



THREATS AND CONSERVATION OF AVIFAUNA IN JATH REGION, DIST- SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA

S. B. Deshmukh¹ and M. Y. Kulkarni²

¹Science mahavidyalaya, Nanded

²N.S.B.College, Nanded

apurvak49@gmail.com

Abstract:-

Jath is a dry prone arid area, but also the region shows huge amount of diversity in flora and fauna. Jath area shows grassland, degraded notified forest region, wetland region, in which residential, migratory-winter visitors, summer visitor's avifauna was observed. Due to biotic and abiotic factors the birds are declining in number. As birds plays important role in environment as pollinators, scavengers, in seed dispersal as well as biological indicators. The forest department, colleges, local people are paying attention to conserve the natural habitat of birds and the birds species in jath region.

Keywords:-flora; fauna; residential; abiotic; biotic

Introduction:-

Birds are an important factor in environment in Indian subcontinent there are about 2100 no. of species of birds subspecies are found. There are 1314 species are recorded in various habitat. In India 82 species are globally threatened; approximately 12% Asian birds are globally threatened 42 endemics and 25 are rare species of avifauna. Maharashtra rank 1th with 123 list submitted by IUCN red list. In 2015, 30 species from Maharashtra was threatened. Birds are excellent model organism for behaviour; evolutionary biology and conservation (Urfi; 2011). Birds are often common denizens of the ecosystems and they have been considered as an indicator species of inhabited area (Blair; 1999). Birds may be influenced by biogeography (Karr, 1976). Birds are the key species in an agricultural ecosystem for maintaining the ecological balance (Harlem & Bennett, 2008). Wetlands are important bird's habitats & birds use them for feeding, roosting, nesting & rearing their young's (Weller M.W: Stewart)

Biodiversity conservation efforts, the assessment & evolution of bird communities (Shafer *et al.*, 1997). Smaller wetlands maintained higher water bird density & diversity than larger ones (Clewell & Lea). Birds are the biological indicators they play roles in environment such as scavenger, pollinators & predators of insect pest (Padmavat; *et al.*, 2010) birds are one of the links of food chain (Salim ali; 2014)

Result and Discussion:

Threats –

As jath region is arid prone area & less rainfall and temperature is also high which affect the flora and fauna and avifauna.

The human population is increasing in jath region; which results increasing number in building, road construction, the deforestation was done which affected to the avifauna. Now a

days a wind power project are increasing rapidly; which affecting the migratory birds, residential birds also. The electric lines, towers are also responsible for mortality rate of birds

In jath region there are 23 major & minor water bodies. Such as bimal, tipphalli, pratapur, banali, dafalapur reservoir etc. Jath city utilizes 62.84% water from bimal reservoir. The water is utilised for agriculture, industry, domestic etc. As the rainfall is less some of water bodies are become dead. Krishna basin water is supplied to some of wetland leads to increase the wetland avifauna. In November 2016 the Flamingo, ruddy shelduck, pink painted stork was observed in the wetland of bimal, tipphalli. The human activities; number of dogs was affecting the wetland birds (Figure 1-2).

The visiting vehicle to tipphalli sugar industry cleans their vehicle in the reservoir which leads the water pollution; the loud songs in the vehicles create noise pollution which affects the avifauna. Egret like species was found dead near the water bodies, they were hunted for their flesh by some human communities. During Ganesh festival the statue of ganapati; its flower; waste materials are immersed in the reservoir, which is responsible for water pollution and diversity of avifauna. The agricultural waste water, washing the cloth, utensil leads the disturbance in avifauna and also the water gets polluted.

The degraded notified forest area such as Ambabai hilly region; the sparking occasion in navaratri effects the noise pollution, also effect the injury to flying birds, destruction to nests. Some human communities believe that rock pigeon blood is good for joint pain relief, so the hunting was found in this area. The grazing animals disturb the avifauna in the grassland area in jath region (Figure 3-4).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

Conservation-

As the wetlands are very important factor for various flora and fauna and it should be conserved; so for conservation of wetlands the local peoples, minor irrigation water supply department, are prohibited to immerse the waste droplets in wetlands. Hunting of birds, deforestation is prohibited by the forest department. In summer season the local people are putting small pots of water for the birds as they realised the importance of avifauna. Colleges, school, various organizations, by seminar, conference, workshop, rally, wildlife week celebration announcing to conserve the avifauna biodiversity (Figure 5-7).

In Ambabai hilly region the forest department, temple organisation is awarding the

References:-

Urfi AJ, 2011. Birds of india : A literature anthology. 2nd Impression , New Delhi : Oxford University Press.

Ali S (1971). Sunder Lal Hora memorial lecture. Ornithology in India: its past present and future: Proc. Indian Natl. Sci. Acad, B37: 99-113

Bird life International 2001. Threatened Birds of Asia. The Birdlife International Red Data book. Cambridge, UK: Birdlife International .3 026pp

Bird life International 2003. Saving Asia's threatened birds: a guide for government and civil society. Cambridge, U.K. Birdlife International .246pp

Blair RB, 1999 Birds and butterflies along an urban gradient: surrogate taxa for assessing biodiversity? Ecol. Appl., 9:164-170

Jhunjhunwala.S. Rahmani, A.R., Ishtiaq.F.& Islam, Z. 2001. The Important Bird Areas Programme in India . Bucerol 6(2): I-50.

Karr J. R.(1976), Seasonality resources availability and community diversity in tropical bird communities , Am. Nat., 105 :423-435

people not to dump waste material. Not to damage the flora or fauna .They are planting the plants for conserve the territory of birds. Forest department prohibited the grazing animals protecting by metallic wire on surrounding .Various logo, information about birds, biodiversity, and avifauna is done to aware the people to conserve the avifauna .Due to conservation various migratory birds' species are seen in the jath region.

Acknowledgment-

I am thankful to the **k.m college, jath, R.R. College, jath**, Ambabai temple, organisation, forest department of jath, irrigation department to providing me the information and support for my research work.

Kumar, A. Sati, J.P., Tak, P.C. & Alfred, J.R.B. in press. Handbook on Indian Wetland Birds and their conservation. Rec. Zool. Surv. India. (Published – Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata 700 020).

Miller A. A.(2003) Influence of habitat characteristics on wetland birds abundance and species richness at Ordway Prairie, South Dakota .M.S. thesis, South Dakota state University .Ecology 80:1806-1816.

Padamavati A., Alexandar R., Anbarashan M. (2010) Journature, 8: 247-253.

Urfi AJ, 2011. Birds of India: A literature anthology. 2nd Impression, New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Wetlands International 2002. Water bird Population Estimates- Third edition, Wetlands International Global Series No. 12 Wageningen, The Netherlands.