

Flora and Fauna of the Rajbhavan Biodiversity Park, Nagpur

The Rajbhavan Biodiversity Park, spread across 110 acres, is located in the heart of Nagpur city. Since 2014, it has been the base for the Bombay Natural History society (BNHS) to carry out nature-related educational activities for the students of Nagpur. The activities have included regular visits from schools in groups of 40–50 students along with 2 teachers and occasional competitions like Nature Fete, Canvas Painting, Nature Drawing etc. In 2018, 3948 students and 518 teachers visited the Rajbhavan Biodiversity Park. In January and September 2018, BNHS conducted two courses regarding insects and birds for the students. Camera trapping has been a regular activity in the Rajbhavan premises for the last two years.

About 150 species of birds, 60 species of butterflies and 30 species of insects have been recorded in the premises. Also mammals like Common Mongoose, Palm Squirrel, Palm Civet or Toddy Cat and Jungle Cat have been recorded through the camera traps. Rajbhavan has a vast floral diversity, including 80 native and sacred species, 10 dashmul species, 42 herbal species, 8 bamboo species, 9 palm species, 14 climber species and 52 cactus species. Around 30 species of birds have been commonly observed throughout the year by the BNHS staff, the most common being the Red-vented Bulbul and Jungle Babbler. Common Crow is the most common butterfly species seen in the park.