



World Environment Day

Why in News?

[World Environment Day](#) is celebrated on 5th June every year to encourage awareness and environmental protection.

Key Points

- Recently, in a remarkable initiative to combat deforestation two environmentalists, Jai Dhar Gupta and Vijay Dhasmana **created India's first biosphere in a tiger reserve**, called the **Rajaji Raghathi Biosphere (RRB)** within the Rajaji National Park in Uttarakhand.
- The biosphere is a 35-acre private forest initiative **aimed at identifying and reviving rare and endangered species** of native trees while protecting the area from poachers and mining.
 - The land earmarked for RRB **was previously barren and in a state of degradation.**
- They are also **developing a second biosphere** above the Koyna River in the buffer zone of the Sahyadri Tiger Reserve near Pune, Maharashtra, along the [Western Ghats](#).

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- **About:**
 - The [United Nations Assembly](#) established World Environment Day in 1972, which was the first day of the [Stockholm Conference](#) on the human environment.
 - World Environment Day (WED) is **celebrated every year with a specific theme and slogan** that focuses on the major environmental issues of that time.
 - WED 2024 is **hosted by Saudi Arabia.**
 - India hosted the 45th celebration of World Environment Day in 2018 under the **theme 'Beat Plastic Pollution'**.
 - WED celebration in 2021 kicked off the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration \(2021-2030\)](#) which is a global mission to revive billions of hectares, from forests to farmlands, from the top of mountains to the depth of the seas.
- **The Theme for 2024:**
 - Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience
 - Year 2024 also marks the **30th anniversary of the [UN Convention to Combat Desertification \(UNCCD\)](#).**