

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

World Environment Day is being celebrated across the globe on June 5, 2022.



About:

The day is observed to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth.

It is observed on 5th of June every year since 1973 as part of the United Nations Environment Programme to build awareness to save life on planet Earth.

- World Environment Day was established in 1972 by the United Nations at the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment (5–16 June 1972), that had resulted from discussions on the integration of human interactions and the environment.
 - The theme of this year's World Environment Day is - only one Earth.
 - “Only One Earth” was also the slogan for the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972.
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SINGLE USE PLASTIC (SUP)

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs will launch a 'Clean and Green' campaign on World Environment Day.



About:

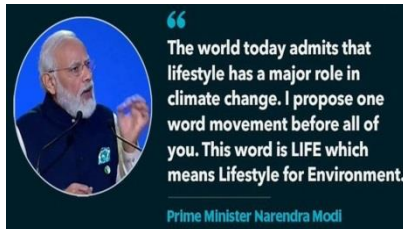
Under this campaign, Urban Local Bodies across the country will hold awareness programmes to free the country from single-use plastic and contribute to improve the environment.

The Ministry also has issued a detailed advisory to State and Union Territories in this direction.

- In the advisory, the Ministry has instructed to ban Single-Use Plastic by 30th of June.
 - The Ministry further said that States and Urban Local Bodies have to enter into Memorandum of Understanding with nearby cement plants or other industrial units.
 - It also directed to ensure that a part of the plastic waste generated is used either as an alternative fuel in cement plants, or for road construction purposes.
 - The advisory stresses on large-scale people participation to carry forward the message of Single-Use Plastics ban and enforcement.
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LIFESTYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT (LiFE) MOVEMENT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a global initiative ‘Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement, on the occasion of World Environment Day.



About:

The launch will initiate ‘LiFE Global Call for Papers’ inviting ideas and suggestions from academics, universities & research institutions etc to influence and persuade individuals, communities and organisations across the world to adopt an environment conscious lifestyle.

- The idea of LiFE was introduced by the Prime Minister during the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties COP-26 in Glasgow last year.
 - The idea promotes an environment-conscious lifestyle that focuses on mindful and deliberate utilisation instead of mindless and destructive consumption.
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TÜRKIYE



Turkey will now be known as Türkiye at the United Nations, after the intergovernmental body agreed to a formal request for the name change from Ankara.



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Reasons for name change:

- Domestically, citizens refer to the land as Turkiye, but its anglicised version ‘Turkey’ was adopted internationally following the country’s independence in 1923.
- Apparently, the country’s government was not pleased with the Google search results that came up for the word ‘Turkey’. Some of these results included the large bird that is served for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals in North America.
- The government has also had objections to Cambridge Dictionary’s definition of the term “turkey”; “something that fails badly” or “a stupid or silly person”.

Have other countries changed their names?

- There are other countries that have changed their names either to drop colonial legacies or rebrand, as is the case with Turkey. Some examples include
 - The Netherlands, which was changed from Holland;
 - Macedonia, which changed its name to North Macedonia due to political disputes with Greece;
 - Iran, which changed its name from Persia in 1935;
 - Siam, which changed its name to Thailand; and
 - Rhodesia, which changed to Zimbabwe to drop its colonial legacy.
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BIDEN APPEALS TO CONGRESS TO ACT ON GUN VIOLENCE

In News:

- President Joe Biden delivered an impassioned address to the United States, imploring the Congress to take action against gun violence after the recent incidents of mass shootings.
- The United States witnessed two episodes of mass shootings in a span of 11 days that killed more than 30 people including elementary school children.

Gun Laws in USA:



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- The Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives Americans the right to keep and bear arms.
- The U.S. Supreme Court has previously held that the amendment protects the right to “keep and bear arms” for self-defence.
- The **Gun Control Act of 1968** (GCA), which regulates firearms at the federal level, requires that citizens and legal residents must be at least 18 years of age to purchase shotguns or rifles and ammunition.
- In some states, the rules are less strict than in others. For example, in the state of Nevada, people do not have to tell anyone that they own a gun.

Exception:

- The only reasons that someone might not be allowed to have a gun would be if they are a convicted criminal, have a mental health illness or if they are not a US citizen.

Gun Control laws in India:

- Indian laws are particularly elaborate in dealing with sale and unlawful trade of weapons.
- It also enlists specific provisions on curtailing the use of licensed weapons to ensure social harmony.
- The law on firearms in India is governed by the **Indian Arms Act, 1959** which prescribes the relevant guidelines to possess guns.
- In addition to the Arms Act, there are **Arms Rules, 1962** under which the manufacturing, selling, possessing, acquisition, import-export as well as transport of firearms and ammunition without a valid license is completely banned.
- Obtaining a valid arms license in India is a tedious process which ordinarily takes at least one year.

