



Biodiversity & Conservation:

1. Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit in Guyana (July 23-25, 2025):

India's Participation: A delegation from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is attending the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit in Georgetown, Guyana. India is reaffirming its commitment to biodiversity conservation and exploring partnerships in space-based applications for biodiversity management, environmental sciences, climate change, and disaster management.

Summit Objective: Led by Guyanese President Mohamed Irfaan Ali, the summit aims to strengthen international commitment to biodiversity conservation and unite global efforts toward biodiversity protection, including the goal of protecting 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030 (the "30x30" target).

Focus Areas: The discussions at the summit include financing the future of biodiversity (green bonds, biodiversity credits), promoting nature-based solutions, and leveraging international frameworks like the Global Biodiversity Framework (Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework).

2. Ramsar COP15 Summit in Zimbabwe (July 23-31, 2025):

India's Stance: Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav is attending the 15th Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP15) in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. He is advocating for

community-based conservation and the priorities of the Global South.

India's Wetland Achievements: Yadav highlighted India's significant progress in wetland protection, noting an "unprecedented 250% expansion" in Ramsar Sites under PM Narendra Modi's leadership, with India now hosting 91 Ramsar Sites (highest in Asia, third-highest globally).

Discussions: Discussions include balancing conservation with livelihood needs, particularly in vulnerable ecosystems, and reframing the conservation dialogue to represent the voices of the Global South.

3. High-Altitude Butterfly and Biodiversity Meet in Arunachal Pradesh:

Event Details: A 'High-Altitude Butterfly and Biodiversity Meet' was organized in Mechukha, Shi Yomi district, Arunachal Pradesh, from July 19-20. The event aimed to promote eco-tourism and conserve the rich biodiversity of the high-altitude region.

Key Findings: A total of 107 butterfly species were recorded during the two-day event. Notably, two new butterfly species, Metok Green Sapphire (*Heliophorus gloria*) and Medog Tufted Ace (*Sebastonyma medoensis*), were recorded for the first time in India.

Community Involvement: The event featured activities like butterfly walks, biodiversity trails, and nature games, encouraging local communities to take proactive ownership of future biodiversity initiatives.





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4. Mangrove Conservation in India:

Current Status: India's total mangrove cover is 4,991.68 sq km, accounting for 0.15% of the total geographical area, spread across 12 states/UTs.

Government Initiatives: In a recent Lok Sabha reply (July 2025), the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) outlined major initiatives such as MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes), the National Coastal Mission, and CRZ 2019 to enhance mangrove protection and coastal resilience.

SAIME Initiative: The Sustainable Aquaculture In Mangrove Ecosystem (SAIME) initiative promotes sustainable aquaculture by involving local communities in mangrove regeneration, fostering a livelihood-environment synergy.

5. Women's Role in India's Forest and Climate Resilience:

Historic Decision: On July 20, 2025, the Indian Forest Service (IFS) Association elected an all-female executive committee for the first time, signaling renewed hope for increased attention to issues faced by women in climate-sensitive sectors.

Impact: Women IFS officers are seen as bringing not only knowledge but also empathy to policy formulation, particularly in regions where women predominantly manage domestic water needs and livelihoods related to forests.

Government Programs: Existing government initiatives like the National Mission for a Green India, the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC), and the Compensatory

Afforestation Programme are highlighted for their efforts in nature conservation and climate-related initiatives.

6. International Day for Biological Diversity 2025 (Celebrated on May 22, but relevant context):

Theme: The theme for IDB 2025 was "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development."

India's Contribution: India is one of the 17 mega-diverse countries, with over 100,000 animal and 55,000 plant species. India's conservation efforts include expanding wetland protection (89 Ramsar sites) and notifying 49 Biodiversity Heritage Sites. The "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" (Plant4Mother) campaign launched by PM Modi resulted in 142 crore plantations.

7. World Nature Conservation Day 2025 (Upcoming on July 28, 2025):

Purpose: This day aims to raise awareness about conserving nature, promoting sustainability, and supporting initiatives like the Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) to ensure the well-being of present and future generations.

Theme: The theme for World Nature Conservation Day 2025 is "Connecting People and Plants, Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation." This emphasizes using technology (GIS mapping, AI, smart monitoring systems) for conservation.

8. New Dragonfly Species Discovered:

Lyriothemis abrahami: A newly identified dragonfly species, Lyriothemis abrahami, was discovered in the Western Ghats of Kerala. It was previously misidentified due to superficial





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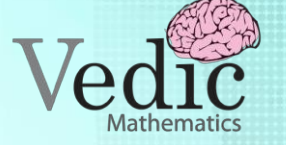
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similarities with *Lyriothemis flava*. This genus of forest-dwelling dragonfly is known for its phytotelma-breeding and canopy-dependent life cycles.

Threats: Key threats to such species include forest fragmentation, canopy disruption, and microhabitat degradation.

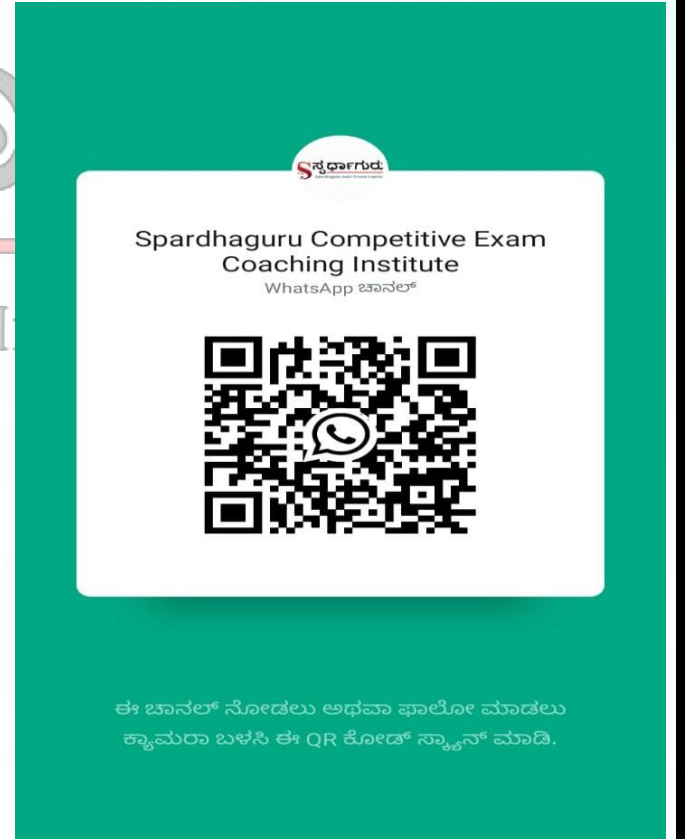
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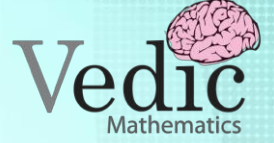
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MCQS

1. Which organization is representing India at the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit in Guyana?

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)
- b) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- c) Wildlife Institute of India (WII)
- d) National Biodiversity Authority (NAB)

Answer: b) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

The headline states, "A delegation from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is attending the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit in Georgetown, Guyana."

2. What is the ambitious global target for biodiversity protection that the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit aims to strengthen commitment towards?

- a) Protecting 10% of the world's land and oceans by 2030.
- b) Protecting 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030.
- c) Protecting 50% of the world's land and oceans by 2040.
- d) Eliminating all biodiversity loss by 2050.

Answer: b) Protecting 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030.

The summit objective includes "the goal of protecting 30% of the world's land and oceans by 2030 (the '30x30' target)."

3. How many Ramsar Sites does India now host, making it the highest in Asia and third-highest globally, as highlighted at the Ramsar COP15 Summit?

- a) 50
- b) 75
- c) 91

d) 100

Answer: c) 91

India's Union Environment Minister stated, "India now hosting 91 Ramsar Sites (highest in Asia, third-highest globally)."

4. Two new butterfly species were recorded for the first time in India during the High-Altitude Butterfly and Biodiversity Meet in Arunachal Pradesh. What are their names?

- a) Indian Swallowtail and Himalayan Fritillary
- b) Metok Green Sapphire and Medog Tufted Ace
- c) Bengal Beauty and Azure Blue
- d) Eastern Emperor and Mountain Queen

Answer: b) Metok Green Sapphire (Heliophorus gloria) and Medog Tufted Ace (Sebastonyma medoensis)

The "Key Findings" section explicitly mentions, "two new butterfly species, Metok Green Sapphire (Heliophorus gloria) and Medog Tufted Ace (Sebastonyma medoensis), were recorded for the first time in India."

5. What is India's current total mangrove cover as a percentage of its total geographical area?

- a) 0.05%
- b) 0.10%
- c) 0.15%
- d) 0.20%

Answer: c) 0.15%

The "Mangrove Conservation in India" section states, "India's total mangrove cover is 4,991.68 sq km, accounting for 0.15% of the total geographical area..."

6. What historic decision was made by the Indian Forest Service (IFS) Association on July 20, 2025?

- a) They announced a new conservation policy.





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- b) They elected their first all-female executive committee.
c) They merged with another environmental organization.
d) They launched a new national afforestation program.

Answer: b) They elected an all-female executive committee for the first time.

The headline reads, "On July 20, 2025, the Indian Forest Service (IFS) Association elected an all-female executive committee for the first time..."

7. What was the theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) 2025?

- a) "Protect Our Planet, Protect Our Future"
b) "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development"
c) "Restore Our Earth"
d) "Biodiversity for Sustainable Livelihoods"

Answer: b) "Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development."

The "International Day for Biological Diversity 2025" section states, "The theme for IDB 2025 was 'Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development.'"

8. What is the upcoming theme for World Nature Conservation Day 2025 (July 28)?

- a) "Conserving Water Resources"
b) "Connecting People and Plants, Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation"
c) "Ending Plastic Pollution"
d) "Forests for All"

Answer: b) "Connecting People and Plants, Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation."

The text specifies, "The theme for World Nature Conservation Day 2025 is 'Connecting People and Plants, Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation.'"

9. In which Indian state was the newly identified dragonfly species, *Lyriothemis abrahami*, discovered?

- a) Karnataka
b) Kerala
c) Goa
d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: b) Kerala

The "New Dragonfly Species Discovered" section states, "A newly identified dragonfly species, **Lyriothemis abrahami**, was discovered in the Western Ghats of Kerala."

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