



Sighting of Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia* at Pavagadh Hill, near Vadodara

I was bird-watching at Pavagadh Hill, near Vadodara (Baroda), on 1 January 2019 with Kartik Upadhyay, Mital Patel and Rahul Bhatt. At around 09:30 hrs, we saw a sparrow-sized bird perched on a rock and I took photographs from a distance. It was a bunting and on a closer look, seemed to be an immature or first-winter Rock Bunting (*Emberiza cia*). To confirm its identification, I shared the photographs with Prasad Ganpule. He confirmed that it was a Rock Bunting and also informed that other birders agreed with the identification. The species is a vagrant in the state, but there are few past records from Saurashtra and Kachchh (Trivedi 2016). This is the first record from Central Gujarat and is an important record for Gujarat.

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Slaty-legged Crake *Rallina eurizonoides* at Vansada National Park

On 12 June 2020, I was at Vansada National Park, Navsari District, in the Dangs, for birding. I saw and photographed a crane species in the park. It was identified as a Slaty-legged Crake (*Rallina eurizonoides*) based on the rufous-chestnut head and foreparts, brown upperparts and black-and-white barred belly and vent. The Slaty-legged Crake is a vagrant to Gujarat and it was first sighted in Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Mishra 2017). The species was then noted at Madhavpur-Ghed near Porbandar (Niranjani 2020). This is the first record of the Slaty-legged Crake from Vansada National Park. This record further confirms the occurrence of this species in South Gujarat.

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Asian Desert Warbler *Sylvia nana* near Ahmedabad

An Asian Desert Warbler (*Sylvia nana*) was seen on 8 October 2021 at 14:30 hrs at Vayna Village of Ahmedabad. We were searching for munias, when we saw an unusual, small-sized bird, which was foraging on the ground, looking for insects. We observed it for an hour and found that it had yellow eyes, rufous tail, white underparts and brownish upperparts. We took some record photographs. Later, the identity was confirmed by a few experts as an Asian Desert Warbler and they said it was the first sighting near Ahmedabad. The species has been noted near Nalsarovar previously but this is the first record for this area.

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Loten's Sunbird *Cinnyris lotenia* in Navsari District

We have been observing, in my village Ranverikalla (District: Navsari), Loten's Sunbird (*Cinnyris lotenia*) since March 2018. According to our observations, it might be local migrant to our area between December and April. We have been observing its behaviour and have seen that it prefers the flowering season of the mango tree. The whole day it moves in mango plantations and catches small insects in mango flowers and sucks nectar from flowers. In the early morning and in the evening, it perches on the top of large trees and utters calls. On 7 March 2021, we were birding in the fields around my village, where we observed that a male and a female were feeding two young. On 24 April 2021, we saw a male and female near my house at Ranverikalla and I could take a few photographs. The Loten's Sunbird has been recorded in Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Mishra 2017). These records show that it is seen within the state and could be more widespread in Navsari District. Further sightings will be useful in knowing its status here.

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