

Snapshot sightings

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater from Okhla, Delhi NCR

Jaswinder Waraich



While on a birding trip to Okhla Bird Sanctuary (28.55°N, 77.31°E), Delhi NCR, I found a Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti* sitting on an open perch on 08 April 2017. The bird allowed all my co-birders to see well and the same was photographed. This appears to be the first record of this species from Delhi NCR (Harvey et al. 2006).

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Blue-and-White Flycatcher from Matheran, Maharashtra

Mayuresh V Khataavkar & Vinod Gorle



A sub-adult Blue-and-White Flycatcher *Cyanoptila cyanomelana* was photographed from Matheran (19.00°N, 73.28°E, c.800m asl), Raigad, Maharashtra on 13 March 2017. This is the tenth record from the subcontinent, sixth from the Western Ghats and the third from Maharashtra. Interestingly, seven of these were in the month of March one in February, while the

other two were in November; our record strengthens the fact that it's a spring passage migrant in our region (Barve & Kamath 2016, Bhoopathy & Indrajith 2016, Rajeshkumar et al. 2014).

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Purple-backed Starling from Borgochia, West Bengal

Amitava Dutta

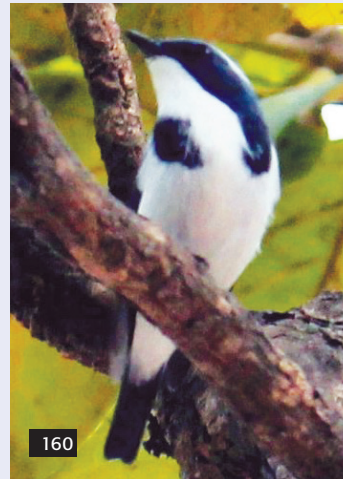
I photographed a Purple-backed Starling *Agropsar sturninus* along with a mixed group of Asian Pied- *Gracupica contra* and Chestnut-tailed Starlings *Sturnia malabarica* at Ananya Hatchery (22.44°N, 88.30°E), Borgochia, West Bengal on 15 April 2017. There are only nine prior records of this species from the mainland of Indian subcontinent and is an addition to West Bengal avifauna; though it has been reported thrice from the neighbouring Bangladesh (Dilip & Arun 2016).



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Ultramarine Flycatcher from Jawai, Rajasthan

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On November 30, 2016, an adult Ultramarine Flycatcher *Ficedula superciliaris* was photographed from Jawai Leopard Conservation Reserve (25.10°N, 73.15°E), southern Rajasthan. It is a rare winter visitor to southern Rajasthan with prior reports in checklists from Kumbhalgarh WLS (Anonymous 2010), and Udaipur (Mehra et al. 2011).

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