

With over 95% success rate, Lucknow's gharial rehab centre alive & hatching

Neha.Shukla@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: While fewer than 1% of crocodile hatchlings survive in natural conditions, Kukrail Gharial Rehabilitation Centre in Lucknow has given a major boost to the critically endangered freshwater crocodilian with an over 95% success rate.

WORLD CROCODILE DAY TODAY

The gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), native to the state's river systems, is listed as critically endangered and is protected under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Conservatio-



The gharial is listed as critically endangered

nists note that alongside human-driven pressures, a key factor behind low wild populations is an abysmally low survival rate.

However the Lucknow facility, founded in 1975, intervenes at the most vulnerable stage of the gharial life cycle.

► **Over 7K gharials, P6**