GULLS

- Gulls or popularly known as sea gulls are of many species and most of them are found near the sea shore, cities near the sea shore, and coastal wetlands.
- Sea gulls feed on fishes and are very intelligent, for example, they drop shells from heights to break open shells.
- They exhibit parental care by protecting their chicks fiercely. They have adapted to surviving in cities by scavenging, and following fishing boats.

DESCRIPTION

Length: Range in size from the Little Gull (30 cm) to the Great Black-backed Gull (76 cm)

Habitat: Freshwater, brackish water, and marine

Distribution: Found in across the globe

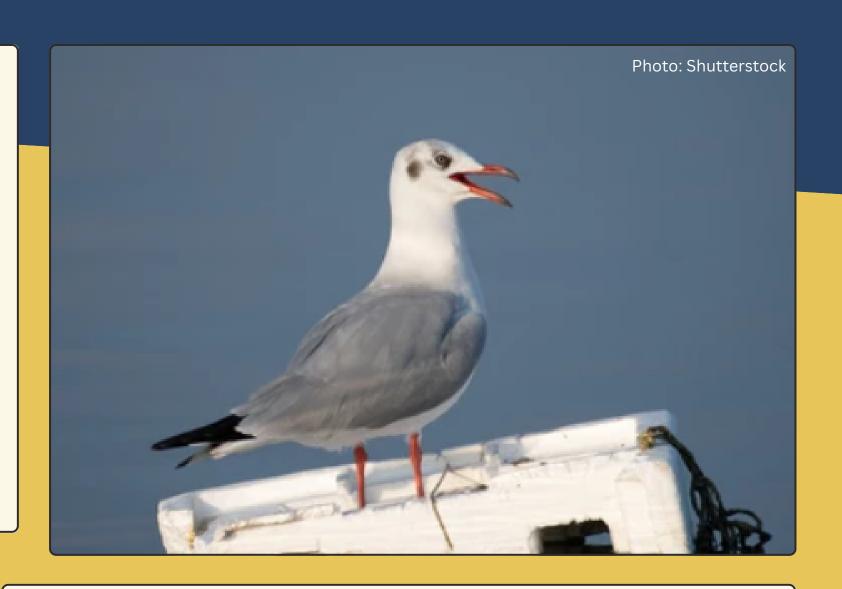
Diet: Fishes, molluscs, and crustaceans

IMPORTANCE

- Gulls are extremely adaptable species group that can live in varied habitats.
- Their changing diet from fishes to processed foods is a reflection of increasing fishing pressures.

INFORMATION

The most commonly seen species of gulls in India are the brown-headed gull and the black-headed gull.



FUN FACT

Water water everywhere, not a drop to drink!
Gulls have a special gland that filters salt making them able to drink sea water!

THREATS

Unregulated fishing leading to prey base depletion, improper waste management leading to scavenging on garbage, and climate crisis

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