5. Central Asian flyway

Every winter, the birds make their way to India through **the central Asian flyway,** which covers a large continental area of Europe—Asia between the Arctic and the Indian Oceans.

What is migration? Why is it significant? Migration is an adaptation mechanism to help birds overcome weather adversities and unavailability of food in colder regions.

- The importance of bird migrations on the health of the ecosystems is wellestablished.
- Saving migratory birds means saving the wetlands, terrestrial habitats and saving of an ecosystem, benefiting communities dependent on wetlands.



1. Accelerated habitat loss globally

during the last decade.

2. Decreased area under water

bodies, wetlands, natural grasslands and forests.

Increased weather variability, and climate change have resulted in loss of biodiversity for the migratory birds.



Central Asian Flyway

One of 9 key flight paths (flyways) taken by migratory water birds



30 countries
From breeding
grounds in
Siberia to wintering places
across West
and South Asia,
waterbodies
offer stopovers
for lakhs of
birds

bodies in Karnataka Lack of comprehensive

622 water

Lack of comprehensive surveys to monitor species and their populations have left gaps in data

Regional importance

Experts say conservation of water bodies should be prioritised not just for international migratory birds but for local bird populations as well

