



Photo: Ajay Dhamecha

Photo 4: Streak-throated Swallow shifted nests on roof of underside bridge in the following year.

The site was revisited in the following years. The birds had built nests at the same site for three successive years. However, the nests were shifted to the roof of the bridge's underside, leaving the side walls to avoid the raiding by the water snake (Photo 4). The Indian Rat Snake feeds various types of tetrapods and also raids the nests on trees (Daniel 2002). Predation of swallows is reported here along with the swallows shifting to the new place at the same site. Shifting the nests on roof shows the adaptation of swallows to avoid predation but maintain the site fidelity.

### Acknowledgments

The first author is grateful to Mayurbhai Rathod for his guidance in communication with local people in the study area and Mr. Sagar Tere for his help during the field survey.

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## First record of Jungle Nightjar *Caprimulgus indicus* from Kachchh district

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Photo: Lalit Tank

On 30 August 2023 at 10:00 a.m., I went to a scrub forest area near Madhapar, Bhuj for birding. There I saw a Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*, perched on a *Prosopis juliflora* tree. I followed it to get some record shots. To my surprise, that bird flew away, but a nightjar roosted on one inside branch of the same tree caught my attention. It was very well camouflaged. I observed the bird carefully. It had greyish-brown upperparts, creamish buff throat and sides of the neck, tawny brown spots on wings with dark centers, and finely barred pale underparts. After capturing a few record shots, I left the place without disturbing the bird. After sharing the

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photos with Mr. Prasad Ganpule, I learned that it was a Jungle Nightjar *Caprimulgus indicus*.

Salim Ali did not come across this species during his Kachchh survey (Ali 1945). I have checked the distribution maps in a few field guides (Kazmierczak 2000; Grimmet 2011). They have not shown any record of this species in the Kachchh district. As per the recently published field guide of birds of Gujarat (Ganpule et. al. 2022), this species is considered an uncommon resident in some well-wooded parts of Gujarat, and the distribution map has not shown any record for Kachchh district. There is no mention of a record of this species from Kachchh in eBird platform, too. Hence this sighting should be considered as the first record of this species from Kachchh district and is worth publishing.

## Acknowledgment

I thank Mr. Prasad Ganpule for confirming identification and Dr. Maulik Varu for preparing the draft manuscript.

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## Struggles at Sea: Unravelling the fate of the Persian Shearwater amidst the Biparjyo Cyclone

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Photo: P. S. Patel

The Persian Shearwater (*Puffinus persicus*) is a species with an uncertain status in Gujarat. While its presence off the Gujarat coast is not well-documented, previous observations during pelagic cruises and rescue incidents in Porbandar suggest its occurrence in the region (Munshi & Naik 2016, 2017; Tank & Vargiya 2021). Sightings have also been reported along the

Kutch shoreline and off Pakistan's Makran Coast (Ganpule 2021). Describing the Persian Shearwater is characterized by dark brown axillaries, light to dark brown upperparts with less contrast between the face and throat, pale primary and secondary coverts, and white underparts (Grimmett et al. 2014). This article introduces the first confirmed record of a