Willow Warbler (Phylloscopus trochilus)

Prelims: *Current events of National and International Importance| Environment*

Why in News?

A willow warbler (Phylloscopus trochilus) recorded at the Kenjar grasslands near Mangaluru marks Karnataka's first confirmed sighting of the species and only its fifth confirmed record in India.

- **Scientific Name–** *Phylloscopus trochilus*
- **Migration & Habitat–** A small, insectivorous migratory songbird that breeds across Europe and the Palearctic (from Ireland to eastern Siberia) and mostly winters in sub-Saharan Africa.
- It favors open woodlands (especially birch, alder, and willow), hedges, gardens, and pastures.
- **Appearance–** About 11 cm long with a 19 cm wingspan, greenish-brown above and off-white to yellowish below, with plain greenish-brown wings lacking wingbars, paler pinkish-yellow legs, a longer paler bill, and a long primary projection.
- **Conservation Status–** Least Concern (IUCN Red List)
- **Significance–** Reported in mid-November 2026 as the first record for Karnataka and the fifth confirmed record nationwide.
- Birds migrating through the Arabian Peninsula toward Africa occasionally stray along India's west coast.



Reference

The Hindu| Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

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