

World Earth Day, 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

Recently, the National Science Centre, Delhi, hosted a Popular Science Lecture on Antarctic Exploration and an Open House Quiz to mark World Earth Day 2026.

- **Aim** - To raise ***awareness about environmental challenges*** and promote collective action for sustainability, resilience, and stewardship of natural resources.
- **Celebrated on** - 22nd April.
- **Began in** - 1970 as a national environmental teach-in, initiated by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson and activist Denis Hayes.

Highlights, 2026

- **Theme** - ***“Our Power, Our Planet”*** - emphasises individual and collective responsibility for renewable energy and sustainability.
 - **Renewable Energy Focus**- A major goal of the 2026 campaign is to ***triple global renewable energy generation by 2030***, highlighting solar, wind, and geothermal power as accessible solutions today.
 - **Individual Empowerment** - The slogan serves as a reminder that personal choices, from the energy we use to how we vote hold significant power in shaping a sustainable future.
- **Focus Areas** - Climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, energy reliability, and community-driven solutions.
- **Global Initiatives- The 25% Revolution**: A campaign exploring how committed social action can change market norms and drive policy.
- **The Canopy Project**: Focused on global reforestation to improve air quality and biodiversity.
- Calls for a **60% reduction in plastic production by 2040**, alongside stronger recycling and waste-management systems.

- **India Events** - National Science Centre lecture by Dr. Amitava Sen Gupta (ISRO) on Antarctic exploration; quiz contest for students.
- **NASA Participation** - Showcased Earth images taken by the Artemis II crew during the lunar flyby.

Reference

[PIB | World Earth Day](#)

