

World Sparrow Day 2025

Why in News?

World Sparrow Day is celebrated every year on March 20th.

- **Aim** - To raise awareness and protect Sparrows which are declining at alarming rate.
- **Initiated by** - Nature Forever, a bird conservation organization in 2010.
- **Theme, 2025** - **A Tribute to Nature's Tiny Messengers.**

The house sparrow became Delhi's state bird in 2012.

- **Significance of Sparrows**- They help control insect populations by feeding on various bugs and pests.
- Key players in ***pollination and seed dispersal***.
- Their presence enhances biodiversity, making them crucial for the health of both rural and urban ecosystems.
- **Threats** - ***Unleaded petrol*** has led to toxic compounds and pesticide use in agriculture harm the insects, sparrows depend on for food.
- The increasing presence of crows and cats, along with a lack of green spaces has added to the problem.
- Urbanization has also taken away their natural nesting spaces.

Conservation Efforts

- **Save the Sparrow campaign** - Led by environmental conservationist ***Jagat Kinkhabwala***.
- **Initiative by Koodugal Trust in Chennai**- Involved school children in creating sparrow nests.
- The children build small wooden houses, providing food and shelter for sparrows.
- **Early Bird campaign** - Introduces children to the world of birds, in Mysuru, Karnataka.
- The program includes a library, activity kits and trips to villages to observe birds.
- These educational efforts are helping children recognize and understand the importance of sparrows and other birds in nature.

Reference

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