

dense canopy with huge trees amidst the scrubby forest of Mandav Reserved Forest. The forest of Bandiya Beli is near Thangadh, geographically centered between Rajkot and Surendranagar city. The appearance of this bird at this place is an exclusive sighting that has never been reported earlier.



Despite many searches, it was not found in the surrounding area. About a month and a half later, on June 28, it was seen on

a pile of harvested groundnut crops in a groundnut field adjacent to the reserved forest, about three km northeast of the first location. where the bird used to fly from three trees, Peepal (*Ficus tsiela*), Khijdo (*Prosopis cineraria*), and Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), to the pile and feed the groundnut seeds. After staying there for four consecutive days, the bird was nowhere to be seen.

About a year later, in March 2022, a hornbill was reported to have appeared in Jasdán, Rajkot. Apart from this, a few birds were released in February 2022 in Gir National Park by Wildlife Division Sasan, Junagadh. Before these two occasions, this bird had been seen in the Surendranagar. In any case, this bird may have drifted in this direction due to the storm. And the possibility that the bird seen in Jasdán and roaming around in this area is the same individual cannot be ruled out. The Indian Grey Hornbill is expanding its territory in parts of Gujarat, including parts where it was historically reported and new territory where tree density has increased over the year. □

Sighting of Brown-breasted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa muttui*) at Sundarvan, Ahmedabad

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Introduction

The Brown-breasted Flycatcher is a small passerine bird in the flycatcher family Muscipidae. The species breeds in North Eastern India, Central and Southern China and Northern Burma and Thailand, and migrates to Southern India and Sri Lanka in winter (Birds of Gujarat 2023). Dull but rather cute flycatcher with large white-framed eyes. Dark brown above and white below with a gray head, brown flanks, and two distinct dark 'mustache' lines (eBird, 2023).

Observations

On 17th February, 2023 (Thursday) at around 3 pm, on a routine Bird watching at Sundarvan- Nature Discovery Centre, Ahmedabad, Brown-breasted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa muttui*) was sighted sallying for insects in an area (23.026° N 72.521° E; 60m above msl) within a radius of 5 m of its perch on a dead tree (~1.5m perching height) situated in a small woodland area surrounded with Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*), Asopalav (*Polyalthia longifolia*) and Fishtail Palm (*Caryota urens*). Earlier, it was recorded on March 03, 2018, in an area of Anandnagar Road, Satellite, Ahmedabad (Mukherjee et al. 2020). There are a few other reported sightings of the species in Gujarat state: from Kachchh (Tiwari & Varu 2010), Saurashtra (Varu & Zala 2010), Girnar forest in Junagadh (Mashru 2014; Singhal 2018), Gandhinagar (Mashru 2016), Jamnagar (Sabhaya et al. 2017), Thol Bird Sanctuary, Ahmedabad (Trivedi 2018) and Rajkot District (Sureja et al. 2022).

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Sighting of Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus robustus*) at Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary

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Ramajhan Kasam Sama: Vekaria, Nal Sarovar.



phalarope is a least concern species (Birdlife International 2021). The second author had seen the species earlier in 2018 and 2019. (Ganpule 2016) stated in Gujarat. It is an uncommon winter visitor. It is regularly found from Saltpans near Jamnagar. But scattered sightings from coastal areas in Saurashtra and Kachchh region. Red-necked phalarope several times in the months of August to September. A few sightings records of Red-necked Phalaropes are given here in table.

On 28 August 2021, around 13:15 hours. While visiting Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Gujarat. We were searching for the birds near Lasa beyt when we spotted many rarities there. We were surprised to see three individuals of Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus robustus*), and photographs. Red-necked

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Details of sightings records of Red-necked Phalarope at Nalsarovar

No.	Date of sighting	Observer	Remarks
1	20 August 2018	Devratsinh Mori & Kasam sama	18 individuals were seen
2	20 September 2018	Viral Patel & Pankaj Maheria	OBI
3	23 September 2018	Sunil Kini & Ramajhan sama	3 individuals were seen
4	31 August 2019	Kasam Sama & Ramajhan Sama	12 individuals were seen
5	26 August 2021	Author's sighting	This work