

# Study On Common Birds At Lalgarh of Jhargram District

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**Abstract-** In this study brief information on avifauna of Lalgarh Govt. College Campus and its vicinity under Binpur-I Community Development Block of Jhargram District has been placed. The information reflects on some common birds, migratory birds, their general behaviours including ecological amplitude in addition to floral spectrum. Bird species found here are Open Bill storks, Black headed ibis, Black ibis, Green Bee-eater, White wagtail which are migratory while other birds like Night heron, Little cormorants, and Intermediate egret, Pond herons, White throated kingfisher, Stork billed Kingfisher, Common kingfisher, Black drongo, Spotted dove, Eurasian Collared dove, Indian Roller, Paddy field Pipit, Common Myna, Jungle Myna, Bank Myna, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Tailor Bird and Common Hoopoe which are local that exists side by side without any ill behaviour. Black headed ibis and Night herons are frequently found but breed here during post monsoon. The mixed dry vegetation of the site and local habitat influence the bird species which has an interdependence of species in the said area. Therefore, present communication deals the guide line to conserve species in the same area with potential bio-degradation that might harm the species in a long term basis. It is important that local people and students of schools and college will monitor the species to restore the ecosystem pristine for sustenance of species.

**Keywords-** Lalgarh-Binpur-I, Jhargram, common birds, Conservation

## I. INTRODUCTION

Birds are warm blooded animal that lay eggs and can fly. It is important in nature because bird can pollinate flowers and set up fruits on trees, shrubs and on herbs. In nature they perform functions to onset of plants by getting seeds and dispersing seeds from plants. They control pests and improve the quality of seeds on plants even can help them to disperse. In forest they change the ecosystem pattern and control the population of different predators and run smoothly the environment. The same is applicable in everywhere that is in forest, in woodland and in wetland habitats. They control disease by engulfing pests in nature even they help to control the quality of environment both in land habit and in aquatic bodies. Some birds used as pet and some are used to navigate.

We see a large number of birds as scavengers. Good examples are crow, black kite and large billed crows. Now the vulture and some kind of kites are endangered due to environmental pollution caused by chemicals used widely in nature. So, we need to study the birds that are good indicators of nature, may environment. Say for example wood picker indicates quality of environment even the diversity of forest or woodland. Remembering the theme in mind and as per the UG syllabus of Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, West Bengal, we have made this type of study on common birds in and around the College campus, Lalgarh SI Chowk and nearer to river Kanswabati (Kansai).

## II. STUDY AREA

Study area of Lalgarh is fall under Binpur-I Community Development Block in Jhargram district of West Bengal. The village is situated on the metallic road Lalgarh-Dherua at Sakhasini mouza. The nearest point is Sakhasini Sacred grove very proximal to Kansai River and nearer to Govt. General Degree College, Lalgarh.

It is a natural site ended with agricultural land and some degraded land mass filled with Acacia and different palm trees. One dominated pond and many small water bodies are available nearby along with some canals. The site is dominated by many big trees like *Bombax ceiba*, *Ceiba pentandra*, *Holoptelia integrifolia*, *Morind acitrifolia*, *Odina wodier*(Jiyal), *Mangifera indica*, *Tamarindu indica*, *Adina cordifolia*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Albizzia lebbek*, *Samanea saman*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Ficus benghalensis*, *Bambusa bamboos*, *B. balcua*, *B. tulda*, *Terminalia crenulata*, *Borassus flabellifer*, *Phoenix sylvestris*, *Madhuca indica*, *Morus indica*, *Ficus glomerata*, *Streblus asper*, *Anthocephalous cadamab*, *Tectona grandis*, *Mangifera indica*, *Artocarpus heterophylla*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Ziziphus jujuba*, *Trema orientalis*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Psidium guajava*, *Cocos nucifera*, *Syzygium cumuni*, *Bauhinia racemosa*, *Acacia nilotica*, *Leucaena leucocephala* (Subabul) etc. The entire village and around the cultivable land mass, river banks along with mud flat of river was taken in to account. Overall we have demarcated the habitats as- 1. College campus, 2. River side, 3. River bank, 4. Waste land, 5. Grass land, 6. Semi-dry Grass land, 7.

Agricultural land, 8. Woodland and 9. Sacred groves (Sakhasini) in and around the College campus.

### III. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Regular monitoring of bird species in the said area was done using line transect method. A line of 2000m was divided into 10 equal parts and each has 200m only. From the starting point to the 9<sup>th</sup> point (Except the 2000m point) a total 9 study stations have been demarcated. Walking distance was probably meant for 200m which was traversed and at each point number of bird species was calculated. After studying all points a complete number was counted as per the method of CBMP devised by IBCN. Camera, binocular, pen, record books and data sheet was used. A general identification manual<sup>1</sup> was used which was collected from Central Library of Lalgah Govt. College, Jhargram. Other literatures used here are mentioned in references<sup>1-32</sup>. Some plants associated with birds were recorded from study site. Morning was done from 6 a.m to 9 a.m as per season round the year which is followed to study the birds in the specific study area.

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In total, 52 bird species were found in different habitats of Lalgah, Jhargram (Photo Plate 1). The various habitats are grassland, agricultural sites, river belt, river pan, woodland, semi-dry grass land, shrubberies and in patch of sacred grove like Sakhasini. We have seen some water birds in the river. These are Common Green Shank, Indian Pond Heron, Great egret, Little Egret, Common Sand Piper, Little Ring Plover, Red Wattleed Lapwings, White breasted Water hen, White breasted Kingfisher, Stork-billed King fisher, Common Kingfisher, Pied King fisher etc.

In grass land, we have recorded Common or Eurasian Hoopoe, Paddy field Pipit, Asian Pied Starling, Brhminy Starling, Common Myna, Spotted Dove, Eurasian Collared Dove, Greater Coucal, White Wagtail etc.

In shrubberies we have recorded Black drongo, bronzed drongo, brown shrike, Zitting Cisticola, Red-Vented Bulbul, Red-Whiskered Bulbul, Jungle Myna, Common Myna and Bank Myna etc. We also spotted some nocturnal birds like Spotted Owlet, Scops owl etc.

In wood land we have seen Common dove, Eurasian Collared Dove, Asian Koel (Male and Female), Brain fever, Green Bee-eater, Blue throat, Warbler of various kinds, Iora and black hooded oriole. Sun birds found in flowering plants and in small shrubby plants in and around College campus. Highly coloured sunbirds visit flowers of *Calotropis*

*gigantea*, *Laucaena leucocephala*, *Bauhinia purpurea* and on *Moringa aoleifera* etc. Here introduced plant species planted are *Eucalyptus*, *Acacia*, *Tectona* etc. Shrubberies we have seen *Lantana*, *Parthenium* and *Euatorium* sp. Woody climbers like *Cocculus*, *Tiliacora* and *Ampelocissus* have made the net like structure which is a shelter of many birds like Greater Coucal, Asian Koel and drongoes. In orchard Stork billed Kingfisher, Tailor bird and Ioras have been found with a large number of leaf warblers.

High tension electric poles and wires boost species like Indian Roller, Black Shoulder kite, Long tailed shrike, Brown shrike, Black hooded oriole, Barbets, Asian Pied Starling, Chestnut tailed sterling, Ashy Wood swallow, Black drongoes, Green Bee-eater etc.

In some small bushes and in grassland we have recorded Black headed munia, Scaly breasted munia, Sparrow, Sparrow lark, Zitting Cisticola etc.

Sometimes, a small number of silver bills and baya weaver were recorded which were sitting on electric wires of high tension line. Tailor birds have been found here and there in and around the garden. In open sky, we have recorded Asian Palm Swift always flying here and there.

### V. CONCLUSION

Study round the repeated years is essential to record the maximum bird species available in the area. A record book or register may be made to docket the species recorded by various people in and around the area including students, teachers and staff. Group of interested people may be made to study the same in different seasons and continuing these for getting average data. After proper identification, photographs must be uploaded in the College website for further use even for broad use of data over the globe.

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PHOTOPLATE 1 Birds of Lalgarh, Jhargram



Fig. 1 Tailor Bird



Fig. 2 Stork billed Kingfisher



Fig. 3 Rufous Treepie on Mango Tree,



Fig. 4 Asian Koel on *Trema orientalis* tree



Fig. 5 Oriental Magpie Robin on Jiyal Tree,



Fig. 6 Bank Myna on metallic Road



Fig. 7 Zitting Cisticola on Subabul Tree,



Fig. 8 Red-Vented Bulbul on Margosa Tree

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