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AVIFAUNAL DIVERSITY OF PADMAPUR AREA, DIST- CHANDRAPUR MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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Abstract
The enormous diversity of life in itself is of crucial value probably giving greater resilience to ecosystems and cultural values. Birds are unique among vertebrates as they have true ability to fly. They play major role in ecosystems as potential pollinators and scavengers and are rightly called as bio-indicators. Birds are found in various contrasting environments from warm arid zone to cold arid zones. It represents the unique habitat for wild life and avifauna in Central India. A good congregation of avifaunal diversity includes residents, winter visitors and some uncommon birds. In small village ponds are the abode of water birds also gives shelter to good number of avian fauna. The survey of avifauna from this region was undertaken during the period from August 2012 to January 2013. In the present study, total 28 species were recorded. Good congregation of black ibis, black shoulder kite, common coot, Asian Koel and Kingfisher observed and regularly found in and around area.
Keywords: Padmapur, avian fauna

Introduction:

The birds are of great economic importance to man. They play an important role in controlling population of different pests. They are scavengers and pollinating agents and also help's in dispersal of seeds. They provide rich food for mankind and are known to man since ages Chitampally and Bhatkhande, (1993). Ali (1996) laid the foundation of economic ornithology. The birds are very significant component of biodiversity and are the most important indicators of the balanced living systems. The population of birds in a particular ecosystem is depending on the composition of the ecosystem, environmental condition and seasonal variation.

Birds serve as one of the best environmental indicators. Their presence anywhere speaks volumes of the environment as to whether all is well or there is something amiss. The presences of birds also show the biological importance or going technical, the biodiversity significance of that area. Birds are found throughout the world, at approximately all altitudes and in almost every climate. Birds have great efficiency to fly. They are good bioindicators in terms of potential pollinators and scavengers. Population of birds is a sensitive indicator of pollution in both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem. Many ecologists made their attention to relation of birds with the other communities. The various lake and wetlands in any city serve as a balancing reservoir for sustain native flora and fauna , now a days due to civilization the birds are going to destroyed, which directly affect on their reproduction and nesting (Patil and Tijare, 2012). Birds are essential animal group of an ecosystem and maintain a tropic level. Therefore, detail study on avifauna and their ecology is important to protect them. Earlier researches have studied avifauna in India, Rose (1910), King (1911), Waite (1920), Chintampalli and Bhatkhande (1993), Wadatkar and Kasambe (2002), Yardi, *et al.,* (2004), Kulkarni (2005), Anil Mahabal (2006), Thakor *et al.,* (2010) and Gorghate *et al.,* (2012).

Materials and Methods:

No specific study on avifaunal status in the urban region of Padmapur area, Chandrapur District has been undertaken, although Chandrapur District holds the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve which have varied and rich Avifauna. Adjoining area of Tadoba National Park and Andhari wild life sanctuary which is protected area and as a extension to Tadoba Nation Park. Avifauna of Padmapur region of District Chandrapur is unexplored as yet and hence the present survey done. It is 09 km away from Chandrapur city. It is situated near Super Thermal Power Station, Urjanagar (CTPS).

The birds were observed with the help of binocular and photographed using digital camera Pentax with tele lens, (Mega pixels 3.1 and optical zoom 25x). The survey of avifauna from this region was undertaken during the period from February 2012 to January 2013 in the morning 7.30 AM to 10.30 AM and afternoon 4.30 PM. to 6.30 PM. The identification was done with the help of standard text of Ali (1996) and Ali and Ripley (1983).

Observation and Result:

Survey of birds in the area of Padmapur region were studied during February 2012 to January 2013 and tabulated in Table 1.1. In the present study, total 28 species were recorded. Good congregation of black ibis, black shoulder kite, common coot, Asian Koel and Kingfisher observed and regularly found in and around area. The birds observed in the habitat were segregated and documented as 11 residential birds, one resident migratory, 2 occasional and 14 Common birds of the area. According to their feeding habits 4 are Insectivorous birds, 4 are Granivorous birds, 10 are Carnivorous birds, 8 are Omnivorous birds. One Frugivorous, one Fish-eating and one Herbivorous bird were identified. The birds observed in the habitat were segregated and documented as Rare(R), Residential (RS), Resident Migratory (RM), Occasional (O) and Common (C) according to their feeding habits and status of appearance.

Table 1.1: Avifaunal Diversity of Padmapur Area, Chandrapur

S. N.	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATUS
1	*Amandava amandava*	Red munia	C
2	*Ardeola grayii*	Indian pond heron	C
3	*Centropus sinensis*	Greater Coucal	O
4	*Coracias benghalensis*	Indian roller	C
5	*Copsychus saularis*	Oriental magpie robin	C
6	*Dicrurus macrocercus*	Black drongo	RS
7	*Acridotheres tristis*	Common Myna	RS
8	*Accipiter badius*	Shikra	O
9	*Bubulcus ibis*	Cattle Egret	C
10	*Passeridae spp.*	Sparrow	RS
11	*Eudynamys scolopaceus*	Asian koel	RM
12	*Corvus splendens*	House crow	RS
13	*Merops orientalis*	Little Green Bee eater	RS
14	*Sturnia pagodarum*	Brahminy starling	C
15	*Nectarinia aspasia*	Sunbird	RS
16	*Psittacula krameri*	Rose-ringed parakeet	C
17	*Actitis hypoleucos*	Common Sandpiper	C
18	*Charadrius dubius*	Little ringed plover	R
19	*Ploceus philippinus*	Baya weaver	RS
20	*Orthotomus sutorius*	Common Tailor Bird	RS
21	*Turdoides striata*	Jungle babbler	C
22	*Saxicoloides fulicatus*	Indian Robin	C
23	*Pycnonotus cafer*	Red vented Bulbul	C
24	*Streptopelia chinensis*	Spotted Dove	RS
25	*Upupa epops*	common Hoopoe	C
26	*Vanellus indicus*	Red wattled Lapwing	RS
27	*Caprimulgus asiaticus*	Common Indian Nightjar	C
28	*Coturnix coturnix*	Common quail	C

Discussion:

The avifauna of India includes around 1301 species, of which 42 are endemic, 1 has been introduced by humans, and 26 are rare or accidental. Two species have been extirpated in India and 82 species are globally threatened. The Indian Peacock *(Pavo cristatus)* is the national bird of India. Aquatic birds play an important role in wetland ecosystem because they act as a consumer in trophic levels of such system. They are also considered as an indicator of changes occurring in the aquatic environment.

In the present study, total 28 species were recorded. Good congregation of black ibis, black shoulder kite, common coot, Asian Koel and Kingfisher observed and regularly found in and around area. Kulkarni *et al.*, (2006) reported occurrence of 93 species of birds, belonging to 39 families and 16 orders from Shikhachi Wadi, Reservoir, Dist. Nanded, Maharashtra. Kumar and Bohara (2002) recorded 103 species of birds belonging to 43 families and 13 orders from Udhuwa Lake (Jharkhand). Osmaston (1922a) studied on Birds of Pachmari. Similarly, Telkhade (2008) recorded total 43 species of birds from TATR Chandrapur. The birds observed in the habitat were segregated and documented as 11 residential birds, one resident migratory, 2 occasional and 14 Common birds of the area. According to their feeding habits 4 are Insectivorous birds, 4 are Granivorous birds, 10 are Carnivorous birds, 8 are Omnivorous birds. One Frugivorous, one Fish-eating and one Herbivorous birds were identified. The birds observed in the habitat were segregated and documented as Rare(R), Residential (RS), Resident Migratory (RM), Occasional (O) and Common (C) according to their feeding habits

and status of appearance. Kedar and Patil (2005) recorded 60 bird species from Rishi Lake and its surrounding area. Prakash (1999) described 12 species of aquatic birds from Bahadur Sagar (Jhabua) M.P. Yardi *et al.,* (2004) reported 64 species of birds in Salim Ali Lake, Aurangabad.

In the present investigation, total 28 species were recorded. Good congregation of common birds. Birds have their functional role in the ecosystem as potential pollinators and scavengers and are rightly called as bioindicators (James *et al.,* (1999). Birds are the part of the, natural habitat of the Indian subcontinent. In India, there is no off season for birds. Birds have been always fascinated for their ability to fly in air and for their exquisite colouration. They have their functional role in the ecosystem as potential pollinators and scavengers and are rightly called as bioindicators, (Ali and Ripley, 1983).

It is being suggested that the avifauna are important for the ecosystem as they play various roles as scavenger, pollinators and predators of insect pest. The survey is conducted to create the awareness for avifauna biodiversity of Padmapur area for their conservation. It is need of the day to conserve the biodiversity of avifauna of Padmapur Area and Chandrapur District which is a third polluted area of the world.

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