
Darter and Cormorants (Plate 28)

90. Darter: *Anhinga melanogaster*

Uncommon resident. Common locally in Khijadia BS and around Jamnagar area, also from other parts of Saurashtra and Gujarat. In Kachchh. Common around Nalsarovar, Thol BS.

91. Little Cormorant: *Phalacrocorax niger*

Fairly common resident. In all parts of the state.

92. Indian Cormorant: *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

Common resident. In all parts of the state.

93. Great Cormorant: *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Fairly common resident. In all parts of the state.

Falconets, Kestrels and Small Falcons (Plate 29, 30)

94. Lesser Kestrel: *Falco naumanni*

Rare passage migrant. Very few sightings reported. Recent reports from LRK (Bhatt & Ganpule 2013). Also GRK. Isolated records from elsewhere in the state. Photographed / seen a few times in LRK in the last two years, sometimes in small flocks.

95. Common Kestrel: *Falco tinnunculus*

Common winter visitor. In all parts of the state. Very easily seen in LRK and GRK.

96. Red-necked Falcon: *Falco chiquera*

Uncommon / rare resident. All over the state. Fairly commonly seen in Kachchh. Also present in good numbers in Saurashtra. Seen in LRK and GRK regularly. Also in grasslands and scrub forests in Saurashtra, Gujarat. Fairly widespread but uncommon.

97. Amur Falcon: *Falco Amurensis*

Uncommon / rare passage migrant. Spring and autumn passage migrant in Gujarat (Ganpule 2011a). Recent sight reports from LRK, GRK, Velavadar NP in Bhavnagar, Dang,

Gir NP. Scattered and isolated records from elsewhere in the state. Historical record from Kachchh (Specimen in FMNH).

98. Merlin : *Falco columbarius*

Uncommon / rare winter visitor. Mainly to desert areas. Uncommonly seen in LRK (Ganpule & Bhatt 2013) and GRK. Also a few isolated records from elsewhere in the state.

99. Eurasian Hobby: *Falco subbuteo*

Uncommon / rare passage migrant. All over the state (Bhatt *et al.* 2015). Sight reports from LRK, GRK and other areas in Saurashtra and Gujarat.

100. Oriental Hobby: *Falco severus*

Vagrant. Historical records, where mentioned as not uncommon passage migrant in Saurashtra and Gujarat (Dharmakumarsinhji 1955). A group of 17 birds noted in Gir NP in November 2004 (Robson 2005). However not recorded recently, though there is an unverified sighting from LRK (Yogendra Shah, *pers. comm.*).

Large Falcons (Plate 31)

101. Laggar Falcon: *Falco Jugger*

Rare resident and winter visitor. Mainly to the arid areas and deserts of LRK and GRK. Recent sightings from LRK, GRK, Surendranagar district. Also in Gir NP. Widespread but rare or uncommon.

102. Saker Falcon : *Falco cherrug*

Rare winter visitor. Mainly to the deserts. Historical records from many areas of the state. Rare now and restricted to LRK, GRK.

103. Peregrine Falcon: *Falco peregrinus*

peregrinator: Resident (breeding) and local migrant. Few sight records from Gujarat. Breeding in Pavagadh Hills near Baroda and Girnar Hills. Scattered sightings

from Saurashtra. Isolated sighting in Kachchh. Could be breeding in other hilly areas in the state.

calidus: Common to uncommon winter visitor. To Saurashtra, Kachchh and Gujarat. Fairly common in LRK and in GRK. Also seen in other parts of Saurashtra in suitable habitat, where not uncommon. Rare elsewhere in Gujarat.

104. Barbary Falcon: *Falco (peregrinus) peleginoides*

Rare winter migrant. Mainly to desert areas. Sub-species known to occur here is *babylonicus* (Red-naped Shaheen). Further research needed. Recent sightings from LRK and GRK. Rare but regular in LRK.