DISTRIBUTION, BATHING (SOIL AND WATER) AND PREENING BEHAVIOR OF HOUSE SPARROW, *PASSER DOMESTICUS* IN AND AROUND SIKAR (RAJASTHAN)

Maha Singh¹, P. R. Ojha² and R. Rao³

¹Department of Zoology, Govt. S. K. (PG) College, Sikar - 332 001, India.
²IASE University, Sardarsharar, Churu, India.
³Kota University, Kota, India.
e mail:msingh4209@gmail.com
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ABSTRACT : House sparrow is non-migratory bird and often closely associated with human habitats and found in highest abundance in agricultural, suburban, and urban areas. It is closely associated with human habitats and cultivation areas. It is gregarious bird and mostly feeding in groups on the ground and forming flocks with other birds. Small trees *Acacia nilotica* (Kikar), *Acacia jacquemontii* (Kheri), *Carissa carandas* (Karonda) and *Tecomella undulata* (Rohida) are most preferred by the House Sparrow as four of five trees were selected as site for its activities and roosting. The maximum population was recorded during the rainy season i.e. the months of July, August and September. Maximum activities performed by the House sparrow in the early morning to late morning (5.00 AM to 11.00 AM).

Key words: *Passer domesticus*, Sikar, spatial arrangement, bathing, preening.