

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1316
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

Decline in the population of sparrows

1316. SHRI K. R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the fact that the sudden decline in the population of sparrows has been attributed to pollution and the excessive use of pesticides; and
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by Government to raise awareness about sparrow conservation and protection, and also to find ways to provide ecological support for the protection and conservation of sparrows?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) and (b) Various factors including pollution that affect the population of House Sparrow include predators like domestic cats, predatory birds such as crows, kites, traditional granary loss, avian malaria, over use of pesticides etc.

The House Sparrow has been listed in Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby providing it protection from hunting etc. Management of wildlife is primarily done by the State/UT Governments. The Government of NCT of Delhi has also declared House Sparrow as the state bird for generating awareness in people and its conservation.

'World Sparrow Day' is celebrated on March 20th to raise awareness about the House Sparrow and its conservation. Various workshops, rallies and educational campaigns have been arranged to raise the awareness.
