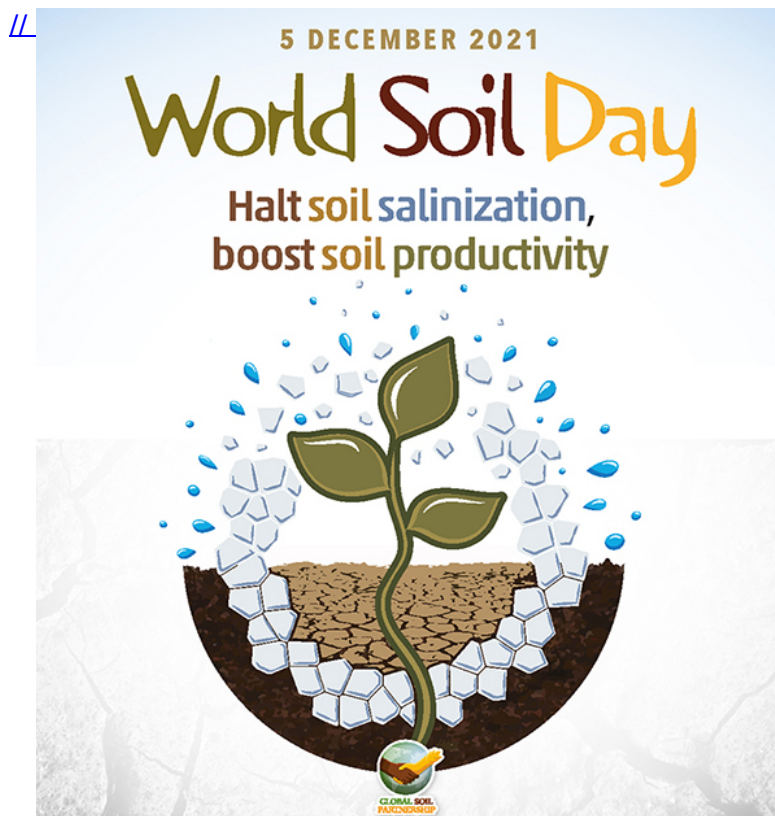




World Soil Day

Why in News

Recently, [ICAR \(Indian Council of Agricultural Research\)](#) – Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (CCARI) celebrated '[World Soil Day](#)' (WSD) on 5th December 2021.



Key Points

- It was recommended by the **International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002**. The [Food and Agriculture Organisation \(FAO\)](#) has supported the formal establishment of WSD as a global awareness-raising platform under the leadership of the Kingdom of Thailand within the framework of the Global Soil Partnership.
- **5th December 2014 was designated as the first official WSD** by the [UN General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#).
 - 5th December was chosen **because it corresponds with the official birthday of H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej**, the King of Thailand, who officially sanctioned the event.
- **FAO gives two awards in line with this day:**
 - **The King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award:** An annual award that **honours**

individuals, communities, organizations and countries that organized remarkable and engaging World Soil Day activities or campaigns in the previous year.

- **The Glinka World Soil Prize:** An annual award for dynamic change-makers dedicated to solving one of our world's most pressing environmental issues: soil degradation. It honors individuals and organizations whose leadership and activities have contributed, or are still contributing to the promotion of sustainable soil management and the protection of soil resources.

▪ **India Initiatives to Improve Soil Health:**

- [Soil Health Card Scheme](#)
- [Organic Farming](#)
- **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana**
- [Fertilizer Self-Sufficiency](#)
- [Digital Agriculture](#)
- [Carbon Farming](#)
- **The Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Scheme**

Source: PIB

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