



Meeting of Range Countries to strengthen the conservation actions for migratory birds and their habitats in the Central Asian Flyway (CAF)

2nd - 4th May 2023, New Delhi, India



Background

During the 13th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat in February, 2020, the CMS COP 13 Resolution [UNEP/CMS/Resolution 12.11 (Rev.COP13)] and Decision 13.46 on Flyways were adopted.

In pursuance of the above CMS Decision, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, in collaboration with the UNEP/Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Secretariat, is organising a meeting of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) Range Countries in New Delhi on 2nd to 4th May 2023 at the India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road.

The meeting aims to bring together governments from the CAF range countries responsible for conservation and management of migratory birds, their habitats. The documents regarding the meeting, including provisional agenda, etc. may kindly be accessed from the following link:

<https://www.cms.int/en/meeting/meeting-range-states-central-asian-flyway>

About CMS

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) is an environmental treaty of the United Nations which connects the States through which migratory animals pass and the Range States laying the legal foundation for coordinated conservation. It serves as an international forum for discussion on the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats with those threatened with extinction on Appendix I and those that would significantly benefit from international co-operation on Appendix II of the Convention.

About CAF

The Central Asian Flyway (CAF) comprises of 30 countries of North, Central and South Asia and the Trans-Caucasus with at least 279 populations of 182 migratory waterbird species, including 29 globally threatened and near-threatened species breeding, migrating and wintering within the region. It spans from the Arctic to the Indian Ocean, with the northernmost limit of migration for waterbirds being Siberia in the Russian Federation and the southernmost represented by the Maldives and the Indian Ocean Territory. Major threats to these bird populations in the CAF region include uncontrolled hunting, habitat degradation, unsustainable water management, and lack of law enforcement and conservation capacity.

More info at::

<https://www.cms.int/en/legalinstrument/central-asian-flyway>

About MoEFCC

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Central Government of India for the planning, promotion, co-ordination and overseeing the implementation of India's environmental and forestry policies and programmes.

The broad objectives of the Ministry are as below:

- Conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife
- Prevention and control of pollution
- Afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas
- Protection of the environment and
- Ensuring the welfare of animals

More info at:: <https://moef.gov.in/en/>

Accommodation

The Ashok
50, Niti Marg, Diplomatic Enclave,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi – 110021

Phone: +91-11-2611 0101

Website: <http://www.theashokhotel.com/>

Google Loc: <http://bit.ly/the-ashok-loc>

Plus Code: H5WW+R8 New Delhi, Delhi

Located in one of the prime areas of New Delhi, the Ashok is a classic example of authentic Indian hospitality capturing the essence of surrounding natural wonders amidst the hustle and bustle of the capital city. The Ashok has hosted several prestigious events and the highest level of dignitaries, including Heads of States and luminaries from across the world. It is about 8.5 km from the Indira Gandhi (Delhi DEL) International Airport. The meeting venue "India Habitat Center" is about 5 km from the hotel.

For **self-sponsored delegates** attending the meeting, it is kindly intimated that the IHC is in a well-connected part of the city and hotels in the vicinity of the venue (IHC) may be booked starting at an approximate price range of Indian Rupees (INR) 5,000 and higher.



Meeting Venue



India Habitat Centre,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003

Phone: +91-11-4366 2054

Website: <https://www.indiahabitat.org/>

Google Loc: <http://bit.ly/ihc-loc>

Plus Code: H6QG+V6 New Delhi, Delhi

The India Habitat Centre (IHC) campus weaves in a unique interplay of institutions, supporting infrastructure and facilities such as conference venues, auditoria, hospitality areas, the library and resource centre, and art galleries. It serves as a catalyst for individuals and institutions working in diverse habitat related areas to interact with increased effectiveness. The Centre is about 12 km from the Indira Gandhi (Delhi - DEL) International Airport.

Local Transportation

For **sponsored delegates**, pick-up and drop at Delhi Airport is arranged. Look out for placards with delegate names at the Arrival Gate. Transportation is also arranged for the delegates for travel between the Hotel and the meeting venue.

For **other delegates**, popular app-based cab riding services (Ola, Uber) are easily available at the airport to reach your respective hotels and subsequently to travel to the meeting venue.

Field Visit



Thu, 4th May 2023

Sultanpur National Park & Bird Sanctuary Gurgaon, Haryana

The delegates will be taken on an early morning visit to Sultanpur National Park & Bird Sanctuary for a field visit. It has been a Ramsar site since 2021. The protected wetland site is located at about 45 km from Delhi and though small, it is renowned for its rich bird diversity, particularly in the winter months when many migratory species gather.

In summertime, the numerous resident species of birds can still be observed, with four watch towers (machans) located at different points to aid spotting. **Carrying a pair of binoculars is recommended.** A total of around 320 species, resident and migratory, have been reported from the park through different parts of the year. The park also has an Educational Interpretation Center with its library and a small museum of bird images.

Currency

The currency for commercial transactions in India is the Indian Rupee (INR) denoted as Rs. The **exchange rate for US \$1 was Rs. 81.81** as of 14-Apr-2023.

Visa Information

Participants from foreign countries require an entry visa for India and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Indian diplomatic or consular mission as soon as possible in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. Airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa. Initial application should be online. Information on visa procedures can be found on the website of the National Portal of India at:

<https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/>

A list of relevant Indian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the web site of the Ministry of External Affairs at:

<http://mea.gov.in/indian-missions-abroad.htm>

Participants experiencing difficulties to access this website and/or requiring any visa-related assistance are requested to directly contact the focal person designated by the organizers whose details will be shared via email.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the letter of invitation provided to delegates may be used.

Weather

May in New Delhi, India, is a very hot month with temperature in the range of **an average low of 29.8°C (85.6°F) and an average high of 42.3°C (108.1°F).**

Electrical Plugs & Voltage

The electricity supply is at **230 V, 50 Hz** with below illustrations indicating the type of socket(s).

