

Sparrow Conservation Drive Launched Across 50 Government Schools in Tamil Nadu

A statewide sparrow conservation drive was initiated across 50 government schools in Tamil Nadu to engage students in habitat restoration and nest-box making.

It is an environmental education and conservation initiative aimed at reviving urban sparrow populations by installing artificial nest boxes and educating school students.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The conservation drive targets students across **50 government schools** in multiple districts, including **Chennai**, Erode, **Coimbatore**, Ranipet, and Krishnagiri.
- The programme focuses on hands-on **nest-box-making** workshops to create safe nesting spaces in urbanized environments.
- Students will be trained to understand **sparrow habitats**, dietary requirements, and the environmental factors causing urban population decline.
- The initiative is supported by nature conservation organisations like **Koodugal Trust** to revive bird biodiversity in residential spaces.
- Participating schools will monitor and maintain the installed nesting boxes to measure sparrow occupancy over successive **breeding seasons**.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The scientific name of the House Sparrow is **Passer domesticus**.

World Sparrow Day is observed globally every year on **March 20** to raise awareness about sparrow conservation.

World Sparrow Day was initiated by the **Nature Forever Society** of India founded by **Mohammed Dilawar**.

The House Sparrow is designated as the official State Bird of **Delhi** and **Bihar**.

On the **IUCN** Red List of Threatened Species, the House Sparrow is classified under the **Least Concern** (LC) category globally.

Major factors driving sparrow decline in urban areas include modern glass-concrete architecture lacking nesting eaves, extensive **pesticide use** destroying insect larvae, and loss of native seed plants.

Wild birds in India are legally protected under the provisions of the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.

The **Emerald Dove** (*Chalcophaps indica*) is the official State Bird of **Tamil Nadu**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

World Sparrow Day is celebrated on March 20; House Sparrow's scientific name is Passer domesticus.

Syllabus Relevance: Important for Environment, Ecology, State Birds, IUCN Red List status, and Wildlife Protection Act in TNPSC Group 1, 2, 2A, and 4 exams.

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