Dragonfly Day

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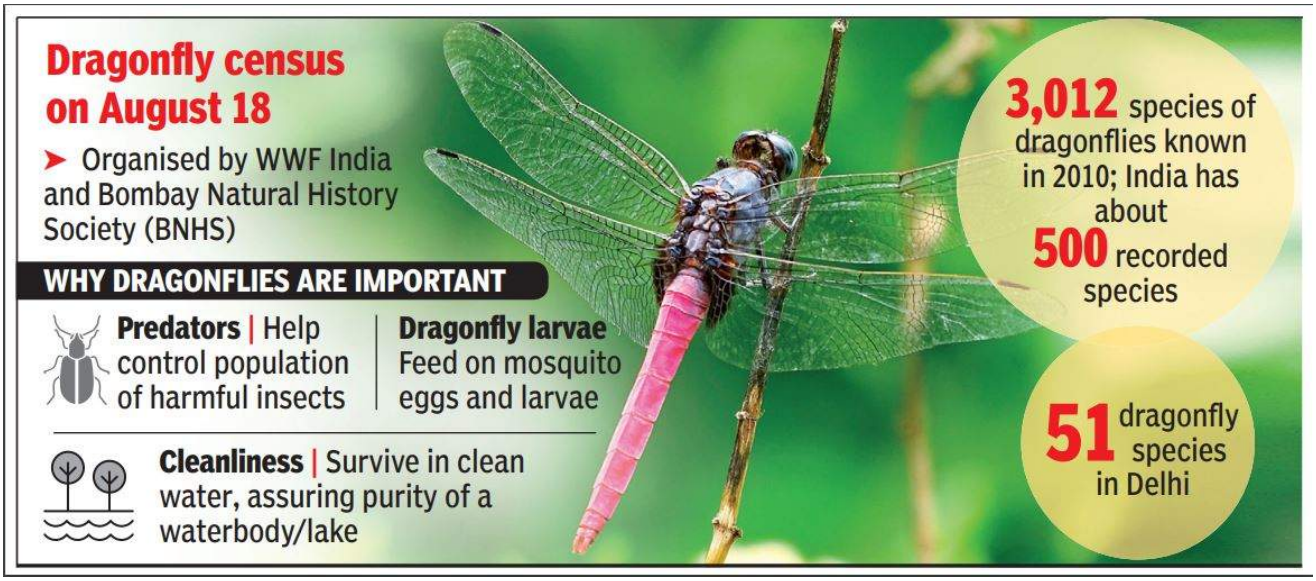
Recently, the **World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-India),** in collaboration with the **Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)** conducted **dragonfly census** and celebrated **Dragonfly Day on August 18**, in New Delhi and its neighbouring regions.

- It is the **second such event** dedicated to dragonflies and damselflies and aims to carry out a census and raise awareness about their importance.
- Dragonfly act as **important bio-indicators** of the ecological health of an area.
- They feed on mosquitoes and other insects that are vectors to life-threatening diseases like **Malaria** and **Dengue.**
- The **first of this census** was **carried out in 2018,** which revealed a total of 51 different species of these insects in New Delhi and NCR.



Bioindicators

- Bioindicators are living organisms such as plants, plankton, animals, and microbes, which are used to assess the health of the natural ecosystem in the environment.
- Examples of Bioindicators:

- **Lichens** are powerful **Bioindicators of air quality.**
- **Frogs** are basically influenced by changes that take place in their freshwater and terrestrial habitats.
- **Algae blooms** are often used to indicate large increases of nitrates and phosphates in lakes and rivers.

Source: TOI