

Bengal reports 489 species in Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2023

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Recently, Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) 2023 was conducted across 35 States and Union Territories.



[ref- thehindu]

About GBBC 2023

- It was released by **Bird Count India (BCI)**.
- It describes more than **46,000 checklists** and a **total of 1,067** avian species were uploaded on **e-Bird**, an online platform to **record bird observations**.
- The GBBC 2023 showed **India's birds** are thriving in diverse **habitats** from the city to the countryside.

Key highlights

- **India's birds** are thriving in diverse **habitats** from the city to the countryside.
- **Top 3 states with highest number of species:** West Bengal (489 species), Uttarakhand (426), and Arunachal Pradesh (407).
 - This was followed by Assam (397), Karnataka (371), Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- India's birds are thriving in diverse habitats from the city to the countryside.
- A remarkable increase in participation across the country helped **India** upload the **second-highest number** of checklists after the **United States of America** and the **third-highest species of any country**.

About GBBC

- It was the first **online citizen-science project** to **collect data** on **wild birds** and to display results in near **real time**.
- **Bird Count India (BCI)** organizes the GBBC in the country.

- **Joint Partnership:** It is an inter-organizational effort between the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, and Birds Canada.**
- **Project Goal:**
 - Each **February, BIC invite people for 4 days** to spend time in their favorite places watching and **counting as many birds** as they can find and **reporting them.**
 - These observations help **scientists** better understand **global bird populations** before one of their **annual migrations.**
- **History:**
 - Launched in **1998** by the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society.**
 - **Birds Canada** joined the project in **2009** to provide an expanded **capacity to support** participation in Canada.
 - In 2013, It became a global project when they began entering data into **eBird**, the **world's largest biodiversity-related citizen science project.**