

Sightings of  
**Laggar Falcon** *Falco jugger*  
in Anand and Kheda districts



## Laggar Falcon....

Laggar Falcon *Falco jugger* is Uncommon to rare residents and local migrants in many parts of the state but formerly widespread (Ganpule et al. 2022). Due to its decreasing population covered under the 'Near Threatened' Category of IUCN red data List. Many sighting records of Laggar Falcons in Gujarat are spread among places at Greater and Little Rann of Kachchh, Nalsarovar, Surendrangar, Thol lake, Bagodara, Dahod, Velavadar, Amreli, Sanand, Sachana, Dwarka, Kheda, and Lakhtar. Two breeding pairs have been sighted at Dahod by Zuzar Borivala and at Amreli by Viral Joshi (Bhatt et al. 2018).

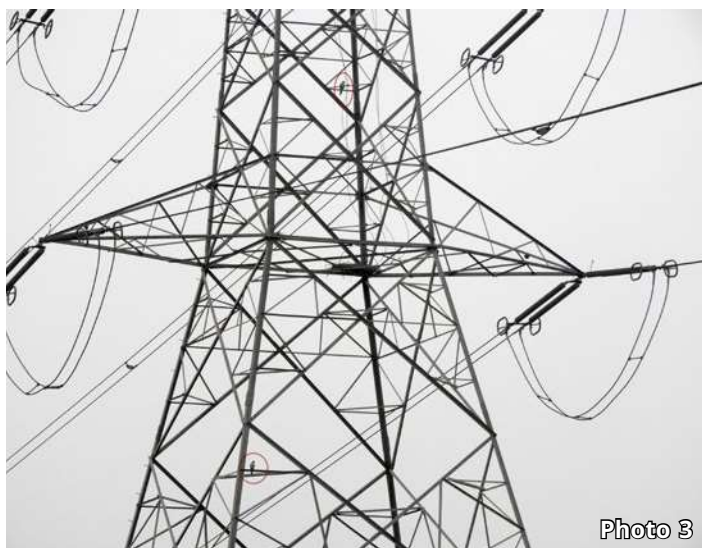
I have sighted Laggar Falcon regularly since 2017 on Vastana road of Kheda district. Two birds were sighted in different locations. Both are on high-tension electric poles, one on Vastana Road and one on a pole situated near Narda pond. Another pair was seen near Khakhsar village (Near Kaneval Pond). I had also sighted once that a female offered food to a male bird and a female gave protection to the male bird when its consuming food. Looking at this it's possible that it may be breeding pair. But I have not sighted nest so far. Another bird was sighted near Gundel village on high tension pole, but it was dead due to trap in kite string and rotten. Once I had also sighted an attacking on soaring Vulture near creek of Daheda village, Khambhat Dist. Anand. So Laggar Falcon is being randomly seen throughout the year in village outskirts of Khambhat, Anand district.

My above observations of Laggar Falcon are important as regular sightings of birds and sightings of possible breeding pair in the study area. More regular observation is required in this area and will reveal the exact picture of breeding there.



### Details of some of the sightings are tabulated below based on photographs

| Sr. no. | Place of Sighting                  | Date       | Activity                               |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| 1       | Vastana Road, Kheda District       | 30/12/2018 | Perching on Ground for food. Photo 1   |
| 2       | Vastana Road, Kheda District       | 02/01/2019 | Perched on tree. Photo 2               |
| 3       | Khakhsar-Kaneval, Anand District   | 01/12/2021 | Pair Perched on Electric Pole. Photo 3 |
| 4       | Vastana Road. Dist. Kheda District | 11/03/2022 | Perched on Electric Pole. Photo 4      |
| 5       | Gundel, Khambhat, Anand District   | 18/07/2022 | Dead bird trap in Kite String. Photo 5 |
| 6       | Khakhsar-Kaneval, Anand District   | 22/03/2023 | Eating food on electric pole. Photo 6  |



**Reference:**

Bhatt, N., Dixit D., & Mori D., 2018. Notes of on distribution and plumages of Laggar Falcons in Gujarat. *Flamingo Gujarat* 1 (3): 1-7.

Ganpule, P., Varu, M., Trivedi, B., & Raina, A. D. 2022. *A field guide to the birds of Gujarat*. Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat. Ahmedabad. 488pp.