



International Forest Day

Why in News?

International Forests Day celebrations were organized on **21st March, 2025** at **Rajasthan International Centre (RIC), Jaipur**.

- On this occasion, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan launched **several programs related to forest conservation, tourism and climate change**.

Key Points

- **About the programs:**
 - The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone of **Forest Training and Management Institute in Jaipur**.
 - **Eco tourism** facilities were introduced in [Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary](#) and **electric golf carts** were introduced in [Keoladeo National Park](#), Bharatpur and [Nahargarh Biological Park](#).
 - Soil Health Card and logo of **Climate Change Response and Ecosystem Services Enhancement (CRESEP)** in Rajasthan were unveiled.
 - **DG-Forest App** was inaugurated, which is based on [IT technology](#) to enhance transparency in the Forest Department.
 - **Kits** were distributed to Vanmitras and **women forest personnel working in the field** were honoured.
- **International Forest Day:**
 - The International Day of Forests began as **"World Forestry Day"** established in **1971** by [the Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#).
 - It was **formally recognised** by the **United Nations General Assembly** in **2012**.
 - It aims **to raise awareness about forest conservation** and sustainable management.
 - The theme of International Day of Forests 2025 is **"Forests and Food"**.

Nahargarh Wildlife Sanctuary

- **About:**
 - Situated in [the Aravalli hills](#), approximately **20 kilometres from Jaipur**, Rajasthan.
 - Named after **Nahargarh Fort**, an **18th-century fort** built by [Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II](#), the founder of Jaipur.
 - Covers an **area of 720 hectares**.
 - Includes **Nahargarh Biological Park**, renowned for its [lion](#) safaris.
- **Flora:** Comprises [dry deciduous forests](#), scrublands, and [grasslands](#).
- **Fauna:**
 - **Mammals:**
 - Common species include [leopards](#), wild boars, [deer](#), lions, [tigers](#), [sloth bears](#), and various small mammals.
 - **Birds:**
 - A paradise for bird watchers, featuring species such as [peacocks](#), [owls](#), and [eagles](#).

- **Reptiles and Amphibians:**

- Home to reptiles like [Indian rock pythons](#) and **monitor lizards**.
- Amphibians such as [frogs](#) and **toads** are also found here.

Keoladeo National Park

- **Introduction:**

- Keoladeo National Park is a **wetland and bird sanctuary** located in **Bharatpur, Rajasthan**. It is a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) and one of the most important **bird sanctuaries in the world**.
 - [Chilika Lake \(Odisha\)](#) and **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** were recognised as India's first Ramsar sites in 1981 .
 - Currently, Keoladeo National Park and **Loktak Lake (Manipur)** are listed in [the Montreux Record](#) .
- It is famous for its **rich bird diversity** and abundance of **water birds** . The park is **home to over 365 species of birds** , including many rare and endangered species , such as the [Siberian crane](#) .

- **Rivers :**

- The **Gambhir and Banganga rivers** flow through this national park.

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