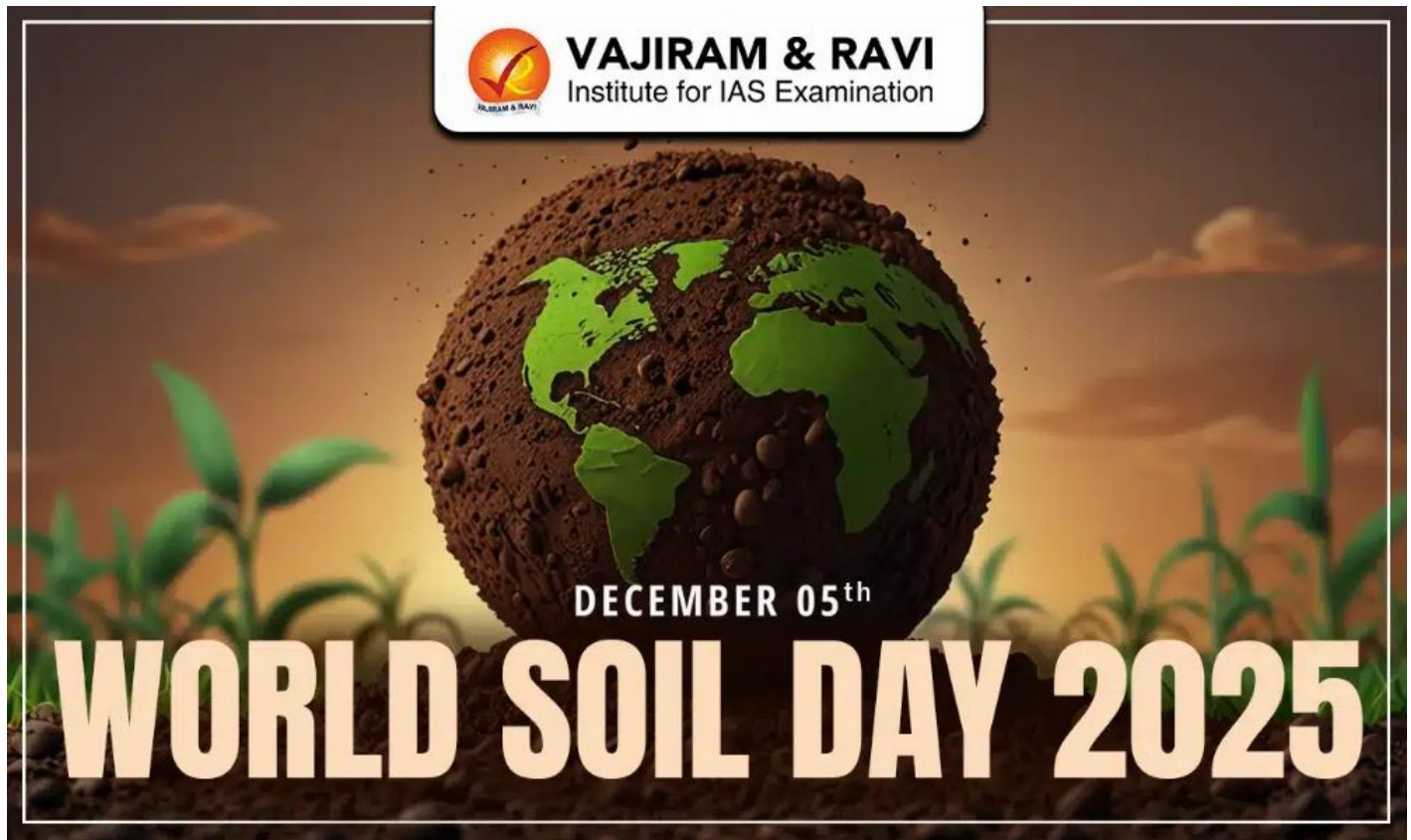


World Soil Day 2025, Theme, History, Significance

December 5, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



The World Soil Day 2025 is celebrated annually on December 5 which serves as a global reminder of the crucial roles of soil in sustaining life, supporting the ecosystem and promoting food production. The day raises awareness about soil health, sustainable land management, and the urgent need to prevent soil degradation caused by climate change, pollution, and rapid urban expansion. It encourages governments, organisations, and communities to adopt practices that maintain soil fertility and ecological balance.

World Soil Day 2025

This year, World Soil Day 2025 will be celebrated on December 5, 2025, with the global theme “Healthy soils for healthy cities.” It was established by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS), gained formal recognition when the FAO endorsed it in 2013, followed by its adoption by the UN General Assembly in the same year. It is now commemorated globally through awareness campaigns, educational workshops, public outreach programmes, and collaborations promoting sustainable soil management.

World Soil Day 2025 Theme

The theme for the World Soil Day 2025 has been announced as- “Healthy soils for healthy cities”. It highlights the importance of urban soils and the pressures they face from rapid urbanisation, soil sealing, pollution, and loss of organic matter. Healthy urban soils contribute to food production, water purification, carbon storage, temperature regulation, and biodiversity conservation. As cities expand, preserving soil health becomes essential for climate resilience, urban planning, and sustainable development.

World Soil Day Historical Background

The idea of a dedicated global soil day was first proposed by the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in 2002. The initiative received official support from the FAO in 2013, paving the way for its recognition by the UN General Assembly in December 2013. The UN selected December 5 to honour the memory of King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, who championed sustainable soil management. The first official observance was held on December 5, 2014.

World Soil Day 2025 Significance

The World Soil Day highlights the importance of Soil. More than 95% of global food production is dependent on soils, making them essential for global nutrition and agricultural productivity. Soils provide 15 of the 18 essential nutrients required by plants, making them vital for healthy crops. Degradation of soils through erosion, contamination, and overuse directly threatens food security, rural livelihoods, and environmental stability. Healthy soils also act as major carbon sinks, contributing to climate regulation.

World Soil Day 2025 and Soil Conservation

India has a long history of soil conservation efforts. One early movement, the Mitti Bachao (Save the Soil) Movement, began in Hoshangabad (Narmadapuram), Madhya Pradesh, in 1977, when local communities protested soil degradation caused by the Tawa Dam’s impacts on agricultural land. Today, India continues to emphasise sustainable land use through schemes promoting soil testing, organic farming, watershed development, and climate-resilient agriculture. Healthy soil management relies on tested and effective practices such as: Minimum tillage, Crop rotation, organic matter addition, cover cropping, etc. These methods strengthen soil resilience and support long-term agricultural sustainability.

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/world-soil-day/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.