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AVIAN DIVERSITY CHECKLIST OF JAM BUS STAND AREA IN WARDHA DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA STATE

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ABSTRACT

Avian diversity in and around Jam bus stand area of Wardha district on NH-7 was studied for a year round span during morning and evening hours and a checklist of birds in this area was prepared. Based on this checklist it was evident that many birds visit the area to feed on the left over food items of the customers thrown in the bus stand area and adjoining vicinity by local residents. Apart from it the daily activities of the local residents too attract the birds attention. as Jam bus stand area is very crowded always in all the seasons and a large number of people migrate to adjoining states from this route daily they always throw away the half eaten food items in the bus stand vicinity attracting the birds always. Also

a small water body formed in the back side of bus stand area also harbors a lot of birds coupled with the adjoining area of samudrapur having a luxuriant deciduous forest patch having a lot of resident and migratory birds which always visit this area. Based on our observations about 47 different bird species were recorded having 1 migratory, 7 resident migratory and 39 resident birds from this area.

KEYWORDS: Avian diversity, Jam, Bus stand area, Food items, Water body.

INTRODUCTION

The Jam is a quite busy town in Wardha district of Maharashtra state located on Nagpur-Hyderabad highway (NH- 7) , about 60 kms. From Nagpur city. This bus stand area is surrounded by herbs, shrubs, and trees and the nearby area harbours a forest also apart from crop fields. A large number of eateries are present in the vicinity of the area of the bus stand apart from the ST canteen in the premises.

The leftover garbage and food items are regularly dumped on backside on open ground in which water also seeps and a very small water body is formed in the backside. A large number of varied bird species are attracted towards the food items leftover in the whole area and so a study is conducted on them to record the presence of different birds in the vicinity of ST stand during a year span.

Since no earlier reports are available regarding bird fauna of bus stand area, hence present study is launched to investigate the avifaunal diversity around this site.

Birds are found throughout the world, at all altitudes and in nearly all



continents of the globe. Birds are the natural pest controllers which aid in pollination of plants. During the last few decades considerable studies on avifaunal diversity have been carried out by various researchers like Osmatson (1922), Singh (1929) Ali (1932), Kannon (1980), Davidar (1985), Ghazi (1962), Ghosal (1995), Kulkarni et. al, (2005), Sahu and Rout (2005), Pimpalpure and Sawaji (2009), Kurhade (2010), Thaokar et al (2010), Virani (2012), Harney (2015).

Since no earlier reports are available on this aspect of bus stand area of Jam in Samudarpur tehsil of Wardha district, hence present study is launched to investigate the avifaunal diversity and prepare a checklist of birds around this beautiful site.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The site was visited every week around the year and the types of birds in the area are identified during morning hours (6 to 8 A.M.) and in the evening (4 to 6 P.M). Also for identification and confirmation of species standard literature of Woodcock(1980), Ali and Ripley (1995) and Grimmet et al (2010).

The observations were carried out by using a field binocular (7x25X) magnification and through visual observations.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The checklist of birds is given in table no.1. In all the bus stand area harbours 14 different orders of birds with 47 different species which are visiting the area frequently as found out from the checklist prepared by us during a year long span covering the entire stretch of morning and evening hours.

House sparrow and House crow were recorded in huge number throughout the study period. Most abundance of the species of birds were seen in the month of July and August only, while less birds are seen in March and April i.e. summer months.

In our studies only one migratory bird i.e Black necked Stork is recorded, while 7 Resident Migratory Birds and 39 resident birds are recorded. Twelve different orders of birds were found visiting the area. Similar to our observations Harney (2015) reported 99 bird species belonging to 22 different orders and 54 families from Junona lake, while Osmatson (1922) studied 135 species of birds from Pachmarhi (M.P.), Salim Ali(1939) published a list of 278 species of birds from Central India, while Newton et al (1986) have recorded the birds of Kanha Tiger Reserve (M.P.) while Wadatkar and Kasambe (2002) reported 171 species of birds at Pohra-Malkhed forest reservoir of Amravati district.

The abundance of bird species decreased especially in the month of April and May due to less availability of water due to intense heat of sun, unavailability of green vegetation nearby. The abundance of left over food items were preferred by House crows and sparrows in all the seasons. The migratory birds were seen visiting the water body in the premises of bus stand in winter season only. In India, small water bodies are a distinctive feature which provides important feeding and nesting areas for a wide range of water bodies. The birds act as scavengers which clean up the environment. A large proportion of normal food of bird consists of insects and fishes especially in the pond ecosystem.

The birds in and around the Jam bus stand area site were affected by many factors such as organic pollution, distribution of human activities and climatic factors of the area. Keeping in view the scanty studies on birds in such sites our attempt is an approach to qualitatively assess the types of birds in such habitat and prepare a checklist.

Through these Bird check list studies a base line is established for the future researchers in this direction to analyze the bird fauna of nearby sites easily.

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Table 1 : Avifaunal Checklist of Jam Bus Stand Area

Sr.No.	Order / Family	Scientific Name	Common name	Habit
1.	Ciconiformes Ardeidae	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron	RM
2.	Ciconiformes Ardeidae	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	Indian Pond Heron	R
3.	Ciconiformes Ardeidae	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cattle Egret	R
4.	Ciconiformes Ciconidae	<i>Ephippiorhyrchos asiaticus</i>	Black Necked Stork	M
5.	Ciconiformes Scolopacidae	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Common Snipe	R
6.	Ciconiformes Ardeidae	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	R

7.	Falconiformes Anatidae	<i>Elanus Caeruleus</i>	Black Winged Kite	R
8.	Galliformes Phasianidae	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	Grey Francolin	R
9.	Pelecaniformes Phalacrocoracidae	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	Little Cormorant	RM
10.	Charadriiformes Scolopaciidae	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	RM
11.	Charadriiformes Charadriidae	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	Red Wattled Lapwing	R
12.	Columbiformes Columbidae	<i>Streptopelia chiensis</i>	Spotted Dove	R
13.	Columbiformes Columbidae	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Eurasian Collared Dove (Ring Dove)	R
14.	Columbiformes Columbidae	<i>Stigmatopelia senegalensis</i>	Little Brown Dove	R
15.	Columbiformes Columbidae	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>	Yellow Footed Green Pigeon	R
16.	Columbiformes Columbidae	<i>Columba livia</i>	Rock Pigeon (Blue)	R
17.	Psittaciformis Psittacidae	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Rose Ringed Parakeet	R
18.	Psittaciformes Cuculidae	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	Greater Coucal	R
19.	Psittaciformes Cuculidae	<i>Eudynamis scolopaceus</i>	Asian Koel	R
20.	Coraciformes Alcedinidae	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Small Blue Kingfisher	RM
21.	Coraciformes Meropidae	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Small Green Bee Eater	R
22.	Coraciformes Coraciidae	<i>Coracias bengalensis</i>	Indian roller	RM
23.	Coraciformes Coracidae	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Common Hoopoe	RM
24.	Passeriformes Lanidae	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Rufousbacked Shrike	R
25.	Passeriformes Dicruidae	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	Black Drongo	R
26.	Passeriformes Sturnidae	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common Myna	R
27.	Passeriformes Pycnonotidae	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	Red Vented Bulbul	R
28.	Passeriformes Muscicapidae	<i>Turdoides striata</i>	Jungla Babbler	R
29.	Passeriformes Muscicapidae	<i>Saxicolocoides fulicatus</i>	Indian Robin	R
30.	Passeriformes Nectarinidae	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	Purple sunbird	R
31.	Passeriformes Hirudinidae	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common Swallow	RM
32.	Passeriformes Sturnidae	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>	Brahminy Myna	R
33.	Passeriformes Sturnidae	<i>Sturnus contra</i>	Pied Myna	R

34.	Passeriformes Corvidae	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	House Crow	R
35.	Passeriformes Corvidae	<i>Corvus macrorhynchus</i>	Jungle Crow	R
36.	Passeriformes Muscicapidae	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Oriental Magpie robin	R
37.	Passeriformes Campephagidae	<i>Pericrocotus cinnaoeus</i>	Small Minivet	R
38.	Passeriformes Cisticolidae	<i>Orthotomus sutorus</i>	Common tailorbird	R
39.	Passeriformes Passeridae	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Paddy Field Pipit	R
40.	Cuculiformes Cuculidae	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Common Cuckoo	R
41.	Strigiformes Strigidae	<i>Athene brama</i>	Spotted Owlet	R
42.	Apodiformes Apodidae	<i>Apus affinis</i>	House Swift	R
43.	PElecaniformes Phalacrocoracidae	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	Indian Cormorant	R
44.	Motacillidae Oriolidae	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Eurasian Golden Oriole	R
45.	Passeridae Corvidae	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	Rufous Treepie	R
46.	Passerinae Ploceinae	<i>Ploceus philipinus</i>	Baya weaver	R
47.	Passeridae Passerinae	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	R

RM – Resident Migratory M-Migratory R – Resident

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