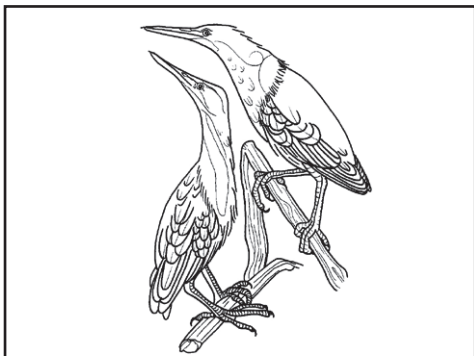


ABSTRACTS

This feature reports articles and papers published in various national and international journals regarding birds in Gujarat.



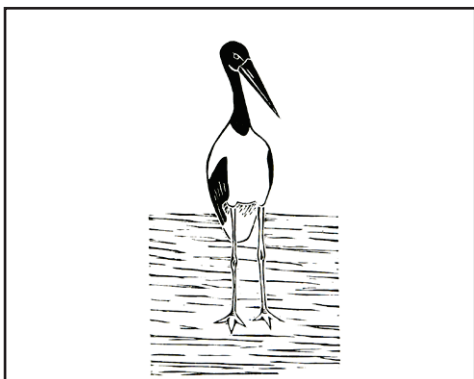
Little Bittern: 'Probable breeding of Little Bittern at Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary with notes on identification of juveniles' by Rajni Trivedi & B. M. Parasharya. *Indian BIRDS* 15 (1): 17–20.

The authors report probable breeding of the Little Bittern (*Ixobrychus minutus*) at Nal Sarovar, with photographs of two juveniles. The authors speculate, based on plumage of the juveniles (presence of down feathers and mandibular gap), that the juveniles could have been possibly born at this particular site. The authors discuss the identification and separation of juvenile Little Bittern from the similar juvenile Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*), giving details of key features to look out for. It is stated that the Little Bittern, being nomadic, could be breeding at suitable habitats in Gujarat.



Ringed Bridled Tern: 'Ringed Bridled Tern found at Porbandar, Gujarat in September 2017' by Dhaval Vargiya & Bharat Kanjariya. *Indian BIRDS* 15 (1): 25–26.

The authors report a rescue of a Bridled Tern (*Onychoprion anaethetus*) from Chhaya Rann Wetland, Porbandar. The bird was found in a dehydrated condition and had a ring on its leg. The ringing details were obtained and it was a bird ringed as a chick ringed in Nakhilu Island, Persian Gulf, Iran. This individual was more than six years old when found and the distance from the ringing place to Porbandar was about 1963 kms. The authors state that though the Bridled Tern is found in good numbers off the Gujarat coast, this is only the second record of a ringed Bridled Tern from Gujarat.



Black-necked Stork: 'Does the Black-necked Stork keep a larder?' by Yashodhan Bhatia & Chirag Solanki. *Indian BIRDS* 15 (1): 30–31.

The authors report an interesting observation of the Black-necked Stork (*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*) on its nest. A female Black-necked Stork was seen early in the morning on its nest on the western side of Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary, near Jamnagar. During observations, in a period of about one and a half hours, the female fed on (swallowed) seven snakes and one unidentified item of prey. It was noted that all these prey items were taken from its nest and the authors state that there is no mention, in reference works, of this species maintaining a larder in its nest for later consumption.



Oriental Honey Buzzard: 'Observations at a nest of the Oriental Honey Buzzard' by Devvratsinh Mori. *Indian BIRDS* 15 (2): 49–52.

The author observed a nest of Oriental Honey Buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) near the Narmada Canal at Jesagpura village at Kadi Taluka of Mehsana District. The morphometrics of the nest and the nesting tree are given in detail and the nest was monitored with a motion sensor camera. Two eggs were laid but only once chick survived. Details of incubation and hatching are given. In 14 days of study, the hatching of the chicks was observed and the surviving chick was fed with different sized pieces of honey comb wax and unidentified bird hatchlings. However, the study ended abruptly as the 9-day old chick was predated by a Bonelli's Eagle (*Aquila fasciata*) and further observations could not be carried out.

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