

77. Cattle Egret: *Bulbulcus ibis*

Common resident. Very common. In all parts of the state in good numbers. Most common egret.

78. Great Egret: *Casmerodius albus*

Common resident. Fairly common. In all parts of the state including Kachchh. Fairly common almost all over the state.

79. Intermediate Egret: *Mesophoyx intermedia*

Common resident. Fairly common. In all parts of the state.

80. Little Egret: *Egretta garzetta*

Common resident. Very common. In all parts of the state in good numbers.

81. Western Reef Egret: *Egretta gularis*

Common resident and winter migrant. All around the Gujarat coast including coasts of Kachchh and Saurashtra in all kinds of salt water habitats. Seen inland also, in LRK, and other areas.

Frigatebirds (Plate 25)

82. Great Frigatebird: *Fregata minor*

Vagrant. Could occur in the monsoon season in Arabian Sea. Sighting from Jamnagar (Patel 2009). The photos show the all black body, which is diagnostic of Great Frigatebird, and hence included here. Unconfirmed sighting from Kachchh of either this or Lesser Frigatebird.

83. Lesser Frigatebird: *Fregata ariel*

Vagrant. Record from South Gujarat of an injured bird found on the banks of Tapi River [reported in 'Chatak'. Vol 4 (11-12): 39-40 (WWF Newsletter, In Gujarati)]. Mostly in monsoon season.

Pelicans (Plate 26)

84. Great White Pelican: *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

Common winter visitor. Occasionally breeding in GRK (Ali 1954). Common in large water bodies in Saurashtra and Kachchh. Uncommon in South Gujarat.

85. Dalmatian Pelican: *Pelecanus crispus*

Common to uncommon winter visitor. In large water bodies in Saurashtra and Kachchh. Uncommon / rare in South Gujarat. Sightings from Chhari Dhand in GRK,

Charakhala Salt Pans and near Jamnagar. In other parts of Saurashtra in small numbers.

86. Spot-billed Pelican: *Pelecanus philippensis*

Vagrant? Status unclear. Historical records but identification uncertain (Ali 1954). Recent sighting from Jamnagar by T. Mundkur (Parasharya 2002) given as the only reliable record. Unconfirmed records from other areas in the state.

Tropicbirds and Boobies (Plate 27)

87. Red-billed Tropicbird: *Phaethon aethereus*

Vagrant. A recent record from Gulf of Kachchh (Gandhe 2014) and an injured bird found near Surat (Patel 2015a).

88. Masked Booby: *Sula dactylatra*

Rare. Mostly in the monsoon season. Sightings from Gulf of Kachchh of wind-blown birds. More than 10 sightings in Gujarat from various areas like Mithapur, Porbandar, Jamnagar, Kachchh, etc. A few individuals recorded almost in every monsoon season, probably wind blown birds.

89. Brown Booby: *Sula leucogaster*

Vagrant. Sighting from Mandvi, Kachchh (Varu & Bapat 1990).

****Blue-footed Booby:** *Sula nebouxii*

One recent record in Gulf of Khambat (Dave *et al.* 2003) and included in checklist of birds of Gujarat (Parasharya *et al.* 2004). Specimen with BNHS. It occurs in the Pacific Ocean (Neotropical) and is not known to occur here. The specimen was re-checked and found to be a Masked Booby (Praveen *et al.* 2013). It should be removed from the Gujarat list.