

# International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

26<sup>th</sup> July, 2021

The International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystems celebrated every year on 26<sup>th</sup> July as a unique opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of mangroves as a "unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem" and to promote their sustainable management, conservation and use.



South Asia comprises 10,344 sq km which is 6.8 % of the world's mangrove cover. India's contribution is 45.8% of the total Mangrove cover in South Asia.

Between 1980 and 2000 about **35%** of mangroves were lost - 3-5 times greater than the overall terrestrial forest loss (Duraiappah *et al* 2005).



The mangrove cover in India is 4,975 sq km, which is **0.15%** of the country's total geographical area.

## Top 10 Mangrove Forest in India

Rank	States/UTs with Highest Mangrove Cover 2019	Total Mangrove Cover in Sq km
1	West Bengal	2,112
2	Gujarat	1,177
3	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	616
4	Andhra Pradesh	404
5	Odisha	251
6	Maharashtra	320
7	Tamil Nadu	45
8	Goa	26
9	Karnataka	10
10	Kerala	9

Source: <https://www.mapsofindia.com/top-ten-geography/mangrove-forest.html>

## Threats

Climate change

Aquaculture

Coastal development

Pollution

## Services

Climate regulation

Water filtration

Coastal protection

Livelihoods

### Chirrayanam, Andhra Pradesh



- The Sundarbans mangrove forest, one of the largest such forests in the world (140,000 ha), lies on the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal.
- Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary has one of the largest stretch of mangrove forests in India with 24 mangrove tree species and more than 120 bird species situated near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh, India
- Pichavaram is also one of the largest and attractive mangrove forests which is located in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, South India.

### Mangroves at Krishna Dist., AP

