

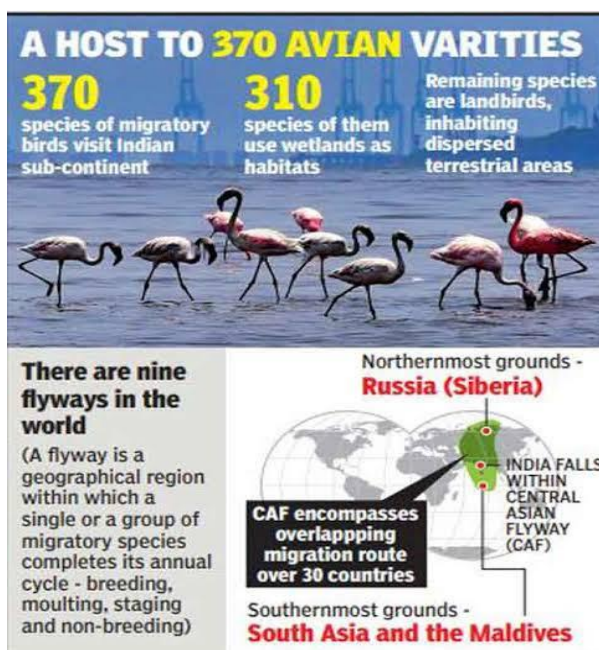
## 5. Central Asian flyway

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 well-established.
- Saving migratory birds means saving **the wetlands, terrestrial habitats and saving of an ecosystem**, benefiting communities dependent on wetlands.



### Challenges faced by migratory birds:

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.

