

## Pongal Bird Count (PBC)

### Why in News?

Recently, the Pongal Bird Count completed its 10 years.

- **PBC** - It is an initiative of the Tamil Birders Network.
- It is an annual bird monitoring programme for the state of Tamil Nadu.
- **1<sup>st</sup> PBC** - It was conducted in 2015.
- **Time period** - It happens every year during the Pongal Festival which falls in January.
- **Purpose** - To know the snapshot of distribution and abundance of the birds of Tamil Nadu.

### Pongal Bird Count (PBC), 2025

- **Organized by** - Tamil Birders Network.
  - Bird Count India.
- **Total bird species** - 332, were spotted across the state.

#### Important Bird Species Spotted

Northern pintail	Blue-Tailed Bee
Northern shovelers	Indian Pita
Barn swallow	Paradise Flycatcher
Northern pintail	Brown-Breasted Flycatcher
Grey wagtail	Red-Throated Flycatcher
White-naped tit	Eurasian Spoonbill
Greenish warbler	Black-Headed Ibis
Indian blue robin	Black Drongos
Barn swallows	Cattle Egrets
Marshall's Iora	Glossy Ibis
White-bellied Sea eagle	Orange Minivet
Asian fairy-blue bird	Blue Rock Thrush
Racket-tailed drongos	Stints
Jerdon's leafbird	Wood Sandpipers
Puff-throated babbler	Eurasian moorhen
Pacific golden plover	Pheasant-tailed jacana

- **Decline in bird count** - The number of birds is lower during this year, where last year a total of 345 bird species spotted.
- **Reasons** - It attributed to many reasons including,
  - Rains and unscientific de-silting of water bodies that wiped off natural vegetation from the bunds.
  - Dumping waste in lakes unaware of the presence of domestic and migratory birds.
  - Copious water in the lakes.

- Brimming lakes.

## References

1. [The Hindu| Pongal Bird Count 10 years](#)
2. [The New Indian Express| Species spotted during Pongal bird count](#)
3. [BCI| Pongal Bird Count](#)

