

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – JUNE 26, 2025

STATE

- **India's First Butterfly Sanctuary Inaugurated in Kerala's Aralam Forest**
- ✓ In a landmark conservation effort, Kerala has inaugurated India's first butterfly sanctuary by officially renaming the Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary.



- ✓ Located in the Western Ghats, the sanctuary now harbours over 266 species of butterflies, including several rare, endemic, and endangered varieties.
- ✓ Featuring seasonal butterfly migrations, active research partnerships, and ongoing species discoveries, the Aralam Butterfly Sanctuary is poised to become a cornerstone of biodiversity conservation and eco-tourism in India.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **India Hosts ICCON 2025 to Tackle Urgent Biodiversity Challenges**
- ✓ The Indian Conservation Conference (ICCON) 2025, hosted at the Wildlife Institute of India in Dehradun from 25–27 June, is India's leading forum for biodiversity conservation and environmental policy.



- ✓ The event convenes over 500 delegates from across India and the Global South, highlighting platforms like TechBridge for wildlife innovation.
- ✓ ICCON 2025 promotes interdisciplinary dialogue, supports youth and equitable participation, and reaffirms India's role as a leader in global conservation science.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **New Gecko Species Discovered in Coonoor Hills**
- ✓ Researchers announced the discovery of a new gecko species, *Dravidogecko coonoor*, in the Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ This finding adds to the biodiversity of the Western Ghats, a hotspot for endemic species.
- ✓ The lead author, Mr. A. Abinеш, explained that this gecko was previously misclassified as part of another species, *Hemidactylus anamallensis*.
- ✓ The discovery of *Dravidogecko coonoor* puts stress on the importance of biodiversity in the Western Ghats.

