

Surajpur Wetland

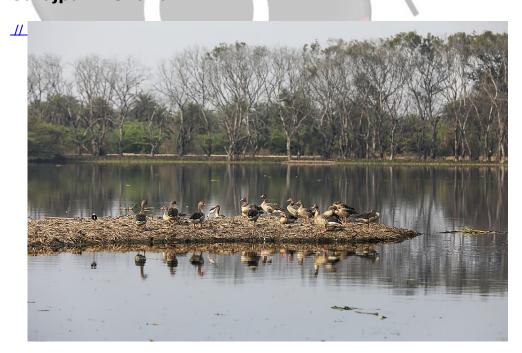
Why in News?

The Greater Noida Authority has developed a project to safeguard and preserve the Surajpur wetland.

Key Points

- Threat from Polluted Wastewater:
 - The wetland faces a serious threat due to the indiscriminate discharge of highly polluted wastewater into its channels, endangering its ecosystem.
- Need for Technical Assistance:
 - According to the authority, research institutes, non-government organizations (NGOs), and environmental experts can provide technical support to protect and restore the wetland.
- Ecological Significance:
 - Located in the heart of the industrial city of Greater Noida, the Surajpur wetland serves as a vital wildlife habitat, making its conservation crucial.
- Geographic Spread and Features:
 - The sanctuary spans 325 hectares, including a 60-hectare natural lake situated along **the Dadri-Surajpur-Chhalera (DSC) road,** approximately 20 km from Noida.
- Haven for Migratory Birds:
 - During the winter season, the wetland attracts various species of <u>migratory birds</u>, enhancing its ecological and environmental value.

Surajpur Wetland



Location and Administrative Jurisdiction:

- The wetland is located near Surajpur Village in Dadri Tehsil of Gautam Budh Nagar district.
- It falls under the jurisdiction of the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority, Uttar Pradesh.

Urban Wetland in the Yamuna Basin:

The wetland serves as an excellent example of an urban wetland within the <u>Yamuna River</u>
<u>basin.</u>

• Ecological Importance and Green Cover:

• It acts as a green lung for Greater Noida, covering a catchment area of 308 hectares, with 60 hectares dedicated to the waterbody.

Recognition as an Important Bird Area (IBA):

 BirdLife International has classified the wetland as an <u>Important Bird Area (IBA)</u> due to its significance in **bird conservation.**

Breeding and Wintering Habitat for Waterfowl:

- The wetland provides a breeding ground for waterfowl such as <u>Spot-billed Duck</u>, <u>Lesser-whistling Duck</u>, Cotton Pygmy Goose, and Comb Duck.
- It also supports wintering waterfowl, including Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, <u>Bar-headed Goose</u>, Greylag Goose, Common Teal, Northern Shoveler, and Gadwall.

Diverse Wildlife Presence:

 In addition to a rich bird population, the wetland sustains six mammal species, including <u>Nilgai</u>, <u>Indian Grey Mongoose</u>, <u>Indian Hare</u>, <u>Golden Jackal</u>, and <u>Five-striped Squirrel</u>.

Environmental Threats:

• The wetland faces significant threats due to the indiscriminate discharge of highly polluted wastewater into its channels, posing risks to its ecosystem.

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