

thank all of them as well as the residents of the surveyed areas for their support, hospitality, and for sharing their knowledge with us.

December 2, 2003

CHARUDUTT MISHRA^{1,2}

APARAJITA DATTA¹

M.D. MADHUSUDAN¹

¹Nature Conservation Foundation,
3076/5, IV Cross Gokulam Park,
Mysore 570 002, Karnataka, India.

²International Snow Leopard Trust,
4649 N. Sunnyside Avenue,
Suite 325, Seattle, WA 98103, USA.
Email: charu@ncf-india.org

REFERENCES

- AMATO, G., M.G. EGAN & A.R. RABINOWITZ (1999): A new species of muntjac, *Muntiacus putaoensis* (Artiodactyla, Cervidae) from northern Myanmar. *Animal Conservation* 2: 1-7.
- ANON. (2003): The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 as amended up to 2003. Natraj Publishers, Dehradun, India. 158 pp.
- ATHREYA, R.M., A.S. CAPTAIN & V.R. ATHREYA (1997): A faunal survey of Namdapha Tiger Reserve, Arunachal Pradesh, India. Unpublished Report.
- CHOUDHURY, A. (2003): The mammals of Arunachal Pradesh. Regency Publications, New Delhi. 79 pp.
- CORBET, G.E. & J.E. HILL (1992): The mammals of the Indomalayan region: a systematic review. Oxford University Press, New York. 488 pp.
- DATTA, A., J. PANSAL, M.D. MADHUSUDAN & C. MISHRA (2003): Discovery of the Leaf Deer *Muntiacus putaoensis* in Arunachal Pradesh: an addition to the large mammals of India. *Current Science* 84: 101-103.
- GIAO, P.M., D. TUOC, V.V. DUNG, E.D. WIKRAMANAYAKE, G. AMATO, P. ARCTANDER & J.R. MACKINNON (1998): Description of *Muntiacus truongsongensis*, a new species of muntjac (Artiodactyla: Muntiacidae) from Central Vietnam, and implications for conservation. *Animal Conservation* 1: 61-68.
- GROVES, C.P. & P. GRUBB (1985): Reclassification of the serows and gorals (*Nemorhaedus*: Bovidae). In: The Biology and Management of Mountain Ungulates (Ed.: S. Lovari). Croom Helm, London. Pp. 45-50.
- IUCN (2000): 2000 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (with CD-ROM). IUCN, Gland.
- KATTI, M., P. SINGH, N. MANJREKAR, D. SHARMA & S. MUKHERJEE (1992): An ornithological survey in eastern Arunachal Pradesh, India. *Forktail* 7: 75-89.
- KUMAR, S. & P. SINGH (1999): A study on pheasant distributions in Arunachal Pradesh, Eastern Himalaya, India. Unpublished report. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- MANI, M.S. (1974): Ecology and Biogeography in India. Dr. W. Junk b.v. Publishers, The Hague.
- MISHRA, C. & A.J.T. JOHNSINGH (1996): On habitat selection by the goral *Nemorhaedus goral bedfordi* (Bovidae, Artiodactyla). *Journal of Zoology (Lond.)* 240: 573-580.
- MISHRA, C. & A.J.T. JOHNSINGH (IN PRESS): Goral *Nemorhaedus goral*. In: Mammals of South Asia: Behaviour, Ecology and Conservation (Eds. Johnsingh, A.J.T. & N. Manjrekar). Permanent Black, New Delhi.
- MISHRA, C., T.R.S. RAMAN, & A.J.T. JOHNSINGH (1998): Hunting, habitat and conservation of rupicaprids in Mizoram, northeast India. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 95: 215-220.
- MITTERMEIER, R.A., N. MYERS, J.B. THOMSEN, G.A.B. DA FONSECA & S. OLIVIERI (1998): Biodiversity hotspots and major tropical wilderness areas: approaches to setting conservation priorities. *Conservation Biology* 12: 516-520.
- MYERS, N., R.A. MITTERMEIER, C.A. MITTERMEIER, G.A.B. DA FONSECA, & J. KENT (2000): Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature* 403: 853-858.
- OLSON, D.M. & E. DINERSTEIN (1998): The global 200: a representation approach to conserving the Earth's most biologically valuable ecoregions. *Conservation Biology* 12: 502-515.
- PAWAR, S.S. & A. BIRAND (2001): A survey of amphibians, reptiles, and birds in Northeast India. *CERC Technical Report No. 6*. Nature Conservation Foundation, Mysore, India.
- PINE, R.H. (1994): New mammals not so seldom. *Nature* 368: 593.
- PRATER, S.H. (1971): The Book of Indian Animals. Bombay Natural History Society, Bombay. 324 pp.
- RABINOWITZ, A.R., G. AMATO & S.T. KHAING (1998): The discovery of the Black Muntjac, *Muntiacus crinifrons*, in northern Myanmar. *Mammalia* 62: 105-108.
- ROBERTS, T.J. (1977): The Mammals of Pakistan. Ernest Benn, London & Tonbridge. 361 pp.
- RODGERS, W.A. & H.S. PANWAR (1988): Planning a wildlife protected area network in India (Volume I & II). A report prepared for the Department of Environment, Forests & Wildlife, Government of India. Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun.
- SCHALLER, G.B. (1977): Mountain Monarchs Wild Sheep and Goats of the Himalaya. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago. 425 pp.
- SCHALLER, G.B. & E.S. VRBA (1996): Description of the Giant Muntjac (*Megamuntiacus vuquangensis*) in Laos. *Journal of Mammalogy* 77: 675-683.
- SHACKLETON, D.M. (1997): Wild sheep and goats and their relatives: status survey and conservation action plan for Caprinae. IUCN, Gland.
- SHACKLETON, D.M. & S. LOVARI (1997): Classification adopted for the Caprinae survey. In: Wild Sheep and Goats and Their Relatives: Status Survey and Conservation Action Plan for Caprinae IUCN, Gland. Pp. 9-16
- ZHANG, C. (1987): *Nemorhaedus cranbrooki* Hayman. In: The Biology and Management of *Capricornis* and Related Mountain Antelopes (Ed.: Soma, H.). Croom Helm, Pp. 213-220
- ZHIWOTSCHENKO, V. (1990): Gorals (genus *Nemorhaedus*). In: Grzimek's Encyclopedia of Mammals. Vol. 5 McGraw Hill Publishing Company, New York. Pp. 506-507.

6. CHARAKLA SALTPANS: A HAVEN FOR BLACK-NECKED GREBE *PODICEPS NIGRICOLLIS* BREHM

During a survey of coastal birds from January 11-14, 2003, we counted 1,432 Black-necked Grebes *Podiceps*

nigricollis at four sites (Table 1) in Jamnagar and Porbandar districts of Gujarat. The highest concentration of about 1,400

Table 1: Count of Black-necked Grebes during January 2003, Gujarat

Site	District	Date	Number
Charakla salt pans	Jamnagar	12.1.2003	1405
Meedha Tidal Regulator	Porbandar	12.1.2003	5
Rosy Pier salt pans	Jamnagar	14.1.2003	4
Sanctuary salt pans	Jamnagar	14.1.2003	18
Total			1432

grebes was recorded at Charakla Salt pans, near Dwarka (22° 14' N, 69° 01' E); the grebes were seen in the salt pan in three groups of 1000, 375 and 30 individuals each. Grebes observed at the other three sites were found either singly or in pairs.

We also saw one white coloured Black-necked Grebe, with some black splashes on the head and sides of its body, amongst a group of thousand birds at Charakla Salt pans. The white grebe was at ease with the other grebes with normal plumage and was also seen diving occasionally like its conspecifics.

The highest concentration of Black-necked Grebes (201) was first reported in December 1996 from Charakla Salt pans (Parasharya *et al.* 1998). Earlier, about 50 grebes (Balar and Balar 1999) had been spotted on January 10, 1996; and Bhaskaran (1996) had spotted about 51 grebes in October 1996. Since 1996, significantly higher concentrations of grebes have been observed every year at the same site by the birdwatchers of Gujarat. Balar and Balar (1999) reported about 800-1000 grebes in January 1999; they had taken several photographs, one of which was published in the Times of

India dated June 26, 1999.

Two hundred and fifty birds represent 1% biogeographical population of Black-necked Grebe (Wetlands International 2002). A site becomes internationally important if it supports more than 1% biogeographical population of any one species of waterfowl regularly. Charakla Salt pans seems to be an internationally important site for Black-necked Grebe as it has supported high concentrations of the species on a regular basis since 1996.

All the present sightings are on the Gulf of Kachchh (Jamnagar district) or in its vicinity (Porbandar district). Parasharya and Mukherjee (1998) had also reported concentration of grebes around these two districts. Grimmett *et al.* (1998) and Kazmierczak (2000) have reported regular occurrence of grebes along the coast of the Gulf of Kachchh. Hence, all the salt pans along the southern coast of the Gulf of Kachchh should be checked for the occurrence of Black-necked Grebe.

May 23, 2003

ANIKA JADHAV

B.M. PARASHARYA

AINP on Agricultural Ornithology,
Gujarat Agricultural University,
Anand, Gujarat 388 110, India.

BHARAT RUGHANI

5, Wadi Plot, Bharatnivas,
Porbandar, Gujarat 360 575,
India.

REFERENCES

- BALAR, R.B. & R. BALAR (1999): Charaklanu Pakshitirth. *Vihang* 3: 10 (in Gujarati).
BHASKARAN, S.T. (1996): Black-necked Grebes and Great Crested Grebes in Gujarat. *Newsletter for Birdwatchers* 36(6): 114.
GRIMMETT, R., C. INSKIPP & T. INSKIPP (1998): Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Oxford University Press, Delhi.
KAZMIERCAK, K. (2000): A Field Guide to the Birds of India. Om Book Service, New Delhi.
PARASHARYA, B.M. & AESHITA MUKHERJEE (1998): A record number of Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* from Gujarat. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 95: 335-336.
WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL (2002): Waterbird Population Estimates - Third Edition. Wetlands International Global Series No. 12, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

7. MIGRATION OF BLACK-EARED OR LARGE INDIAN KITE *MILVUS MIGRANS LINEATUS* (GRAY) FROM MONGOLIA TO NORTH-EASTERN INDIA

The Black-eared or Large Indian Kite *Milvus migrans lineatus* (Gray) is regarded as a resident with unclear abundance in Assam (Choudhury 2000) while the subspecies *govinda* is among the most abundant birds. Ali and Ripley (1987) had quoted Baker (FBI No. 1788, Vol. 5: 124) about its breeding in the hills, south of the Brahmaputra river and mentioned that elsewhere in India (excluding extreme south) it is a winter visitor in small numbers. On migration they stated, referring Frank Ludlow (*Ibis* 1937: 493), coming from north

through Bhutan on September 5. Thus, little data is available on its migration.

A single specimen of *Milvus migrans lineatus* was captured live by a villager near Loktak Lake in Manipur on October 22, 2001. It was near Mayong Imphal (24° 36' N, 93° 54' E) towards east of the lake at an elevation of 790 m above msl. Efforts to buy the bird and release it back did not succeed as the owner refused to sell it. The bird had a ring marked "Hiddensee Germania EA 096970". After a lot of



Jadhav, Anika, Parasharya, B M, and Rughani, Bharat. 2005. "Charakla Saltpans: a Haven for Black necked Grebe *Podiceps Nigricollis* Brehm." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 102, 228–229.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/188389>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/154820>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In Copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.