

Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre (JCBC)

Why in News?

On <u>World Earth Day</u>, authorities gave a major push to <u>vulture conservation</u> by successfully relocating **34 critically endangered vultures (20 long-billed and 14 white-rumped)** from <u>Jatayu</u> <u>Conservation Breeding Centre (JCBC)</u> in Pinjore (Haryana) to Maharashtra.

Key Points

- Sites for Wild Reintroduction:
 - The vultures will be reintroduced into the wild across three major tiger reserves in Maharashtra:
 - Melghat Tiger Reserve
 - Pench Tiger Reserve
 - Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve
- Role of BNHS and Collaboration:
 - The <u>Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)</u> coordinated the transfer in collaboration with forest departments of Haryana and Maharashtra.
 - The **BNHS**, a pan-India wildlife research organization, has been **promoting the** cause of nature conservation since 1883.
 - Its mission is conservation of nature, primarily biological diversity through action based on research, education and public awareness.
 - Its vision is to be an independent scientific organization with a broad based constituency, excelling in the conservation of threatened species and habitats.
- National Network of Conservation Breeding Centres:
 - The BNHS has established four Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centres across India:
 - Pinjore (Haryana)
 - Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
 - Rajabhatkhawa (West Bengal)
 - Rani, Guwahati (Assam)

World Earth Day

- It is celebrated every year on 22nd April with the mission of broadening, educating, and activating environmental movements worldwide.
- **Theme for 2025: "Our Power, Our Planet"** It calls on everyone to unite for renewable energy and to work toward tripling clean energy capacity by 2030.
- The first Earth Day was observed in 1970 after Senator Gaylord Nelson witnessed the catastrophic effects of an oil spill in California.
- This pivotal day led to the passing of significant environmental legislation in the US, including the creation of the <u>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</u>.
- In 1990, Earth Day became a global event with 200 million people and 141 countries participating.
- Significance: It also offers an opportunity to celebrate green initiatives around the world and highlight ongoing efforts toward environmental protection.

Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre

About:

- It is a joint project of the Haryana Forest Department and the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).
- It aims to save three critically endangered vulture species—White-backed, Long-billed, and Slender-billed.
- The centre was initially established as the Vulture Care Centre (VCC) in **September 2001.**
- The VCC was upgraded to VCBC (later Jatayu Conservation Breeding Centre JCBC).

Strategic Location:

- The JCBC is located at village Jodhpur, near <u>Bir Shikargaha Wildlife Sanctuary</u>, about 8 km from Pinjore, Haryana.
- It **spans 5 acres of land** provided by the Haryana Forest Department.
- JCBC currently houses 160 vultures, including:
 - 63 White-backed
 - 74 Long-billed
 - 21 Slender-billed
 - 2 Himalayan Griffons
- It is the largest collection of these three Gyps species in one location globally.



Sr. No.	Name of the Vulture Species	IUCN status	Pictorial Representation
1.	Oriental White-backed Vulture (Gyps Bengalensis)	Critically Endangered	
2.	Slender-billed Vulture (Gyps Tenuirostris)	Critically Endangered	
3.	Long-billed Vulture (Gyps Indicus)	Critically Endangered	
4.	Egyptian Vulture (Neophron Percnopterus)	Endangered	
5.	Red-Headed Vulture (Sarcogyps Calvus)	Critically Endangered	
6.	Indian Griffon Vulture (Gyps Fulvus)	Least Concerned	
7.	Himalayan Griffon (Gyps Himalayensis)	Near Threatened	
8.	Cinereous Vulture (Aegypius Monachus)	Near Threatened	
9.	Bearded Vulture or Lammergeier (Gypaetus Barbatus)	Near Threatened	



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