

Short Article

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Important Wintering Records of Crested Goshawk *Accipiter Trivirgatus* from North-East, East and North-West Cultivation Field of Ahmedabad District, Gujarat, India.

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Abstract: There are four species from *Accipiter* genus are occurs in Gujarat. The race *Shikra A. badius* and *Besra A. Virgatus* are resident and breed and the Eurasian Sparrowhawk *A. Nisus* is winter visitor. The race Northern Goshawk *A. Gentilis* is winter vagrant recorded in Gir National Park and Little Rann of Kachchh. In present article, going to introduce nine species of the Crested Goshawk observed in Mandal, Viramgam, Sanand, Bavla and Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary, Dist. – Ahmedabad. Three species were sighted and photographed in Nal Sarovar birds Sanctuary, while another 5 species – One from Mandal city (Mandal Tehsil), Two birds from Viramgam Tehsil and other two from Sanand and Bavla Tehsil. Three or four birds were probably adult, another are juveniles.

Classification

Species authority: *A. t. indicus* – Hodgson, 1836

A. T. Peninsular – Koelz, 1949

Domain: Eukaryota

Kingdom: Animalia

Class: Aves

Phylum: Chordata

Order: Falconiformes

Family: Accipiteridae

Genus: *Accipiter trivirgatus* – Temnck, 1824

Binomial name: *Accipiter trivirgatus*

Gujarati name: Chotli vado bazh

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INTRODUCTION

The Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* belong to group of northern Goshawk and Eurasian Sparrowhawk, (resembles of Jerdon's Baza, **Rasmussen, 2012**) belong to *Accipiter* Genus, family - *Accipiteridae*, detached in Eleven different race by size, plumage and variation. Eight races are found in Taiwan, Sumatera, Nais (West Sumatra), Java and Bali, Bonyo, North Philippines, West Philippines, possible in West Bonyo and South-East Philippines, rest of the 3 races found in India. **Race 1** *A. t. peninsulakoelz*, South-East India, **Race 2** *A. t. layardl*, Sri Lanka, **Race 2** *A. t. Indicus*, found in North, Central and East India, Nepal through South China, Taiwan, Malaysian peninsula - **del hoyo, 2014**.

Observation area

Extensive observation was carried out (after first bird was observed in Sokali village, Taluka – Viramgam) in Bavla, Sanand, Viramgam, Mandal Tehsil, Dist. – Ahmedabad, elongated South-East, East, North-East range of Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary. Also, South-West, West, North-West range of Ahmedabad city, spreaded over roughly 2400 sq. km. The great Fascination has a *T. populnea* Soland, *M. azadirachta*, *M.*

oleifera, *E. globulus salvadora*, *S. migram*, *Digera muricata*, *Ficus bengalensis*, *F. religiosa*, *F. tsiela*, *C. decidua*, *C. sepialia*, *A. arabica*, thorny *P. juliflora* scrub mixed dry deciduous forest surrounding cultivation field, with 7 species of Common sandboa Common Trintlet snake, Glossy – bellied racer and other non – venomous snakes, Squirrel, Bats, Hare, Rat, Red-vented Bulbul, White-eared bulbul, four different species of Dove, create great attraction for every raptor for their wintering occurrence. Site are known for particularly richness of bird species, residential and migratory both.



Figure:1

Black hooked bill with greyish base, grey cere and ear coverts, greyish supercilium, blackish-brown streaked square head and nape with black crest, blackish-brown wing coverts and mentle, black primary extend upto square-ended white tipped black-bended greyish tail.



Figure:2

Hooked black bill with greyish base, streaked crown and nape, pale supercilium, yellow iris, black pupil, pale brownish ear coverts, black moustachial strips, brownish black streaked nape and upper breast, brownish-black wing coverts, black primary extend upto black bended square ended one-third of the greyish tail, blackish brown bars on flank.



Figure:3

Blackish brown streaked domed head and ear coverts, yellow iris, black pupil, yellow cere, greyish bill with black tip, white throat, black moustachial strips, black bars on upper breast, blackish-brown streaked lower breast, vent white, yellow legs, pale fringed wing coverts, pale fringed black primary extend to one of the greyish black bended square-ended one-third of the tail.



Figure:4

Hooked greyish strong bill, yellowish grey cere, flatted blackish-brown square head, pale supercilium, blackish-brown streaked nape and ear-coverts, yellow small iris and black pupil, blackish-brown streaks on upper breast and belly, blackish-brown buff bars on flank, yellow legs, greyish-brown wing and secondary coverts, black primary, four black-bended long tail primary extend to 1/3rd of tail.



Figure:5

Bird is probably juvenile (female). Black bill, yellow cere, flatted greyish-brown head, ear-coverts, blackish-brown streaked nape, white throat, black melar strips, brownish-black streaked upper breast, blackish-brown bars on flanck and thighs, yellow legs, white tipped black-bended greyish undertail.



Figure:6

Pale greyish brown streaked crown and nape, greyish buff ear coverts, white throat, greyish moustachial strips, greyish wing covert, white fringed primary projection extend for black-bended greyish one-third of tail, yellow legs.



Figure:7

Hooked black bill, grey cere, yellow iris and black pupil, greyish-brown streaked head, nape and ear coverts, blackish-brown streaked upper breast, brownish-black bended white flanck, greyish-brown streaked breast, white on vent, yellow legs, square-ended white undertail.



Figure:8

Blackish-brown streaked crown and nape, black pupil, yellow iris, grey cere, black bill greyish base, blackish-brown ear coverts, pale buff moustachial strips, white throat, blackish-brown mentle and wing coverts, primary extend greyish four square-ended one-third of tail.



Figure:9

Yellow cere, greyish-brown streaked flatted square head, brownish-black streaked nape and upper breast, greyish-brown streaked ear coverts, blackish-brown moustachial strips, white throat, greyish-brown bared mentle, blackish-brown greater and secondary coverts, black primary, black four bended square tail tip, yellow legs.

Fig.	Date	Site	District	Lat./Long.	Sex
1	12-1-11	Sokali, Taluka - Viramgam	Ahmedabad	23.096° N, 72.112° E	Male (Adult)
2	9-3-12	Jakhwada, Taluka - Viramgam	Ahmedabad	23.087° N, 72.135° E	Probably female
3	24-11-14	Mandal city, Taluka - Mandal	Ahmedabad	23.289° N, 72.917° E	Juvenile
4	17-1-15	Matoda, Taluka – Bavla	Ahmedabad	22.892° N, 72.395° E	Probably female
5	13-2-17	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	22.821° N, 72.057° E	Juvenile
6	29-3-18	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	22.821° N, 72.057° E	Probably juvenile (female)
7	3-1-20	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	22.821° N, 72.057° E	Female
8	1-3-21	Vinchhiya, Taluka – Sanand	Ahmedabad	22.209° N, 71.379° E	Probably female
9	6-3-23	Nal Sarovar Birds Sanctuary	Ahmedabad	22.821° N, 72.057° E	Probably Male

DISCUSSION

All the wintering records are very important for distribution range. In present article, all the records are very important for its wintering distribution range, resident and breed in Central Himalaya from Uttarakhand through North-East Eastern Himalayas, Meghalaya through Bangladesh, Central India, also in South-West, North-East India. Its distribution range does not cover West, North-West Indian peninsular. Bird is generally found in deep forest and forest range. During this observation, all the birds were found in thorny scrub mixed dry deciduous forest along cultivation field. Three birds were found very near in largest wintering and roosting site of Harrier – Black buck national park and Wild Ass Sanctuary. In last 10 years, many raptors – Golden Eagle, Eastern Marsh Harrier, Hen Harrier, Falcons are recorded surrounding this site. All the sites are very important, for its distribution range. Avin Fauna can be attributed to extensive agricultural field, thorny scrub mixed forest, increased fascination and recognised outstanding geological features exceptionally rich natural diversity.

Grimmett, 2011, Kry's, 2012, Rasmussen, 2012, Ali 2012, doesn't mention Gujarat in its distribution range. Also, not mention in checklist of Birds of Gujarat in 2004, 2014 and 2020.

Sites are recognized for their outstanding geological features and exceptionally rich natural diversity. The richness of Avi fauna can be attributed to agriculture field.

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