

**WETLANDS BIRDS ESTIMATION CONDUCTED
IN TAMIL NADU**

Forest Department, Government of Tamil Nadu released the data of the synchronised bird estimation conducted in the State. The bird estimation was conducted on 27th & 28th January 2024 in all 38 districts in Tamil Nadu covering 894 Vantage points at Wetlands/waterbodies/bird sanctuaries including 179 in forest areas, 555 in rural areas and 170 in urban areas. A total of 6,80,028 birds covering 389 bird species were found in the estimation. Out of this 120 species are found to be water birds and the remaining 269 are terrestrial bird species.

Out of the total bird count of 6,80,028 the estimation found that 79% are water birds (536245) and 21% are terrestrial birds (143783). The details of water birds are given below.

Sl.No.	Name of the Water Bird Species	No. of Individual
Direct Count		
1.	Waterfowls (ducks)	69913
2.	Flamingos	28822
3.	Grebes	6789
4.	Rails & Crakes	19919
5.	Waders, Gulls & Terns	173294
6.	Storks	17865
7.	Darters & Cormorants	54008
8.	Pelicans, Bitterns, Egrets, Herons, Ibises and Spoonbills.	165635
Total		536245

A total of 9800 members participated in this estimation which included 6450 volunteers, bird enthusiasts, NGOs and 3350 staffs from Forest Department.

The State level synchronized Wetland Bird estimation was supervised by Chief Wildlife Warden Thiru. Srinivas R. Reddy and coordinated by Thiru. Rakesh Kumar Dogra, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Project Tiger, Thiru. V. Naganathan, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Tmt. A. Sharmili, Assistant Conservator of Forests (Wildlife).

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