World Environment Day, 2026

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | Environment*

Why in News?

Recently, World Environment Day 2026 was hosted by Azerbaijan.

- **World Environment Day** – It is observed on June 5 every year across the globe.
- It is an annual reminder that it is humanity's collective duty to ensure our planet survives the ongoing climate change.
- **Under the** – United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **History** – The United Nations General Assembly declared June 5 as World Environment Day during the Stockholm Conference in 1972, the first world conference to make environmental protection a major issue.
- **First Celebration** – It was celebrated for the first time in 1973, under the theme 'Only One Earth'.

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- **Theme for 2026** – "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future."
- **Focus** – Climate Action, focused on the urgent signals the Earth is sending and humanity's response.
- **2026 Host Country** – Azerbaijan hosted the global celebration for World Environment Day 2026 in its capital city, Baku.
- The country's national campaign tackles the *dual crises* of climate change and ecosystem degradation.
- **Significance** – World Environment Day raises awareness, mobilises action, and promotes environmental sustainability.
- It inspires individuals and communities to make changes, fostering a sense of urgency and addressing environmental challenges for a sustainable future.

Reference

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