife Conservation:** The National Board for Wildlife in India is reviewing key conservation efforts, including the expansion of protected areas and flagship programs like Project Tiger, Project Elephant, and Project Snow Leopard. New sites for cheetah reintroduction have been identified.

**Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation:** India has a National Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (2021-26) to reduce conflict while ensuring conservation.

**Forest Governance Challenges:** Challenges remain in India's forest governance, with concerns about the centralization of decision-making, the effectiveness of Joint Forest Management schemes, and increasing illegal timber extraction and forest encroachments. There's a push for decentralized governance and empowering local communities.

**Agroforestry and Green India Mission:** India is promoting agroforestry for climate resilience and environmental conservation, and the Green India Mission aims to expand forest/tree cover and boost ecosystem services.

**Upcoming Events:**

**International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress:** Scheduled for October 9-15, 2025, in Abu Dhabi, this major event will address the triple planetary crisis and set priorities for achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework goals.

Numerous international conferences on biodiversity and conservation are scheduled for July 2025 across various locations.

## MCQS

1. According to new reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), what are the primary factors contributing to the continued global decline in biodiversity?

- a) Only climate change and natural disasters
- b) Habitat stress, overexploitation, unsustainable resource use, and pollution
- c) Increased urbanization and technological advancements
- d) Volcanic eruptions and seismic activity







spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



**Answer:** b) Habitat stress, overexploitation, unsustainable resource use, and pollution  
The text explicitly states: "New reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) indicate a continued global decline in biodiversity and nature's capacity to contribute to people. This is attributed to habitat stress, overexploitation, unsustainable resource use, and pollution."

**2.What surprising phenomenon, intensified by climate change, has been identified as a culprit in the accelerated death of tropical trees, in addition to heat and drought?**

- a) Prolonged solar flares
- b) Ordinary thunderstorms
- c) Increased seismic activity
- d) Lunar eclipses

**Answer:** b) Ordinary thunderstorms  
The text mentions: "Scientists have identified ordinary thunderstorms, intensified by climate change, as a surprising culprit in the accelerated death of tropical trees, in addition to heat and drought."

**3.The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) includes a key target known as "30 by 30." What does this target aim to achieve?**

- a) Reduce global carbon emissions by 30% by 2030
- b) Conserve 30% of land and sea by 2030
- c) Plant 30 billion trees by 2030
- d) Reduce plastic pollution by 30% by 2030

**Answer:** b) Conserve 30% of land and sea by 2030

The text states that the GBF's goals include "the '30 by 30' target (conserving 30% of land and sea by 2030)."

**4. As of mid-2025, how many parties out of 196 have developed new biodiversity plans to align with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)?**

- a) All 196 parties
- b) Only 10 parties
- c) 44 parties
- d) More than 150 parties

**Answer:** c) 44 parties

The text indicates: "As of mid-2025, only 44 out of 196 parties have developed new biodiversity plans to align with the GBF."

**5.What "revolutionary technology" is being developed to make species detection in the wild easier and more efficient, particularly for identifying amphibian species?**

- a) Underwater drones
- b) Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) scanners
- c) Satellite imaging
- d) Acoustic monitoring devices

**Answer:** b) Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) scanners

The text specifies: "Revolutionary technology using near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) scanners is being developed to make species detection in the wild easier and more efficient, with promising results in identifying amphibian species."

**6. What unique ability have Kenyan fig trees shown, suggesting a novel approach to climate change mitigation?**

- a) Producing biodegradable plastics
- b) Converting internal crystals into limestone-like deposits, locking away carbon
- c) Emitting oxygen at night
- d) Absorbing sound pollution

**Answer:** b) Converting internal crystals into limestone-like deposits, locking away carbon





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



The text states: "Kenyan fig trees are showing a remarkable ability to convert internal crystals into limestone-like deposits, locking away carbon and suggesting a novel approach to climate change mitigation."

**7. What is the name of the campaign, launched by the Prime Minister in 2024, that has resulted in 142 crore plantations in India?**

- a) Green India Challenge
- b) Van Mahotsav
- c) Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)
- d) Harit Kranti

**Answer:** c) Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother)

The text mentions: "The 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' (Plant4Mother) campaign, launched by the Prime Minister in 2024, has resulted in 142 crore plantations."

**8. Which of the following is NOT explicitly mentioned as a flagship conservation program being reviewed by the National Board for Wildlife in India?**

- a) Project Tiger
- b) Project Elephant
- c) Project Rhino
- d) Project Snow Leopard

**Answer:** c) Project Rhino

The text lists: "flagship programs like Project Tiger, Project Elephant, and Project Snow Leopard." Project Rhino is not mentioned in this context.

**9. When and where is the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress scheduled to take place in 2025?**

- a) July 15-20, 2025, in Geneva, Switzerland
- b) October 9-15, 2025, in Abu Dhabi
- c) September 1-5, 2025, in Nairobi, Kenya

d) November 1-7, 2025, in London, UK

**Answer:** b) October 9-15, 2025, in Abu Dhabi  
The text clearly states: "Scheduled for October 9-15, 2025, in Abu Dhabi, this major event will address the triple planetary crisis and set priorities for achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework goals."

**10. What percentage of Earth's climate-critical fungi are still unknown to science, according to a significant finding?**

- a) 50%
- b) 65%
- c) 83%
- d) 95%

**Answer:** c) 83%

The text highlights: "A significant finding reveals that 83% of Earth's climate-critical fungi are still unknown to science..."

Spardhaguru India Private Limited

