

Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary

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Migratory birds recently started arriving at **Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary** in Villupuram district of **Tamil Nadu**.



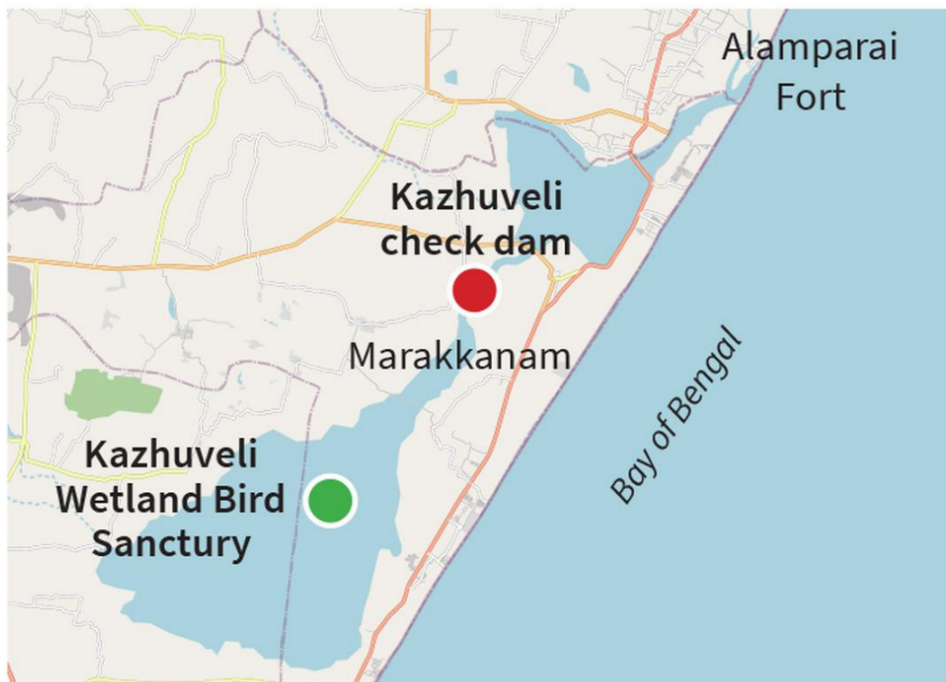
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About Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary:

- It is a **brackish water lake** located near Marakkanam on the **East Coast Road of Tamil Nadu** and spread over 670 sq. km of catchment area.
- It is one of the major wetlands on the **Coromandel Coast** after the [Pulicat Lake](#).
 - **Pulicat Lake** is the second largest brackish water lake in India, after Chilika Lake.
- The wetland is connected to the **Bay of Bengal** by **Uppukalli Creek** and **Yedayanthittu estuary** and is visited by migratory birds on the **Central Asian flyway**.
 - Central Asian Flyway is a major migratory route covering 30 countries from the **Arctic Ocean to the Indian Ocean, including India**.
- It is identified among the **National Wetland Conservation** and Management Programme launched by the Union government.
 - The state has three other wetlands **Point Calimere, Pallikaranai marsh, and Ousteri Lake**, under the same program.
- It is a wetland of international significance, a **potential Ramsar site**, and supports more than **20,000 birds** every year.
- Serving as a **nesting ground** for **migratory species** from Siberia, North Africa, Europe and foothills of Himalayas, it is famous for long-distance migrants from sub-arctic region.
- **Migratory Fauna:** Eurasian Curlew, Caspian Tern, Little-ringed Plover, Eurasian Spoonbill, Black-tailed Godwits, White Stork, Black-headed Ibis, Ruff and Dunlin.
- **Significance:** These diverse wetlands provide feeding and resting habitats for birds, which help to maintain the global migratory population and indicate a healthy aquatic ecosystem.

Threat to biodiversity

Conservationists say the check dam at Kazhuveli wetland prevents tidal inflow into the lake and will have a permanent impact on the wetland's ecology



[Ref- The Hindu]