

Biodiversity of Birds in Nari and PiliNadi,area,Nagpur (M.S.)

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ABSTRACT

Birds are entomophagous consume insect and pests which destroy the standing crops, fruits etc. the agrobios system of the world. Birds are scavengers; provide food to human because they are agents of seed dispersal and pollinators. Anthropogenic activity, urbanization and mobile communication and degradation of habitats and decline in species and bird population throughout the globe.

To assess the current trend of avian biodiversity a field survey was done in Pili-Nadi, Nari forest and the ecotone (edge effect) area i.e. bridged and boundary of Nari forest in Nari village located at $21^{\circ}11'51''\text{N}$ and $76^{\circ}6'37''\text{E}$. Direct observations for bird watching was done visually and using binocular (Olympus 8x40 and 10x50), photography was done using DSLR and Mi 3S prime camera.

In the marshy aquatic habitat birds recorded included the painted- stork, purple swamphen, black winged stilt, little cormorant, pond heron, cattle egret and black crown night heron all the birds feed on fishes, frog crustaceans (crabs), dragon flies, damselflies, insect etc, available in the rapid fast flowing zone and slow moving and standing (lentic) zone of Pili-Nari. The lotic stretch of Pili-Nadi exhibit rapid flow of water in rainy season, the moderate amount of dissolved oxygen, and moderate-heavy availability of nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients due to organic matter and domestic sewage support luxuriant growth of algae, diatoms, mosses on the stone walls aquatic macrophyte in the shore area support the above mentioned vertebrates and invertebrates fauna. In the Nari village; border of Nari forest, Nari village and the bridge area which forms the ecotone /edge effect the terrestrial, arboreal and sometimes aquatic birds sighted. Terrestrial-arboreal birds like black-breasted weaver, Indian white eye, pied king fisher, green bee-eater, blue tailed bee-eater, Indian myna, Indian pitta, Indian ringed parrot, Asian pied starling, Orange-headed thrush, Common hawk-cuckoo, African paradise flycatcher, Indian roller, brown quail, rock pigeon, rufous tree-pie, tricoloured munia, Indian golden oriole and prey /raptor birds like Shikra, bald eagle and Indian eagle- owl were recorded.

The PiliNadi water i.e. heavily polluted with inorganic and organic pollutants, dead animals etc. Migratory birds, residential birds spread avian influenza virus, Herpes virus, pox- virus, bacterial psittacosis, salmonellosis, fungal and mycobacterioses diseases respectively in healthy birds and kill these birds.

Wild raptors and passerines after ingesting food and water contaminated by bird carcasses develop watery lesions on head, legs, feet etc, which decline their health status and take their toll. Aquatic birds suffer from Giardia intestinalis and other worm infections. To protect these birds from zoonotic diseases periodic, regular, cleaning of Pili-Nadi by NMC and other authorities is essential garbage in the river and maintain the forest area which is necessary to conserve the above recorded 28 species of birds. Artificial tanks containing health food for birds will keep them healthy and free from avian diseases.

Keywords : Birds, Pili-Nadi, pollution, diseases, conservation, ecotone.

1. INTRODUCTION

Birds are of great importance to the human society because they consume insect and pests which damage the standing crops, vegetables and fruits in the agrobios system of the world. Other functions performed by them include

scavenging, seed dispersal and as pollinating agents. Birds provide rich food to humans Chitampally (1993). Salim Ali (1936) initiated studies on economic ornithology which laid the basis of scientific study of air fauna of Indian Sub continent.

Anthropogenic activity, urbanization and mobile communication technology has led to destruction, fragmentation and degradation of habitats of birds throughout the world. Modern search techniques were employed to know whereabouts of Jerdon's Courser the most endangered bird of India (Chavan and Barber 2012). The Bengal floricane is a critically endangered bird, about less than 350 birds in India, to overgrazing of its grass land habitat (Birds life International, IUCN, Red list, 2016).

To assess the current trend of avian biodiversity a field survey was undertaken in Nari area and Pili Nadi in Nagpur city

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study area is in Nari village located at 21°11'51"N and 76°6'37"E near Pili Nadi. The water body i.e. Pili Nadi is a small natural river, not very deep, receives water from Gorewada Dam. At the boundary the Nari forest contains tall trees, herbs and shrubs. To assess the air fauna biodiversity survey was carried from August 2018 to March 2019, river was visited in the early morning, evening, and sometimes in the afternoon to know the activities of birds. The bridge leading to forest area side was also surveyed. Direct observations for birds watching was done using binocular (Olympus 8 x40 and 10 x50). Birds were photographed with DSLR and Mi3S prime cameras.

According to feeding status habits and status birds were documented as Rare, Residential (RS) and Common (C).

3. OBSERVATION

Table no. 1, contains the birds recorded in and around Nari village and Pili Nadi area, Nagpur city. 28 species of birds belonging to families Ploceidae, Zosteropidae, Alcedinidae, Meropidae, Sturnidae, Psittaculidae, Accipitridae, Pittidae, Rallidae, Oriolidae, Turdidae, Tringidae, Ciconiidae, Cuculidae, Monarchidae, Coraciidae, Ardeidae, Recurvirostridae and Phasianidae, Columbidae, Phalacrocoracidae, Estrilidae and Corvidae were observed visually and photographed using binocular and cameras. The picture plates of birds depict the avian biodiversity.

Result and Discussion

The Pili Nadi in Nari area actually originates from Gorewada lake area in Nagpur, it is running water i.e. lotic ecosystem. As it flows the initial clean water, carries sewage, domestic organic and inorganic pollutants, industrial toxicants, debris etc. The Pili Nadi exhibits a rapid zone of fast flowing water mainly in rainy season during which moderate amount of dissolved oxygen supports growth of algae, mosses and diatoms, caddisfly on the side stone walls, logs, stones etc. This second zone is called pond zone at various spots of Pili Nadi contains shallow and slow moving and standing water contains pebbles, sand, silt, mud etc. and harbor aquatic micro and macrophytes which support insect populations like damselflies, dragonflies, butterflies, spiders etc. The Pili Nadi is a living feeding and breeding habitat for birds which are terrestrial-arboreal-aquatic. The trees, shrubs, herbs at Nari village forest Pili Nadi region as an Ecotone (edge effect). It supports plant and animal life. Avian biodiversity of area exhibits birds like Black-breasted weaver, Indian-white eye, Pied Kingfisher, Green bee-eater, Blue-tailed bee-eater, Indian myna, bird of prey (raptor) Shikra, Bald eagle-owl, the Indian pitta, Indian ringed parrot, Asian pied starling, Orange-headed thrush, common hawk, cuckoo, African paradise flycatcher, Indian roller, Brown quail, Rock pigeon, Rufous treepeep, three-coloured munia, Indian Golden Oriole. Birds of marshy aquatic habitat include Painted Stork, Purple Swamphen, Black-winged STILL, Little Cormorant, Pond heron, cattle egret and black crown night

heron. Aquatic birds feed on fishes ,frogs, crustaceans (crabs) ,dragon flies, damsel flies, insects,etc. The raptors feed on small medium size birds. Some of the recorded birds feeding Habit includes fruits ,nuts, seeds,influence of grains,grains,etc. Some birds are omnivorous,others are entomophagous. Aquatic birds die after consuming the contaminated and polluted food items. Wet lands support 20 % biodiversity, stop over sites and refuge for migratory birds and water fowls (Deepa and Ramchandra,1999),Avian influenza most of them found in migratory water fowl kill them.

Ducks ,gease and Swans suffer from duckplague, its etiological agent is Herpes virus. Several birds species die due to Avian Pox infection, Migratory water fowl, wild raptors and many Passerines show warty lesion on head, legs, feet. These birds contract this disease after ingesting food and water contaminated by sick birds or come in contact with contaminated surfaces like perches. Bacterial disease like Psittacosis in Psittacine birds ,pigeons,raptors and fishes, Salmonellosis in birds also take toll of birds. Water fowls suffer from giardiasis in intestines wild birds like raptors or waterfowl suffer from Aspergillus fumigatus a mycotic disease.

Captive birds suffer from avian Aspergillus (penguins, pheasants, water fowls), bumble foot avian mycobacteriosis and other zoonotic diseases. Hence, periodic cleaning of Pili Nadi by NMC authorities is very important. Artificial tanks with all variety of food item must be made available for birds to prevent them from consuming polluted and contaminated food . Dumping of garbage by local residents into the Pili Nadi must be avoided. Several public must be made aware of the important role played by birds which will help in conserving the birds and their habitats.

Observation Table

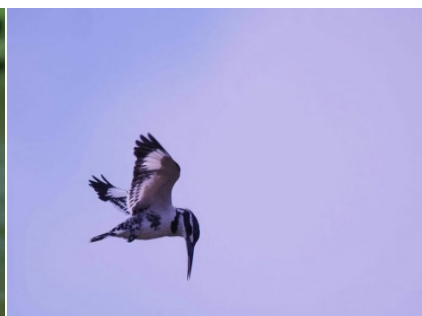
The area was visited throughout the study period from August-18 to March-19

Sr. No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family
1.	Black breasted weaver	<i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>	Ploceidae
2.	Indian White eye	<i>Zosterops alpebrosus</i>	Zosteropidae
3.	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Alcedinidae
4.	Green bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Meropidae
5.	Blue tailed bee eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	Meropidae
6.	Indian myna	<i>Acridothera tristis</i>	Sturnidae
7.	Indian ringneck parrot	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Psittaculidae
8.	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Accipitridae
9.	Indian pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>	Pittidae
10.	Purple swamphen	<i>Porphyrion porphyrio</i>	Rallidae
11.	Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Accipitridae
12.	Indian golden oriole	<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>	Oriolidae
13.	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	Sturnidae
14.	Orange headed thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>	Turdidae
15.	Indian eagle owl	<i>Bubo bengalensis</i>	Strigidae
16.	Painted stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	Ciconidae
17.	Common hawk cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>	Cuculidae
18.	African paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	Monarchidae
19.	Indian roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	Coraciidae
20.	Black crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Ardeidae
21.	Black winged stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Recurvirostridae
22.	Brown quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Phasianidae
23.	Rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Columbidae
24.	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	Phalacrocoracidae
25.	Pond heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	Ardeidae
26.	Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Ardeidae
27.	Tricoloured munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>	Estrildidae

28.	Rufoustreepie	Dendrocittavagabunda	Corvidae
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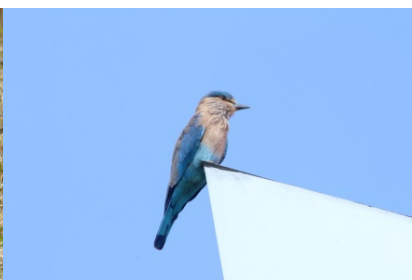


Terpsiphone viridis Geokichla citreolinea Gracula contra

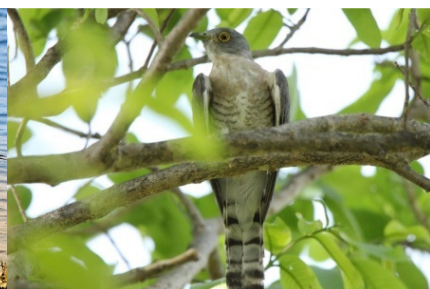


Pitta brachyura Nycticorax nycticorax

Ceryle rudis



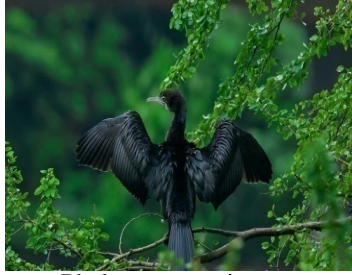
Coturnix ypsilophora Coracias benghalensis Zosterops palpebrosus



Himantopus himantopus

Hierococcyx varius

Columba livia



Phalacrocorax niger



Acridotheres tristis



Merops orientalis



Psittacula krameri



Bubulcus ibis



Mycteria leucocephala



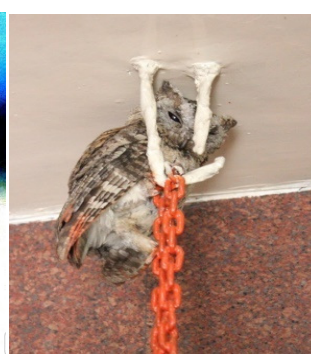
Merops philippinus



Oriolus kundoo



Accipiter badius





PoryphyrioporyphyrioHaliaeetusleucocephalusArdeolagrayii

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