

Nadabet....

This site should be considered as one of the nationally and globally most important large wetlands as it supports not only large populations of waterbirds, but also 1% population of 11 species; Great White Pelican (*P. onocrotalus*), Dalmatian Pelican (*P. crispus*), Greater Flamingo, Lesser Flamingo (*P. minor*), Painted Stork (*M. leucocephala*), Eurasian Spoonbill (*P. leucorodia*), Slender-billed Gull (*C. genei*), Black-headed Gull (*C. ridibundus*), Brown-headed Gull (*C. brunnicephalus*), Pied Avocet (*R. avocetta*) and Common Crane (*G. grus*). This wetland also qualifies as 'Ramsar' site as it supports more than 20,000 birds and 1% population of 11 species. The site acts as one of the most important stopover and feeding site for large populations of migratory waterbirds on the Central Asian Flyway.

Some of the other important observations include sighting of 63 Black Storks (*C. nigra*). Also we could photograph

Black Stork and White Storks (*C. ciconia*) together. A good population of Eastern Imperial Eagles (*A. heliaca*) and Peregrine Falcons (*F. peregrinus*) was a great sight. This wetland had good number of juveniles of Lesser Flamingo, though it does not breed there. Lastly, spending time with our brave BSF jawans on the border was a memorable event for all the team members.

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References:

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Red-billed Tropicbird in Porbandar

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The Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*) is a pelagic bird and is usually seen off the western coast of India, from Mekran Coast (SW Pakistan) to SW coast of Sri Lanka, with isolated records from the Arabian Sea (Grimmett *et al.* 2011).

On 4 November 2016, late in the evening, a Red-billed Tropicbird was rescued from the Bandar road (21° 38' 25" N 69° 35' 46" E), situated on the coastal area of Porbandar city, by the third author. It was a normal early winter evening, without any cyclonic conditions in the sea. The bird was fed with small fish but it survived for only one day. It was identified as a juvenile Red-billed Tropicbird based on the barring on mantle, yellow bill with black tip, diffuse black band across

the nape, and extensive black primaries and primary coverts.

The Red-billed Tropicbird is vagrant to Gujarat. The first sighting of a sub-adult Red-billed Tropicbird was reported 50 kms offshore between Jakhau and Okha (22° 36' N 68° 28' E) in the Gulf of Kachchh on 20 December 2013 (Gandhe 2014). The second sighting was a windblown bird rescued from Punagam, near Surat, in the monsoon season on 25 June 2015 (Patel 2015). Hence, this further sighting of this species is noteworthy.



Acknowledgements:

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References:

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