



City Nature Challenge 2024 - India FAQ

1. What is the City Nature Challenge (CNC)?

The [City Nature Challenge \(CNC\)](#) is an international effort for people to find and document urban biodiversity across the globe. In this bioblitz-style competition cities compete in a friendly contest with each other to see who can make the most observations of nature on [iNaturalist app](#). This annual four-day event happens at the end of April. CNC 2024 will happen from April 26th till April 29th.

2. What is CNC India Collab?

Since last year, Indian cities have been putting efforts jointly to ensure participation of as many cities as possible from all parts of India. These efforts led to [amazing results](#) last year. We saw participation of 1300+ observers from 30+ cities from India and Hyderabad was even able to bag 12th position globally.

This year - we are very proud to share that we have been successful in getting 200+ Indian cities registered for CNC 2024. You can [click on this link to see the list](#) of all the cities registered for CNC 2024. Find more info about India collab at <https://www.citynaturechallenge.org.in/>.

3. What are the action items for the participants?

1. Download iNaturalist app ([Android link](#), [iPhone link](#), [Website link](#)), create an account and start uploading observations. You can learn about it from our [YouTube playlist](#) or keep an eye on WhatsApp for our next webinar.
2. Join [CNC India WhatsApp Channel](#). Also, contact your zonal coordinator (find their contact details in the poster attached below) to get added to WhatsApp groups for your city/state and get in touch with your city organizer.
3. Join the nature walks, bio-blitz, practice sessions, online meets etc being organized by your city organizers or by other coordinators. Also, help your city organizers to get more people to join CNC from your city.
4. **During the CNC challenge:**
 - o **April 26 - 29:** Upload as many observations on iNaturalist as possible.
 - o **April 30 - May 5:** These days are reserved for identifications. You can join the [ID team WhatsApp group](#) to learn and help us in IDing. Alos, you can continue to upload photos which were taken between April 26 and 29 until May 5.
 - o **May 6:** Result announcement & celebrations.

Some other WhatsApp groups you might be interested in joining

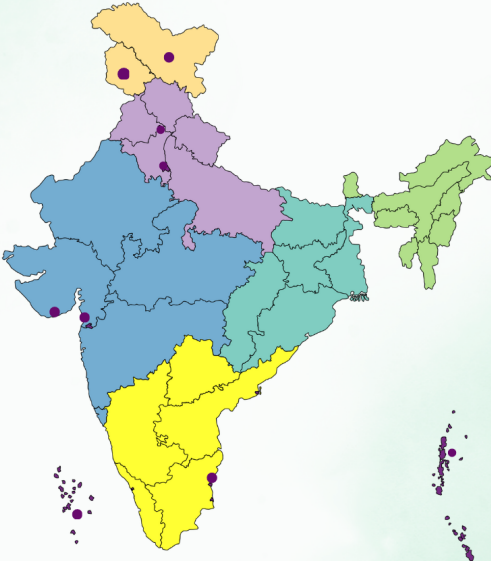
- For any help related to the iNaturalist app
 - [iNaturalist Help \(CNC\)](#)
 - [iNaturalist India Tech Help](#)
- If you want others to help you identify your observation
 - [CNC ID Request](#)
 - [iNaturalist India ID](#)
- To identify observations on iNaturalist
 - [CNC ID Team](#)

4. Whom can I contact for any help?

Following is list of people who have volunteered as State/Zonal coordinators, you can get in touch with them. You can contact **National Coordinators - Venus Joshi (+91-97277-52817), Devanshi (+91-95869-99854) or Ram (+91-81869-62916)** if you need any help.



CNC India
Zonal Coordinators



North Zone

Pragya - 73108 08112
Abhijat - 98717 21702

North East Zone

Pema - 96410 40662
Purab - 94320 64739

West Zone

Devanshi - 95869 99854
Venus - 97277 52817

East Zone

Soumya - 81023 25204
Rahul - 75448 40244

South Zone

Ashwati - 81388 30555
Selvaganesh - 97861 75613

Union Territories Zone

Mehreen - 77809 26874
Amrit - 94742 57563

5. What are the roles of city organizers?

1. Join [City organizers WhatsApp Group](#) (this is only for organizers, not for participants).

2. Join [Citizen Science India WhatsApp Community](#) and join the group for your state in this community. You can ask all your city's CNC participants to be added to this group, so that they get all important updates and webinar alerts sent via our community announcements.
3. Check [this resource folder](#) shared by the CNC global team to be used for promotion of CNC. And check [this canva template link](#) to create your states/city's logo.
4. Help your participants to use iNaturalist, conduct online/offline sessions to practice using iNaturalist on a regular basis.

Check out this document for [graphic design templates for events](#).

Contact press, NGOs, and other organizations from your city to conduct a maximum number of activities (like nature walks etc) during CNC (April 26-29th) and keep your participants motivated.

5. Some tips for city organizers:

- Set a few targets first -
 - Number of participants (we can try to reach out to at least .01% of the total population from each city). E.g. - I want at least 1,000 people to contribute to CNC from my city.
 - Average number of observations per participant (E.g. - I want every person to upload 100 observations in total during CNC).
 - Number of identifiers. Remember, we want quality observations to be uploaded. Ensure that people interested in IDing are added to the [CNC India ID team WhatsApp group](#) to get ID training.
- Set up a registration form, give a link to your whatsapp group in the form itself to ensure everyone joins it on time. You can then circulate it everywhere, so that you have the contact details of all participants. It can be used for ensuring if you are meeting your targets, for giving certificates etc.
 - Kindly note, the CNC India community will be full soon and none of its groups will be able to accept new members. The community have groups for all states & union territories. So we recommend you all to use the community only for core coordination purposes.
- Reachout to the media, govt agencies, other organizations, colleges, corporates, etc. Their existing networks can help spread the word and recruit volunteers. Send the form everywhere to reachout to the maximum number of participants. Also, print the QR code of the form and paste it at the gate of parks, in libraries, etc. You can also search for people who are already active on iNaturalist from your city and contact them to participate in CNC.
- Keep your whatsapp group engaged. Let them know your target number of participants and how many people have already signed up. Keep updating these numbers in your group regularly seeking their help as well to reach the target.
- Conduct online calls with them, teach them how to use iNaturalist, about your local biodiversity, etc. Also, conduct nature walks and bioblitz to meet them personally.
- If possible, you can also announce some goodies to be given to top contributors, identifiers, etc.

- Leverage platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Share success stories, highlight the importance of citizen science, and invite people to join the challenge.
- During the CNC
 - April 26 - 29: Ensure that you keep updating your whatsapp group with live count - how many observations have been uploaded so far, what is your city's rank at global, national or state level.
 - April 30 - March 5: Time to ID observations. Remember, you can still upload observations on iNaturalist during these days and they will be counted. [Last year](#), we noticed that many cities jumped to higher spots on the leaderboard by uploading observations during these last one or two days.
 - May 6: Results announcement & Celebration 🎉
- After the CNC - Celebration for your first (for most Indian cities) CNC participation with your amazing participants, give them certificates, etc. Also, let me know about your next activities to keep them engaged. Keep an eye on your mailbox to send out interesting observations and photos from your city to the global CNC team.

Thanks

We are really looking forward to learning together while having a lot of fun and a great time in this journey. Thank you very much for your time.

If you are reading this in a PDF document, you can find updated information on its online version which is available at [this link](#).