

WORLD'S MIGRATORY BIRDS DAY
08 MAY, 2021

BROWN HEADED GULL



MIGRATORY BIRDS OF LADAKH
A BRIEF



LONG DISTANCE CONTINENTAL MIGRATION



COMMON SANDPIPER

- Ladakh landscape has significance being located at the conjunction of four zoogeographic zones of the world (*Palaearctic, Oriental, Sino-Japanese and Sahara-Arabian*). In India, Ladakh landscape falls in *Trans-Himalayan* biogeographic zone and two provinces (*Ladakh Mountains, 1A*) and (*Tibetan Plateau, 1B*).
- Trans-Himalayan Ladakh is an integral part of the "*Central Asian Flyway*" of migratory birds which a large part of the globe (Asia and Europe) between

the Arctic Ocean and the Indian Ocean, and comprises several migration routes of waterbirds. It also touches "*West Asian-East African Flyway*".

- Presence of number of high-altitude wetlands (>2500 m amsl altitude) with thin human population makes Ladakh a suitable habitat for migration and breeding of continental birds, including wetlands of very big size (e.g., *Pangong Tso, Tso Moriri, Tso Kar*, etc.).
- Ladakh provides a vast habitat for the water birds through its complex network of wetlands including two most important wetlands (*Tso Moriri, Tso Kar*) which have been designated as *Ramsar* sites.
- Nearly 89 bird species (long distance migrants) either breed or roost in Ladakh, and most of them (59) are "*Summer Migrants*", those have their breeding grounds here.



- Ladakh also hosts 25 bird species, during their migration along the Central Asian Flyway, as “*Passage Migrants*” which roost in the region. A small number of bird species (5) visit Ladakh during winters (“*Winter Migrants*”).
- Among the continental migrants, Common Pochard (Passage Migrant) falls under ‘*Vulnerable*’ category of IUCN, while four birds are in ‘*Near Threatened*’ category (Summer migrants: Black-necked Crane & Eurasian Curlew; Passage migrants: Ferruginous Duck & Northern Lapwing).
- Some of the most commonly seen continental migratory birds are Bar-headed Goose (*Anser indicus*), Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*), Northern Shoveler (*Spatula querquedula*), Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*), Red-crested Pochard (*Netta rufina*), Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*), Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ruibundus*), Brown-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*), Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*).



BLACK NECKED CRANE



LOCAL ALTITUDINAL MIGRATION

COMMON POCHARD

- Trans-Himalayan Region of Ladakh also supports to many local altitudinal migrants which move seasonally from lower to higher elevations and vice versa by providing various suitable habitats.
- Some of the important altitudinal migratory birds are Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), White-throated Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*), White-winged Redstart/Güldenstädt's redstart (*Phoenicurus erythrogastrus*), Robin Accentor (*Prunella rubeculoides*), Brown Accentor (*Prunella fulvescens*), Tibetan Snowfinch (*Montifringilla adamsi*), Twite (*Linaria flavirostris*), Streaked Rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilloides*), Eurasian Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), Alpine Accentor (*Prunella collaris*).



MALLAARD



FERRUGINOUS DUCK



COMMONLY SEEN SUMMER VISITORS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Bar-headed Goose (<i>Anser indicus</i>)	Mar-Oct
02	Ruddy Shelduck (<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>)	Mar-Oct
03	Lesser Sand Plover (<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>)	May-Sept
04	Black-necked Crane (<i>Grus nigricollis</i>)	Apr-Nov
05	Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)	May-Oct
06	Brown-head Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus</i>)	Apr-Oct
07	Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)	May-Oct
08	Eurasian Hobby (<i>Falco subbuteo</i>)	May-Oct
09	Oriental Turtle Dove (<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>)	Apr-Oct
10	Common Hoopoe (<i>Upupa epops</i>)	Apr-Oct
11	Common Cuckoo (<i>Clamator Jacobinus</i>)	May-Sept
12	Common Swift (<i>Apus apus</i>)	Apr-Aug
13	Indian Golden Oriole (<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>)	May-Sept
14	Long-tailed Shrike (<i>Lanius schach</i>)	May-Sept
15	Oriental Skylark (<i>Alauda gulgula</i>)	Apr-Sept
16	Hume's Short-toed Lark (<i>Calandrella acutirostris</i>)	May-Sep
17	Common House Martin (<i>Delichon urbica</i>)	May-Sept
18	Eurasian Crag Martin (<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>)	April-Sept
19	Sulphur-bellied Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>)	May-Sept
20	Tickell's Leaf Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>)	May-Aug
21	Mountain Chiffchaff (<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>)	Apr-Sept
22	Lesser Whitethroat (<i>Sylvia curruca</i>)	May-Sept
23	Blue-Rock Thrush (<i>Monticola solitarius</i>)	May-Sept
24	Desert Wheatear (<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>)	April-Oct
25	Bluethroat (<i>Luscinia svecica</i>)	Mar-Oct
26	Common Stonechat (<i>Saxicola maurus</i>)	Apr-Sept
27	Grey Wagtail (<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>)	April-Oct
28	Citrine Wagtail (<i>Motacilla citreola</i>)	May-Oct
29	Common Rosefinch (<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>)	May- Sept
30	Black-winged Stilt (<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>)	Mar-Oct



Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
31	Temminck's Stint (<i>Calidris temminckii</i>)	May-Sept
32	Little Stint (<i>Calidris minuta</i>)	May-Sept
33	Booted Eagle (<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>)	Apr-Oct
34	Alpine Swift (<i>Apus melba</i>)	Apr-Oct
35	Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)	Mar-Nov
36	Black Redstart (<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>)	Apr-Oct

RARELY SEEN SUMMER VISITORS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Little Grebe (<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>)	Jun-Oct
02	Black-necked Grebe (<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>)	Jun-Sept
03	Cattle Egret (<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>)	May-Sept
04	Indian Pond Heron (<i>Ardeola grayii</i>)	June-Aug
05	Greenish Leaf Warbler (<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>)	June-Aug
06	Brahminy Starling (<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>)	June-Sept
07	Pied Wheatear (<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>)	May-Aug
08	Spotted Redshank (<i>Tringa erythropus</i>)	May-Sept
09	Pied Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>)	May-Sept
10	Wood Sandpiper (<i>Tringa glareola</i>)	May-Oct
11	Terek Sandpiper (<i>Xenus cinereus</i>)	July-Sept
12	Eurasian Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	May-Oct
13	Common Chiffchaff (<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>)	April-Nov
14	Rosy Starling (<i>Pastor roseus</i>)	July-Aug
15	Western Yellow Wagtail (<i>Motacilla flava</i>)	May-Sept

VERY RARELY SEEN SUMMER VISITORS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Black-crowned Night Heron (<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>)	Apr-May



Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
02	Glossy Ibis (<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>)	Apr-Aug
03	Long-legged Buzzard (<i>Buteo rufinus</i>)	Sept-Nov
04	Eurasian Wryneck (<i>Jynx torquilla</i>)	June-Aug
05	Pied Cuckoo Jacobin (<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>)	June-Aug
06	Black Drongo (<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>)	Jul-Aug

COMMONLY SEEN WINTER VISITOR

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Black-throated Thrush (<i>Turdus atrogularis</i>)	Sept-April

RARELY SEEN WINTER VISITORS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Red-throated Thrush (<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>)	Jan-Apr
02	Altai Accentor (<i>Prunella himalayana</i>)	Dec-Mar
03	Yellowhammer (<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>)	Dec-Mar
04	Pine Bunting (<i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>)	Dec-Mar

COMMONLY SEEN PASSAGE MIGRANTS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)	Feb-Apr;Nov-Dec
02	Northern Shoveler (<i>Spatula clypeata</i>)	Across seasons
03	Gadwall (<i>Mareca strepera</i>)	Across seasons
04	Eurasian Wigeon (<i>Mareca penelope</i>)	Across seasons
05	Northern Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	Across seasons
06	Common Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	Across seasons
07	Red-crested Pochard (<i>Netta rufina</i>)	Across seasons



Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
08	Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)	Across seasons
09	Common Greenshank (<i>Tringane bularia</i>)	Feb-Mar;Aug-Nov
10	Great Cormorant (<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>)	Mar-Apr;Oct-Nov
11	Grey Heron (<i>Ardea cinerea</i>)	Feb-Apr;Sept-Dec
12	Himalayan Buzzard (<i>Buteo refectus</i>)	Jan-Apr;Oct-Dec
13	Common Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	Oct-Apr
14	Water Pipit (<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>)	Nov-Mar

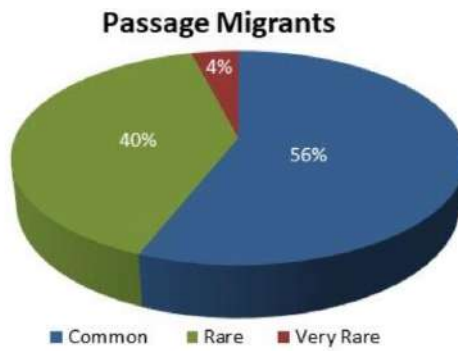
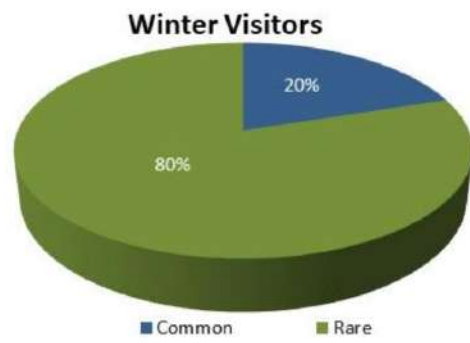
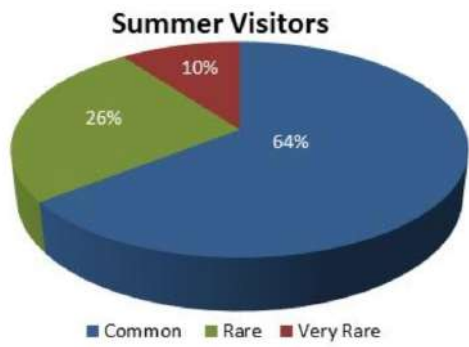
RARELY SEEN PASSAGE MIGRANTS

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Ferruginous Duck (<i>Aythya nyroca</i>)	Mar-Apr;Oct-Nov
02	Common Pochard (<i>Aythya ferina</i>)	Across seasons
03	Northern Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>)	Mar-Apr;Nov-Dec
04	Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)	Feb-Mar;Nov-Dec
05	Whiskered Tern (<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>)	May-Oct
06	Black Stork (<i>Ciconia nigra</i>)	Mar-Apr;Sept-Oct
07	European Roller (<i>Coracias garrulus</i>)	Sept-Oct
08	Greater Short-toed Lark (<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>)	Mar-Apr;Sept-Oct
09	Eurasian Skylark (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>)	Feb-Apr;Oct-Nov
10	Isabelline Wheatear (<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>)	Mar-Apr;Sept-Oct

VERY RARELY SEEN PASSAGE MIGRANT

Sl. No	Common name (Scientific name)	Season of presence
01	Great Egret (<i>Ardea alba</i>)	Mar-Apr;Oct-Nov





RUDDY SHELDUCK





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HKN PROJECT (NMHS), NIHE, ALMORA
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION (DWP),
UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH, LEH

PHOTO CREDITS:

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CITATION:

SURESH K RANA, RIGZIN WANGMO, SUBRAT
SHARMA. 2021. MIGRATORY BIRDS OF LADAKH:
A BRIEF G.B. PANT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
HIMALAYAN ENVIRONMENT, LADAKH REGIONAL
CENTRE, LEH LADAKH (UT)

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