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Checklist of avifauna from some selected sites of Visnagar city, Mehshana, North Gujarat

Aditya Parihar, Parin Dal, Yogesh Khandla, Dharmik Parmar, Vishal Parihar and Hiteshkumar Parmar

Abstract

Birds play a very important role in the food web and food chain of the ecosystem. Data records were encompassed by visual encounter survey method at random with a total of 98 days of samplings by four man-hours. A total of 96 species of birds from 40 families and 86 genera were recorded from selected sites. Among all the sites, maximum number of genera, species, Simpson's diversity index, Simpson's reciprocal index and Shannon wiener's species diversity were higher in the Pindariya lake site. 05 species were Nearly Threatened and single species Asian Woollyneck (*Ciconia episcopus*) was Venerable (IUCN, 2019). It is apparent that urban and rural areas of Visnagar city maintain avifaunal diversity and sustain the ecosystem services derived from them.

Keywords: Avifauna, checklist, conservation status, urban and rural sites, Visnagar city

Introduction

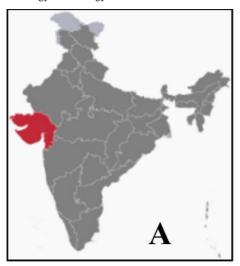
Birds play a very important role in the ecosystems such as predators, pollinators, scavengers, seed dispersals, seed predators and ecosystem engineers by behaviorally and those that arise via bird products ^[1]. Globally there is a total of 9672 species of birds in the world have been reported ^[2]. A total of 1932 species and 113 families species recorded from Southeast Asia listed ^[3] and 1263 species from 23 orders, 107 families and 492 genera listed from India ^[4]. From the Gujarat state Parasharya listed 526 species and 76 families ^[5]; Ganpule listed 574 species of birds from the various localities of the state ^[6]. From the Mehshana district, a total of 229 species of birds were listed by online database "bog" (http://birdsofgujarat.co.in/). From the Visnagar city and vicinity, there are some ornithologists studied breeding activities of some urban birds ^[7, 8, 9, 10, 11]. The avifaunal diversity was studied and recorded 103 species of birds from the urban area ^[12]. Thereafter no such records of the avifaunal studies have found in this area. So, the current study dealt with a checklist and systematics updates of avifauna, sitewise comparison, site-wise diversity indices, conservation status and photographic documentation of all the recorded birds from the study area.

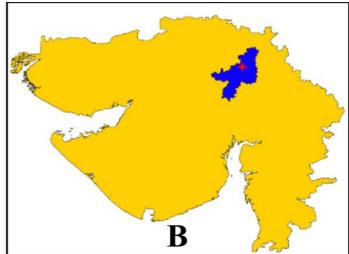
Material and Methods Location and study period

Visnagar is a taluka place of Mehshana district, which is about more than 700 years old. It is situated between 23° 42' N and 71° 34' E above 127 MSL. It is surrounded by wetland and agricultural land ecosystems and there is no forest area and a large river. The experiment was conducted from the year of July-2015 to December-2018 in two urban sites (Arvindnagar, M. N. College) and three rural sites (Dediya Lake, Pindariya Lake, Singhoda Lake) of Visnagar city (Fig. 1) and characteristics of the sites are also shown in Table 1.

Material used and survey methodology

The study sites have visited an average of 1 to 3 days in a month by four man-hours. A total of 98 days of samplings were randomly done by a visual encounter survey method (Table. 2). For the data collection and field survey, binocular (Celestron Up-close 12x50 and Celestron Up-close G2 10x25), DSLR (Canon 700D, Nikon D5300) cameras and Point and shoot (Sony cyber-shot, Canon HX 530HS) cameras were used to photography and observed the birds accurately. For identification of avian species, taxonomic books such as [13, 14, 15, 6] and online versions of the birds database Birdlife International (www.birdlife.org) and Birds of Gujarat.





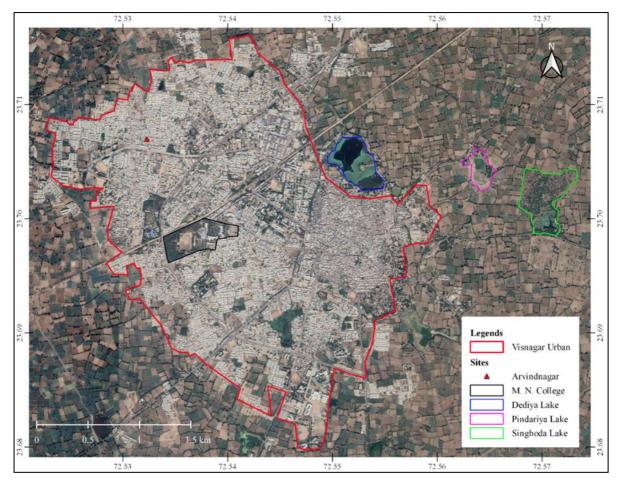


Fig 1: A. Location of Gujarat in India. B. Location of Mehshana in Gujarat. C. Location of Visnagar city and study area.

Data analysis

Checklist and systematics of the recorded avifauna from Visnagar city with references to five selected sites from two different zones (urban and rural) up to the genus and species level (Table 3). Site-wise familial diversity indices and

overall diversity indices were calculated (Table 4) in the PAST ^[16]. Site-wise comparisons based on the presence-absence similarity of recorded avifauna by group average link from the study area (index of Bray-Curtis) by using BioDiversity Professional version 2.0 developed ^[17] in Fig. 2.

Table 1: Site characteristics and GPS location of the study area.

Code	Site name	Coordinates (N, E)	Zone / site characteristics	Area (m ²)
S1	Arvindnagar	23.706770, 72.532188	Urban, residential area	303
S2	Pindariya Lake	23.7045926,72.5626582	Rural, very less human encouragement activities	71700
S3	Dediya Lake	23.7048405,72.5499826	Rural, close to human residential area	166830
S4	M. N. College	23.6990657,72.5368621	Urban, multi-structural habitat complex	169346
S5	Singhoda Lake	23.701352,72.5722674	Rural, protected areas	224095

Table 2: Summary of visits during study period.

Year						Mon	ths						Total
1 ear	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1 Otai
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	3	5	3	3	27
2016	4	0	3	2	0	5	5	4	3	3	4	2	35
2017	4	1	4	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	19
2018	2	2	3	1	1	3	2	2	0	0	0	1	17
Total	10	3	10	7	3	10	15	13	6	8	7	6	98

Results and Discussion

A total of 96 species of birds from 40 families and 86 genera were recorded from the five selected sites. Among them, a maximum number of genus and species were recorded from the Ardeidae family. Among all the sites, the Pindariya Lake was the maximum number of genera (78) and species (86) were recorded followed by Singhoda Lake (60 genera, 68

species), Dediya Lake (61 genera, 67 species), M. N. College (36 genera, 37 species) and Arvindnagar site (24 genera, 26 species) in Table 3.

Overall, avifaunal diversity reveals that the maximum number of the family (40) and species (86) recorded from the Pindariya lake site. Simpson's diversity index (1-D), Simpson's reciprocal index (1/D) and Shannon wiener's species diversity (H') were higher in the Pindariya lake site (1-D = 0.963, 1/D = 26.8, H' = 3.5) among all the sites. Pielou's evenness (0.894) were found significantly higher in the Arvindnagar site among all the sites. Margalef's richness was recorded maximum and similar (8.8) in the Pindariya lake and Singhoda lake site (Table 4). Pindariya lake site is located between the urban and rural of the Visnagar city so that it plays a very important role as a bridge between the urban and rural zones for the bird dispersals.

Table 3: Checklist of avifauna recorded in study area.

	g .	g			Site			7.50
	Species name	Scientific name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	MS
		Family: Accipitridae						•
1.	Black Kite	Milvus migrans ^{LC} **	-	-	+	+	+	В
2.	Oriental Honey-buzzard	Pernis ptilorhynchus ^{LC} **	+	+	+	-	+	В
3.	Shikra	Accipiter badius ^{LC} **	+	+	+	+	+	В
		Family: Aegithinidae						
4.	Common Iora	Aegithina tiphia ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	В
		Family: Alcedinidae						
5.	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	В
6.	Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
7	White-throated Kingfisher	Halcyon smyrnensis ^{LC}	+	+	+	-	+	О
		Family: Anatidae						
8.	Knob-billed Duck	Sarkidiornis melanotos ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
9	Cotton Pygmy-goose	Nettapus coromandelianus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	Е
10.	Indian Spot-billed Duck	Anas poecilorhyncha ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
11.	Lesser Whistling-duck	Dendrocygna javanica ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
12.	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	P
13.	Ruddy Shelduck	Tadorna ferruginea ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	Н
		Family: Anhingidae						
14.	Oriental Darter	Anhinga melanogaster ^{NT}	-	+	+	-	-	K
		Family: Ardeidae						
15.	Black-crowned Night-heron	Nycticorax nycticorax ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	В
16.	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	В
17.	Great White Egret	Ardea alba ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
18.	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	D
19.	Indian Pond-heron	Ardeola grayii ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
20.	Intermediate Egret	Ardea intermedia ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
21.	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
22.	Purple Heron	Ardea purpure ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
		Family: Bucerotidae						
23.	Indian Grey Hornbill	Ocyceros birostris ^{LC}	-	+	-	+	+	M
		Family: Burhinidae						
24.	Eurasian Thick-knee	Burhinus oedicnemus ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	В
		Family: Charadriidae						
25.	Little Ringed Plover	Charadrius dubius ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	+	В
26.	Red-wattled lapwing	Vanellus indicus ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	О
27.	Yellow-Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus vanellus ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	N

Table 3: Continue....

	Curaina mama	C 4 · 6 ·	Site						
	Species name	Scientific name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	MS	
	Family: Ciconiidae								
1.	Asian Woollyneck	Ciconia episcopus ^{VU}	-	+	-	-	-	Е	
2.	Asian Openbill	Anastomus oscitans ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	В	
3.	Painted Stork	Mycteria leucocephala ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	L	
	Family: Cisticolidae								
4.	Ashy Prinia	Prinia socialis ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	В	

S. Common Tailorbird																	
6. Eurasian Collared-dove Streptopelia decaocto LC + - - - - + + + + + + + + + + + + - - - - - - - -	5.	Common Tailorbird	Orthotomus sutorius ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В								
7. Laughing Dove Spilopelia senegalensis LC + - + - - - + - - - + + F <th< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>Family: Columbidae</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></th<>			Family: Columbidae														
8. Red Collared Dove Streptopelia tranquebarica LC + - - + - - - - + + - - - - + + - - + + - - - + + - - - - - + -<	6.	Eurasian Collared-dove	Streptopelia decaocto ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В								
9. Common Pigeon## Columba livia	7.	Laughing Dove		+	+	+	+	+	В								
10. Yellow-footed Green-pigeon	8.	Red Collared Dove	Streptopelia tranquebarica ^{LC}	+	+	+	_	+	В								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	9.	Common Pigeon##		+	+	+	+	+	-								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	10.	Yellow-footed Green-pigeon	Treron phoenicoptera ^{LC}	-	+	-	+	-	O								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$																	
12. House Crow Corvus splendens LC + + - + - B 13. Indian Jungle Crow Corvus macrorhynchos - + - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	11.	Indian Roller	Coracias benghalensis ^{LC}	-	-	-	+	+	F								
13. Indian Jungle Crow Corvus macrorhynchos - + - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - <th< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>Family: Corvidae</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></th<>			Family: Corvidae														
14. Rufous Treepie Dendrocitta vagabunda LC + <	12.	House Crow	Corvus splendens ^{LC}	+	+	-	+	-	В								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	13.	Indian Jungle Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos	-	+	-	-	-	-								
15. Asian Koel Eudynamys scolopaceus LC + + + + + + - - - B 16. Common Hawk-cuckoo $Hierococcyx varius ^{LC}$ - + - - - B 17. Greater Coucal $Centropus sinensis ^{LC}$ + +	14.	Rufous Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	О								
16.Common Hawk-cuckoo $Hierococcyx\ varius^{LC}$ -+B17.Greater Coucal $Centropus\ sinensis^{LC}$ ++++++B18.Jacobin Cuckoo $Clamator\ jacobinus^{LC}$ -+BFamily: Dicruridae19.Black Drongo $Dicrurus\ macrocercus^{LC}$ ++++++++GFamily: Estrildidae20.Indian Silverbill $Euodice\ malabarica^{LC}$ ++++++BFamily: Hirundiniae21.Red-rumped Swallow $Cecropis\ daurica^{LC}$ -++A22.Wire-tailed Swallow $Hirundo\ smithii^{LC}$ -++AFamily: Jacanidae23.Pheasant-tailed Jacana $Hydrophasianus\ chirurgus^{LC}$ -++BFamily: Laniidae24.Long-tailed Shrike $Lanius\ schach^{LC}$ -++BFamily: Laridae25.Heuglin's gull $Larus\ fuscus^{LC}$ -+																	
17. Greater Coucal Centropus sinensis LC + + + + + + + + + + + + + + - - - B Family: Dicruridae 19. Black Drongo Dicrurus macrocercus LC + - - + + - - - + + +<	15.	Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	-								
18. Jacobin Cuckoo Clamator jacobinus LC - + - - - B B Family: Dicruridae 19. Black Drongo Dicrurus macrocercus LC + B Eamily: Hirundinidae 21. Red-rumped Swallow Cecropis daurica LC - + + - - A 22. Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii LC - + + - - - A 23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana Hydrophasianus chirurgus LC - + + - - B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach LC - + - - + - - + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull <td <="" colspan="8" td=""><td>16.</td><td>Common Hawk-cuckoo</td><td>Hierococcyx varius ^{LC}</td><td>-</td><td>+</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>В</td></td>	<td>16.</td> <td>Common Hawk-cuckoo</td> <td>Hierococcyx varius ^{LC}</td> <td>-</td> <td>+</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>В</td>								16.	Common Hawk-cuckoo	Hierococcyx varius ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	В
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	17.	Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В								
19. Black Drongo Dicrurus macrocercus LC + - - A 22. Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii LC - + + + - - A 23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana Hydrophasianus chirurgus LC - + + - - B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach LC - + - - + - - + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull Larus fuscus LC - + - - - - - - - -	18.	Jacobin Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	В								
			Family: Dicruridae														
20. Indian Silverbill Euodice malabarica LC + + + + - + B Family: Hirundinidae 21. Red-rumped Swallow Cecropis daurica LC - + + A 22. Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii LC - + + O Family: Jacanidae 23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana Hydrophasianus chirurgus LC - + + B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach LC - + + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull Larus fuscus LC - + I	19.	Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	G								
21. Red-rumped Swallow Cecropis daurica LC - + + - - A 22. Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii LC - + + - - O Family: Jacanidae 23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana Hydrophasianus chirurgus LC - + + - - B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach LC - + - - + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull Larus fuscus LC - + - - - I	20.	Indian Silverbill	Euodice malabarica ^{LC}	+	+	+	-	+	В								
22. Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii LC - + + - O Family: Jacanidae 23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana $Hydrophasianus chirurgus^{LC}$ - + + - - B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike $Lanius schach^{LC}$ - + - - + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull $Larus fuscus^{LC}$ - + - - - I																	
	21.	Red-rumped Swallow		-	+	+	-	-	Α								
23. Pheasant-tailed Jacana $Hydrophasianus\ chirurgus\ ^{LC}$ - + + B Family: Laniidae 24. Long-tailed Shrike $Lanius\ schach\ ^{LC}$ - + + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull $Larus\ fuscus\ ^{LC}$ - + I	22.	Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	О								
			Family: Jacanidae														
24. Long-tailed Shrike $Lanius schach^{LC}$ - + + B Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull $Larus fuscus^{LC}$ - + I	23.	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	Hydrophasianus chirurgus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	В								
Family: Laridae 25. Heuglin's gull Larus fuscus LC - + I			Family: Laniidae														
25. Heuglin's gull Larus fuscus LC - + I	24.	Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	+	В								
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			Family: Laridae														
26. River Tern Sterna aurantia NT - + B	25.	Heuglin's gull	Larus fuscus ^{LC}	-	+	-	_	-	I								
	26.	River Tern	Sterna aurantia ^{NT}	-	+	-	-	-	В								

Table 3: Continue...

	Consider manage	G - 1 - 1 · 0 ·			Site				
	Species name	Scientific name	S1	S2	S3	S4 S5		MS	
		Family: Leiotrichidae		•	•				
1.	Jungle babbler	Turdoides striata ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
2.	Lrge grey babbler	Turdoides malcolmi ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	О	
		Family: Megalaimidae							
3.	Coppersmith Barbet	Psilopogon haemacephalus ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	В	
	Family: Meropidae								
4.	Green Bee-eater	Merops orientalis ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
		Family: Motacillidae							
5.	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	I	
	-	Family: Muscicapidae							
6.	Indian Robin	Saxicoloides fulicatus ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
7.	Oriental Magpie-robin	Copsychus saularis ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
8.	Pied Bushchat	Saxicola caprata ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	I	
		Family: Nectariniidae							
9.	Purple Sunbird	Cinnyris asiaticus ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
	-	Family: Passeridae							
10.	Chestnut-shouldered Bush- sparrow	Gymnoris xanthocollis ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	В	
11.	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В	
	•	Family: Pelecanidae		•	•				
12	Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	+	I	
		Family: Phalacrocoracidae							
13	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	J	
14	Little Cormorant	Microcarbo niger ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	J	
		Family: Phasianidae							
15.	Grey Francolin	Francolinus pondicerianus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В	
16	Indian Peafowl#	Pavo cristatus ^{LC} ***	-	+	+	+	+	В	
		Family: Phoenicopteridae							
17	Lesser Flamingo	Phoeniconaias minor NT **	-	+	-	-	+	В	
	-	Family: Picidae							
18	Lesser Golden-back	Dinopium benghalense ^{LC}	-	-	-	+	+	В	
19	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker	Leiopicus mahrattensis ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	В	

		Family: Podicipedidae						
20.	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
	Family: Psittacidae							
21.	Rose-ringed Parakeet	Psittacula krameri ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	О
	Family: Pycnonotidae							
22.	Red-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	О

Table 3: Continue...

	g .	G • 4.6°		,	Site			MC
	Species name	Scientific name	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	MS
		Family: Pycnonotidae						
1.	White-eared Bulbul	Pycnonotus leucotis ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	В
		Family: Rallidae						
2.	Common Coot	Fulica atra ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	В
3.	Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	-	В
4.	Purple Swamp-hen	Porphyrio porphyrio ^{LC}	-	-	+	-	-	В
5.	White-breasted Water-hen	Amaurornis phoenicurus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	В
		Family: Recurvirostridae						
6	Black-winged stilt	Himantopus himantopus ^{LC}	-	+	+	-	+	I
7	Pied avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	I
		Family: Scolopacidae						
8	Black-tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa ^{NT}	-	+	+	-	+	I
9.	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	I
10	Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	I
11	Pintail Snipe	Gallinago stenura ^{LC}	-	-	-	-	+	I
12	Temminck's Stint	Calidris temminckii ^{LC}	-	+	-	-	-	I
		Family: Strigidae						
13	Spotted Owlet	Athene brama ^{LC} **	+	+	+	+	+	В
		Family: Sturnidae						
14	Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	В
15	Bank Myna	Acridotheres ginginianus ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	+	О
16	Brahminy Starling	Sturnia pagodarum ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	О
17	Rosy starling	Pastor roseus ^{LC}	-	+	-	+	+	P
		Family: Threskiornithidae						
18	Black Headed Ibis	Threskiornis melanocephalus NT	-	+	+	+	+	В
19	Eurasian Spoonbill#	Platalea leucorodia ^{LC} **	-	+	+	-	+	С
20.	Red-napped Ibis	Pseudibis papillosa ^{LC}	-	+	+	+	-	В
		Family: Upupidae						
21	Common Hoopoe	Upupa epops ^{LC}	+	+	+	+	+	I
	Total num	per of species	26	86	67	37	68	

Abbreviation: S1-Arvindnagar, S2-Pindariya Lake, S3-Dediya Lake, S4- M. N. College, S5-Singhoda Lake; (LC) Least concern, (NT) Nearly threatened, (VU) Venerable; (**) Appendix. II, (***) Appendix. III, ($^{#}$) Schedule Category IV; MS-Migratory status; A-Common Monsoon migrant, B-Common resident, C-Common resident and local migrant, D-Common resident and winter visitor, E-

Common to uncommon resident, F-Common to uncommon resident and local migrant, G-Common to uncommon resident and migrant, H-Common to uncommon winter visitor, I-Common winter visitor, J-Fairly common resident, K-Uncommon resident, L-Uncommon to locally common resident, M-Uncommon to rare resident, N-Vagrant. Winter, O-Very common resident, P-Very common winter visitor.

Table 4: Site-wise comparison of familial diversity indices.

Diversity Indices		Total				
Diversity mulces	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	Total
Family	18	40	35	25	38	43
Total no. of Taxa (S)	26	86	67	37	68	96
Dominance (D)	0.0710	0.0373	0.0430	0.0533	0.0398	0.0347
Simpson's diversity index (1-D)	0.929	0.963	0.957	0.947	0.960	0.965
Simpson's reciprocal index (1/D)	14.1	26.8	23.3	18.8	25.1	28.8
Shannon wiener's species diversity (H')	2.8	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.6
Pielou's (1966) evenness (e^H'/S)	0.894	0.820	0.817	0.876	0.819	0.812
Margalef's (1959) richness d=(S-1)/ log N	5.2	8.8	8.1	6.6	8.8	9.2

Site-wise comparisons based on the presence-absence similarity of the sites were divided into the main two clusters approximate at 56% faunistic similarity and clearly distinguished by the urban and rural sites. The first cluster was further divided into two groups (Dediya Lake, Pindariya

Lake and Singhoda lake site) at 78% faunistic similarity. Dediya Lake and Pindariya Lake have the highest faunistic similarity (85%) among all the five sites. The second group was divided into M. N. College and Arvindnagar site at approximately 69% faunistic similarity (Fig. 2).

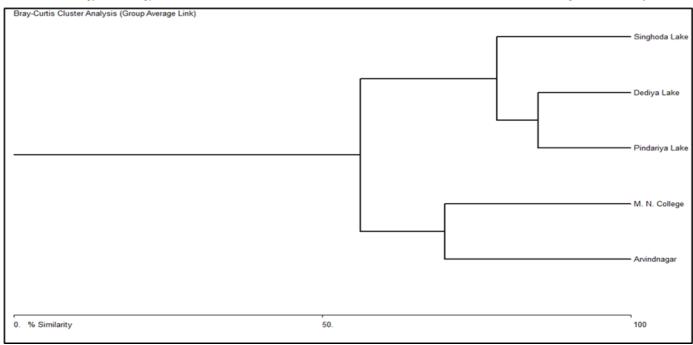


Fig 2: Site-wise comparisons based on presence-absence similarity of recorded avifauna from study area (index of Bray-Curtis).

International Union for Conservation of Nature [18] of the avifaunal community reveals that a total of 87 species of birds were Least concern (LC) category, 05 species were Nearly Threatened (NT) category and only single species Asian Woollyneck (*Ciconia episcopus*) was Venerable (VU) category (Table 3). A total of 06 species of birds were from Appendix II and only single species Indian Peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) from Appendix III [19]. From the study area, only three species recorded from the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972 among them two species were in the schedule I

category and other single species was in the schedule IV category [20].

As per migratory status was given by Ganpule ^[6] a total of 60% species were from the Common resident (58 species) followed by the Common winter visitor (13%, 12 species), Very common resident (10%, 10 species), Common to uncommon resident, Fairly common resident and Very common winter visitor (2%, 2 species) and remaining only single species (1%) were reordered during the study period (Table 3, Fig. 3).

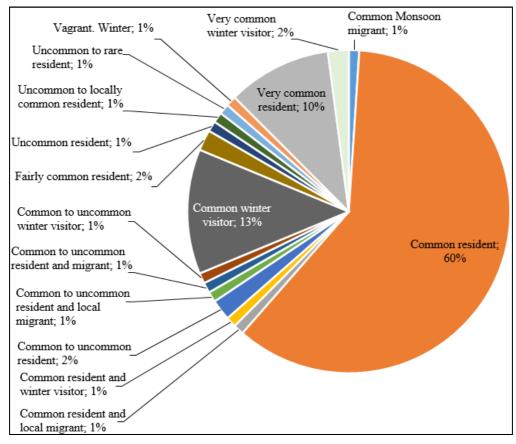


Fig 3: Migratory status or recorded avifauna.

Most of the Common resident species were recorded from Pindariya lake (52 species) followed by the Dediya lake (46 species), Singhoda lake (44 species), M. N. College (25 species) and Arvindnagar (18 species). Most of the Common winter visitor bird species were found from the Pindariya Lake (09 species) followed by the Singhoda lake (08 species), Dediya lake (04 species) and only single species Common Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) recorded from the Arvindnagar and M. N. College sites.

Maximum Very common resident species were noted from the Pindariya lake (10 species) followed by the Dediya lake (9 species), Singhoda lake (08 species), M. N. college (07 species) and Arvindnagar (05 species) (Table 3). Two Common to uncommon resident species Cotton Pygmy-goose (Nettapus coromandelianus) and Asian Woollyneck (Ciconia episcopus) were recorded from the Pindariya and Dediya Lake. Two Fairly common resident species Great Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo) and Little Cormorant (Microcarbo niger) were recorded from the Pindariya and Dediya Lake. Very common winter visitor species Northern Shoveler (Anas clypeata) was found from the Pindariya Lake, Dediya Lake, Singhoda Lake and Rosy starling (Pastor roseus) was recorded from the M. N. College, Pindariya Lake and Singhoda Lake (Table 3). All the recorded avifauna were documented in Plate 1 to 5.

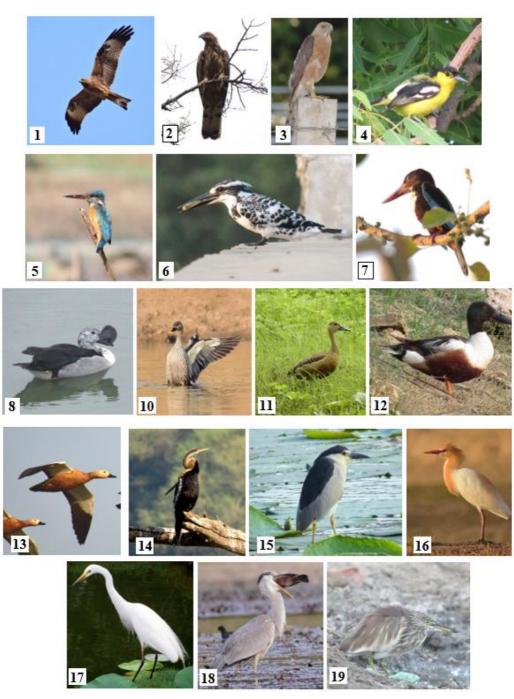


Plate 1: Recorded avifauna from the study area.

1. Black Kite, 2. Oriental Honey-buzzard, 3. Shikra, 4. Common Iora, 5. Common Kingfisher, 6. Pied Kingfisher, 7. White-throated Kingfisher, 8. Knob-billed Duck, 10. Indian Spot-billed Duck, 11. Lesser Whistling-duck, 12. Northern Shoveler, 13. Ruddy Shelduck, 14. Oriental Darter, 15. Black-crowned Night-heron, 16. Cattle Egret, 17. Great White Egret, 18. Grey Heron, 19. Indian Pond-heron.

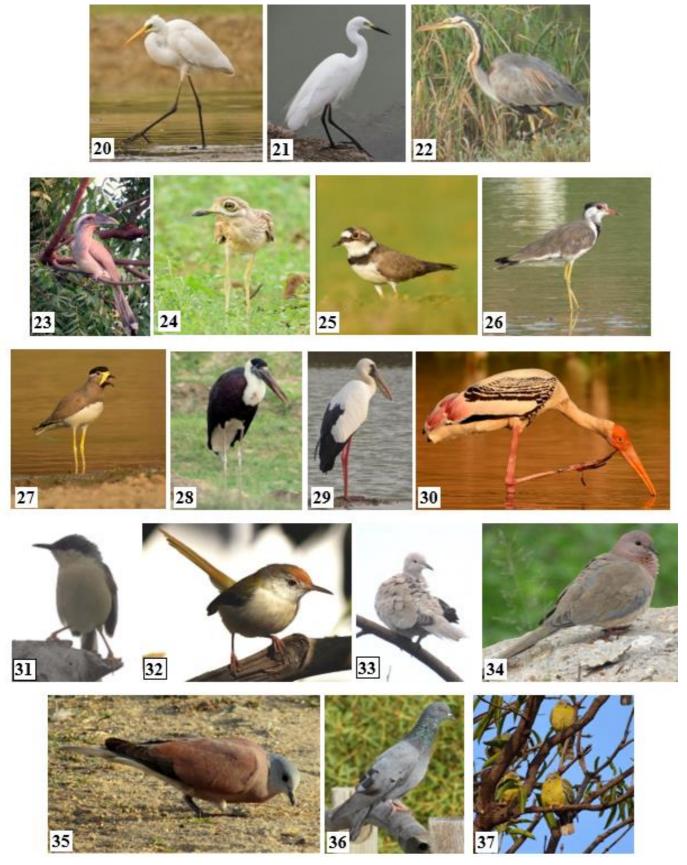


Plate 2: Recorded avifauna from the study area.

20. Intermediate Egret, 21. Little Egret, 22. Purple Heron, 23. Indian Grey Hornbill, 24. Eurasian Thick-knee, 25. Little Ringed Plover, 26. Red-wattled lapwing, 27. Yellow-Wattled Lapwing, 28. Asian Woollyneck, 29. Asian Openbill, 30. Painted Stork, 31. Ashy Prinia, 32. Common Tailorbird, 33. Eurasian Collared-dove, 34. Laughing Dove, 35. Red Collared Dove, 36. Common Pigeon, 37. Yellow-footed Green-pigeon.



Plate 3: Recorded avifauna from the study area.

38. Indian Roller, 39. House Crow, 40. Indian Jungle Crow, 41. Rufous Treepie, 42. Asian Koel, 43. Common Hawk-cuckoo, 44. Greater Coucal, 45. Jacobin Cuckoo, 46. Black Drongo, 47. Indian Silverbill, 48. Red-rumped Swallow, 49. Wire-tailed Swallow, 50. Pheasant-tailed Jacana, 51. Long-tailed Shrike, 52. Heuglin's gull, 53. River Tern, 54. Jungle babbler, 55. Large grey babbler, 56. Coppersmith Barbet.

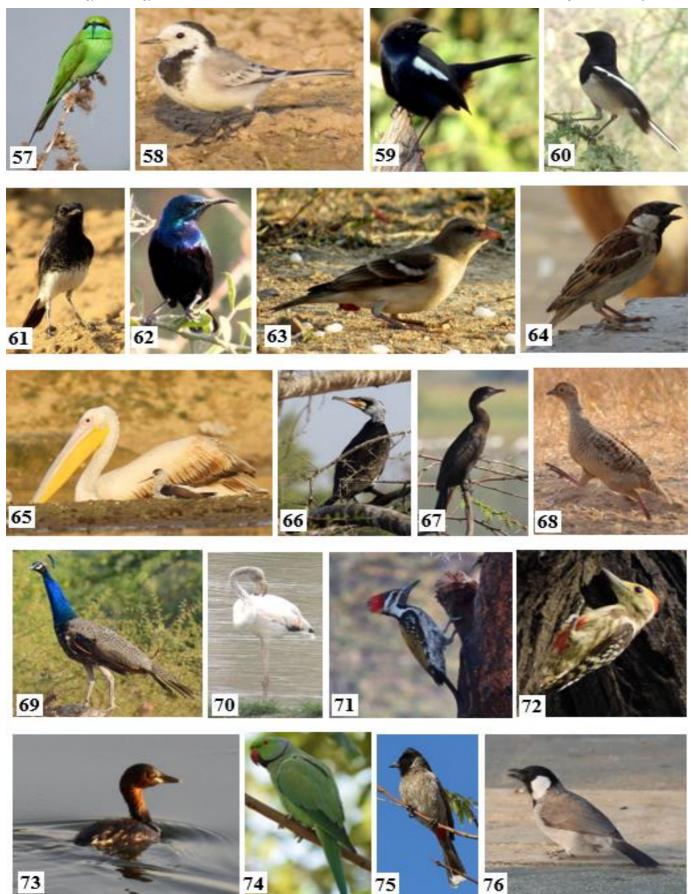


Plate 4: Recorded avifauna from the study area

57. Green Bee-eater, 58. White Wagtail, 59. Indian Robin, 60. Oriental Magpie-robin, 61. Pied Bushchat, 62. Purple Sunbird, 63. Chestnut-shouldered Bush-sparrow, 64. House Sparrow, 65. Great White Pelican, 65. Great Cormorant, 66. Little Cormorant, 67. Grey Francolin, 68. Indian Peafowl, 70. Lesser Flamingo, 71. Lesser Golden-back, 72. Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, 73. Little Grebe, 74. Rose-ringed Parakeet, 75. Red-vented Bulbul, 76. White-eared Bulbul.



Plate 5: Recorded avifauna from the study area.

77. Common Coot, 78. Common Moorhen, 79. Purple Swamp-hen, 80. White-breasted Water-hen, 81. Black-winged stilt, 82. Pied avocet, 83. Black-tailed Godwit, 84. Common Redshank, 85. Marsh Sandpiper, 86. Pintail Snipe, 87. Temminck's Stint, 88. Spotted Owlet, 89. Common Myna, 90. Bank Myna, 91. Brahminy Starling, 92. Rosy starling, 93. Black Headed Ibis, 94. Eurasian Spoonbill, 95. Red-napped Ibis, 96. Common Hoopoe.

Conclusion

Increased urbanization typically leads to an increase in avian

biomass but a reduction in richness [21] and also supports our findings that rural sites (i.e. Dediya Lake, Pindariya lake site

and Singhoda Lake) were very important for avian species migration, food and reproduction purposes. It also supports that urban and rural sites avian diversity and richness show significantly higher during the study period. Present data records have a higher significant species diversity than were done in the past studies on the river community [22] and water reservoirs [23].

Diverse wetland complexes are the greatest value in providing habitat for local and migratory bird species. Along these, we found that sighting and nesting of Indian Grey Hornbill (*Ocyceros birostris*) from the Pindariya Lake and Dediya lake site. So, we conclude that data records from the Visnagar rural sites are very important to conserve the avifaunal community and suggest that take an action from the Visnagar Municipality to conserve these water bodies and control the anthropological activities there which affect the diversity of birds.

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