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OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
अण्डमान तथा निकोबार द्वीप समूह ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS
वन सदन, हैडो | VAN SADAN, HADDO

Port Blair, dated the 14th February, 2022.

To

The Chief Editor,
Govt. Press,
Port Blair

Sub: Publishing of Press Note -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the Press Release alongwith photographs (both hard and soft copy) with the request to publish in Daily Telegram on 15.02.2022 as a prominent news item.

भवदीया / Yours faithfully,

Encl. As above



(संजय के वराडकर, भा.व.से)
(Sanjay K. Waradkar, IFS)
वन संरक्षक / Conservator of Forests
मुख्यालय / Headquarters)
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Press Note

Asian Water bird Census (AWC) across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on a single day.

Department of Environment and Forest along with Andaman Avians Club and ZSI (Zoological Survey of India) coordinated Asian Water bird Census drive on a single day across the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 12.02.2022.

The water birds are key indicators to the ecological integrity of wetlands and its biodiversity richness. Monitoring of water birds through collaborative and coordinated census helps to provide information and knowledge for management of wetlands effectively. The Asian Water bird Census (AWC) was a citizen science based water bird monitoring programme for collection, collation and dissemination of water bird counts and wetlands.

Andaman & Nicobar Islands holds some important wetland areas and is a home for a variety of water birds besides attracting several migratory species. The field functionaries of the Department, extended the logistics support and along with the team of Andaman Avians Club and ZSI, actively participated in the successful conduct of the Water birds census. Various stakeholders including the local public, students, researchers, educational institutions and research organizations were involved in the programme. The participants were briefed on the importance of avifauna to the islands, especially the wetlands. The locals were motivated to work towards conservation of wetlands in coordination with the forest department for the conservation of water birds. A total of 1391 birds of 83 different species were sighted during the census.

Important sightings during the census include White Throated Kingfisher, White Collared Kingfisher, Little Ring Plover, Pacific Golden Plover, Common Sand Piper, Black Napped Tern, Lesser Crested Tern, Grey Wag Tail, Glossy Swiftlet, Pacific Swallow, Pacific Reef Egret, Cattle Egret, Striated Heron, Grey Heron, Lesser Sand Plover, Whimbrel, Common Redshank, Intermediate Egret, Little Egret, Striated Heron, White Bellied Sea Eagle, Stock Billed Kingfisher etc.



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