

World Migratory Bird Day

Theme: "Light Pollution"

World Migratory Bird Day is celebrated twice a year. It is held on second Saturday of May and Second Saturday of October every year. This year it falls on 14th May and 8th October, 2022. This day is celebrated in order to raise an awareness campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. It is an important tool as it helps to raise global awareness of the threats faced by the migratory birds, their ecological importance and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

About Migratory Birds:

- Migratory birds are seasonal guests with positive impact. Birds from 29 countries fly to India every year. They usually migrate from September-October.
- As many as, 1,349 species of birds have been recorded as of 2019, of which 78 are endemic to the country and 212 species are globally threatened.

Importance of Migratory Birds:

- They provide ecosystem the benefit that includes pest control, pollination of plants and serve as food sources for other wildlife.
- Migratory birds help in dispersal of seeds leading to maintenance of biodiversity along their routes.
- Ducks can transport fish eggs in their guts to new water bodies.
- The droppings of birds also known as guano, are rich in nitrogen and act as organic fertilizers.
- Migratory birds form both prey and predator bases in ecosystems seasonally and can, therefore, have an ecological impact.

Amur Falcon a Migratory Bird of Nagaland:

- Amur falcons are known as the world's longest travelling bird. It has already arrived in Nagaland, Assam and Manipur.
- As one million Amur Falcons roost in Nagaland, this place in India was declared as the 'Falcon Capital' of the World by the Ornithologists.

Facts about seven migratory birds of India:

1. **Demoiselle Crane:** Demoiselle Crane spends the winter in the Indian subcontinent. These cranes are the smallest species of crane that lives in variety of different environment. They are found in the desert areas of Rajasthan.
2. **Blue Tailed Bee Eater:** Blue Tailed Bee Eater is a migratory bird found seasonally in the peninsular India. They nest underground in sandy banks or open flat areas, near water bodies and predominately feed on Indian bees, honey bees wasps and hornets.
3. **Greater Flamingo:** Greater Flamingo is the largest of all species of the flamingo family, found in Indian subcontinent.
4. **Siberian Cranes:** Siberian Cranes are also known as snow cranes. They are critically endangered species of migratory birds. Also, they are the worlds third most endangered species of cranes. Total population of Siberian Crane is estimated to be 3,800 birds.
5. **Eurasian Sparrow hawk:** Eurasian Sparrow hawk is the most widespread raptor species. They migrate to India during winter.
6. **Ruff Bird:** The Ruffs are from the Artic Tundra region. This bird comes to India to spend its winter.
7. **Ruddy Shelduck:** Ruddy Shelduck is a member of the duck, goose and swan family Anatidae. It is a migratory bird wintering in the Indian subcontinent and breeding in southeastern Europe and Central Asia India it is known as the Brahminy Duck.



Nagaland ENVIS Hub
Email: envisnagaland@gmail.com

Nagaland Pollution Control Board
(State Nodal Agency, NGC Eco Club)

