

## Sighting of Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* at Nalsarovar: A Second record from the state

Sabbir Belim, Latif Belim: Bird Guides at Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary.



On 28 January 2024, we were birding with Mr. Ram Chandra and Mrs. Roopa at the outskirts of Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary. We sighted a flock of Red-headed Buntings *Emberiza biceps* and started taking photographs there. Among this flock, we came across one different-looking individual which was strikingly yellow. It had a deep yellow throat, breast and underparts, whitish-yellow supercilium, dark chestnut breast band, ear coverts and crown, darker upperparts with white shoulder patch and white wing bar. It was not that shy and allowed us to be relatively close. We took several pictures of this bird. Later on, while sharing the pictures with many birder friends on social media, we learned that It was a Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* male.

There is only one previous record of this species from Gujarat. (Mengar 2019 and Ganpule et al. 2022). Hence the present sighting can be treated as a second record of this species from the state and is worth publishing.

### References

Ganpule, P., Varu, M., Trivedi B. & Raina. A.D., 2022. *A field guide to the birds of Gujarat*. Bird Conservation Society, Gujarat. Ahmedabad. I-viii, 1-488.

Mengar B., 2019, Sighting of Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* near Kheda: an addition to avifauna of Gujarat, *Flamingo Gujarat* Vol. XVII-1, P 2-3. □



Photos: Sabbir Belim