

“ Some years back I had warned against old trees getting more and more crowded and dying under the sheer accumulations of guano. It is nothing to be elated to find overcrowded heronries and clusters of vulture nests. The need of the hour is to actively ensure protection to such large trees attracting vultures, storks and the like, even if in doing so the birds foul up the neighbourhood, as large trees are being planted and raised around water bodies in the countryside where the hard-pressed birds could shift in time. The species selected for raising must be thick-boughed and dense-foliaged, like, Tamarinds, Banyans, 'Rayan' and the like.

How critical the existence of the suitable trees are, can be learnt from a group of young men in Mysore, who are valiantly struggling to ensure protection to trees resorted to Spot-billed Pelicans to nest on. Equally critical are the gigantic Bombax trees of Assam for the continued survival of the two species of Adjutant Storks - an obvious fact which needed the efforts of the young Assamese student to highlight. All such trees take time to become robust enough to support colonies and till such time, it bears repetition, the existing trees patronized by birds must be identified and protected by popular sentiments. ”

- Lavkumar Khachar

