



WORLD SPARROW DAY

20TH MARCH 2023

Theme: "I Love Sparrows"

Slogan: "Sparrows are small but mighty- protect them"

World Sparrow Day was first observed in 2010. It was started by the Nature Forever Society which was founded by an Indian conservationist Mohammad Dilawar along with Eco-Sys Action Foundation of France. Dilawar started his work in helping the house of sparrows in Nashik. He was also named as the 'Heroes of Environment' in 2008 for his efforts.

This day is also celebrated to provide information on how to conserve sparrows and house sparrows. It acts as a platform for those who are working for the cause of protecting and preserving sparrows in their homes.

Significance of World Sparrow Day

- Sparrows and house sparrows have been known to live in green patches and backyards but currently it is on the verge of extinction due to noise pollution, pesticide usage and non-availability of food.
- World Sparrow Day also aims to bring individuals who have passion for sparrows and appreciate their beauty.
- This day is observed not only to honor but also to use it as a platform to emphasize the importance of sparrow conservation and urban biodiversity.
- It is an ideal day to educate the masses about the conservation of sparrows and the need to protect them.

Few facts about Sparrows

- Sparrows are about 14-16 cm long. They are chirpy with grey and brown color.

- They have the ability to fly at the speed of 38.5 km/hour and can even reach up to the speed of 50 km/hour.
- Sparrows cannot be found in forests or deserts. They inhabit on building, roofs and houses.
- Male sparrows are slightly larger than their female counterparts.
- Sparrows can survive between 4 to 5 years in the wild.
- Once found in huge numbers across the world, the small bird is slowly making its way to the endangered list.

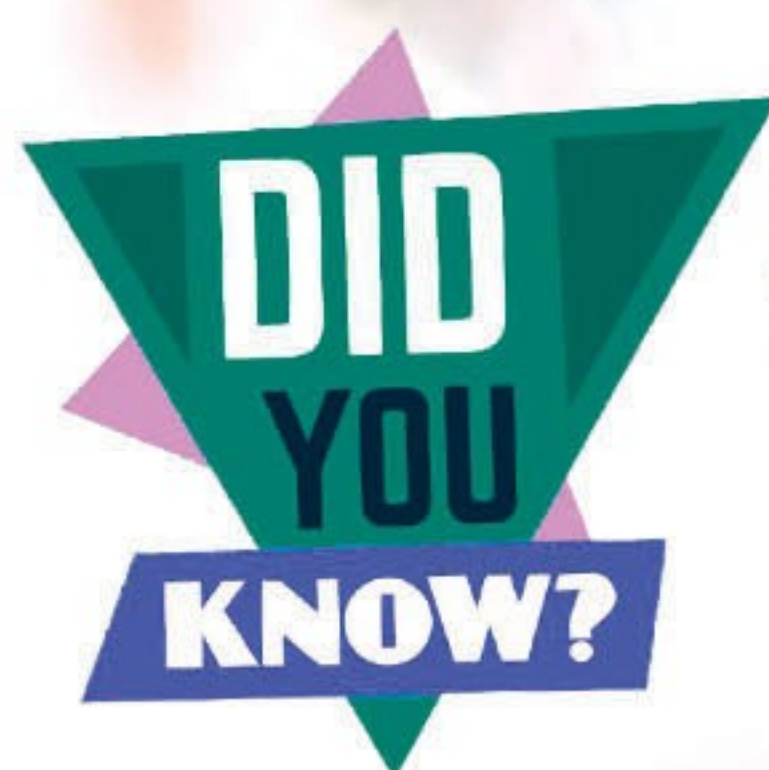
Sparrow's role plays in the Ecosystem

1. Seed Dispersion: Sparrows mostly prefer seeds of millets, grass, weed, berries, fruits and sunflower seed. During this process, sparrows spread seeds to places away from the fruit tree. This helps in the survival of many plants that are the producers in the ecosystem.

2. Insects: Sparrows also feed on small insects and worms such as caterpillars, beetles and aphids. Some of these creatures destroys certain plants. But with the help of sparrows it prevents these insects from destroying these plants. Thus, it prevents certain plants from extinction.

3. Food: Snakes which are the second consumers are known to eat sparrows. By providing food for the secondary consumers, sparrows play an important role in their survival and in preserving the ecosystem.

4. Competitor Species: House sparrows destroys eggs and kill the nestlings and also the incubating females to take over the nests of the native birds' species. Hence, house sparrows may harm the ecosystem by threatening the survival of these native birds.



The oldest sparrow recorded till date is known to live for 15 years and 9 months



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