8th Namdapha Butterfly Festival, 2025

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1.Introduction

- The **8th Namdapha Butterfly Festival** will be held from **November 26 to 28, 2025**, at **Namdapha National Park and Tiger Reserve**, located in **Miao, Changlang district, Arunachal Pradesh**.
- It is organised by the **Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Arunachal Pradesh**, in **collaboration with local community groups**.
- The event celebrates **biodiversity, eco-tourism, and community-led conservation** in one of India's richest ecological zones.

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2. Objectives of the Festival

- **Promote eco-tourism** and sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities.
- **Raise awareness** about biodiversity conservation and the ecological importance of the Namdapha landscape.
- **Encourage community participation** in conservation through education and cultural engagement.
- **Create a platform** for researchers, naturalists, and citizens to interact and share conservation knowledge.

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3. Venue and Participation

- The event will be held at **Khachang village**, the **gateway to Namdapha National Park**, known for its scenic beauty and proximity to biodiversity hotspots.
- **Entry is free for local participants**, encouraging grassroots involvement and local stewardship of natural resources.
- The festival will include **guided nature walks, photography contests, butterfly watching trails, exhibitions, and awareness programmes**.

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4. Namdapha National Park: A Global Biodiversity Hotspot

- Located in **Changlang district** of Arunachal Pradesh, Namdapha is both a **National Park and a Tiger Reserve**.

- It covers an area of about **1,985 sq km** and ranges from **200 m to over 4,500 m in altitude**, representing diverse ecosystems from tropical rainforest to alpine vegetation.
- Recognised as one of the **world's most biodiverse reserves** and a key part of the **Eastern Himalayas biodiversity hotspot**.
- Home to:
    - **Over 500 species of butterflies**
    - Rare butterflies such as **Kaiser-i-Hind, Blue Mormon, Peacock Pansy, Zig-zag Flat, and Yellow Veined Lancer**
    - Several rare and endangered fauna — including **tigers, clouded leopards, red pandas, and hornbills**.

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5. Community Collaboration

- The 2025 festival is being jointly organised by:
    - **Tikak Homestay Miao**
    - **Khachang-Mattungkhim Youth Forum**
    - **Namdapha Jungle Camp Miao**
- These collaborations showcase **community-led conservation** and **eco-tourism initiatives**.
- Local youths and homestay owners act as **eco-guides**, demonstrating how **livelihood generation** and **biodiversity preservation** can go hand-in-hand.

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6. Key Features of the Festival

- **Butterfly trails** inside the forest for spotting and identifying species.
- **Educational exhibitions** on biodiversity, forest ecology, and conservation methods.
- **Workshops and talks** by scientists, researchers, and conservationists.
- **Cultural programmes** celebrating local heritage and environmental harmony.
- **Eco-tourism promotion**, highlighting sustainable travel and local entrepreneurship.

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7. Broader Significance

- **Environmental Awareness:** Reinforces the importance of conserving the fragile Himalayan ecosystem.
- **Community Empowerment:** Encourages local ownership in conservation efforts.
- **Tourism and Economy:** Strengthens **eco-tourism** as a sustainable income source in Northeast India.
- **Scientific Research:** Provides opportunities for researchers to document and study lesser-known butterfly species and ecological patterns.

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8. Exam-Oriented Facts

Point	Details
Event	8th Namdapha Butterfly Festival
Dates	November 26–28, 2025
Venue	Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve, Miao, Arunachal Pradesh
Organisers	Dept. of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (Arunachal) + Local Community Groups
Biodiversity	Over 500 species of butterflies
Notable Species	Kaiser-i-Hind, Blue Mormon, Peacock Pansy
District	Changlang
Focus Areas	Conservation awareness, eco-tourism, community involvement
Entry	Free for local participants

9. Conservation Message

- The festival serves as a reminder of the **need to protect biodiversity** amid increasing threats from **climate change, deforestation, and habitat loss**.
- Promotes **eco-conscious tourism** and aligns with India’s broader goals of **sustainable development and environmental stewardship**.

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10. UPSC Relevance

Themes for GS Papers:

- **GS Paper 3 (Environment & Ecology):**
    - Biodiversity conservation
    - Community-based eco-tourism

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    - Role of local communities in environmental governance

- **GS Paper 1 (Geography):**
    - Biodiversity hotspots of India
    - Eastern Himalayas ecology
- **Essay / Ethics Paper:**
    - Harmony between development and environment
    - Grassroots conservation efforts

In Essence:
The Namdapha Butterfly Festival embodies **India’s vision of inclusive, community-led conservation**, showcasing how **biodiversity, culture, and sustainable livelihoods** can coexist harmoniously in ecologically sensitive regio

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