

Some Interesting **Birds of Prey** reported from Sabarmati Riverfront, Ahmedabad



Photo: Vicky Chauhan

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Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation Limited and Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat (BCSG) collaborated in February 2019 to study and document the avian diversity along the riverfront. To study avian diversity, a project layout was designed and implemented. Proper identification of key hotspots for the study was carried out, which included gardens and parks, wooded patches, concrete structures, the river stretch, etc. The modus operandi for the project included community engagement through citizen science activities. The Citizen Science approach encouraged the local community to help study ecology, biodiversity, and human-wildlife interaction at the riverfront. The group of birdwatchers was divided into four teams, and

each team was assigned one of the four different zones (two on each side of the river) for regular monitoring and data collection. The Riverfront Department issued an ID card for photography permission to volunteers. Ganpule et al. (2022), recorded 70 species of bird prey from Gujarat, of which the volunteer team noted 22 species during the observation period.

Acknowledgment

We thank all the volunteers of Ahmedabad who participated in field data collection.

References

Ganpule, P., Varu, M., Trivedi, B., & Raina, A.D., 2022. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Gujarat*. Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat.

Sr. No	Species Name	Remark
1	Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans govinda</i>	Resident
2	Black-eared Kite <i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	Winter Visitor
3	Black-winged kite <i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Resident
4	Shikra <i>Accipiter badius</i>	Resident
5	Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus calidus</i>	Winter visitor
6	Red-necked falcon <i>Falco chicquera</i>	Rare
7	Eurasian Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Rare
8	Common Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Rare
9	Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	Rare, North East end of Riverfront
10	Eastern Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>	Rare, North East end of Riverfront
11	Greater Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga clanga</i>	Rare, North East end of Riverfront
12	Booted Eagle <i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	Winter visitor (Both Dark and Pale morph)
13	Oriental Honey Buzzard <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	Resident
14	White-eyed buzzard <i>Butastur teesa</i>	Visitor
15	Western Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Wintering
16	Montagu's Harrier <i>Circus pygargus</i>	Wintering, Sighted at Vasna Barrage
17	Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Wintering
18	Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	Regular visitor
19	White-rumped vulture <i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	Rare Visitor
20	Spotted Owlet <i>Athene brama</i>	Resident
21	Barn Owl <i>Tyto Alba</i>	Resident
22	Indian Scops Owl <i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	Call heard at Riverfront Biodiversity Park

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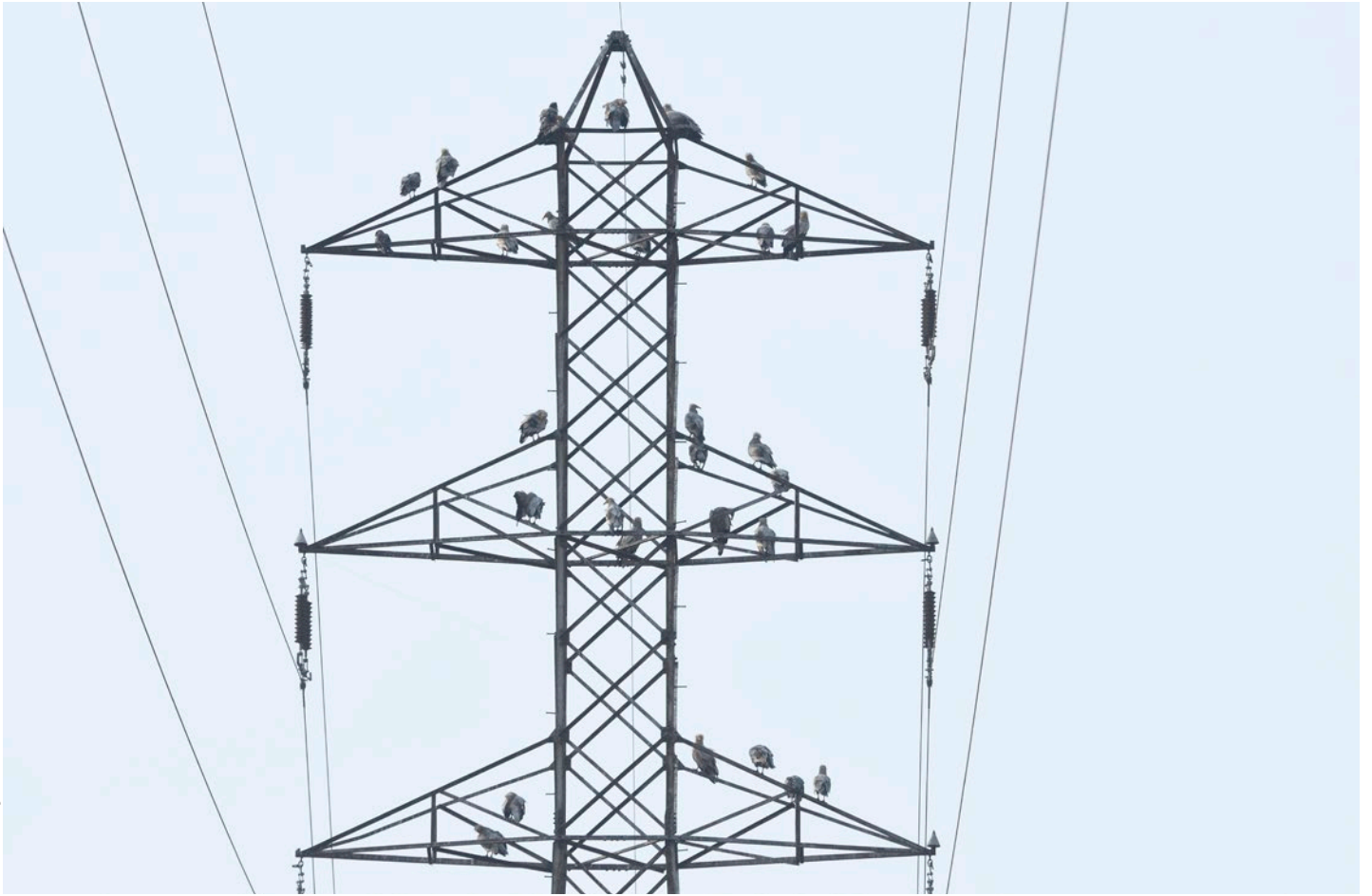


Photo: Arvindkumar Ramdas

