



LIFE
Lifestyle for
Environment

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TROPICAL METEOROLOGY (IITM), PUNE
Environmental Information, Awareness, Capacity Building and
Livelihood Programme (EIACP)
(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)



GUARDIANS OF NATURE:
A YEAR OF INSPIRATION
CALENDAR 2026

We feature twelve environmentalists but honour all others equally though not included in this calendar.



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



VOICE AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL EXPLOITATION

Kinkri Devi: She was a renowned environmental activist best known for her courageous fight against illegal quarrying and mining in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Rising from humble beginnings as a sweeper, she dedicated her life to protecting mountains, forests, and local livelihoods from environmental degradation. Through persistent grassroots action and legal intervention, she brought national attention to the destructive impacts of unregulated mining. Her unwavering commitment to environmental justice earned her the Stree Shakti Award in 1999, and her legacy continues to inspire community-led environmental protection across India.



Responsible Citizens, Cleaner Surroundings

- Adopt cleanliness as a daily habit by reducing litter and segregating waste.
- Support education and scientific thinking through informed choices.
- Encourage youth participation in environmental and community initiatives.
- Practice responsible civic behaviour in public spaces.

IITM-EIACP Activities



JANUARY 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Republic Day	27	28	29	30	31	

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 12- National Youth Day
- 14- World Logic Day
- 24- International Day of Education
- 30- National Cleanliness Day

“Clean surroundings and informed minds are the foundation of a responsible society.”



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



GUARDIAN OF FORESTS AND ECOLOGICAL WISDOM

Sunderlal Bahuguna: One of India's most well-known environmentalists and a true son of the nation. As the leader of the Chipko Movement, he inspired people to protect forests through non-violent action & community participation. His tireless efforts are symbolized by the iconic slogan, "Ecology is permanent economy," which continues to guide sustainable development thinking. A lifelong conservationist, Bahuguna also made significant contributions to the movement against the Tehri Dam, highlighting the ecological and social impacts of large-scale development projects. In recognition of his remarkable service to environmental protection, he was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2009.



Respecting Science and Natural Systems

- Protect nearby wetlands by avoiding dumping and misuse of water bodies.
- Learn how climate change affects polar regions and global weather.
- Appreciate science by trusting data and evidence-based solutions.
- Conserve water and respect natural ecosystems.

IITM-EIACP Activities



FEBRUARY 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 02- World Wetlands Day
- 27- International Polar Bear Day
- 28- National Science Day



“The future of science lies not in faster machines, but in inventions that respect ecological limits.”

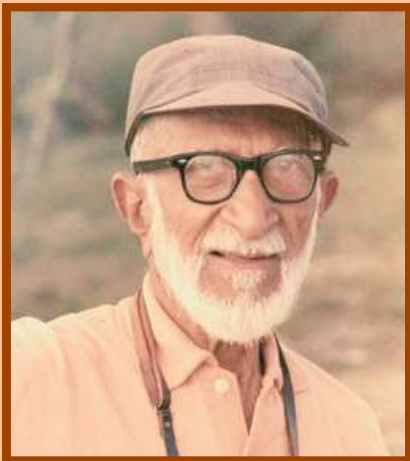


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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



GUARDIAN OF AVIAN DIVERSITY AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Salim Ali: Rightly called the “Birdman of India,” was a devoted ornithologist and naturalist who transformed the study and conservation of birds in the country. He pioneered the use of systematic bird surveys in India, laying a scientific foundation for wildlife research and conservation. His efforts contributed significantly to the creation of the Keoladeo (Bharatpur) Bird Sanctuary and the protection of the Silent Valley National Park. A lifelong servant of ecology, Salim Ali dedicated over five decades to conservation and played a crucial role in shaping India’s environmental awareness and policy framework.



Protecting Nature Through Daily Choices

- Respect wildlife by protecting habitats and avoiding harmful activities.
- Choose safe and sustainable practices at home and work.
- Use products responsibly and reduce unnecessary consumption.
- Segregate waste and support recycling initiatives.
- Save water and protect rivers from pollution.
- Switch off unnecessary lights and appliances to save energy.

IITM-EIACP Activities



MARCH 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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Mahavir Jayanti

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Holi (Dhulivandan)

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Gudhi Padava

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Id-ul-Fitr (Ramzan Id)

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ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 03 - World Wildlife Day
- 04 - National Safety Day
- 14 - International Day of Action for Rivers
- 15 - World Consumer Rights Day
- 18 - Global Recycling Day
- 20 - World Sparrow Day
- 21 - International Day of Forests
- 22 - World Water Day
- 23 - World Meteorological Day
- 28 - Earth Hour



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



WATERMAN OF INDIA

Rajendra Singh: Known by the moniker, "Waterman of India", Rajendra Singh, has dedicated his life to working towards efficient water management and harvesting. Singh is most well known for his 3 decades work to revive and rejuvenate water bodies in India in India with his dedicated service resulting in the revival of over 12 water bodies in the regions of Karnataka, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra. This in turn helped in the recharging of aquifers. A 2001 Magasaysay and 2015 Stockholm Water Prize winner, Rajendra Singh is a true inspiration for any budding eco crusaders.



Healthy Environment, Healthy Life

- Protect your health by reducing exposure to pollution.
- Respect natural and cultural heritage through responsible behaviour.
- Reduce noise levels and maintain a peaceful environment.
- Participate in local environmental protection activities.

IITM-EIACP Activities



APRIL 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

		1	2	3 Good Friday	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 07 - World Health Day
- 18 - World Heritage Day
- 22 - Earth Day
- 29- International Noise Awareness Day

“Protecting natural and cultural heritage strengthens our future. Respect for Earth sustains life.”



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



SOLAR DIDI – RENEWABLE ENERGY PIONEER

Devki Devi: Affectionately known as “Solar Didi,” is a remarkable environmental innovator from Ratanpura village in Muzaffarpur, Bihar. Once facing severe financial hardship, she embraced solar energy through a self-help group initiative, installing a solar-powered irrigation pump that transformed her life and her community. Today,

her solar pump supplies water to over 40 acres of farmland and supports more than 100 farmers, reducing dependence on diesel and promoting sustainable agriculture. Her leadership has empowered other village women to adopt renewable energy, improve crop productivity, and secure steady incomes through eco-friendly practices. Devki’s work has been recognized at the national level, highlighting the potential of solar energy to drive rural transformation.



Technology and Biodiversity in Balance

- Support biodiversity by protecting pollinators and birds.
- Use technology mindfully to reduce environmental impact.
- Avoid harmful habits that affect both health and environment.
- Support eco-friendly products and local innovations.

IITM-EIACP Activities



एक दिन बिना प्लास्टिक के जीरो प्लास्टिक चैलेंज

MAY 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

				1 Buddha Purnima	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Id-ul-Zuha (Bakri Id)	28	29	30	31

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 10 - World Migratory Bird Day
- 11 - National Technology Day
- 20 - World Bee Day
- 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity
- 31 - World No Tobacco Day

“Technology must support nature, not replace it. Protecting biodiversity sustains life on Earth”



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



STORYTELLER FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Mike Pandey: He is a renowned filmmaker whose work has played a significant role in environmental and wildlife conservation through visual storytelling. He is widely known for his acclaimed film "Vanishing Giants," which brought global attention to elephant conservation. Through impactful documentaries on the whale shark, Pandey raised awareness and contributed to conservation efforts, earning him the CMS-UNEP Award for Outstanding Achievement in Global Conservation. He also became the first Asian producer to win the prestigious Green Oscar, receiving the honour multiple times for his continued commitment to environmental protection.



Living Lightly on Earth

- Take responsibility for protecting the environment in daily life.
- Reduce plastic use, especially during travel and outings.
- Conserve marine life by avoiding waste near water bodies.
- Choose renewable energy and energy-efficient appliances.
- Stay hydrated and adopt healthy, nature-friendly practices.

IITM-EIACP Activities



JUNE 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Muharram	27	28
29	30					

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 05 - World Environment Day
- 08 - World Oceans Day
- 15 - Global Wind Day
- 16 - World Sea Turtle Day
- 17 - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- 21 - International Day of Yoga

“Nature provides enough for our needs, not our excesses. Sustainable living keeps the planet in balance.”

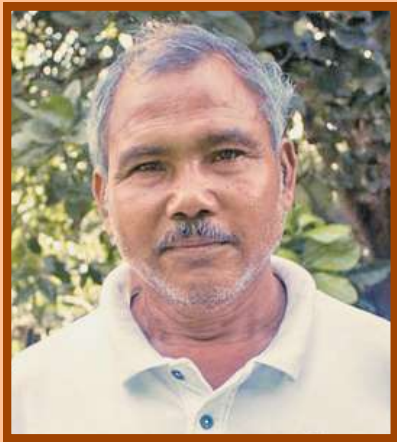


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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



FOREST MAN OF INDIA

Jadav Payeng: Popularly known as the “Forest Man of India,” hails from the state of Assam and stands as a remarkable example of individual dedication to nature. A devoted environmentalist, he is widely recognized for single-handedly creating a vast man-made forest on Majuli Island, transforming barren land into a thriving ecosystem. Over nearly 3

decades, Payeng planted bamboo and native tree species to restore the degraded landscape and prevent soil erosion. His efforts led to the growth of what is now known as the Molai Forest, spanning over 1,300 hectares and supporting rich biodiversity. Through patience, perseverance, and commitment, Jadav Payeng demonstrated how sustained individual action can revive nature and inspire environmental stewardship.



Growing Green Habits

- Plant and care for trees in your surroundings.
- Refuse single-use plastics and promote reusable alternatives.
- Be mindful of population pressure on natural resources.
- Protect mangroves, forests, and wildlife through awareness.
- Support nature conservation initiatives.

IITM-EIACP Activities



JULY 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 01 to 07- Van Mohatsav
- 03- International Plastic Bag Free Day
- 11- World Population Day
- 26- International Mangrove Day
- 28- World Nature Conservation Day
- 29- International Tiger Day

“ Before planting new trees, protect the ones standing today. Preservation is the foundation of conservation ”

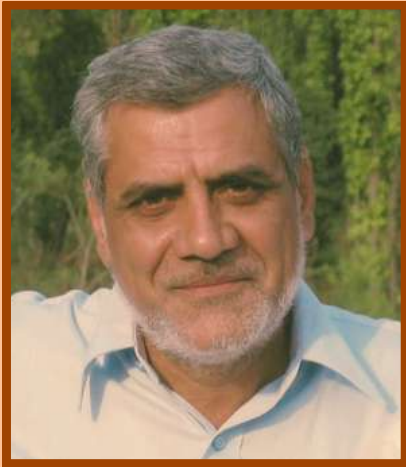


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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



PIONEER OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE THROUGH LAW

M. C. Mehta: A public interest attorney, MC Mehta is responsible for several landmark judgments in the arena of environmental law in India. Mehta has worked on a number of critical environmental issues plaguing the country such as industrial pollution along the Ganges, corrosion of Taj Mahal and shrimp farming along the coast. His efforts led to the introduction of lead-free gasoline in India and the ban on shrimp farming. A green advocate, his contributions in the dual fields of law and environment led to the introduction of the discipline of environmental studies at the undergraduate level in Indian law schools.



Coexisting with Nature

- Respect and protect wildlife and their natural habitats.
- Maintain cleanliness to prevent mosquito breeding and related diseases.
- Reduce human-wildlife conflict through responsible behaviour.
- Adopt an active lifestyle that supports physical and mental well-being.

IITM-EIACP Activities



AUGUST 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Independence Day	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Id-E-Milad	27	28	29	30

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 12- World Elephant Day
- 20- World Mosquito Day
- 29- National Sports Day



“ True progress lies in living in harmony with nature, not in dominating it. ”



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



CHAMPION OF URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Sumaira Abdulali: She is a dedicated environmental activist who has been working in the field of environmental conservation since 2002, with a strong focus on sand mining regulation and noise pollution control. Through her work with the NGO Awaaz Foundation, she played a crucial role in the implementation of silence zones and safe noise limits, particularly during festivals and public events. Her sustained advocacy helped strengthen enforcement of environmental laws and improve urban living conditions. Despite facing resistance, threats, and opposition from powerful interests, Sumaira Abdulali has remained firmly committed to environmental protection. Her courage and perseverance continue to inspire citizens and activists across the country.



Choosing Clean Air & Sustainable Mobility

- Contribute to clean air by reducing vehicle use and burning waste.
- Use public transport, cycling, or walking when possible.
- Monitor water use and avoid water pollution.
- Choose low-carbon and eco-friendly lifestyle options.
- Participate in cleanliness drives and community initiatives.

IITM-EIACP Activities



SEPTEMBER 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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Ganesh Chaturthi

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ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 04- National Wildlife Day
- 07- International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
- 16- World Ozone Day
- 17 (Starts)- Swachhata Hi Seva
- 18- World Water Monitoring Day
- 21- Zero Emissions Day
- 22- World Car-Free Day
- 26- World Environmental Health Day
- 27- World Rivers Day
- 28- Green Consumer Day



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



ARCHITECT OF FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

M. S. Swaminathan: He was a renowned agricultural scientist and humanitarian, widely regarded as the Father of India's Green Revolution. His pioneering work in developing and introducing high-yielding varieties of wheat and rice during the 1960s transformed Indian agriculture. These innovations helped India achieve self-sufficiency in food production, improved rural livelihoods, and prevented widespread famine in India and parts of Asia. Beyond productivity, Swaminathan consistently emphasized sustainable and farmer-centric agricultural practices, leaving a lasting legacy in food security and environmental stewardship.



Safe, Sustainable Communities

- Support sustainable housing and urban living practices.
- Protect animals by treating them with care and compassion.
- Stay prepared for natural disasters and follow safety guidelines.
- Practice good hygiene and food responsibility.
- Reduce food waste and support sustainable agriculture.

IITM-EIACP Activities



OCTOBER 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

			1	2 Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Dussehra	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 02 to 08- National Wildlife Week
- 04- World Animal Day
- 05- World Habitat Day
- 13- International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction
- 14- International E-Waste Day
- 15- Global Hand Washing Day
- 16- World Food Day
- 17- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty



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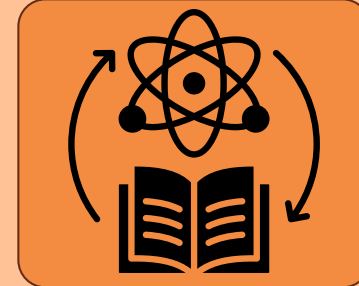
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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



INDUSTRIAL LEADER WITH A COMMITMENT TO NATURE

Sohrab Pirojsha Godrej: Popularly he was known as Soli. He was an Indian businessman, entrepreneur, environmentalist, philanthropist, and chairman of the Godrej Group of Industries. He was connected with several organisations committed to the preservation of nature, wildlife, & the environment as President Emeritus of the World Wide Fund for Nature-India. He was also the president of the Bombay Natural History Society, the president of the National Society of the Friends of the Trees, & the patron of the Family Planning Association of India. He was also a governing board member of the Population Foundation of India, among others. He received several awards, including the Indira Gandhi Pariyavaran Puraskar in 1991.



Science, Sanitation, and Social Responsibility

- Respect science and education as tools for sustainability.
- Use maps and data to understand environmental issues locally.
- Promote sanitation, hygiene, and clean water access.
- Support children's right to a healthy and safe environment.
- Uphold constitutional duties towards environmental protection.

IITM-EIACP Activities



NOVEMBER 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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Diwali (Deepavali)

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Guru Nanak's Birthday

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ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 06- International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict
- 10- World Science Day
- 11- National Education Day
- 18- GIS Day
- 19- World Toilet Day
- 20- Universal Children's Day
- 21- World Fisheries Day
- 26- National Constitution Day



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS OF INDIA



PIONEER OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN INDIA

Tulsi Tanti: Popularly known as the “Wind Man of India,” was a visionary entrepreneur who played a transformative role in promoting renewable energy in the country. As the founder of Suzlon Energy, he made wind power accessible & scalable, significantly contributing to India’s clean energy transition. His leadership helped reduce dependence on fossil fuels while promoting sustainable industrial growth. Through his commitment to renewable energy, Tulsi Tanti demonstrated how innovation and entrepreneurship can drive environmental sustainability. His legacy continues to inspire India’s journey toward a low-carbon and energy-secure future.



Conserving Energy, Protecting the Future

- Reduce pollution by following safe and eco-friendly practices.
- Handle chemicals and waste responsibly.
- Protect soil by avoiding harmful disposal of waste.
- Support energy conservation at home and workplace.
- Respect mountain ecosystems and farmers who sustain food systems.

IITM-EIACP Activities



DECEMBER 2026

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28	29	30	31			

ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

- 02- National Pollution Control Day
- 04- Chemical Disaster Prevention Day
- 05- World Soil Day
- 10- Human Rights Day
- 11- International Mountain Day
- 14- National Energy Conservation Day
- 23- Kisan Divas