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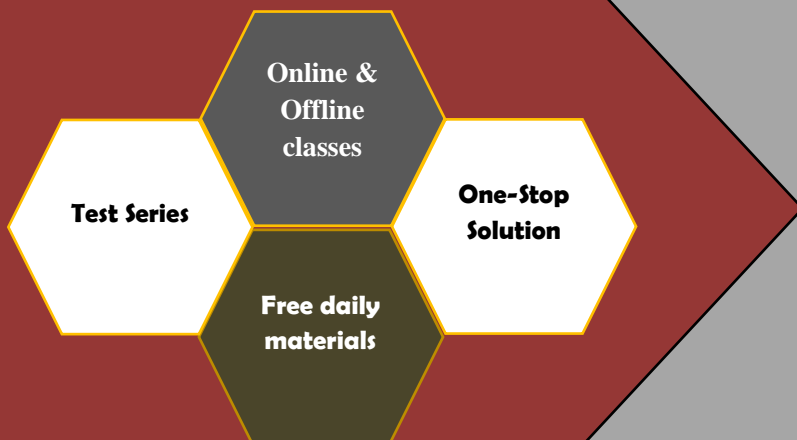
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Black-browed Albatross

Notes for civil services preparation



UPSC

General Studies

Black-browed Albatross

A recent study has **provided evidence of the effect of environmental conditions** on the longevity of relationships — among a population of albatrosses

- According to the researchers, **climate change and warming waters** are pushing **black-browed albatross** break-up rates higher.

Key Points

- **Black-browed Albatross:**
 - **Scientific Name:** *Thalassarche melanophris*
 - They are a member of the **albatross family Diomedidae**, the ‘tube-noses’, related to shearwaters, petrels, and fulmars.
 - It is the **most common and widespread albatross.**
 - The name for this large seabird comes from the dark black plumage above their eyes.
 - Albatrosses are **true marine birds, traversing the oceans** in the southern hemisphere, returning to land only to breed.

Distribution:

- They are **found anywhere in the south Atlantic** and circumpolar in the southern hemisphere. It can travel further to the north with cold currents.
- **During September and October**, these birds breed on south Atlantic islands such as South Georgia and the Falkland Islands, South Sandwich, and the Cape Horn islands.

Threats:

- Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals
- Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources
- Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases
- Volcanoes
- Climate change & severe weather

Protection Status:

- **IUCN:** Least Concern