



## CURRENT AFFAIRS



Argasia Education PVT. Ltd. (GST NO.-09AAPCAI478E1ZH)  
Address: Basement C59 Noida, opposite to Priyagold Building gate, Sector 02,  
Pocket I, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, 201301, CONTACT NO:-8448440231

**Date – 29 September 2022**

# Low rainfall in Delhi, impacting the life cycle of Dragonfly

**Prelims:** effect of climate change on biodiversity

**Mains:** GS -III, environmental issues, pollution and degradation,

**Why in headlines?**

- A survey done by the Biodiversity Parks of Delhi on Dragonflies and Damselflies indicates that low this year's low rainfall will impact their life cycle and number.
- A total of 25 species of dragonflies and damselflies were recorded in the Biodiversity Park along with the Kamla Nehru Ridge

**What are dragonflies**

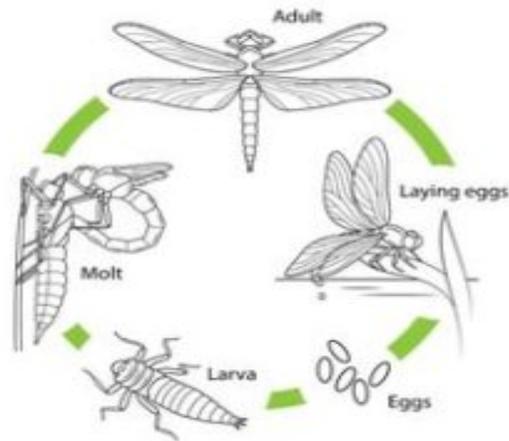
- These are big predator insects, of beautiful colours, generally found near water bodies.
- More than 5000 known species of dragonflies exist, and their fossils have proved that they have been on the earth for many years.
- They have long thin colourful bodies, with six legs and large eyes and two pairs of transparent wings.
- They have two large compound eyes, each with thousands of lenses, and three eyes with simple lenses.



## The different stages of the life cycle of the dragon



## Life Cycle of a Dragonfly



### Dragonflies vs Damselflies

Dragonflies	Damselflies
long body predator	a lender insect, resting with the folded back the body
unequal winged: Anisoptera	yoke winged: Zygoptera
broadly rounded eyes	spherical eyes
3(approx) inches long	Comparatively small
stocky	Long and slender
the thorax is broader the abdomen	Thorax s narrow and has the same width as the abdomen
known as filers: can fly long distance	known as perchers: only cover a small distance

### Importance of Dragonflies and Damselflies for the environment

- The dragonflies are crucial bio-indicator of the ecological health of a particular area.

- At the 1st census of it, a total of 51 different species were revealed in New Delhi and NCR, which was carried out in 2018.
- Dragonflies and Damselflies are predatory insects
- They play a very crucial role in checking the insect population, especially pests like mosquitoes and agricultural pests.

### **Bioindicators are:**

- They are living organisms like plants, plankton, animals and microbes which are used to access the condition of the natural ecosystem in the environment.
- Some of the Bioindicators:
- Lichens check the quality of the air.
- Frogs are influenced by changes that take place in freshwater and terrestrial areas

**Farhin**

## **The power to remove online content**

Mains: GS II Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation

### **CONTEXT**

Recently, the Government passed orders directing YouTube to remove 45 Videos from its 10 channels. Government pointed out that these channels posted videos which aimed to spread hatred among religious communities and the content was detrimental to India's friendly relation with foreign states. There have been voices of concern regarding the orders on the ground that the proper procedure under Section 69A of IT Act and IT Rules, 2021 was not followed and also suggestions that the power of Government to remove online content under Section 69A must be used sparingly and responsibly.



## **SECTION 69A of IT ACT**

- Section 69A allows the Indian government to block public access to information online in the interests of India's sovereignty and integrity, defense, security, friendly relations with foreign States, or public order.
- The directions to stop content under this must be given in writing.
- It imposes a penalty and imprisonment upto 7 years on the social media intermediaries who fail to comply with such directions.
- These directions are enforced by the Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009.
- The Supreme Court upheld Section 69A in *Shreya Singhal vs Union of India*. Stating that the rules provided procedural safeguards.
- These safeguards include the need to issue notice to the originators or the intermediary, before a blocking order is passed.
- Earlier judgments of the Supreme Court have suggested that for application of Section 69A to a content, the content must be viewed from the standards of a "strong-minded, firm and courageous" person.

## **Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021**

- The latest order invokes the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021
- The rules prescribe a procedure for removal of content. It requires an inter-departmental committee to address complaints
- It has a procedure by which an inter-departmental committee examines complaints/grievances and gives due opportunity to the applicable entity and makes recommendations to the Ministry.
- The authorised Officer has to take the approval of the Secretary, I&B, before directing the publisher or intermediary to block the relevant content in question.
- Blocking orders are examined by a review committee
- There is also an emergency provision under which the Secretary may first order content blocking as an interim measure, and thereafter confirm it after getting the committee's views. All such blocking orders are subject to the decision of a review committee.

## **WAY AHEAD**

India ranks quite high in the list of countries that make regular requests for removal of online content. Though offensive content which promotes hatred or can pose a threat to security should be removed like hate speech to maintain peace and security in online space, powers to remove these should be used sparingly and responsibly. Mere dissent should not be blocked unless it poses risk to security and stability of online space. Also,

such restrictions should be imposed only after following the due process which is following the procedure mandated in the IT Act and Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021.

**Saumya khedwal**

