



### **Orange-headed Thrush *Geokichla citrina* in Bharuch**

I have made a small kitchen garden in my backyard in GNFC Township, Bharuch. On 7 June 2018, I saw a bird here that was unfamiliar to me. At first, I thought it was an Indian Pitta (*Pitta brachyura*). After some time, it came out and I could see it properly. I identified it as an Orange-headed Thrush (*Geokichla citrina*). I took some photos and confirmed the identification. It was seen in the GNFC Township again by Darshan Patel on 14 June 2018. As per senior birders of this area, this species is rare in the Bharuch area and was recorded for the first time in GNFC Township. The Orange-headed Thrush is seen in Saurashtra and South Gujarat. This sighting from Bharuch adds to the records of the species from our region.

**Hiren Majithiya:** Bharuch. hirenmajithiya@outlook.com

**Photo:** Devvratsinh Mori



### **Juvenile Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* at Aji, Rajkot**

On the morning of March 1st, 2023, I, along with Dr. Ketan Bavishi and Maharshi Dave, visited the Aji 2 dam area in search of the White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*). Unfortunately, we were unable to locate any White Storks that day. However, while returning from the area, I spotted a small bird, which, upon checking the camera, turned out to be a Eurasian Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*). I believe it is juvenile based on the pin feathers on its head and its small size. I know there are no records of juvenile Eurasian Wrynecks sightings in Gujarat. I am sending the photos to confirm this sighting and to determine whether the bird is a juvenile. If it is, are there any early records of juvenile Eurasian Wrynecks in Gujarat?

**Priyank Dhami:** Rajkot



### **Sighting of Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* at Mangrol**

During my Sunday morning visit on 9th April 2023 to Mangrol with friends, I was at the New Jetty developing area. Being a birder, I have taken my camera along with me. There were many bird flocks, and most of them were routine species. I have seen one bird flock setting over a cement tetrapod and the distance was far away for my 70-300 mm lens, but for record purposes, I have taken one picture of them. After editing the picture, I sent it to my birding mentor and friend, Dr. Gaurang Bagda, for identification verification and he told me that there are near about 30 Pacific Golden Plovers (*Pluvialis fulva*) and many Lesser Sand Plovers (*Charadrius mongolus*). My experience justified that many times pictures/videos taken during our routine field trip for record purposes can be very useful for finding unusual species & behavior of the bird for that particular area.

**Dr Anand Vachhani:** vachhanianand@gmail.com



### **Sighting of Puff-throated Babbler *Pallornewm ruficeps* and chicks at Padam Dungari, Vyara, Navasari**

On the late evening of 9th July 2021, we, and Bhavesh Trivedi, returned from a nearby trek to eco campsite of Padam Dungari, Navsari District. We saw 2 chicks of birds at side of inside road of the campsite. They were fledglings, could not fly, but jumped slowly in dry moist leaf beds. I could not identify the chicks of which species. Waited there a few minutes and a bird perched to a nearby bush of chicks. I instantly identified bird as a female Puff-throated Babbler (*Pallornewm ruficeps*). In a minute, chicks and bird disappear into the bush. By this observation, it is confirmed that Puff-throated Babbler has brood there in the surrounding area of Padam Dungari. The Bird is an uncommon resident in the forest belt of Gujarat (Ganpule et al. 2022). There are records of bird sightings in Ratanmahal, Shoolpaneshwar, and Dang forest.

**Ashok Mashru:** A-7, Alap Heritage, Satya Sai Road, Rajkot. mashruashok@gmail.com