

Streaked Weaver (Ploceus manyar) Birds in Kachchh

During a field visit for observation of Birds arrival at Modvadar Wetland 5 km from Gandhidham city in Kutch. Sighted folk of 50+ individuals of Streaked Weavers (*Ploceus manyar*) in Reeds situated on the outflow of sewage of nearby town Modvadar. Reeds is home for streaked weavers nesting inside it. Able to document 11 Streaked Weaver in one frame on the 3rd of December 2020 evening time. During visits on 3rd December 2020 & 6th December 2020, seen them in reeds same place and took short flights to nearby wetland peripheral areas visited in the evening time they were more active & during day time they resided inside the reeds. The joint Visit on 6th Dec was with my friends Vatsal Chedda, Parth Kansagra, Jay Thacker.

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Sighting of Streaked Weaver (Ploceus manyar) at Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary, Jamnagar

I went to Jamnagar for personal work and visited Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary on 15th February 2023 in the morning. While I was birdwatching in Part I, I saw some small bird like baya emerge from reeds and perched on it. I clicked photographed, and while seeing on the screen with some zooming, it looked like me like a Streaked Weaver (*Ploceus manyar*). I have updated in e-bird live there. I received mail from Mr. Kunan Naik asking for a picture. I have uploaded pic and also shared it personally with him and got confirmation of identification and knew from him that it is rare in this season. As per my knowledge, there is no previous record of Streaked Weaver in Jamnagar District so this is important and useful for studying bird distribution.

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White-browed Bulbul (Pycnonotus luteolus) at Aji, Rajkot

On 11th November 2022 at Morning around 8.45 AM near Aji– 2 Dam, observed 4 birds look like wood Shrike far when we went near these birds found that their markings were different from the Wood Shrike and clicked some of the pictures, and these birds flew away far. Later on, when I checked the photos on the net and discussed them with the Ashok Mashru Sir, found that it was an uncommon sighting of White-browed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus luteolus*). On searching earlier published records, two records were found near Rajkot. One from Rajkot Zoo (Bhatt & Trivedi 2016), and the second from Jalsika, Rajkot (Sitapara et al. 2019). It's common to an uncommon resident in South to Central Gujarat. Recent sightings from Thol Bird Sanctuary and Rajkot. In this sighting, Dr. Ketan Bavishi and I were together.

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White-winged Tern (Childonias leucopterus) at Servo Dhandh, Kutch

Servo is a very good spot for waterbirds, raptors, and waders. With important habitat of a huge silent area with shallow water and small patches of long grass between them. There were hundreds of ducks and storks, waterbirds and waders and raptors. While photographing birds on the 6th November 2022, morning with my son Nirav Parekh, we saw a big group of mixed medium size terns that were resting and preening at the edge of the water at Servo Dhandh, Nr. Hodko Village in Banny Grassland, Kutch. Terns were in non-breeding plumages, so it was difficult to identify them properly. I was trying to search for some unique or uncommon birds from the group. one group of 5 birds looked different with black 'earmuffs', a black patch near the ear turning below, and looking like earphones. Which were later identified by the expert Mr. Prasad Ganpule, as white-winged tern or white-winged black tern Childonias leucopterus. White wing tern is a winter visitor to Kutch, Gujarat but not seen regularly. In Gujarat, it has been seen in Kutch, Nal Sarovar, and Mehsana. This time there were at least 7 to 10 birds in that group. This tern species regularly visit Kutch, and other parts of Gujarat in good numbers but due to nonbreeding plumages, it may be over sighted. Earlier, this tern was noted in Kutch in November 2016 and November 2017 at Devisar Lake and Banny area of Kutch by the author.

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