

**AVIAN DIVERSITY OF MAHARASHTRA, INDIA: A REVIEW****Priyanka Patode***Department of Zoology, S.R.D. College, Mahur, Dist. Nanded (M.S.), India***Abstract**

*Birds play an important role to control the population of different insects and pests. They are best markers of environmental quality. It is essential to keep on sighting the birds in any zoogeographical and ecological region outstanding to their ability to react with the habitat by their solitary parameter as presence or absence. Total 1364 bird species found in India out of this up to 569 bird species recorded in Maharashtra State. It is hoped that this review would facilitate to future preparation to study bird diversity and conservation status of avian diversity of Hingoli District in Maharashtra.*

**Keywords:** Avian diversity, Biodiversity, Hingoli District, Maharashtra State.

**Introduction**

Birds surprise us due to their long journey to overcome the unfavorable environmental conditions and to reach the suitable feeding and breeding grounds. Birds are incessantly struggling against environmental factors since past and adapted themselves adjacent to environmental as well as anthropogenic disturbances in the recent time is something remarkable. So that birds are markers of environmental quality. They are helpful and help to provide rich food for mankind and are known to man. They play the role of scavengers and pollinating agents and also help's in dispersal of seeds of different vegetations. The main foundation of economic ornithology which promoted the scientific study of avian species is Salim Ali, 1936 Different types of birds are observed at Salim Ali lake in Aurangabad, Maharashtra as many visited the bird watching.

**Materials and Methods****Data collection**

Data is collected from published research journals, research papers work in avian diversity and conservation status. This research is carried out by using different record on birds species occurs in different regions of Maharashtra state. Also search on online resources like Google search, INFLIBNET, Wikipedia, Avibase and Birdlife International which provide proper information about birds.

**Results and Discussion**

Many researchers have studied on avian fauna Maharashtra as this area is blessed with various natural habitats such as river, reservoirs, hills, forests, grassland.

Yardi, et al., 2004 reported 64 species of birds in Salim Ali Lake, Aurangabad.

Kulkarni, et al., 2005 reported 151 species of birds belonging to 44 families and 16 orders in and around Nanded city.

Kulkarni et al., 2006 recorded 18 Piscivorous bird species in Dongarkheda irrigation tank. Dist. Hingoli.

Kulkarni, et al., 2006 also recorded 93 species of birds in Shikhachiwadi Wadi, reservoir Dist. Nanded;

Kulkarni et al., 2010 listed 62 bird species in forest Jaldhara, Kinwat. Dist. Nanded.

Balkhande et al., 2012 recorded 53 species of birds belonging to 32 families on river Godavari near Dhangar Takli

Balkhande et al., 2013 recorded 50 species of birds near river Purna Dist. Parbhani.

Balkhande et. al. 2013 studied the avifauna of Jagatung Sagar at Kandhar Dist. Nanded, 48 species of birds belonging to 30 families.

Katore D.P., 2017 total 50 bird's species are detected in Aundha dam in Aundha Nagnath dist-Hingoli.

Pentewar MS 2018 identified total 56 birds are near Sikara Dam.

Wagh Gajanan 2019 studied Wetlands and Water birds of Amravati District.

R.T. Pawar et.al, 2019 recorded 84 species of birds belonging to 15 orders and 30 families of Majalgaon reservoir and their tributaries.

Satish N. Harde et.al, 2020 recorded 97 species of birds belonged to 48 families. Highest number 68 of bird species observed from agricultural areas, 57 species from forest areas, 41 species from Kundalika River and 32 species from wetlands.

Wagh G. A. et.al, 2020 recorded total 221 species were reported in the study area in MIDC area of Amravati.

Priyanka S. Patode et.al., 2021 Avifaunal diversity status and abundance of Siddheshwar Reservoir, district Hingoli. total 70 species of birds belonging to 54 genera spread over 26 families and 12 orders.

The present study on review of bird species of Maharashtra, the winter migrant (WM) least concern (LC) bird species from South African continent African Baza *African Cuckoo Hawk*

(*Aviceda cuculoides*). The local domestic crow species *Corvus splendence* were chasing the Baza and excavating them from the river and first record of this African Eagle species from Godavari river basin of this region. A Darter (*Anhinga melanogaster*) was sighted near Udgir downtown region to Udgir Fort, Udgir is town at small size sewage fed minor pond near village Pimpri, Ta. Udgir. The Darter was sitting on a trees of mango *Mangifera indica* on the coast of pond. With this bird Black Ibis were also found sitting very close to each other on the same branch. In the present study sighting of River tern *Sterna aurantia* under NT ecological status at Godavari river near Jarikot village Ta. Dharmabad is a new report, it was not reported in earlier investigations from this region. Kulkarni et. al. 2005 and Balkhande 2010, 2012, 2013, had not reported this tern which we found in very rare number along the river margin with Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*). Presence of Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*) in this region is also a new report. The occurrence of whisker tern as winter migrant. Gray francolin was also sighted near village Jarikot on the banks of river Godavari during September and October 2014 and reported with its photograph first time in this study reported by Prasad et. al., (2014). There might be presence of francolins in much number in the region because there was continuous typical sound production by these birds which was recorded in the selected study area especially during the late monsoon season. The occurrence of these birds hence more investigation for sighting these species is essential reported Kulkarni et. al., 2005. Chavan et.al., 2015 also reported ACOR categorization and IUCN status of birds from Godaveri river basin Nanded. Total 168 species of birds belonging to 53 Families and 15 Orders reported from the Godavari River Basin in Nanded District. Priyanka S. Patode et. al., 2021 total 70 species of birds belonging to 54 genera spread over 26 families and 12 orders Siddheshwar reservoir, District Hingoli, Maharashtra

### Conclusion

In a conclusion, this review study help to avian diversity of Maharashtra. Many researchers done a huge work in study of avian diversity in different regions of Maharashtra (Yardi, Kulkarni, Balkhande, Pentewar MS, Wagh Gajanan, R.T. Pawar, . Satish N. Harde, Shivaji P. Chavan, Priyanka S. Patode etc). They observed different species of birds some are migratory birds. that avian diversity spread over from overall region of Maharashtra which helpful for future study study ecology and diversity.

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