



Global Nature Conservation Index 2024

Source: [DTE](#)

India ranks **176th** in the **2024 Global Nature Conservation Index**. It is **among the five lowest-ranked countries**, along with Kiribati (180), Turkey (179), Iraq (178), and Micronesia (177), out of 180 nations.

- India's low ranking is due to **inefficient land management** and increasing [biodiversity threats](#).
- **About Nature Conservation Index (NCI):**
 - It is developed by the Goldman Sonnenfeldt School of Sustainability and Climate Change at **Ben-Gurion University** and **BioDB.com**, a biodiversity database.
 - The **first NCI was launched in October 2024** to evaluate conservation efforts.
 - It assesses **four key markers**: [land management](#), biodiversity threats, capacity and governance, and future trends.
- **Observation of the NCI:**
 - **Sustainable land use** is crucial, as 53% of land is converted for urban, industrial, and agricultural purposes.
 - The index **highlights high pesticide use and warns about soil pollution**.
 - [Marine conservation](#) needs improvement, with only 0.2% of national waterways protected and none within India's [Exclusive Economic Zone \(EEZ\)](#).
 - **India** ranks as the **fourth-largest illegal wildlife trading nation globally**, with annual sales totaling approximately 15 billion Euros.
 - **Deforestation** resulted in the loss of 23,300 sq. km of tree cover between 2001 and 2019.
 - India's **ecological wealth** is constantly **threatened** by **overpopulation**.

Read More: [Environmental Performance Index 2024](#)

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