Call it the Shahi Bulbul or Swargeey Nartak.. This bird knows style..

Indian paradise flycatcher
Just take the feel of paradise by looking at this breathtakingly beautiful bird.
In this lockdown, amidst this silence, this beautiful bird is calling you...
Let's listen what he is saying-

How Do Look?

My size is small. I am 20 cm (excluding male's elongated central tail feathers) in length and my weight is 17-23 grams.

My head, face, crown and nape are glossy black. Adult males of my specie have long central tail feathers upto 30 cm with a white plumage. The throat is black in colour. On the other hand, females and young males of my specie are rufous and have short tails. The throat is grey in females.

FACTS ABOUT ME-
SCIENTIFIC NAME- TERPSIPHONE PARADISO
FAMILY- MONARCHIDAE
I AM A STATE BIRD OF MADHYA PRADESH
Where I belong to -
Basically I am a migratory bird and spend the winter season in tropical Asia. Both locally breeding populations and visiting migrants species of mine are found in southern India and Sri Lanka in winter.

My address is
Normally I prefer to live in altitudes from 0 to 2000 meters. You can find me in degraded forests, rural gardens, plantations and also in tropical and subtropical moist montane forests, mangroves and temperate forests.

My favourite food
Flying insects, dragonflies, moths, beetles, winged termites, ants and locusts are my primary food.

Do you want to hear my voice?
My call is a repeated, musical "chie...chie...chie" sound. You can hear it with our video.

Do you know what is my hobby?
Dancing is my hobby. You never know, Chinese ribbon dancers might have taken inspiration from my dance only.
Breeding season -

My breeding season is from March to August. My nesting sites are located on tree branches. We both partners are involved in nest building and taking care of hatchlings.

Ecological importance -

We are the "flycatchers". We are the natural pest control team. We protect fruits, crops from insect attacks by keeping their numbers in check.

Friends remember my call and next time you hear it in the campus spare a moment and look for me dancing in the trees in your Campus..

Food for thought

Why do you think our breeding season is between March to August??

Text and Design: Kajol Patil, IFS 2019
Photographs: Shubhankar Kulkarni, Pune Google

Feedback - kastusule@gmail.com