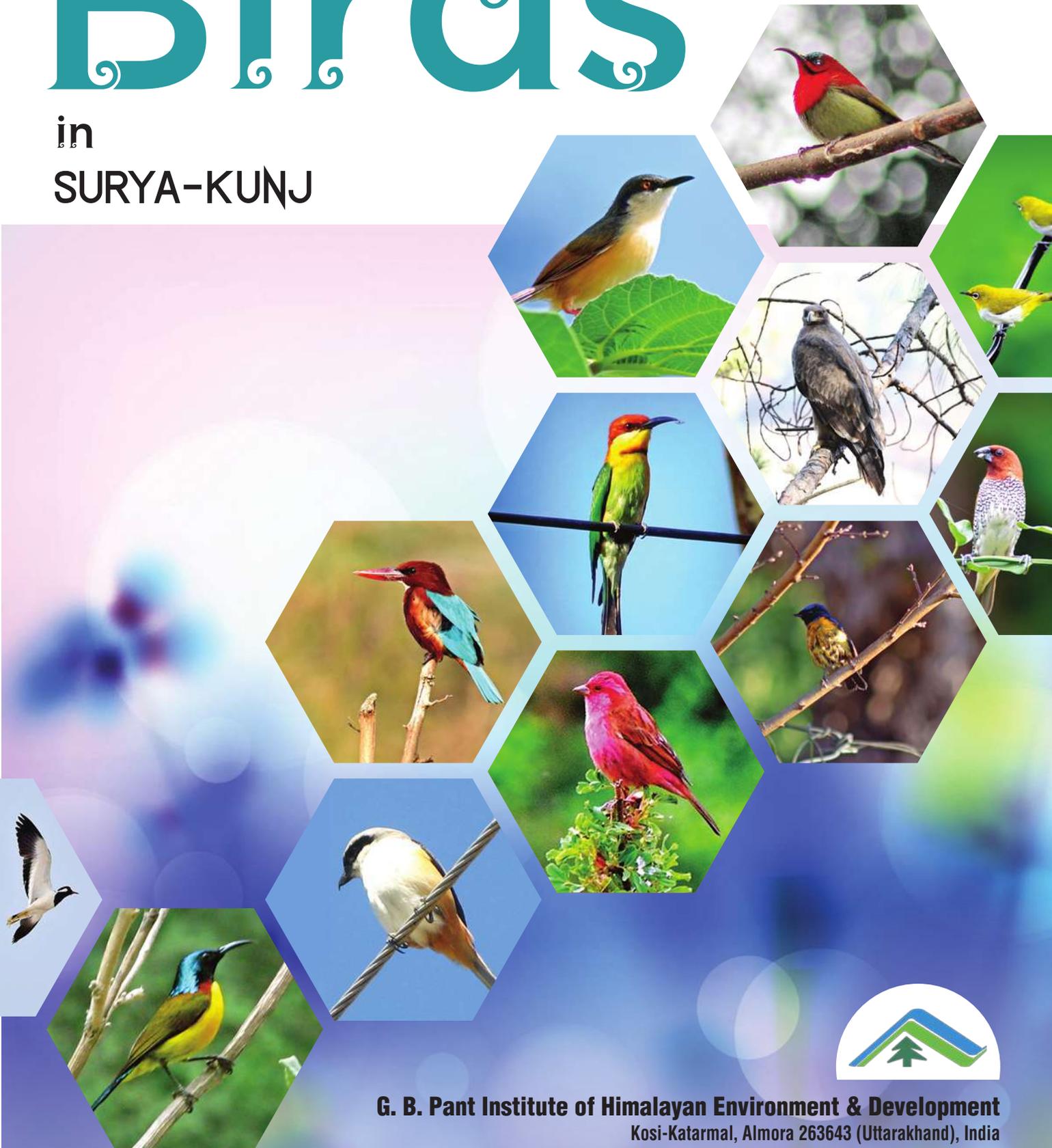
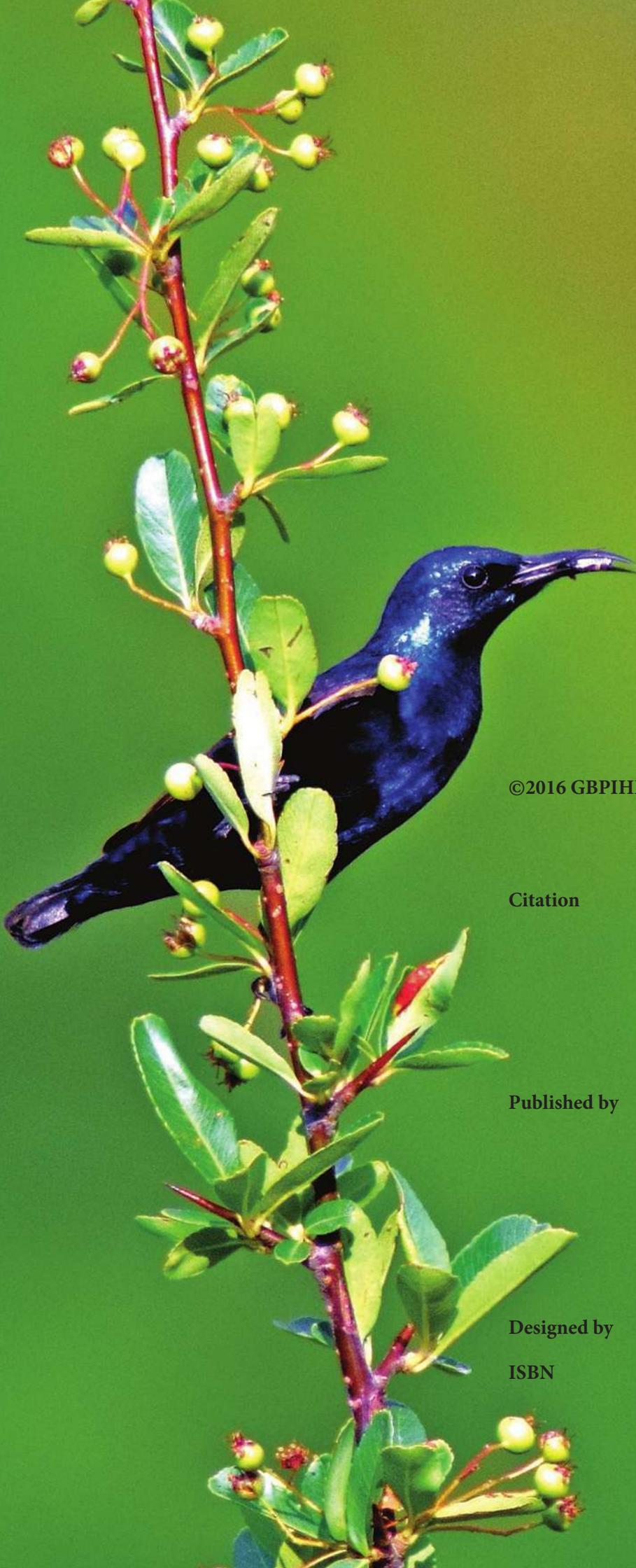


Diversity of Birds

in
SURYA-KUNJ



G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263643 (Uttarakhand), India



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G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263643, Uttarakhand, India

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DIVERSITY OF BIRDS IN SURYA-KUNJ

(Contribution to Nature Interpretation and Learning)

II

Ravindra K Joshi

Ravi Pathak

Bhawana Kapkoti

Ranbeer S Rawal

Indra Dutt Bhatt

Pitamber P Dhyani

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This information booklet is an outcome of continuous collection of information over the years, mainly in *Surya-Kunj* ex-situ conservation site of the Institute and the adjacent areas. Various R&D projects, linked directly with activities of *Surya-Kunj* contributed towards compilation of information and subsequent preparation of the booklet. We acknowledge this contribution.

Financial support for publication of booklet under National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS) is gratefully acknowledged. The motivation provided by Dr. L.M.S. Palni (former Director of the Institute) during early stages of information collection is greatly appreciated.

The auspices of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is gratefully acknowledged for being extremely supportive and inspiring all through this work. More importantly, the critical comments of researchers of the Institute, and enthusiastic participation of school children during Nature Camps at *Surya-Kunj* remained most effective motivation for this compilation.

“

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before.

”

- *Robert Lynd*





DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

Birding has emerged as an enriching, relaxing and educating hobby in recent times when people are stressed at their workplaces. This hobby is becoming increasingly popular across age groups and people from all professions. Besides playing a vital role in ecosystem functioning (pollination, seed dispersal and germination, ecological homeostasis, scavenging, etc.), birds contribute significantly to human well-being as source of food, feather, fertilizers, etc. More importantly, they figure prominently in diverse sectors of human cultures ranging from religion to poetry. Certain species even enjoy religious immunity. However, birds are amongst most threatened group of fauna across the world mainly due to anthropogenic pressures and changing climate.

This booklet on Diversity of Birds forms second in series of information booklets on 'Surya- Kunj' Nature Interpretation and Learning site of the institute. The site, through continuous efforts from institute faculty and researchers, has emerged as an excellent habitat for birds (migratory and resident), and supports over hundred forty species of birds during different seasons of the year.

Present booklet provides glimpses of diverse avifauna recorded and compiled from 'Surya- Kunj' since 2004 through periodic surveys by various researchers. The booklet contains more than 111 colour photographs with species specific information on their size, distribution, status, altitudinal range, food and call and has been developed to serve the need of common visitors. The particular focus is to provide basic information to the visitors, particularly the young students, so as to enable them identify and appreciate existence of this beautiful creation of nature.

I am happy to note that the series of information booklets on 'Surya-Kunj' is progressing well. The readers are encouraged to provide their constructive suggestions for consideration of improvement in future.

I congratulate Dr. Ravindra K. Joshi, Mr. Ravi Pathak and Ms. Bhawana Kapkoti, young researchers in the Institute, for generating ground based information through continued efforts. I am confident that this well researched booklet on 'Surya-Kunj' will enthuse young students to take up such fascinating areas as part of their hobby.

March, 2016

(P. P. Dhyani)

Birds- An Introduction

Birds (class Aves) are bipedal, endothermic (warm-blooded) vertebrates that lay eggs. They are the most diverse among tetra-pod (i.e., amphibians, reptiles, aves and mammals) vertebrates. Birds enjoy a wide distribution on the earth than any other class of animals, as they could cross large geographic barriers with ease, which generally restrict movements of most of the other species. The warm-blooded (38° – 44° C) or endothermic attribute of aves is maintained at constant by the non- conducting covering of feathers which assist them to withstand extreme climatic conditions. The intensive activity of flying demands a high rate of metabolism that is considerably higher than that of mammals. Aves also lack sweat glands and the extra energy soon eliminates through lungs and air sacs.

Globally the bird species richness has been estimated close to 10,000 of which India contributes nearly 13.4% (1342 spp.) and ranks 10th among the 12 most bird rich countries of the world. As far as the uniqueness (endemism) is concerned there are 69 species which are restricted within the boundaries of India.

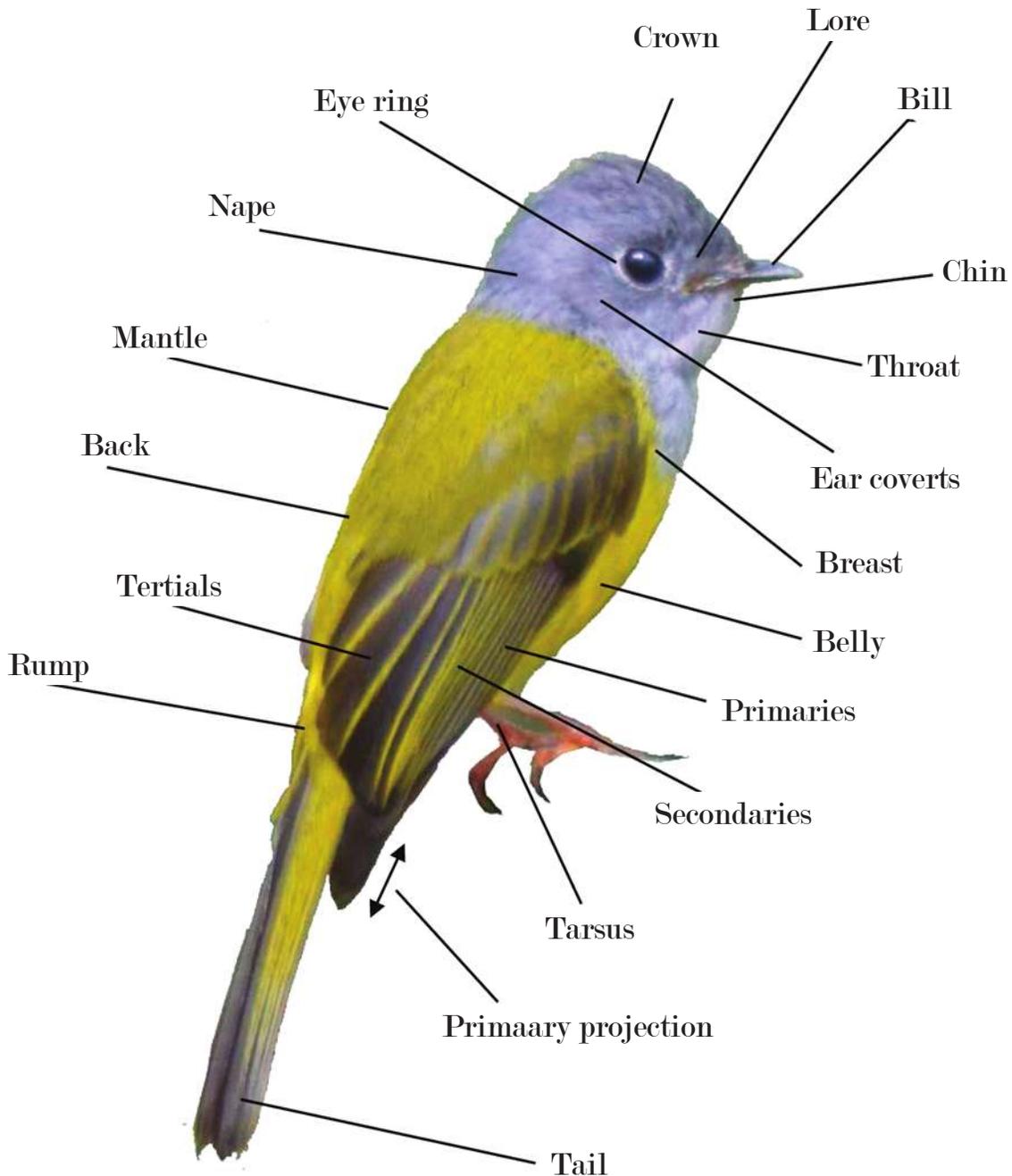
Birds are present in almost every habitat across the globe. Besides being environmental indicators, birds play a significant role in various ecological processes (i.e., pollination, seed dispersal, etc.). They provide a number of benefits to humans including commercially valuable products like feathers (especially the down feather of geese and ducks), which are used as insulation in clothing and bedding and faeces that forms a valuable source of organic manure.

Birds play prominent role in folklore, religion, and popular culture. In religion, birds have been described in different forms, as messengers or priests or leaders and travel convenience for a deity. In great Hindu epics, various birds have been linked with diverse deities as in the case of Eagle and Owl (travel convenience of Lord Vishnu & Goddess Lakshmi respectively), Parrot (famous as Shukdev which possess right to recite the sacred Vedas and Purana). Birds have also featured in art since prehistoric times, and even represented in early cave paintings.

While human activities have helped in expansion of few species, such as Barn Swallow, Mynas, House sparrow and European Starling, it has caused population decline or extinction of many others. The most dramatic human induced avian extinctions, eradicating an estimated 750–1800 species, has occurred during the human colonization of various islands and landmasses. Reports indicate that the bird populations are increasingly declining worldwide, with 1,221 species listed as threatened by Birdlife International and the IUCN in 2007. The most commonly cited human threat to birds is habitat loss.



Parts and Plumage details of a Bird



Lore: small area between the eye and the base of the upper beak

Ear coverts: small feathers around the ear

Primaries: flight feathers of the outer wing

Secondaries: flight feathers of the inner wing

Tertiaries: innermost feathers of wings of a bird

Tarsus: upper section of a birds foot

Primary projection: extension of primaries (primary wings)

Rump: the lower back of a bird

Mantle: plumage of the back of a bird

Nape: the back part of the neck

Crown: upper portion of head

Bill Diversity (Types of bills)



1. Sunbird: catching insects and flower probing
2. Kingfisher: catching fishes, crabs
3. Scimitar Babbler: ground probing
4. Eagle: tearing and Piercing flesh
5. Magpie: plucking fruits and picking insects
6. Sparrow: seed crushing
7. Parakeet: crushing and cutting seeds and floral buds

Feet Diversity (Types of feet)



1. Parakeet: clinging
2. Myna: perching
3. Duck: Swimming
4. Eagle: grasping and striking prey
5. Piculet: Climbing

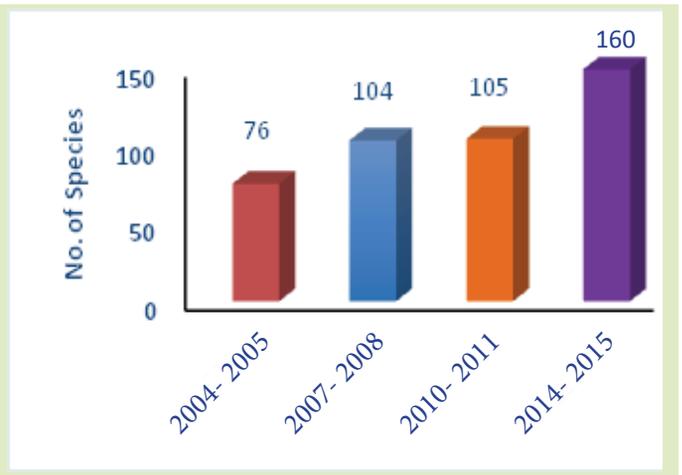




‘Surya-Kunj’- Conservation site

Realizing the need of ex-situ back-up for conservation of Himalayan biodiversity, GBPIHED initiated establishment of a functional arboretum ‘Surya-Kunj’ in 1992 at its Head Quarters, Kosi-Katarmal, 14 km away from district Headquarters, Almora (Uttarakhand). Spread over 71 acre area and ranging between 1100-1250 m asl, the area identified for ‘Surya-Kunj’ was initially represented by highly degraded gentle slopes interspersed with pine trees and shrubs of *Berberis* and *Rubus* species.

For last more than two decades, the selected site has taken a shape of a perfect conservation site through various rehabilitation mechanisms. The site is now being strengthened as Nature Interpretation and Learning Centre of the Institute, which on one hand attempts to ensure ex-situ conservation of the representative plant species (especially Rare, Endemic, and threatened ones) and on the other acts a site for nature exposure and learning for different stakeholders. Besides this, with: (i) gradual enrichment of site, (ii) increased diversity of available food base, and (iii) enhanced protection from human intervention, the ‘Surya-Kunj’ has turned into an excellent habitat for various faunal species. Among others, this site also attracts threatened, migratory and resident bird species. Over the years the bird species richness in ‘Surya-Kunj’ has increased from 76 in 2004-05 to over 155 (Appendix-I) in 2014-15. Reports of bird species diversity in ‘Surya-Kunj’ at different survey time are shown in the following graphics.



‘Surya- Kunj’ bird diversity at different survey periods
(Source: Kothari et al., 2004; Joshi & Negi, 2005; Palita et. al., 2011, Present study, 2015)



Photo: Vipin C. Sharma

Birds in ‘Surya-Kunj’

‘Surya- Kunj’ has now emerged as an excellent habitat for birds. Available food base for long periods has attracted various birds and encourages them to stay in the area. Presently 155 bird species (belonging to 42 families and 105 genera) have been observed from the site. The birds at the site range from the mightiest Griffon Vultures to the tiniest Flower-peckers and Warblers. Kalij Pheasant, Red-billed blue Magpie and Himalayan Bulbul are among the most common birds which can be seen in flocks round the year. It is important to mention that the rich avifaunal diversity of the site also includes four threatened species (marked with* in the list of threatened species in IHR given below). Therefore, ‘Surya-Kunj’, with regular presence of these four threatened bird species, also qualifies to be an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) under criteria A1 (Birdlife International, 2016). The ‘Surya-Kunj’ harbours avifaunal diversity that is comparable to the nearest IBA site (Binsar Wildlife Sanctuary; 166 spp.). In certain cases diversity of this site is even more than some of the designated IBAs in Uttarakhand.



* Species also reported from *Surya-Kunj* (GBPIHED)

Some of the listed threatened species in IHR

- | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 1. | <i>Gyps bengalensis</i> * |
| 2. | <i>Gyps indicus</i> * |
| 3. | <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> * |
| 4. | <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i> * |
| 5. | <i>Aegypius monachus</i> |
| 6. | <i>Aquila clanga</i> |
| 7. | <i>Catreus wallichii</i> |
| 8. | <i>Tragopan melanocephalus</i> |
| 9. | <i>Lophophorus impejanus</i> |
| 10. | <i>Ploceus megarhynchus</i> |
| 11. | <i>Spelaeornis badeigularis</i> |
| 12. | <i>Aquila nipalensis</i> |

Here we have described the representative birds of ‘Surya-Kunj’ distributed among various families. These birds have been described by their common names (In English), size, distribution, identification keys, IUCN status, habitat, Call and wherever possible, migration status, altitudinal range and food.



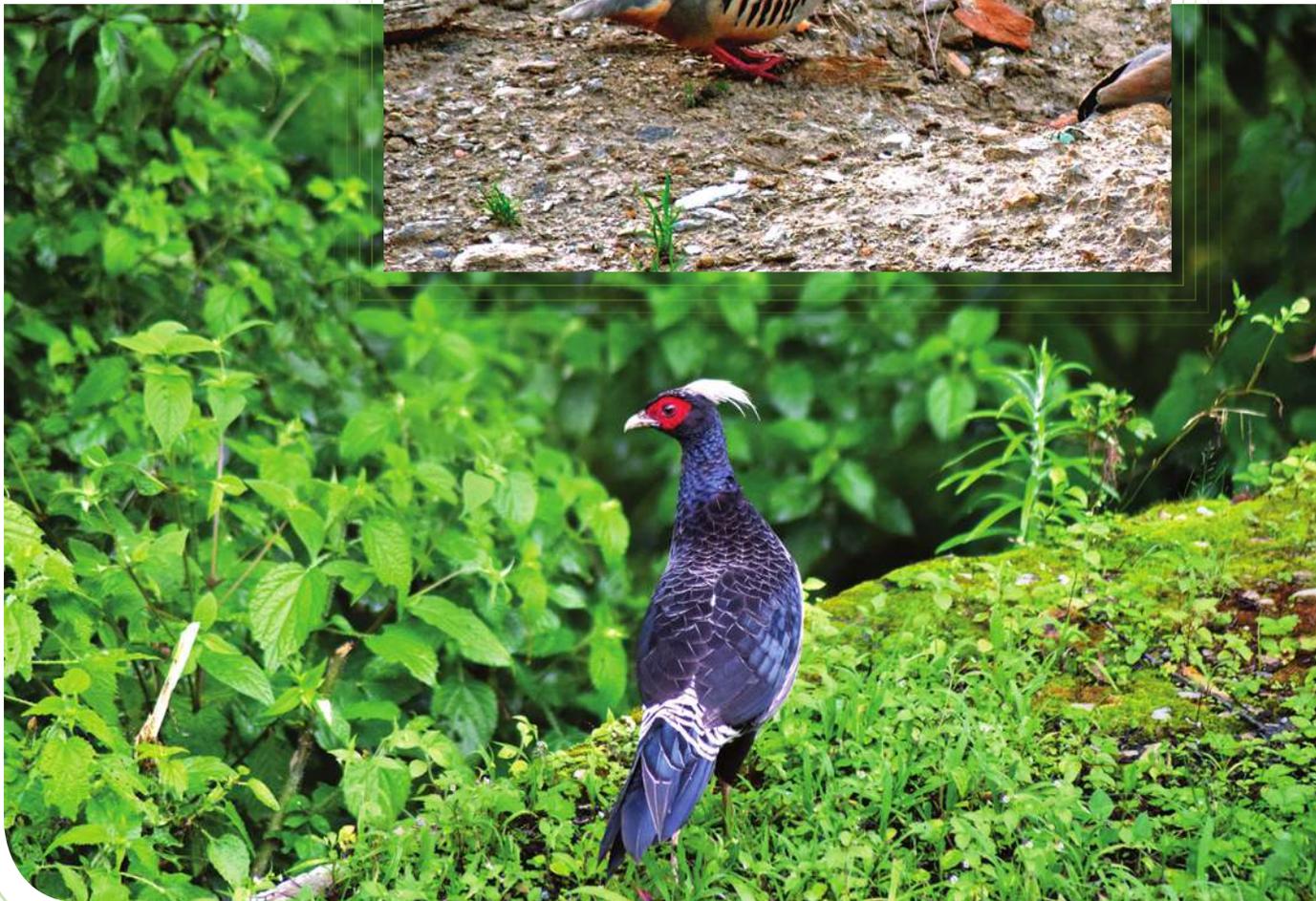
Partridges and Pheasants



Both these groups belong to family Phasianidae.

Partridges are mostly ground feeder birds. They are medium sized, intermediate between Pheasants and Quails. They are found in grasslands of Europe, Asia, Africa and middle-east. They nest on the ground, and have nesting sites in agricultural lands as well. Their diet consists of seeds and insects.

Pheasants are also ground feeders. They are larger in size as compared to quails and partridges. Some species like Kalij Pheasant roosts on trees at night. They have fast and powerful flight capabilities, but for a very short period. Males of this group are heavily decorated with bright colours and long tail. They feed on seeds, buds, roots, leaves and insects as well.



Alectoris chukar



Common Name	Chukar Partridge/ Chakor
Size	38 cm
Distribution	Pakistan hills and Himalayas
Identification Keys	A stocky medium sized partridge. Black stripes through eye which extends to form black gorget, encircling cream white throat. Broad chestnut and black rib like bars on flanks and bright red bill and legs
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Open rocky slopes
Call	rapidly repeated <i>Chuck, Chuck, Chuck</i>

Common Name	Kalij Pheasant
Size	M 65-73 cm, F 50-60 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas, northeast India and Bangladesh
Identification Keys	Both sexes have red facial skin and downcurved tail. Male has blue-black underparts, and variable amount of white on rump and underparts. Male <i>hamiltonii</i> , in west Himalayas, has whitish crest. Female varies from dull brown to reddish-brown, with greyish-buff fringes producing scaly appearance
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 3500 m
Food	Seeds, insects, small lizards, fruit, human excreta around human habitation
Habitats	Forest with dense undergrowth
Call	Loud crowing by male; chuckling calls on disturbance

Lophura leucomelanos



Common Name	Black Francolin
Size	34 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas and Northern subcontinent
Identification Keys	Male has black face with white ear-covert patch, Rufous collar and black underparts. Female has Rufous hind neck, dark strip behind eye. Shows blackish tail in flight
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 2000 m
Food	Grains, grass seeds, green shoots, white ants and other insects
Habitats	Requires good ground cover and water closeby. Cultivation, tea estates and scrub in hills
Call	Utters a loud penetrating, repeated, harsh kar-kar, kee, ke-kee

Francolinus francolinus



Raptors



Raptors, grouped under family Falconidae and Accipitridae, are popularly known as birds of prey. This group includes small sized falcons, Shikra to huge sized Eagles and Vultures. Falcons have got specialization in catching birds in flight. All the members of this group have hooked beaks and sharp talons. Remarkable power of sight adds to their strength to prey on smaller mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, crabs and other invertebrates. Vulture feeds on carcass of dead animal. In doing so, they are cleaning the environment and are thus tagged as "Friends of environment". Except vultures, all have powerful feet with sharp and curved claws. Habitat ranges from dense forests, fresh water bodies, deserts, higher mountains.



Sarcogyps calvus



Common Name	Red-headed Vulture
Size	85 cm
Distribution	Mainly Nepal and India
Identification Keys	Adult mainly black with bare reddish head and cere. White patches at base of neck and upper thighs
IUCN status	Critically Endangered
Migration status	Resident
Food	Animal carcass, fresh water turtles
Habitats	Open country near human habitations

Common Name	Egyptian Vulture
Size	60-70 cm
Distribution	Resident, Widespread in Pakistan, Nepal and India, except the northeast.
Identification Keys	Small vulture with long, pointed wings, small and pointed head, and wedge-shaped tail. Adult mainly dirty white, with bare yellowish face and black flight feathers. Juvenile, blackish brown with bare grey face. With maturity, tail body and wing coverts become and face yellower
IUCN status	Endangered A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde
Migration Status	Resident
Food	Animal carcass, fresh water turtles
Habitats	Open country, human habitations

Neophron percnopterus



Common Name	Long-billed vulture
Local name	Gidh
Size	80-95 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, unrecorded in Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Adult has pale sandy-brown body and upperwing coverts, blackish head and neck, white downy ruff, comparatively slim bill, and pale cere, and lacks pale streaking on underparts
IUCN status	Critically Endangered A2bce+4bce ver 3.1
Food	Animal carcass
Habitats	Open country, human habitations

Gyps indicus



Gyps fulvus



Common Name	Griffon Vulture
Size	95-105 cm
Distribution	Present status uncertain
Identification Keys	Yellowish bill and blackish cere, whitish head and neck, fluffy white ruff, rufescent-buff upperparts, Rufous brown underparts and thigh with prominent pale streaking
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Winter Visitor
Habitat	Wooded hill, dry open hills
Call	Can emit a variety of grunting

Common Name	Black-winged Kite
Size	31-35 cm
Distribution	Widely distributed all over Indian subcontinent except in parts of NW and NE India
Identification Keys	Grey and white with black 'Shoulders'. Flight buoyant, with much hovering
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Wooded hill and cultivations
Call	Weak whistling notes

Elanus caeruleus



Aquila nipalensis



Common Name	Steppe Eagle
Size	76-80 cm
Distribution	Widespread winter visitor to North and Central subcontinent
Identification Keys	Broader and longer wings than Greater and Lesser Spotted, with more pronounced and spread fingers and more protruding head and neck, wings flatter when soaring and less distinctly angled down at carpals when gliding. When perched, clearly bigger and heavier, with heavier bill and baggy trousers. Adult separated from adult spotted eagles by underwing pattern, pale rufous nape patch and pale chin. Juvenile has broad white bar across underwings. Double white bar on upperwing, and white crescent cross uppertail-coverts; prominence of bars on upperwing and underwing much reduced on older immatures
IUCN Status	Endangered
Habitats	Wooded hills, open country and lakes

Spilornis cheela Latham



Common Name	Crested Serpent Eagle
Size	56-74 cm
Distribution	Wide spread resident, unrecorded in most of northwest and northeast Throughout the Indian Union, Himalayas, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Broad, rounded wings. Soars with wings held forward and in pronounced V. adult has broad white bands across wings and tail, hooded appearances at rest, with yellow cere and lores and white spotting on brown under parts. Juvenile has blackish ear-coverts, yellow cere and lores whitish head
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Frogs, lizards, rats, snakes, etc. Rarely also feeds upon jungle-fowl and peafowl
Habitats	Forest and well wooded country
Call	A penetrating high-pitched, screaming whistle of 3 or 4 notes <i>kek-kek-kek-kek-keee</i>

Common Name	Common Kestrel
Local name	Karonita, Korunitta, Narzinak (Male), Narzi (Female)
Size	36 cm
Distribution	Wintor visitor, From the Himalaya and beyond throughout the Indian union, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Mountains of Pakistan, Himalayas and Western Ghats and Sri Lanka, widespread winter visitor Long, rather broad tail, wings- tips more rounded than on most falcons. Frequently hovers. Male has greyish head with diffuse dark moustachial stripe, rufous upperparts heavily marked with black and grey tail with black subterminal band. Female and juvenile have rufous crown and nape streaked with black, diffuse and narrow dark moustachial stripe rufous upperparts heavily barred and spotted
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	700- 3300 m
Food	Field mice, lizards, locusts and other large insects
Habitats	Open country
Call	A sharp <i>ki-ki-ki-ki-ki</i> or <i>tit... wee</i>

Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus Linnaeus



Common Name	Indian Shikra
Local name	Shikra
Size	30-36 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, except in parts of northwest Throughout the Indian union up to Himalaya, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Adult paler than Besra and Eurasian sparrowhawk. Under wing pale, with fine barring on remiges, and slightly darker wing- tips. Male has pale blue-grey upperparts, indistinct grey gular stripe, fine brownish- orange barring on under- parts, unbarred white things, and unbarred or only lightly barred central tail feathers
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	460-1400 m
Food	Lizards, mice, squirrels, birds etc.
Habitats	Open wood and groves
Call	Loud, harsh, challenging rather like Black drongo's

Accipiter badius (Gmelin)



Accipiter nisus



Common Name	Eurasian Sparrowhawk
Size	31-36 cm
Distribution	Resident and winter visitor. Breeds in Baluchistan and Himalayas; winters in Himalayan foothills and south to south India
Identification Keys	Upperparts of adult darker than Shikra, with prominent tail barring, and uniform barring on underparts and absence of prominent gular stripe should separate it from Bersa; underwing strongly barred compared with Shikra. Male has dark slaty-grey upperparts and reddish-orange barring on underparts. Female dark brown on underparts, with dark brown barring on underparts. Juvenile has dark brown upperparts and barred underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	More or less exclusively birds up to the size of a dove
Habitats	Well-wooded country and open forest
Call	Two long notes followed by three or four short ones <i>tin-tin-tititi</i>



Lapwing

Lapwings belongs to family Charadriidae. They are small to medium sized waders and have rounded head with short bills. They forage by taking short runs, pausing and standing straight. They feed on invertebrates from the ground. They fly swiftly. They are commonly seen near water streams and agricultural lands.

Vanellus indicus (Boddaert)

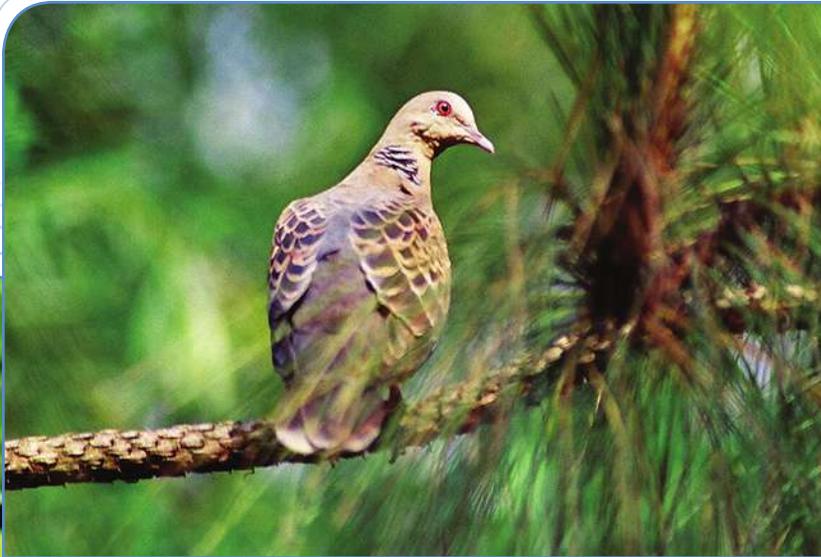


Common Name	Red-wattled Lapwing
Local name	Titeeri, Titai, Titi, Titori
Size	32-35 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident Throughout the Indian continent including the Himalaya and peninsular hills, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Black cap and breast, red bill with black tip and yellow legs. <i>V. i. atronuchalis</i> of E India, has black head, neck and breast, with patch on ear-coverts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 1800 m
Food	Insects, grubs, molluscs etc.
Habitats	Open flat ground near water
Call	A loud, penetrating, <i>Did-he do-it?</i>



Pigeons and Doves

This group of birds belongs to family Columbidae. Flight is swift and with fast wingbeats. Doves and Pigeons often build nests with sticks and other debris. They build their nest in varied places like some species build their nest on trees, some on ledges and some on ground. Both sexes of Pigeons and Doves produce 'crop milk' to feed their young ones. 'Crop milk' is secreted by fluid filled cells present in the linings of the crop of these birds. Young doves and Pigeons are called 'Squabs'. These birds have varied habitats ranging from dense forests, open forest to human habitation. They feed on fruit, seed and sometimes on insects.



Streptopelia orientalis



Common Name	Oriental Turtle Dove
Local name	Resident, Chitroka fakta, Chitta fakta. Parki, Chitta, Kangskiri, Panduk, Ghughut
Size	33 cm
Distribution	All the Indian Union excepting the arid north western parts. Bangladesh; Sri Lanka; Myanmar
Identification Keys	Rufous scapulars and wing-covert, dusky underparts, and barring on neck
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2,400 in the Himalaya
Food	Grains
Habitats	Cultivation, habitation and open forest
Call	Mournful <i>goor....gur-grugroo</i>

Common Name	Indian Blue Rock Pigeon
Local name	Kabutar
Size	33 cm
Distribution	Resident, In the part of northwest and northeast Throughout the Indian continent including Himalaya, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Grey tail with blackish terminal band broad black bars across greater coverts and tertials/secondaries. Northern race neglecta has whitish back
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 3000 m in the Himalaya
Food	Cereals, pulses, groundnuts etc.
Habitats	Villages and town, wild birds around cliffs and ruins
Call	A deep <i>gootrgoo, gootrgoo</i>

Columba livia



Common Name	Ring Dove / Eurasian Collared Dove
Local name	Dhor fakta, Parki, Panduk, Gugi
Size	32 cm
Distribution	Resident, Unrecorded in W Pakistan, most of Himalayas and SW India Throughout the drier portions of the Indian continent including the Himalaya. Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Sandy- brown with black half-collar. Larger and longer- tailed than Red collared Dove, with paler upper parts and under parts and white under wings- coverts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2400 m
Food	Cereals, pulses etc.
Habitats	Open dry country with cultivation and groves
Call	A deep, trisyllabic <i>kuk-koo-kook</i> & prolonged <i>koon-koon-koon</i>

Streptopelia decaocto (Frivaldszky)



Treron sphenurus (Vigors)



Common Name	Wedgetailed Green Pigeon
Local name	Kokla, Kokila
Size	35 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas, NE India and Bangladesh The Himalayan foothills from Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh, NE Indian Hills south of Brahmaputra
Identification Keys	Both sexes has long wedge-shaped tail, indistinct yellow edges to wing-coverts and tertials and dark green rump and tail. Male has maroon patch on upper parts and orange wash to crown and breast. Female has uniform green head
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2,400 in the Himalaya
Food	Exclusively frugivorous
Habitats	Subtropical and temperate broadleaved forest
Call	A series of mellow whistles

Common Name	Yellow footed Green Pigeon
Size	33 cm
Distribution	Widespread in subcontinent but unrecorded from most of Himalayas and NW India
Identification Keys	Grey cap and greenish yellow forehead and throat, broad olive-yellow collar, pale greyish green upper-part, yellow legs and feet.
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Fruiting tree around habitations
Call	A mellow, wandering whistle, also a subdued gurgling

Treron phoenicopterus



Common Name	Emerald Dove
Size	27 cm
Distribution	Widerpread resident; unrecorded in most of north west
Identification Keys	Short tailed pigeon with emerald-green upper-part. Red bill and legs
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Broadleaved forest
Call	A mournful booming <i>tk-hoon...</i> <i>tk-hoon</i>

Chalcophaps indica



Kingfishers



Kingfishers as the name says are good at fishing. They belong to family Alcedinidae. They have long strong bill to catch fishes. They spend most of their time perching either singly or in pairs. They fly swiftly often close to the water/land surface. They feed on fish, lizards, crabs and other invertebrates. Their habitat ranges from Fresh water lakes and streams, marshes, and near human habitation. Crested Kingfisher is the largest species of Kingfishers found in Indian Subcontinent.



Alcedo atthis pallasi (Reichenbach)



Common Name Small Blue Kingfisher
Local name Chhota kilkila, Nita or Nika machhrala
Size 16 cm
Distribution Resident, Throughout the Indian continent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys Orange ear-coverts. Greenish-blue on head, scapulars and wings, and turquoise line down back
IUCN Status Least Concern
Food Small fish, tadpoles and aquatic insects
Habitats Fresh waters in open country, also mangroves and seashore in winter
Call A sharp chichee, chichee

Common Name Whitebreasted Kingfisher
Local name Kilkila, Kourilla
Size 28 cm
Distribution Widespread resident Plains and lower hills throughout the India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys White throat and centre of breast, brown head and most of under parts turquoise upper parts. White wing patch
IUCN Status Least Concern
Food Fish, tadpoles, lizards, grasshoppers and other insects
Habitats Cultivation, forest edge, gardens, freshwater and coastal wetlands
Call A loud cackling

Halcyon smyrnensis smyrnensis (Linnaeus)



Common Name Crested Kingfisher
Size 41 cm
Distribution Resident, Himalaya, NE India and Bangladesh
Identification Keys Much larger than Pied, with evenly barred wings and tail. Lacks supercilium and has spotted breast
IUCN Status Least Concern
Food Fish and aquatic fauna
Habitats Mountains, rivers, large rivers in foothills

Megaceryle lugubris



Owls and Owlets

Owls and owlets are grouped in two families namely Tytonidae (Barn Owls) and Strigidae. Owls have large and rounded heads, with big and forward facing eyes. Their eyes are surrounded by broad facial discs. They have short tails, which they swing swiftly while they perch. They are mostly nocturnal and have cryptically coloured and patterned body that helps them camouflage during the day when they rest. They prey on rodents, small animals and invertebrates. Their distinctive calls are the means of advertising their presence and territories. They can be seen in dense forests, open forests and agricultural lands.



Glaucidium cuculoides Vigors



Common Name	Asian Barred Owlet
Local name	Ullu
Size	23 cm
Distribution	Resident, North east subcontinents, Himalaya, North east India and Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar; Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Viet Nam
Identification Keys	Small and heavily buff barring on wing- coverts and flight feathers, streaked flanks
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2,100 m
Food	Beetles, grasshoppers, lizards and many other insects. Sometimes mice and small birds as well
Habitats	Tropical, subtropical and temperate forest
Call	Continuous bubbling whistle



Woodpeckers, Piculets and Barbets

Woodpeckers and Piculets belongs to family Picidae. They are mostly arboreal in habit and seen clinging and climbing up on tree trunks and branches. They have strong bill for drilling the wood and use their long and sticky tongue to extract food from inside the wood. Some species also feeds on grounds for insects. They feed on ants, termites and wood boring beetles. Woodpeckers are larger sized and have larger bill as compared to Piculets. They have strong and undulating flight. They have loud calls. They also forage on decaying wood.

Barbets belongs to family Ramphastidae. They are arboreal in habit and found on top of trees calling loudly early in the morning. They possess heavy bill, fringed with bristles. Their plumage resembles with tree foliage and that makes them hard to see, especially when silent. They feed on insects and fruits. Great Barbet is the largest among all Barbets in the Indian Subcontinent. Figs are the most liked fruits by these birds.



Picus chlorolophus



Common Name	Lesser Yellow-nape
Size	27 cm
Distribution	Himalayas, hills of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Red and white markings on head, Rufous panel in wings. Male has red moustachial and line above eye. Greenish upperparts
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Forest, secondary growth and plantation
Call	A buzzard like, drawn out <i>pee-ow</i>

Common Name	West Himalayan Brown-Fronted Woodpecker
Local name	Kathfaura
Size	19-20 cm
Distribution	Resident, Hills of Baluchistan and Himalayas Afghanistan, India, Nepal and Pakistan
Identification keys	Brownish fore-head and forecrown, yellowish central crown white-barred upperparts, prominent black moustachial stripe, well-defined blackish streaking on under parts, pink undertail-coverts, and unbarred central tail feathers
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1100-2200 m
Habitat	Subtropical and temperate forest

Dendrocopos auriceps Vigors



Micropternus brachyurus



Common Name	Rufous Woodpecker
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Himalayas, NE, E and W India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Rufous brown woodpecker with shaggy crest and short black bill. Heavily barred with black on mantle. Male has small scarlet flash on ear-coverts
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Feed on ground and rotten log; often seen digging into tree ant nest, which it favors
Call	Drumming like stalling engine <i>bdddd-d-d-d-dt</i>

Picumnus innominatus



Common Name	Speckled Piculet
Size	10 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas, hills of southwest, east and northeast India, and Bangladesh
Identification Keys	Tiny size. Whitish underparts with black spotting, black ear-covert patch and malar stripe, and white in black tail. Male has orange on forehead, barred with black; this lacking in female
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Chiefly ants and termites
Habitats	Bushes and bamboo in forest and secondary growth
Call	A sharp <i>spit spit</i> and a persistent mechanical drumming <i>brr-rr</i> on bamboo or dead snag

Common Name	Himalayan Great Barbet
Local name	Traiho, Mewli
Size	33 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalaya, NE India and Bangladesh A common resident species of the moist forests of Himalaya from Murree to Arunachal Pradesh, hills south of the Brahmaputra, Pakistan, Bangladesh
Identification keys	Large yellow bill, bluish head, brown breast and mantle, olive-streaked yellowish under parts, and red undertail-coverts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1000-3000 in the Himalaya
Food	Chiefly fruits, insects, nectar
Habitats	Subtropical and temporal forests
Call	Incessant and far-reaching Piho Piho

Megalaima virens



Megalaima asiatica



Common name	Blue-throated barbet
Size	23 cm
Distribution	Himalaya, NE India and Bangladesh
Identification Keys characteristics	Blue face and throat, red forehead and hindcrown, black band across crown. Juvenile has duller head pattern
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Habitats	Open forest, roves and gardens
Food	Fruits and berries, figs of the various species of <i>Ficus</i> being special favourites
Call	Loud took-a-rock, took-a-rock

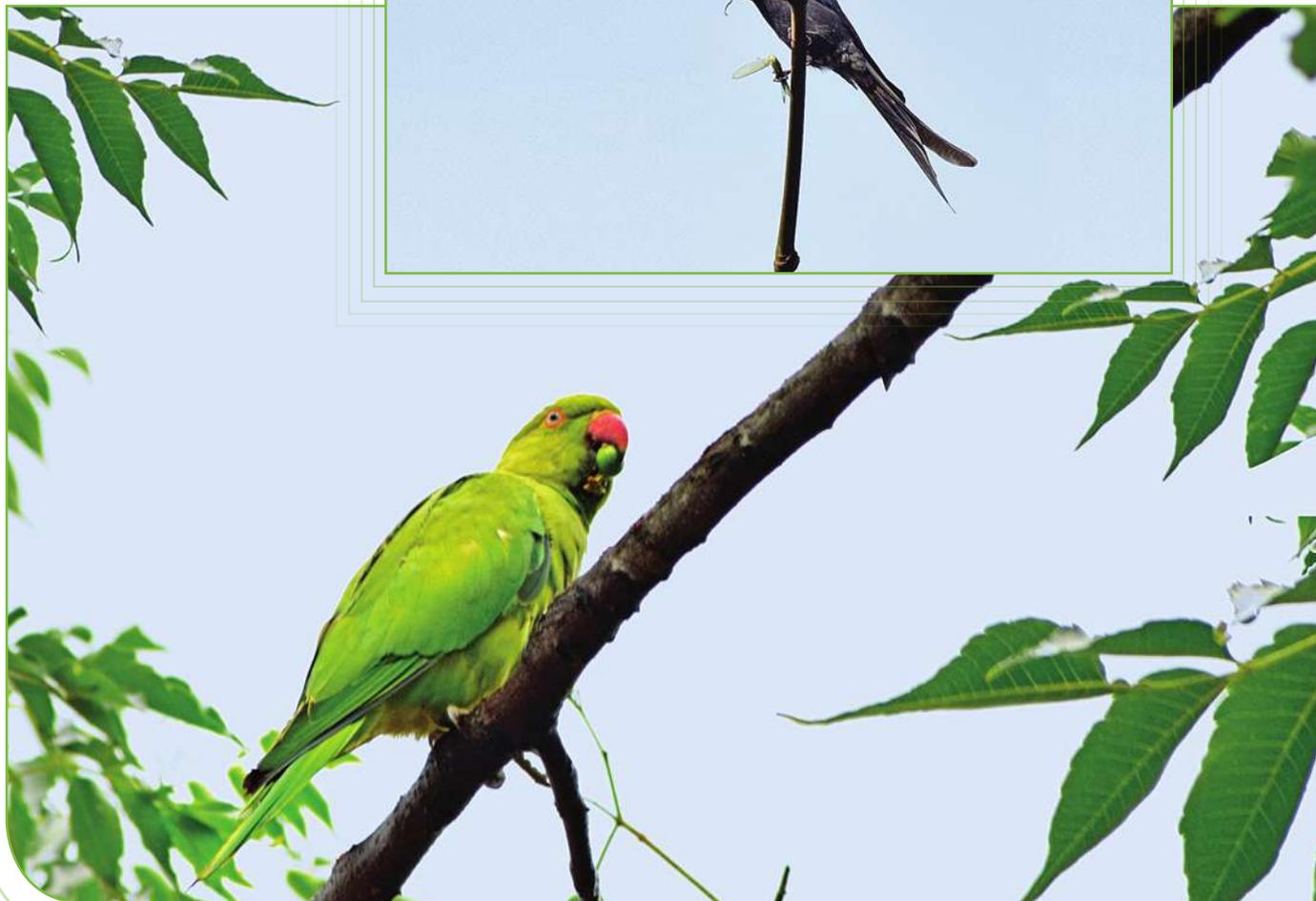
Parakeets, Drongos and Koel



Parakeets- Belongs to Psittacidae family. A parakeet is any one of a large number of small to medium-sized species of parrot, in multiple genera, that generally have long tail feathers. Parakeets often breed more readily in groups but there can be conflicts between breeding pairs and individuals especially if space is limited. The presence of other parakeets encourages a pair to breed, which is why breeding in groups is more successful. Mainly frugivores.

Drongos- belongs to Dicruridae family. Medium sized passerine with characteristic black and often glossy plumage, long and often deeply forked tail. Mainly arboreal and insectivorous. They are noisy and make harsh calls. Some species are good mimic.

Koel- Koel belongs to Cuculidae family. Usually seen in pairs. Have very pleasant voice. They are notorious for their nest parasitism.



Psittacula cynocephala



Common Name	Plum-headed Parakeet
Local name	Tota
Size	36 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident; unrecorded in north-west and parts of northeast
Identification Keys	Head is plum-red on male, pale grey on female. Yellow upper mandible, and white-tipped blue-green tail. Head of female in paler grey than in slaty-headed, and lacks black chin stripe and half collar; has yellow collar and upper breast
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 200 m in The Himalayas
Food	Fruits, grain. Flower nectar and petals
Habitats	Forest and well-wooded areas
Call	Loud, interrogative <i>tooi...tooi.. notes in fast flight</i>

Common Name	Rose-ringed Parakeet
Local name	Tota, Lybar tota, Sua
Size	42 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident The entire Indian continent from the Himalayan foothills to south plains in the peninsular hills, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Green head and blue- green tip to tail, male has black chin stripe and pink collar
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Crops, Orchard Fruits
Habitats	Forest, wooded area and cultivation
Call	A loud sharp screaming <i>keak-keak-keak</i> etc.

Psittacula krameri (Scopoli)



Common Name	Himalayan Slatyheaded Parakeet
Local name	Tota, Pahari tuiya
Size	41 cm
Distribution	Resident in Himalayan foothills from Pakistan to Arunachal Pradesh in well-wooded hillsides and valleys
Identification Keys	Dark grey head, red and yellow bill, dark green upper parts and yellow-tipped tail
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	600-2500 in the Himalaya
Food	Nuts, acorn, seeds, nectar and fruits
Habitats	Forest and well wooded areas
Call	A high-pitched double scream <i>tooi-tooi</i>

Psittacula himalayana



Dicrurus leucophaeus

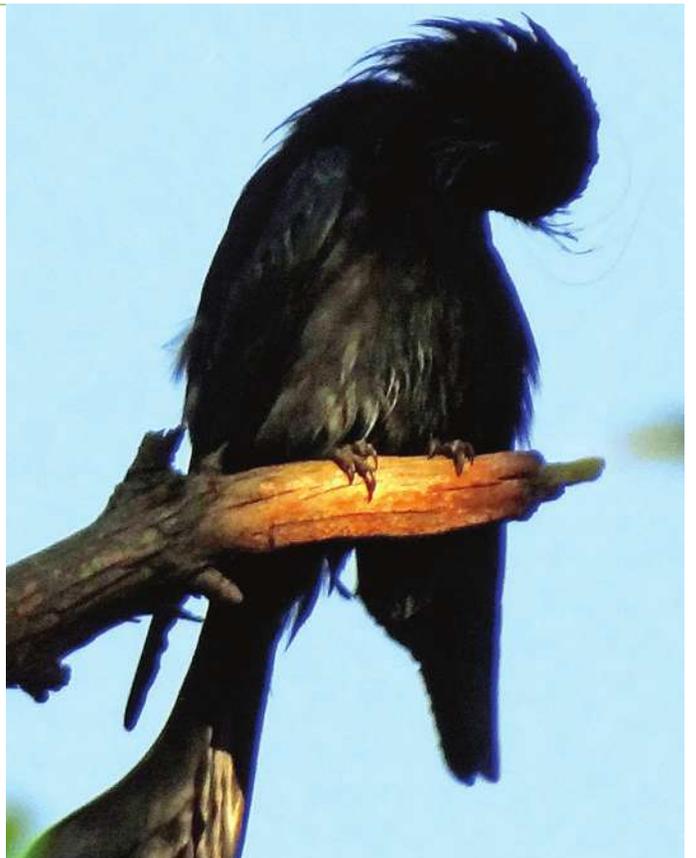


Common Name	Ashy Drongo
Size	29 cm
Distribution	Winter visitor, Breeds in Himalayas and Northeast Indian hills; winter in plains in peninsula and Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Adult has dark grey underparts and slate-grey upperparts with blue-grey gloss; iris bright red. First-winter has brownish-grey underparts with indistinct pale fringes. Juvenile as juvenile black
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Mainly insects, occasionally reptiles and small birds. Nectar when available.
Habitats	Breeds in forest; winters in well-wooded areas
Call	Varied repertoire including the ability to mimic other birds



Dicrurus hottentottus

Common Name	Spangled Drongo
Size	32 cm
Distribution	Himalayan foothills, NE India and Bangladesh, and eastern and western ghats
Identification Keys	Broad tail with upward twisted corners and long down curved bill. Adult has extensive spangling and hair like crest
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Broad-leaved forest
Call	A loud <i>chi-wii</i>





Crow Family

They are all robust perching birds which differ considerably from each other in appearance but which have a number of features in common: a fairly long straight bill. Very strong feet and legs, and a tuft of nasal bristles extending over the base of the upper mandible. Typically, they are noisy birds, uttering loud and discordant squawks, croaks or screeches. Includes, crows, Magpies, Treepie and Jays.



***Eudynamys scolopaceus* (Linnaeus)**



Common Name Koel / Asian Koel
Local name Koel
Size 43 cm
Distribution Resident, The entire Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys Male is greenish-black, with green bill, red eye-patch. Female is spotted and barred with white
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range 1000 - 3600 m
Food Largely fruits and berries, also caterpillars and insects
Habitats Open woodland, gardens and cultivation
Call Begins with low *Kuoo*, rises in scale with each successive *Kuoo* (Male)
 A sharp, quick repeated *kik-kik-kik-kik* (Female)

Common Name House Crow
Local name Kowwa, Desi Kowwa
Size 40 cm
Distribution Widespread resident, throughout Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, chiefly plains, but also in many hill stations
Identification Keys Two-toned appearance, with paler nape, neck and breast. Pale collar most pronounced in north-westernmost zugmayeri, less prominent in widely distributed nominate, and poorly defined in races in S India and Sri Lanka (not illustrated)
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range about 2500 in the Himalaya
Food Omnivorous, dead sewer rat, offal, carrion, kitchen scraps and refuse, locusts, termites, fruits, grain and eggs or fledging birds preferred from nests
Habitats Around human habitation and cultivation
Call Familiar 'caw' call. Occasionally a pleasant *kurr* note, several other notes

***Corvus splendens* (Vieillot)**



Common Name Jungle Crow
Local name Kala kowwa, Pahari kowwa, Jangli kowwa, Dhal kowwa
Size 41 cm
Distribution Resident, The Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys All black, lacking paler collar of House Crow. Domed head, and large bill with arched culmen. The two Himalayan forms (including intermedius) are bigger and with heavier bill, wedge-shaped tail, and harsher calls, compared with those in the 'plains' (including culminatus). Himalayan forms best told from Raven by absence of throat hackles, shorter and broader wings, less strongly wedge-shaped tail, squarer or domed crown
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range 1000-4500 in the Himalaya
Food Omnivorous, feeds on carrion and highly destructive to eggs and chicks of other birds including domestic poultry, and to young's of small mammals
Habitats Except deserts and semi-deserts
Call Dry & hoarse *kaaa-kaaa* /caw call

Corvus (macrorhynchos) culminatus



Urocissa erythrorhyncha



Common Name	Redbilled Blue Magpie
Local name	Lampuchari
Size	65-68 cm
Distribution	Resident, Appears to be restricted in Himalaya between Himanchal and E Nepal and some parts of north east India and Bangladesh
Identification keys	Red bill, and white hindcrown and nape. juvenile has more extensive white crown
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	+ 1000 -a100 m
Food	Omnivorous, eats fruits, insects, lizards
Habitats	Broadleaved forest and trees in cultivation
Call	Noisy; great mix of metallic screams, loud whistles and raucous notes, often imitating other birds

Common Name	Rufous Tree Pie
Local name	Mahalat
Size	50 cm
Distribution	Resident, Indian continent, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Myanmar, unrecorded in Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Slate-grey hood, buffish underparts and rump, pale grey wing panel, and whitish subterminal tail-band. juvenile has brown hood
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Insects, lizards, small birds eggs, fruit, flower nectar, kitchen scraps
Habitats	Open wooded country, and gardens with trees and bushes
Call	Different notes like <i>ka-ka-ka- ka, uk-ra-ia, bob-o-link</i> , a fluty three note <i>goo-ge-lay</i> or <i>ko-ki-la</i>

Dendrocitta vagabunda (Latham)



Common Name	Himalayan Tree-pie / Grey Tree Pie
Local name	Kokia kak
Size	36-40 cm
Distribution	Resident, The foothills of Himalaya, eastern India, Eastern Ghats of Orissa and north Andhra Pradesh, Bangladesh, Pakistan
Identification Keys	Dark grey face, grey underparts and rump, and black wings with white patch at base of primaries. juvenile duller version of adult
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	+ 600 -2100 m
Food	Fruits, nectar, insects and small animals
Habitats	Broadleaved forest and secondary growth
Call	variety of loud calls, some raucous and grating, others quite melodious, a commonly heard is <i>kokila-ka-ka</i> , at times throaty <i>kr-r-r</i>

Dendrocitta formosae (Ticehurst)



Garrulus lanceolatus



Common Name	Black-headed Jay
Size	33 cm
Distribution	North west mountains of Pakistan and Himalayas
Identification Keys	Black face and crest, streaked throat, and pinkish-fawn body, blue barring on wings and tail
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Grains etc
Habitats	Mixed temperate forest

Bee Eaters, Woodswallows, Minivets and Shrikes

Bee eaters- Brightly colored birds with decurved bills, pointed tail and short legs. Catches prey (large flying insects) in flight. Their flight is graceful and undulating.

Woodswallows- Plump bird with long pointed wings. Feed on insects, usually captured in flight. Perch close together on a bare branch or wire.

Minivets- Brightly colored passerines with moderately long tail. Feed on insects, glean them from leaves, buds and bark. Usually seen in pairs.

Shrikes- Predatory passerine with strong, stout bills, hooked at the tip. Feeds on invertebrates or small animals. Inhabit usually bushes and scrubs.



Merops orientalis



Common Name	Green Bee-eater
Size	18 cm
Distribution	Resident, NE subcontinents, widespread resident and summer visitor
Identification Keys	Small size, blue cheeks with black gorget and golden to rufous coloration to crown. Green tail with elongated central feathers, juvenile has square-ended tail, crown and mantle are green, lacks black gorget, and throat is pale yellowish or bluish green
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects chiefly diptera and hymenoptera
Habitats	Open country
Call	A pleasant jingling <i>tit, tit</i> or trilly <i>tree-tree-tree</i> constantly uttered on the wings or at rest

Common Name	Chestnut headed bee eater
Size	18-20 cm
Distribution	Himalayas, NE India and Bangladesh
Identification Keys	Combination of bright chestnut crown, nape and mantle, yellow throat, broad tail and shallow fork.
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant (Summer)
Habitat	Near vicinity of water
Call	Makes a <i>pruik</i> or <i>chruit</i> calls

Merops leschenaulti



Photo: Renu Suyal

Artamus fuscus



Common Name	Ashy woodswallow
Size	19 cm
Distribution	E, SE and S subcontinent
Identification Keys	Adult has stout blue-grey bill, uniform slate grey head, greying maroon mantle, and pinkish-grey underparts. In flight shows white-tipped tail and greyish-white band across uppertail-coverts.
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Open wooded country
Call	A harsh <i>chek-chek-chek</i>

Pericrocotus (flammeus) speciosus



Common Name	Scarlet Minivet
Local name	Pahari bulachashm
Size	22-23 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas, hills of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.
Identification Keys	Large. Isolated. Isolated red (male) or yellow (female) patch on secondaries. Female head pattern closet to short Short-billed
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insets and their larvae; sometimes captured in air like flycatcher
Habitats	Forest
Call	A pleasant whistling <i>whee-tweet</i> or <i>Whiriri, whiriri</i> , etc

Common Name	Long-tailed Minivet
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Breeds in N Baluchistan, Himalayas, NE India and Bangladesh, winters south to central India
Identification Keys	Different shape of red wing patch, with red extending as narrow panel along tertials and secondaries. Male have dark blue upper-parts and dark red underparts. Female have yellowish underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Forest; well-wooded areas in water
Call	A sweet double whistle <i>pi-ru</i> , the second note lower than the first

Pericrocotus ethologus



Common Name	Long-Tailed Shrike
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident
Identification Keys	Adult has grey mantle, rufous scapulars and upper back (except <i>caniceps</i> of peninsular India and Sri Lanka), narrow black forehead, rufous sides to black tail, and small white patch on primaries. juvenile has (dark- barred) rufous- brown scapulars, back and rump, dark greater coverts and tertials fringed rufous <i>Himalayan tricolor</i> has black hood
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects, lizards, small rodents, birds
Habitats	Bushes in cultivation, open forest
Call	Noisy, harsh mix of scolding notes, shrieks and yelps

Lanius schach





Hoopoe, Swallows and Mynas

Hoopoe- Have a distinctive appearance, with long decurved bill, rounded wings. They are insectivores and forage by pecking and probing the ground. Flight is butterfly like. Common Hoopoe is the only species that belongs to family Upupidae.

Swallows- Belongs to family Hirundinidae. Small passerines with slender and streamline body, long pointed wings and small bills. Catches food while flying in the open. Perch on exposed branches or wires.

Mynas- belongs to family Sturnidae. Very noisy and harsh calls. They are cosmopolitan in distribution. Closely associated with human cultivation and habitation.



Upupa epops (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Hoopoe / Eurasian Hoopoe
Local name	Hudhud
Size	31 cm
Distribution	Summer visitor to far north, resident and winter visitor to much of rest of subcontinent, Throughout the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Rufous- orange or orange- buff, with black and white wings and tail and black- tipped fan- like crest
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Insects grubs and pupae
Habitats	Open country, cultivation, villages
Call	A soft musical, penetrating <i>hoo-po</i> or <i>hoo- po -po</i>

Common Name	Barn Swallow
Local name	Ababil, Gautaii
Size	18 cm
Distribution	Summer visitor, Breeds in Pakistan hills, Himalayas and NE India, widespread farther south in winter, in winter throughout the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
Identification Keys	Reddish forehead and throat, long tail- streamers and blue- black breast band. Juvenile duller and lacks tail- streamers. <i>H. r. tyleri</i> , a winter visitor to NE subcontinents, has rufous underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 3000
Food	Chiefly flies and midges
Habitats	Habitation, lakes and rivers
Call	A pleasant low twittering

Hirundo rustica (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Indian Myna
Local name	Desi myna, Sitaula
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, throughout the Indian subcontinent in the Himalaya in summer; Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, unrecorded in parts of the northwest and northeast
Identification Keys	Brownish myna with yellow orbital skin, white wing patch and white tail- tip juvenile duller
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 3000 m
Food	Omnivorous, eats fruits, insects, kitchen scraps
Habitats	Habitation and cultivation
Call	a loud, scolding <i>rdio-radio-radio</i> , and <i>keek-keek-keek</i> , <i>kok-kok-kok</i> , <i>chur-chur</i>

Acridotheres tristis (Linnaeus)



Acridotheres fuscus (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Jungle Myna
Local name	Pahari Myna, Jungli Myna
Size	23 cm
Distribution	Resident, The entire Indian subcontinent, south to Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar and northern Sri Lanka. Himalayas, N Orissa and W India
Identification Keys	Tufted forehead, and white wing patch and tail-tip, lacks bare orbital skin. juvenile browner, with reduced forehead tuft. <i>A. f. mahrattensis</i> , of W peninsula, has browner upperparts than nominate and grey or bluish white (rather than yellow) iris
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2500 m
Food	Omnivorous, also eats wild figs, berries, and flower nectar
Habitats	Cultivation near well-wooded areas, and edges of habitation
Call	Characteristics <i>keek-kee-kok-kok</i> (nuptial song)

Babblers, Laughing thrushes and Sibia

The Old World babblers or Timaliids are a large family of mostly Old world passerine birds. They are rather diverse in size and coloration, but are characterised by soft fluffy plumage. These are birds of tropical areas, with the greatest variety in Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent. Timaliids are small to medium birds. They have strong legs, and many are quite terrestrial. They typically have generalised bills, similar to those of a thrush or warbler, except for the scimitar babblers which, as their name implies, have strongly decurved bills. Most have predominantly brown plumage, with minimal difference between the sexes, but many more brightly coloured species also exist.



Turdoides striata (Dumont)



Common Name	Jungle Babbler / Seven Sisters
Local name	Sat bhai / Sat bahin
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident. Throughout the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, plains and hills, unrecorded in parts of the northwest and northeast
Identification Keys	Uniform tail; variable dark mottling and streaking on throat and breast
IUCN Status	Data Deficient, Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Spiders, cockroaches and other insects, and larvae; wild figs berries, grain and nectar of flowers of Coral, Silk cotton and other trees
Habitats	Deciduous forest and cultivation
Call	a constant conventional chatter and squeaking which sometimes develops in to loud discordant wrangling

Common Name	White-throated Laughing Thrush
Size	28 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalaya and Assam
Identification Keys	White throat and upper breast, rufous- orange belly and broad white tip to tail
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects and berries
Habitats	Broadleaved and mixed forest and secondary growth
Call	Continual chattering, warning <i>twit-tzee</i> alarm

Garrulax albogularis



Common Name	Streaked Laughing Thrush
Local name	Musi-chaur
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Resident. Pakistan hills and the Himalaya West to East
Identification Keys	Fine white streaking on mantle and underparts; otherwise, rather uniform brown or greyish and brown
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1400-3800 m
Food	Insects, berries and refuse
Habitats	Scrub-covered hills, secondary growth and bushes in cultivation
Call	Fairly noisy, a near constant chatter of mix of whistling and squeaky notes, <i>Pitt.. wee. Er</i>

Garrulax lineatus



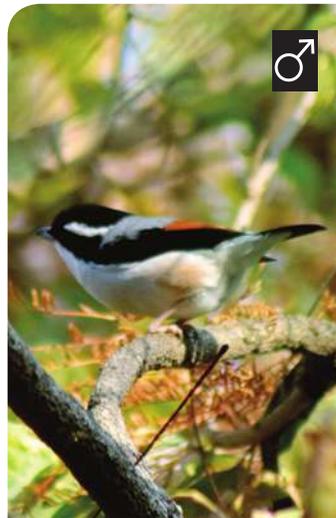
Pomatorhinus erythrogenys



Common Name	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Himalaya
Identification Keys	Rufous lores and ear coverts. Has Rufous forehead, ear coverts, sides of breast, flanks and vent
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Undergrowth and thick scrub
Call	Loud far-carrying three-noted calls followed by a <i>staccato quit</i>

Common Name	White-browed Shrike-babbler
Size	16 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	Male has black cap with white supercilium, grey upper parts, white tips to black wings and Rufous tertials. Female has grey cap, olive mantle and largely yellowish olive wings and tails
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Mainly broadleaved forest
Call	Song is a rhythmic three or six-noted <i>yip-yip-yip</i> or <i>yip-dip-dip</i> with stress in first or last note

Pteruthius flaviscapis



Malacias capistratus



Common Name	Rufous Sibia
Size	21 cm
Distribution	Himalaya
Identification Keys	Has black cap, Rufous or cinnamon buff nape and under parts, grey tip and black sub-terminal band to Rufous tail and grey paneling on mainly black wings
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Mainly broadleaved forest, favors Oak
Call	Flute like <i>tee-dee-dee-dee-dee-o-lu</i> and alarm is a harsh <i>chrai-chrai-chrai</i>

Bulbuls



Belongs to family Pycnonotidae. Bulbuls are short-necked slender passerines. The tails are long and the wings short and rounded. In almost all species the bill is slightly elongated and slightly hooked at the end. Overall the sexes are alike, although the females tend to be slightly smaller. Bulbuls are highly vocal, with the calls of most species being described as nasal or gravelly. Bulbuls eat a wide range of different foods, ranging from fruit to seeds, nectar, small insects and other arthropods and even small vertebrates



Pycnonotus leucogenys (Gray)



Common Name	Himalayan Bulbul
Local name	Bulbul, Tiprai
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Resident, N. Pakistan hills and Himalayas, western and central India south to Bombay, east to Jhansi, Pakistan
Identification Keys	Brown crest and nape, and white cheeks with black crescent at rear
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	300 -3000 m
Food	Variety of wild berries, insects and flower nectar
Habitats	Dry scrub and secondary growth
Call	Range of cheery notes

Common Name	Redvented Bulbul
Local name	Bulbul, Guldum
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, throughout the India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar. Rare in Pakistan
Identification Keys	Red vent, black head with slight crest and white rump. Mantle and breast vary from pale brown and heavily scaled to blackish
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 1500 m
Food	Insects, fruits and berries, peas and such like vegetables, and flower nectar
Habitats	Open deciduous forest and secondary growth
Call	Joyous notes

Pycnonotus cafer (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Black Bulbul
Local name	Ban bakra
Size	25 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalaya, NE hill states and Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Slaty-grey, to blackish bulbul with shallow fork to tail; red bill, legs and feet
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1000-3000 in the Himalaya
Food	Mainly fruit and berries; also insects and flower-nectar
Habitats	Mainly broadleaved forest and palntations
Call	Loud sharp squeaky whistles chirp, <i>chee-chee-chee</i> or <i>whew- whe</i> , etc

Hypsipetes leucocephalus



Warblers, Nuthatches, Wallcreeper and Thrushes



Warblers- belongs to family Sylviidae. There are a number of Passeriformes (perching birds) called warblers. They are not necessarily closely related to one another, but share some characteristics, such as being fairly small, vocal, and insectivorous. They are mostly brownish or dull greenish in color. They tend to be more easily heard than seen. Identification can be difficult and may be made on the basis of song alone.

Nuthatches and Wallcreepers- These are small, energetic, compact passerines with small tail, belonging to family Sittidae. Wallcreeper is adept at clambering over rock faces and nuthatches are agile tree climbers.

Thrush- belongs to family Turdidae. Medium sized passerines with long, strong legs and slender bills and fairly long wings. Insectivorous is habit. Have loud and varied songs.



Phylloscopus chloronotus



Common Name	Lemon rumped warbler
Size	9 cm
Distribution	Breeds in Himalayas; winters lower down and in NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	Combination of broad yellowish white supercilium and crown stripe. Double yellowish-white wing bars. Well defined yellowish rump and whitish under parts
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Forest and secondary growth in winters
Call	Varying songs. High pitched <i>uist</i> call.

Common Name	Whistler's warbler
Size	11-12 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	Broad yellow eye ring at rear. Generally upper parts are duller greyish-green. Underparts are duller yellow and wing bar is usually distinct. Black crown sides
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Forest understory, also in high altitude shrubs in summer
Call	Song is a simple <i>witchu-witchu</i>

Seicercus whistleri



Common Name	Common Chiffchaff
Size	11 cm
Distribution	N subcontinent
Identification Keys	Whitish or buffish supercilium and greyish to brownish upper parts with olive green cast to rump, wings and tail. Blackish bill
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Winter visitor
Habitat	Forest, bushes, crops and reed beds
Call	Planative <i>peu</i> or <i>hweet</i>

Phylloscopus collybita



Sitta (castanea) cinnamoventris



Common Name Chestnut bellied Nuthatch
Size 12.5 cm
Distribution Himalaya and NE Indian hills
Identification Keys Male always shows striking white cheek patch, contrasting with rather uniform orange brown (Chestnut colored) under parts. Whitish scalloping on under-tail coverts
IUCN Status Least Concerned
Migration Status Resident
Habitat Forest
Call Song is series of clear whistles

Common Name Wallcreeper
Size 16 cm
Distribution Himalayas; winters down to foothills and plains
Identification Keys Long, down curved black bill. In flight, wings are rounded and reveal largely crimson wing coverts and bases to black flight feathers
IUCN Status Least Concerned
Migration Status Resident and Partial migrant
Habitat Rock cliffs and gorges; also ruins and stony river beds in winter
Call Song is repeated sequence of high whistles

Tichodroma muraria



Myiophonus caeruleus (Scopoli)



Common Name Himalayan Whistling Thrush
Local name Kau Chini (Kumaoni)
Size 34 cm
Distribution Resident, Mountain ranges of Pakistan (Baluchistan) east to Arunachal Pradesh, hills of NE India; Bangladesh; Myanmar
Identification Keys Adult blackish, spangled with glistening blue, yellow bill. Juvenile browner, and lacks blue spangling
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range 1000 to 3600 m
Food Snails, crabs, earthworms, insects and small animals
Habitats Forest and wooded area, usually close to streams
Call Call-note a strident tzeet-tze-tze-tzeet



Prinias, Tailor birds and Tits

Prinia and Tailor bird- They belongs to family Cisticolidae. Prinias have long, graduated tails that in longer in winter than in summer. Most inhabit grassland, marsh vegetation or scrub. When perched, the tail is often held cocked and slightly fanned. Flight is weak and jerky. Tailor birds have long decurved bill, short wings and graduated tail.

Tit- They belong to family Aegithalidae and are small, active highly acrobatic passerines with short bills and strong feet. Mainly insectivorous, many species depend on seed, particularly from tree in winters. Arboreal in habit, probe bark crevices.



Prinia crinigera



Common Name	Striated Prinia
Size	16 cm
Distribution	Resident, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, NE India, Nepal, Pakistan, Taiwan, Province of China
Identification Keys	Large size, streaked upperparts and stout bill. Dark bill and lores and indistinct streaking to grey-brown upperpart, in breeding plumage. Prominently streaked rufous- brown upperparts, with buff lores, in non- breeding plumage
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Habitats	Hill sides and long grass in open forest

Common Name	Common tailorbird
Size	13 cm
Distribution	Widespread all over the subcontinent
Identification Keys	Has long pale bill, Rufous forehead and fore-crown. Greenish upper parts and dull whitish or buffish underparts.
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Bushes in gardens, cultivation edges and forest edges
Call	Song is a loud <i>pitchik-pitchik-pitchik</i>

Orthotomus sutorius



Common Name	Grey Tit
Local name	Ramganga
Size	14 cm
Distribution	Resident, Widespread in hills of subcontinent, throughout the Indian Union, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar. Plains, and hills
Identification Keys	Black breast centre and line down belly, greyish mantle, greyish white breast sides and flanks, and white wing-bar. juvenile has yellowish-white cheeks and underparts, and yellowish-olive wash to mantle. P. m. tibetanus (one record from Sikkim) has greenish-olive cast to mantle
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1000 to 2000 m
Food	Insects, their eggs and larvae, flower buds, fruit, kernels of small nuts and seeds
Habitats	Forest and well-wooded country
Call	<i>Whee-chichi, whee-chichi, whee-chichi</i>

Parus major (Linnaeus)



Parus xanthogenys



Common Name	Black-lored Tit
Size	13 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas and peninsular hills, where ranges overlap in Himalayas
Identification Keys	Best told from Yellow-cheeked by black forehead and lores, uniform greenish upperparts with black streaking confined to scapulars, olive rump, and yellowish wing-bars
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects
Habitats	Open forest, forest edges and plantations
Call	Utters a lively <i>chee-chee</i> while in quest of food. During the breeding season the male has a loud, clear, whistling song; <i>cheewit-pretty-cheewit</i> etc. delivered with crest erect and wings drooping at sides

Common Name	Green-backed Tit
Size	12.5 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas and NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	Green mantle and back, and yellow on underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insect larvae
Habitats	Forest

Parus monticolus



Common Name	Black-throated Tit
Size	10.5 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas and north Indian hills
Identification Keys	Chestnut or rufous crown, white chin and black throat, white cheeks, and grey mantle. Juvenile has white throat and indistinct black-spotted breast-band
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Migration Status	Resident
Habitats	Broadleaved and mixed forest and secondary growth

Aegithalos concinnus



Fantails and Paradise Flycatcher



Fantails- belongs to family Rhipiduridae are arboreal bird, perpetually on the move in search of insects. Characteristically, they erect and spread their tails like fans, and droop the wings. Jerky restless movements. They call continually.

Paradise Flycatcher- belongs to family Monarchidae and is small to medium sized, with long ribbon-like tails in male and small tail in females. Mainly insectivorous.

Photo: Renu Suyal



Rhipidura albicollis



Common Name	White-throated Fantail Flycatcher
Local name	Machharya, Chakdil
Size	19 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalaya, Northeast hill states, peninsular India, Himalayan, Bangladesh
Identification Keys	Narrow white supercilium and white throat, lacks spotting on wing-coverts. Much racial variation, birds in Himalayan and northeast have slate-grey underparts, birds in peninsula have white-spotted grey breast and buff belly
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2700 m
Food	Flies and gnats
Habitats	Forest, secondary growth and wooded area
Call	A harsh <i>chuk-chuk</i> . Also a delightful clear whistling song of several tinkling notes

Common Name	Yellow-bellied Fantail
Size	19 cm
Distribution	Himalayas, NE India and Bangladesh
Identification Keys	From other fantails by yellow forehead and supercilium, dark mask, yellow underparts, greyish olive upper parts and blackish tail which is boldly tipped with white
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Well wooded forest
Call	Constantly uttered <i>sip sip</i> notes strung together to comprise a trilling song

Chelidorhynchus hypoxantha



Common Name	Paradise Flycatcher
Local name	Sultan bulbul
Size	20 cm (+30 cm tail ribbons)
Distribution	Widespread resident, Indian Union; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Sri Lanka & Myanmar
Identification Keys	Male has black head and crest, with white or rufous upperparts and long tail-streamers Female has reduced crest and lacks streamers
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to about 2000 m
Food	Flies, gnats, dipterans
Habitats	Forest and well-wooded areas
Call	A harsh grating <i>che</i> or <i>che-chew</i>

Terpsiphone paradise



Dipper, Chats and Old world Flycatchers



Dipper- belongs to family Cinclidae. Rotund birds with short wings and tails and are adapted for feeding on invertebrates in or under running water. They fly low over the water surface on rapidly whirring wings.

Chats and Old world flycatcher- Chats and Flycatchers belongs to family Muscicapidae. Chats are group of small/medium sized passerines that includes chats, Robins, redstarts, forktails, wheat eaters and rock thrushes. Arboreal, main diet is insects. Flycatchers are small insectivorous birds with small, flattened bills, and bristles at the gape that help in capture of flying insects. Found singly or in pairs.



Photo: G.S. Bharadwaj

Cinclus pallasii

Photo: G.S. Bharadwaj



Common Name	Brown Dipper
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas, North East India and Bangladesh.
Identification Keys	Adult entirely brown. Juvenile has white or rufous-buff spotting on brown upperparts and underparts
IUCN Status	Least concern
Food	Aquatic algae and fauna
Habitats	Mountain streams and small lakes

Common Name	Chestnut bellied Rock Thrush
Size	23 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE India
Identification Keys	Male has chestnut red under parts and blue upper parts including rump. Upper tail coverts and tail lacks white on wing
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Open forest on rocky slopes
Call	Undulating and fluty song

Monticola rufiventris



Common Name	Magpie-Robin / Oriental Magpie-Robin
Local name	Dhaiyal, Dhaiyar
Size	20cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar. Absent in arid areas, e.g. W. Rajasthan and parts of Pakistan, unrecorded in northwest
Identification Keys	Black/ slate- grey and white, with white on wing and at sides of tail, juvenile scaled with dark brown on throat and breast
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2500 m
Food	Insects, chiefly picked off the ground, and flower nectar as of <i>Salmalia</i> and <i>Erythrina</i>
Habitats	Garden, groves and open broadleaved forest
Call	Plaintive <i>swee-ee</i> and harsh <i>chur-r</i> particularly during breeding season

Copsychus saularis saularis (Linnaeus)



Enicurus scouleri



Common Name	Little Forktail
Size	12 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas and NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	Small and plump, with short tail. White forehead
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Aquatic insects
Habitats	Mountain streams; also slower-moving streams in winter and near water falls, feeds by standing on or running over partly submerged rocks, often dashes under the spray of falling water
Call	Rather silent save for a rarely uttered sharp <i>tzittzit</i>

Common Name	Spotted Forktail
Size	27-28 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalaya and North east Indian hills
Identification Keys	Large size; white forehead, white spotting on mantle, and black breast
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Aquatic insects and molluscs
Habitats	Rocky streams in forest and ravines, singly or in separated pairs, flits over moss covered stones at the water's edge or from stone to stone in mid currents
Call	Shrill, screechy <i>kree</i> call, mostly in flight; also some shrill squeaky notes on perch

Enicurus maculatus



Common Name	Bluethroat
Local name	Nil Kanthi, Hussaini Pidda
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Summer visitor to north-west Himalayas; widespread in winter
Identification Keys	White supercilium and rufous tail sides. Male has variable blue, black and rufous patterning to throat and breast. Female is less brightly coloured but usually with blue and rufous breast-bands. First-winter female may have just black submoustachial stripe and band of black spotting across breast
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Mostly caterpillar, tiny beetles and other insects
Habitats	Summers in scrub along streams and lakes; winter in scrub and tall grass
Call	In winter only a harsh subdued <i>chur-r</i> or <i>chuck, chuck</i> . In Summer (breeding) a sweet loud, and rich song delivered by the male from a bush or other perch, or in his pipit-like display flight

Luscinia svecica



Culicicapa ceylonensis



Common Name	Grey-headed canary Flycatcher
Size	13 cm
Distribution	Breeds in Himalaya, hills of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, Plains in Pakistan and N,E and NE India
Identification Keys	Distinctive with grey head and breast. Greenish mantle and yellow belly, flanks and vent
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Forest and wooded area
Call	Loud high pitched interrogative, repeated <i>chik.... whichee- whichee</i> song

Common Name	Rufous bellied Niltava
Size	18 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE India
Identification Keys	Male has dark blue upper parts and orange under parts with brilliant blue crown, neck patch, shoulder patch and rump
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Undergrowth in broadleaved and mixed forest and secondary growth
Call	Includes a raspy <i>z-i-i-i-f-cha-chuk</i> and a hard <i>tic</i>

Niltava sundara



Photo: Renu Suyal

Ficedula strophiatea



Common Name	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher
Size	14 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE India
Identification Keys	Male has dark olive brown upper parts, blackish face and throat. Prominent white forehead and eyebrow. Small Rufous patch in centre of grey breast and large white patches at sides of tail
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Dense and open forest or forest clearings
Call	Song is a thin <i>zreet-creet-creet-chirt-chirt</i>

Niltava macgrigoriae



Common Name	Small Niltava
Size	13 cm
Distribution	Himalaya and NE India
Identification Keys	Small size, male dark blue with brilliant blue forehead and neck patch. Female is dusky brown with indistinct blue neck patch.
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Open forest, scrub at cultivation edges and roadside trees
Call	Thin, high-pitched song which rises then falls

Common Name	Himalayan Blue tail
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Breeds in Himalaya; winters in south to NE Indian hills
Identification Keys	White throat, orange flanks, blue tail and redstart like stance. Male has blue upper parts and breast sides. Female has olive-brown upper parts and breast sides. Also known as Orange-flanked bluetail
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Forest understory and dense bushes in forest clearings
Call	Song is soft and weak <i>churrh-chee</i> or <i>dirrh-tutu-dirrh</i>

Tarsiger (cyanurus) rufilatus



Photo: Renu Suyal

Common Name	Verditer Flycatcher
Size	16 cm
Distribution	Summer visitor, Breeds in Himalayan and NE India, widespread in winter, Indian continent except drier portion of Rajasthan, Pakistan(except Punjab plains &Sind), Bangladesh & Myanmar
Identification Keys	Male greenish- blue, with black lores. Female duller and greyer with dusky lores. Juvenile has orange-buff spotting, with turquoise cast to upperparts and underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1200-3000 m
Food	Insects
Habitats	Open forest and wooded area
Call	Sweet pleasing jingling song rendered as <i>Tze-ju-ju</i>

Eumyias thalassinus



Photo: G.S. Bharadwaj

Saxicola caprata (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Pied Bush Chat
Size	12.5-13 cm
Distribution	Resident, Throughout the Indian subcontinent, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, plains and hills
Identification Keys	Male black, with white rump and wing patch; rufous fringes to body in non-breeding and first-winter plumages Female has dark brown upperparts and rufous-brown underparts, with rufous-orange rump
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2500 m
Food	Insects
Habitats	Mainly cultivation and open country with scattered bushes or tall grass
Call	Utters a harsh <i>chek chek</i> ending in a subdued <i>tweeta</i>

Common Name	Collard Bush Chat / Stone Chat
Local name	Pathar chiria
Size	12.5-13
Distribution	Winter visitor, subcontinent excepting extreme southern peninsula Sri Lanka, plains and hills
Identification Keys	Male has black head, white patch on neck, orange breast and whitish rump (features obscured in fresh plumage); lacks white in tail. Female has streaked upperparts and orange on breast and rump. Tail darker than in female white-tailed
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	700 to 3000 m
Food	Insects
Habitats	Summers in open country with bushes including high-altitude semi-desert, winter in scrub, redbeds and cultivation
Call	Utters <i>chek chek</i>

Saxicola torquatus (Linnaeus)



Saxicola ferreus (Gray)



Common Name	Dark-Grey Bush Chat
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Resident, Breeds in Himalayas and NE Indian Hills, winters south to N Indian plains
Identification Keys	Male has white supercilium and dark mask, upperparts grey to almost black, depending on extent of wear. Female has buff supercilium and rufous rump and tail sides
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1400 to 3500 m
Food	Insects
Habitats	Bushes and secondary growth
Call	Double-noted call; also a grating <i>prae...</i> , triling song (male)

Chaimarrornis leucocephalus (Vigors)



Common Name Whitecapped Redstart or River Chat;
Local name Gir-chaonadia
Size 19 cm
Distribution Resident, Breeds in Himalayas and NE Indian hills, winters south to Baluchistan and Bangladesh
Identification Keys White cap, and rufous tail with broad black terminal band
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range 1800 to 3600 m
Food Aquatic insects and weeds
Habitats Mainly mountain streams and rivers
Call Loud, plaintive *tseeee* call; also a *psit..psit* call; whistling song of breeding male

Common Name Blue-capped Redstart
Size 15 cm
Distribution Himalayas
Identification Keys Male has blue grey cap, black tail and white on wing. coloration heavily obscured by brown fringes in non breeding and first winter plumage
IUCN Status Least Concerned
Migration Status Resident and partial migrant
Habitat Rocky slopes with open forest and secondary growth
Call Pleasant repetitive warbling song; call is a rapid *tit-tit-tit*

Phoenicurus coeruleocephala



Common Name Plumbeous Redstart
Size 12 cm
Distribution Resident, Breeds in Himalayas and NE India hills, winters south to Bangladesh
Identification Keys Male slaty- blue, with rufous-chestnut tail. Female and first-year male have black-and-white tail and white spotting on grey underparts
IUCN Status Least Concern
Altitudinal Range 1200 - 4300 m
Food Aquatic insects and weeds
Habitats Mountain streams and rivers, solitary or in pairs, confines to hill streams where it hops from boulder to boulder, crepuscular, and hunts till late dusk
Call Sharp *kree...* call; also a snapping *tzit..tzit*; rinch jingling song of breeding male

Rhyacornis fuliginosus





Wagtails and Pipits

Both wagtails and Pipits belongs to family Motacillidae. These are small, slender terrestrial birds with long legs, relatively long toes and thin, pointed bills. Some wagtails exhibit wide geographical plumage variation. All walk with a deliberate gait and run rapidly. The flight is undulating and strong. Most wagtails wag the tail up and down and so do some pipits. Feeds on insects by pecking them from the ground as they walk along and also catch prey in mid-flight. Song flights are characteristic of many Pipits.



Motacilla alba



Common Name	White-wagtail
Size	19 cm
Distribution	Resident, Breeds in Himalayas; widespread in winter
Identification Keys	Extremely variable. Head pattern and mantle colour (grey or black) indicate racial identification of breeding males. Non-breeding and first-winter birds often not racially distinguishable. Never has head pattern of white-browed
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects
Habitats	Breeds by running waters in open country; winters near water in open country, Swiftly moves around wetlands and fields. Wags its tail continually up and down
Call	Sharp <i>cheetsik</i> or <i>chizzit</i> .., uttered on the wing

Common Name	White-Browed Wagtail
Size	21 cm
Distribution	Widespread Resident
Identification Keys	Large black-and white wagtail. Head black and white supercilium, and has black mantle. Juvenile has brownish-grey head, mantle and breast, with white supercilium
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 2000 m
Food	Insects
Habitats	Freshwater wetlands, generally sedate and confiding, inhabits clear, rocky smooth running streams with grassy islands
Call	Sharp <i>tzizit</i> or <i>cheezit</i> ..call; pleasant whistling song of breeding male

Motacilla maderaspatensis



Common Name	Grey Wagtail
Size	19 cm
Distribution	Breeds in Baluchistan and Himalayas; widespread in winter
Identification Keys	Longer-tailed than other wagtails. White supercilium, grey upperparts, and yellow vent and undertail-coverts. Male has black throat when breeding
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	1200-4300 m
Food	Insects, small molluscs
Habitats	Breeds by mountain streams; winters by slower streams in lowlands and foothills
Call	Sharp <i>tzitsi</i> .. Calls, uttered on the wing; pleasant song and display flight of breeding male

Motacilla cinerea



Anthus trivialis



Common Name	Tree Pipit
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Resident and winter visitor. Breeds in NorthWest Himalayas; widespread in winter; unrecorded in Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Buffish-brown to greyish ground colour to upperparts (lacking greenish-olive cast), and buffish fringes to greater coverts, tertials and secondaries
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Habitats	Breeds in grassy slopes at treeline; winters in fallow cultivation and open country

Common Name	Olive-backed Pipit
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Breeds in Himalayas, wide spread in winters except NW and SE
Identification Keys	Greenish olive cast to upper parts and edges to wing feathers. Has striking head pattern, prominent supercilium (buffish in front of eye and white behind)
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Winter migrant
Habitat	Open forest
Call	Weak <i>see</i> call

Anthus hodgsoni



Common Name	Long-billed Pipit
Size	20 cm
Distribution	Hills of Pakistan and India, and W Himalayan foothills, also northern plains in winters
Identification Keys	Distinctive from other pipits by long bill. Dark bill greyish upper parts. Has warmer buff under parts
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Summer migrant
Habitat	Rocky slopes and dry scrub
Call	Call a deep <i>Chup</i> , and loud ringing <i>Che-vlee</i>

Anthus similis



Sunbirds, Flowerpeckers and White-eye



Subirds- belongs to family Nectariniidae, these birds have bills and tongue adapted to feed on nectar, they also eat small insects and spiders. The bill is long thin and curved for probing the corollas of flowers. Some sunbirds have long tail as well.

Flowerpeckers- belongs to family Dicaeidae, they are very small passerines with short bill and tails, and with tongue adapted for nectar feeding and are very active. They feed mainly on soft fruit, berries and nectar also on small insects and spiders

White-eye- Very small insectivorous passerine with slightly decurved and pointed bill, brush-tipped tongue and a white ring around each eye.



Cinnyris asiaticus



Common Name	Purple Sunbird
Local name	Shakar khora, Phul soogni
Size	10 cm
Distribution	Resident. Throughout the Indian subcontinent Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
Identification Keys	Male metallic purple. Female has uniform yellowish underparts, with faint supercilium and darker mask (some greyer and white)
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Insects, spiders and very largely flower nectar
Habitats	Open deciduous forests and gardens
Call	A sharp monosyllabic <i>wich, wich</i> and <i>cheewit- cheewit</i> (breeding male)



Common Name	Crimson Sunbird
Local name	Phulchuiya
Size	11 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas, hills of India and Bangladesh; also north and northeast plains in winter
Identification Keys	Male has crimson mantle, scarlet throat and breast, and grey or yellowish-olive belly. Female has yellowish-olive to grey underparts; lacks yellow rump and prominent white on tail. Eclipse male/female can show red throat and breast
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	Up to 2500 m
Food	Nectar, also eats insects and spiders
Habitats	Bushes in forest, and groves
Call	A sharp, harsh <i>chichwee</i>

Aethopyga siparaja



Photo: Renu Suyal

Aethopyga nipalensis



Common Name	Green-tailed Sunbird
Size	11 cm
Distribution	Resident. Himalayas and northeast India
Identification Keys	Male has metallic blue-green crown, throat and tail, maroon mantle, and olive green back. Female lacks prominent yellow rump; has long, graduated tail with white tips
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Food	Flower nectar
Habitats	Forest and secondary growth

Common Name	Fire-breasted Flower-pecker
Size	9 cm
Distribution	Himalayas and NE hills
Identification Keys	Male has dark metallic blue or green upper-parts, buff colored underparts, scarlet breast patch, and black centre of belly. Female has olive green upper parts and orange buff underparts with olive breast sides and flanks
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident
Habitat	Broadleaved forest and gardens/Orchards
Call	Song is a shrill <i>titty-titty-titty</i> . Call is a clicking <i>chip</i>

Dicaeum ignipectus



Common Name	Oriental white-eye
Local name	Baboona
Size	10 cm
Distribution	Resident, Throughout the Indian Union, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar, excepting actual desert, unrecorded in parts of the northwest
Identification Keys	White eye-ring, yellow throat and breast and whitish belly
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	+ up to 2000 m
Food	Flower nectar and on the fleshy pulp of fruits and berries
Habitats	Open broadleaved forest and wooded area
Call	Feeble jingling conversational notes

Zosterops palpebrosus



Sparrows, Finches

Munia and Bunting



Sparrows- belonging to Passeridae family. They have thick conical bills. Most of them are closely associated with human habitation. Feeds on seeds and grains.

Finches- belonging to family Fringillidae, they are small to medium sized passerines with strong, conical bills used for eating seeds. They forage on ground some species also feed on berries of bushes and trees.

Munia- belonging to family Estrildidae, they are small, slim passerines with short, stout conical bills. Feed chiefly on small seed by pulling them directly from seed head.

Bunting- belonging to family Emberizidae, they are small to medium size, terrestrial passerines with strong, conical bills designed for shelling seeds, usually of grasses. Feeds and roosts in flocks outside breeding season. Some buntings have crests.

Passer domesticus



Common Name	House Sparrow
Local name	Gauriya, Ghinauri chaur
Size	14.5 cm
Distribution	Widespread resident, practically world-wide. Throughout India and Himalayas, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar. Absent in the Andaman and Nicobars, Breeds in habitation, except in parts of NE and NW sub continents
Identification Keys	Male has grey crown, black throat and upper breast, chestnut nape and brownish mantle. Female has buffish supercilium and unstreaked greyish- white under parts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Omnivorous; eats grain, insects, fruit buds, flower nectar and kitchen scraps. Sometimes collects in enormous flocks and does damage to ripening crops and in market gardens
Habitats	Cultivation in winter
Call	Monotonous, tsi, tsi, tsi or cheer, cheer, cheer

Passer rutilans



Common Name	Russet Sparrow
Size	15 cm
Distribution	Resident, Himalayas and NE Indian hills, chiefly in the N. W. Himalayas, but also occurs in Nepal, and even in Bhutan
Identification Keys	Male lacks black cheek patch, has bright chestnut mantle and yellowish wash to underparts. Female has prominent supercilium and dark eye-stripe, rufous-brown scapulars and rump and yellowish wash to underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	500 to 2700 m
Food	Omnivorous
Habitats	Open forest, forest edge and cultivation

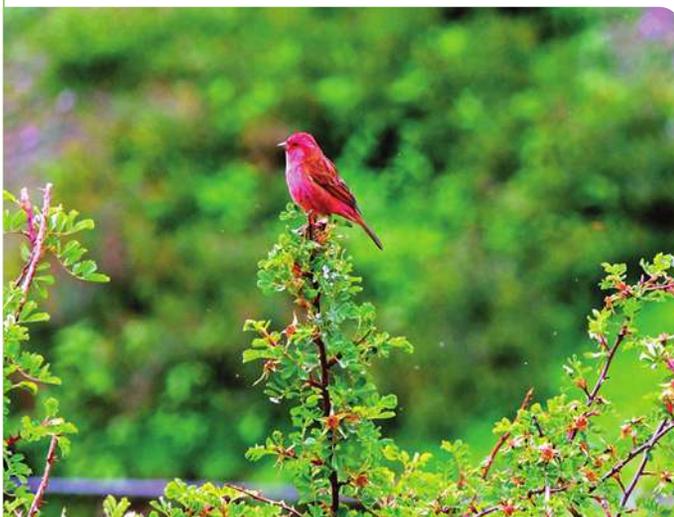
Common Name	Yellow-breasted Greenfinch
Size	14 cm
Distribution	Himalayas and NE India
Identification Keys	Male has blackish olive upper parts, yellow supercilium and crescent behind ear coverts, yellow under parts and rump, and broad yellow panel across wing. Female have paler yellow throat and breast, with whitish belly
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Resident and partial migrant
Habitat	Open forest, shrub and cultivation with nearby trees
Call	Twittering followed by a harsh <i>tsswee</i>

Carduelis spinoides



Common Name	Pink-browed Rosefinch
Size	14-15 cm
Distribution	Himalayas
Identification Keys	Small, compact rosefinch. Male has pink supercilium, rump and underparts, maroon pink crown and ear-coverts. Female have prominent buff supercilium contrasting with dark ear coverts, brownish buff coloration to mantle, tawny to rump
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Winter visitor
Habitat	High altitude shrubs and Oak forest in foothills
Call	Loud <i>per-lee</i> call

Carpodacus rodochroa



Carduelis carduelis



Common Name	European Goldfinch
Size	13-15.5 cm
Distribution	Pakistan Hills and W and C Himalaya
Identification Keys	Grey brown colored with red face, yellow panel across black wings with white on tertials, and white rump. Juvenile lacks red face of adult
IUCN Status	Least Concerned
Migration Status	Winter visitor
Habitat	Shrubberies and open forests
Call	Liquid twittering call

Common Name	Spotted Munia/Scaly-breasted Munia
Local name	Telia munia, Seenabaz
Size	10.7- 12 cm
Distribution	Resident, All India (excepting the arid portions of Rajasthan and Punjab). Assam, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, unrecorded in parts of northwest
Identification Keys	Adult has chestnut throat and upper breast and whitish underparts with dark scaling. Juvenile has brown upperparts and buffish underparts, bill black
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to 2000 m
Food	Grass seeds, winged termites
Habitats	Open forest, bushes and cultivations
Call	Feeble chirps

Lonchura punctulata 'Doctor-bird' is the most common species contributing about 8% of North India bird trade

Lonchura punctulata (Linnaeus)



Common Name	Crested Bunting
Local name	Pathar chiria
Size	17cm
Distribution	Resident, Throughout the lower Himalaya from Kashmir to East Assam, Mount Abu, Rajasthan and central India south to about Satara, east to Bihar
Identification Keys	Always has a chestnut on wing and tail, tail lacks white. Male has bluish-black head and body. Female and first winter male streaked on upperparts and breast, first winter male darker and more heavily streaked than female, with olive- grey ground colour to underparts
IUCN Status	Least Concern
Altitudinal Range	up to to 1800 m
Food	Grass seeds and grains
Habitats	Dry rocky and grassy hillsides and terraced cultivation
Call	<i>Pink pink</i> and <i>which- which- which- whee- whee- which</i> (Breeding male)

Melophus lathami (Gray)



Appendix-I: Check list of birds in “Surya-Kunj”

S No	Family	Scientific name	Common name
S No	Family	Scientific name	Common name
1	Phasianidae	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>	Chukar Partridge
2		<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	Black Francolin
3		<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	Kalij Pheasant
4		<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Red Jungle Fowl
5	Falconidae	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel
6	Accipitridae	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Shikra
7		<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite
8		<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	Steppe Eagle
9		<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	Griffon Vulture
10		<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	Red-headed Vulture
11		<i>Gyps benghalensis</i>	White-rumped Vulture
12		<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Egyptian Vulture
13		<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Crested Serpent Eagle
14		<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian SparrowHawk
15		<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Black-winged Kite
16	Charadriidae	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	Red-wattled Lapwing
17	Columbidae	<i>Columba livia</i>	Common Pigeon
18		<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Oriental Turtle Dove
19		<i>Stigmatopelia chinensis</i>	Spotted Dove
20		<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon
21		<i>Treron sphenurus</i>	Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon
22		<i>Streptopelia deczoco</i>	Eurasian Collared Dove
23		<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	Red Collared Dove
24		<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	Emerald Dove
25	Psittacidae	<i>Psittacula himalayana</i>	Slaty-headed Parakeet
26		<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	Plum-headed Parakeet
27		<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Rose-ringed Parakeet
28	Cuculidae	<i>Hierococyx varius</i>	Common Hawk Cuckoo
29		<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Eurasian Cuckoo
30		<i>Surniculcus lugubris</i>	Drongo Cuckoo
31		<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>	Asian Koel
32	Strigidae	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>	Asian Barred Owlet
33		<i>Strix(aluco) nivicola</i>	Himalayan Wood Owl
34	Upupidae	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Common Hoopoe
35	Alcedinidae	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>	Crested Kingfisher
36		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Common Kingfisher
37		<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	White-throated Kingfisher
38		<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Pied Kingfisher
39	Meropidae	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater
40		<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Green Bee-eater
41	Ramphastidae	<i>Megalaima virens</i>	Great Barbet
42		<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	Blue throated Barbet
43	Picidae	<i>Picumnus innominatus</i>	Speckled Piculet
44		<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>	Rufous Woodpecker
45		<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>	Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker
46		<i>Dendrocopos auriceps</i>	Brown-fronted Woodpecker
47		<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	Lesser Yellownape
48		<i>Picus squamatus</i>	Scaly-bellied Woodpecker
49		<i>Picus canus</i>	Grey-headed Woodpecker
50	Artamidae	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>	Ashy Woodswallow
51	Campephagidae	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	Long-tailed Minivet
52		<i>Pericrocotus falmmuus</i>	Scarlet Minivet
53	Laniidae	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Long-tailed Shrike
54	Dicruridae	<i>Dicrurus macroercus</i>	Black Drongo
55		<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

S No	Family	Scientific name	Common name
56		<i>Dicrurus annectans</i>	Crow-billed Drongo
57		<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Ashy Drongo
58		<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	Spangled Drongo
59	Oriolidae	<i>Oriolus oriolus kundoo</i>	Indian Golden Oriole
60		<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	Black-hooded Oriole
61	Rhipiduridae	<i>Chelidorhynch hypoxantha</i>	Yellow-bellied Fantail
62		<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	White-throated Fantail
63	Monarchidae	<i>Terpsiphone paradise</i>	Asian Paradise Flycatcher
64	Corvidae	<i>Garrulus lanceolatus</i>	Black-headed Jay
65		<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	Red-billed Blue Magpie
66		<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	Rufous Treepie
67		<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>	Grey Treepie
68		<i>Corvus (macrorhynchous) culminatus</i>	Indian Jungle Crow
69		<i>Corvus splendens</i>	House Crow
70	Paridae	<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit
71		<i>Parus monticolus</i>	Green-backed Tit
72		<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>	Black-lored Tit
73	Aegithalidae	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	Black-throated Tit
74		<i>Cephalopyrus flammiceps</i>	Fire-capped Tit
75	Hirundinidae	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow
76		<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	Red-rumped Swallow
77		<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	Wire-tailed Swallow
78	Pycnonotidae	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	Himalayan Bulbul
79		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	Red-vented Bulbul
80		<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	Black Bulbul
81		<i>Pycnonotus (melanicterus)flaviventris</i>	Black-crested Bulbul
82	Cisticolidae	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>	Grey-breasted Prinia
83		<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common Tailorbird
84		<i>Prinia criniger</i>	Striated Prinia
85	Sylviidae	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>	Lemon-rumped Warbler
86		<i>Seicercus whisteleri</i>	Whistler's Warbler
87		<i>Phylloscopus xanthoschistos</i>	Grey-hooded Warbler
88		<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Common Chiffchaff
89	Timaliidae	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	Puff-throated Babbler
90		<i>Stachyridopsis pyrrhops</i>	Black-chinned Babbler
91		<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogenys</i>	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler
92		<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>	Common Babbler
93		<i>Turdoides striata</i>	Jungle Babbler
94		<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>	Streaked Laughingthrush
95		<i>Pteruthius flaviscapis</i>	White-browed Shrike Babbler
96		<i>Malacias capistratus</i>	Rufous Sibia
97		<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	Yellow-eyed Babbler
98		<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	White-throated Laughingthrush
99		<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	White-crested Laughingthrush
100		<i>Fulvetta vinipectus</i>	White-browed Fulvetta
101	Zosteropidae	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	Oriental White-eye
102	Cinclidae	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>	Brown Dipper
103	Sittidae	<i>Sitta (castanea) cinnamoventris</i>	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch
104		<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	Wallcreeper
105	Certhiidae	<i>Certhia himalayana</i>	Bar-tailed Treecreeper
106	Sturnidae	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	Jungle Myna
107		<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common Myna
108		<i>Acridotheres albocinctus</i>	Bank Myna
109	Turdidae	<i>Mycophonus caeruleus</i>	Blue-whistling Thrush
110		<i>Turdus atrogularis</i>	Black-throated Thrush

S No	Family	Scientific name	Common name
111	Muscicapidae	<i>Tarsiger (cyanurus) rufilatus</i>	Himalayan Bluetail
112		<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Oriental Magpie Robin
113		<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosa</i>	Plumbeous Water Redstart
114		<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	White-capped Redstart
115		<i>Phoenicurus coerulescapula</i>	Blue-capped Redstart
116		<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	Little Forktail
117		<i>Enicurus maculates</i>	Spotted Forktail
118		<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	Pied Bushchat
119		<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>	Grey Bushchat
120		<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>	Verditer Flycatcher
121		<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher
122		<i>Niltava sundara</i>	Rufous-bellied Niltava
123		<i>Cercomela fusca</i>	Brown Rockchat
124		<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Common Stonechat
125		<i>Ficesula parva</i>	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher
126		<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	Tyga Flycatcher
127		<i>Ficedula perva</i>	Red-breasted Flycatcher
128		<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>	Small Niltava
129		<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>	Chestnut bellied rock thrush
130	Dicaeidae	<i>Dicaeum agile</i>	Thick-billed Flowerpecker
131		<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker
132	Nectariniidae	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	Purple Sunbird
133		<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	Crimson Sunbird
134		<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>	Green tailed Sunbird
135	Passeridae	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow
136		<i>Passer rutilans</i>	Russet Sparrow
137		<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow
138	Estrildidae	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Scaly-breasted Munia
139	Ploceidae	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	Baya Weaver
140	Motacillidae	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail
141		<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White Wagtail
142		<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	Olive-backed Pipit
143		<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Tree Pipit
144		<i>Anthus similis</i>	Long-billed Pipit
145	Fringillidae	<i>Carduelis spinoides</i>	Yellow-breasted Greenfinch
146		<i>Carpodacus rodochroa</i>	Pink-browed Rosefinch
147		<i>Serinus pusillus</i>	Red-fronted Serin
148		<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	Common Rosefinch
149		<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	European Goldfinch
150	Emberizidae	<i>Melophus lathamii</i>	Crested Bunting
151		<i>Emberiza stewarti</i>	White-capped Bunting

Richness of species in families

1	Muscicapidae	19
2	Timaliidae	13
3	Accipitridae	10
4	Columbidae	8
5	Picidae	7
6	Corvidae	6
7	Phasianidae	5
8	Dicruridae	5
9	Pycnonotidae	5
10	Sylviidae	5
11	Motacillidae	5
12	Fringillidae	5
13	Cuculidae	4
14	Alcedinidae	4
15	Paridae	4
16	Sturnidae	4
17	Nectariniidae	4
18	Psittacidae	3
19	Strigidae	3
20	Hirundinidae	3
21	Cisticolidae	3
22	Passeridae	3
23	Meropidae	2
24	Ramphastidae	2
25	Campephagidae	2
26	Oriolidae	2
27	Rhipiduridae	2
28	Aegithalidae	2
29	Sittidae	2
30	Certhiidae	2
31	Turdidae	2
32	Dicaeidae	2
33	Emberizidae	2
34	Falconidae	1
35	Charadriidae	1
36	Upupidae	1
37	Artamidae	1
38	Laniidae	1
39	Monarchidae	1
40	Zosteropidae	1
41	Cinclidae	1
42	Estrildidae	1
43	Ploceidae	1

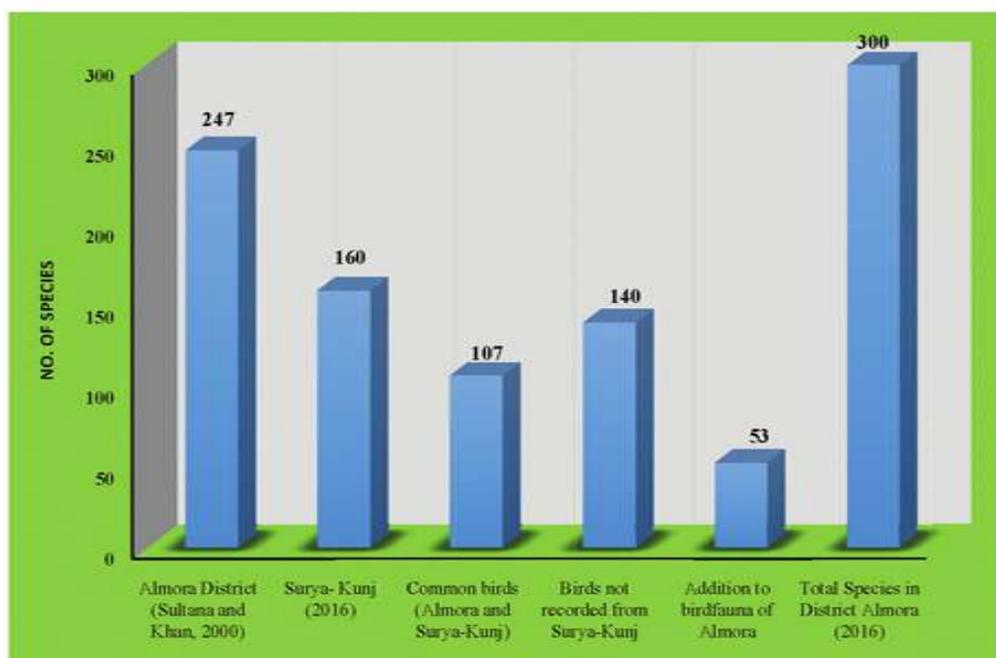
Doubtful Record of Birds from earlier studies in GBPIHED

S.N.	Family	Scientific Name	Common Name
1	Phasianidae	<i>Francolinus pictus</i>	Painted Francolin*
2	Strigidae	<i>Bubo nipalensis</i>	Spot bellied Eagle Owl**
3	Pycnonotidae	<i>Picnonotus atriceps</i>	Black headed Bulbul*
4	Sturnidae	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	Hill Myna***
5	Nectariniidae	<i>Leptocoma minima</i>	Crimson backed Sunbird*
6	Sylviidae	<i>Seicercus polioygenys</i>	Grey cheeked warbler***
7	Certhiidae	<i>Salpornis spilonotus</i>	Spotted Creeper*
8	Paridae	<i>Parus spilonotus</i>	Yellow –cheeked tit*
9	Timaliidae	<i>Turdus subrufa</i>	Rufous Babbler*

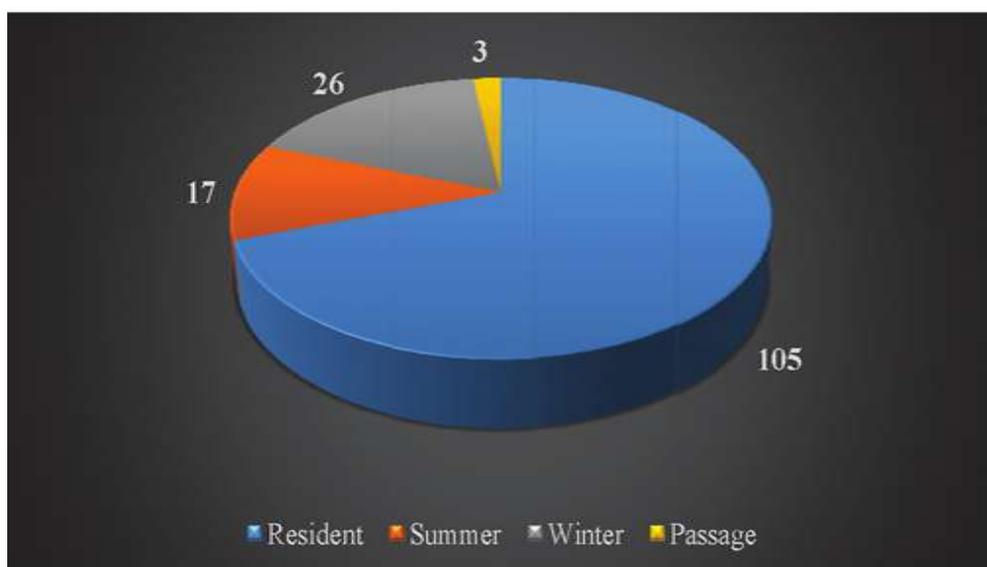
*Not recorded from the region till now; **Former ranges (no recent records but might still survive);*** Isolated records (Grimmett et al., 2011).



Comparative analysis of Avifauna in Almora District and *Surya-Kunj*



Diversity of Birds in *Surya-Kunj* across Migration type



Suggested Readings

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G. B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development

Kosi-Katarmal, Almora 263643 (Uttarakhand)

<http://gbpihed.gov.in/>