




## Crocodile Species in India

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# CROCODILE SPECIES IN INDIA

India harbours three diverse  crocodile species—Mugger, Saltwater, and Gharial—found in distinct habitats nationwide.

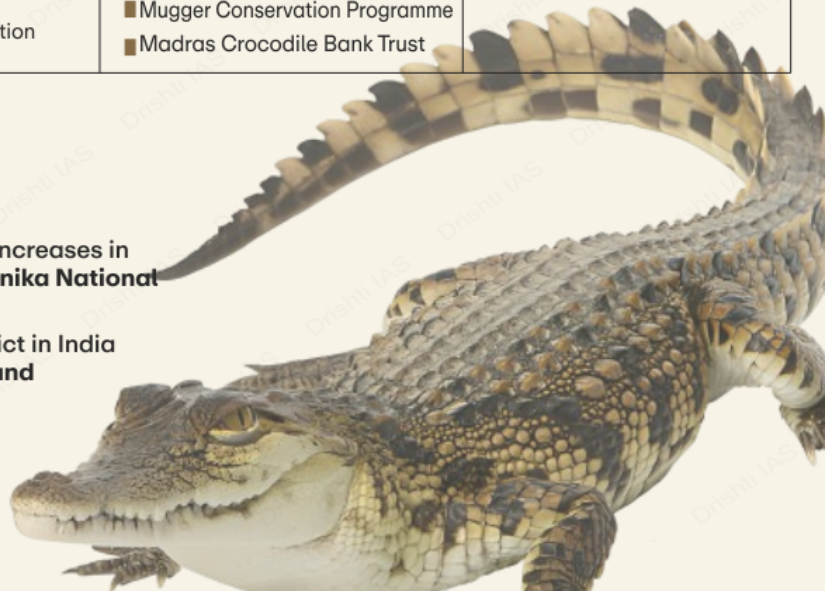
Aspects	Gharial	Mugger/Indian Crocodile	Saltwater Crocodile
<b>Scientific Name</b>	<i>Gavialis Gangeticus</i> 	<i>Crocodylus Palustris</i> 	<i>Crocodylus Porosus</i> 
<b>Distribution: India</b>	<b>Viable Population:</b> National Chambal Sanctuary (U.P, Raj, M.P) <b>Small Non-Breeding Population:</b> Son, Gandak, Hooghly, Ghagra & Satkosia WLS (Odisha)	Throughout India	East Coast (Odisha's Bhitarkarnika WLS, Andaman & Nicobar Islands coast & Sundarbans)
<b>Distribution: Neighbourhood</b>	Brahmaputra of Bhutan & Bangladesh & Irrawaddy River	Extinct in Bhutan and Myanmar	Across Southeast Asia
<b>Special Feature</b>	Longest of all Crocodile, Long and thin Snout	Egg-laying, Hole-nesting, Wide & U-shaped Snout	Largest living reptile, Pointed & V-shaped Snout
<b>Habitat</b>	Freshwater	Freshwater	Saltwater, Brackish & Wetlands
<b>IUCN Status</b>	CR	VU	LC
<b>CITES Status</b>	Appendix I	Appendix I	Appendix I
<b>CMS Status</b>	Appendix I	-	Appendix II
<b>WPA,1972 Status</b>	Schedule I	Schedule I	Schedule I
<b>Threats</b>	Dams, Pollution, Sand mining	Habitat Destruction	Hunted for its skin and Habitat loss
<b>Government Initiatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Odisha: Rs. 1000 award to conserve Gharial in Mahanadi River Basin</li> <li>■ Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975</li> <li>■ Mugger Conservation Programme</li> <li>■ Madras Crocodile Bank Trust</li> </ul>	Indian Crocodile Conservation Project,1975

## MISCELLANEOUS FACTS

- 🕒 **17th June:** World Crocodile Day
- 📊 **Annual Reptile Census, 2023:** Marginal Increases in number of saltwater crocodiles (**Bhitarkarnika National Park and its nearby areas**)
- 📍 **Odisha's Kendrapara District:** Only district in India where **all three species of crocodiles found**



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