huge numbers, has been recorded in late April–May 2009 (Wen & Han 2013). A mass migration of the species has been recorded in Thailand, and Nepal in October (DeCandido et al. 2008; DeCandido 2012; Subedi & DeCandido 2014), and in March in Malaysia (DeCandido et al. 2004, 2006, 2013; DeCandido & Nualsri 2009). A few hundred birds were recorded in October in Taiwan (Lin & Severinghaus 1998), and a few individuals were recorded in Himachal Pradesh, India during February and March (Besten 2004). The migration of the species was tracked by satellite from Japan to Java and back, and its detoured migration route is well documented (Higuchi et al. 2005; Agostoni & Mellone 2007; Yamaguchi et al. 2008).

There has been no record of migration of the Oriental Honey Buzzard from the afore-mentioned part of India, and most of the Indian Subcontinent as far as we understand. We think it is an interesting observation and worth recording. Regular monitoring of the species, and satellite tracking it, would provide greater insights in its migration route as well as status.

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References


leads us to believe that the pair is nesting there. Subsequently, AM showed the pictures of the male bird to some local boys and they recognised the bird and even suggested that these birds would now be breeding in the holes of pine trees near Meshal! The boys were downright curious, and pestered us, unsuccessfully, to know the location of the birds; it is suspected that they routinely raid nesting holes to poach up young birds.

Subsequently, another pair was found nesting closer to Walong, in Yakung, in late May 2015, and the female stayed in the nesting hole the entire day (Shashank Dalvi, verbally 01 June 2015).

It must be mentioned that Singh (1995) also suspected breeding, as parakeets were entering a hole in September 1991. Our observations reassert Ludlow’s statement (Ali & Ripley 1987) that they are breeding visitors to parts of Arunachal Pradesh between the first week of May to end of September. It must be stated that several birding groups (though not all) who visited this area have encountered this parakeet in the Walong–Kibithu stretch, in 2014 and 2015, and the earliest observations were in March (Table 1). Except for the observations of Singh (1995) at Hotsping (c. 3400 m asl), all other observations, including the first record by Stonor, were between 1200 and 1400 m.

With the number of records that are turning up from this region, Lord Derby’s Parakeet may be considered a regular species that breeds in the upper Lohit Valley, past Walong.

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**References**


