



President  
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### **BNHS's Bird Count at Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Mumbai Records 67 Species in a day**

(Mumbai-02/7/2024):- Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), India's premier nature conservation organisation organised a Bird Count at SGNP in June. Despite the rains the count recorded 67 species for the day.

On June 30, 2024, over 46 dedicated volunteers participated in a Bird Count at Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP), as part of the BNHS's SGNP Bird Monitoring Programme. By the end of the day, the team had recorded 67 bird species, reaffirming the park's status as a hotspot for avian diversity. This monthly Bird Count is a key activity that highlights the park's incredible biodiversity and encourages community involvement in wildlife conservation.

The total number of recorded bird species in the region has now reached 232. The BNHS invites nature enthusiasts to join these monthly counts and contribute to the ongoing efforts in preserving and understanding the rich avian life in the park. For more details on how to participate, visit [www.bnhs.org](http://www.bnhs.org).

The bird monitoring programme is supported by the staff of SGNP & Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Forest Department, led by the Director, Sri G. Mallikarjuna (IFS – Chief Conservator of Forests) and Sri Sudhir Sonawale (Assistant Conservator of Forests, SGNP). With support from the BNHS Director Sri Kishor Rithe, the count is coordinated by Mr Asif N. Khan from BNHS Programmes Department and the CEC-Mumbai Team- Sumit Dothre, Shardul Bajikar, Kiran Thumma, and Priyadarshani Supekar.

“Our dedicated volunteers continue to unveil the rich avian tapestry of Sanjay Gandhi National Park. With 67 bird species recorded in a day for this month's count, we celebrate SGNP's vital role as a biodiversity hotspot. I urge BNHS members and bird watchers to volunteer in such citizen science initiatives and help in the cause of conservation.” Said Mr Kishor Rithe, Director of BNHS

#### **About the BNHS's SGNP Bird Monitoring Programme:**

BNHS, began monitoring the birds in Sanjay Gandhi National Park and Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary in February 2021, through a citizen science programme called the “SGNP Bird Monitoring Programme or SGNP Bird Count” for short. Under this program, BNHS conducts a Bird Count every month at various locations of the SGNP and Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary. The count takes place every month with the help of BNHS Members, bird watchers and other volunteers.

#### **About BNHS:**

The Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) is one of India's oldest and most respected nature conservation organizations. With a history spanning 140 years, BNHS is committed to studying, conservating, and educating India's natural heritage. Through various initiatives, research projects, and educational programs.

Bombay Natural History Society

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