

## Snapshot Sightings

### Eye-browed Thrush from Kolkata, West Bengal

Sumit Sengupta



An Eye-browed Thrush *Turdus obscura* was photographed on 17 February 2013 from Rabindra Sarobar (22°30'N, 88°21'E), an artificial lake in the middle of Kolkata. Considered a winter visitor to Bhutan, Arunachal Pradesh and hills of S. Assam, it is a straggler elsewhere in the country (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005). The only record from the plains of West Bengal was in

April 2009 from Chintamani Kar WLS, near Kolkata city ([www.orientalbirdimages.org](http://www.orientalbirdimages.org)) – presumably both records are of birds on passage.

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### Blue-eared Kingfisher from Kolhapur, Maharashtra

Amol S. Lokhande & Ningappa C. Hiragond



A Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting* was photographed on 3 December 2011 and on 2 January 2012 from Kalamba (16°42'N, 74°13'E), Kolhapur, Maharashtra. Prior reports of this species from

Maharashtra are from the districts of Pune (Shivaprakash 2005), Sindhudurg (Santharam 1996) and Ratnagiri (Prasad 2004, Palkar 2009). It is probably a sporadic visitor to W. Maharashtra from more southerly regions.

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### Caspian Plover from Koonthakulam, Tamil Nadu

Suresh Elamon



About 5-6 Caspian Plovers *Charadrius asiaticus* were seen at Koonthakulam (8°29'N, 77°45'E), S. Tamil Nadu on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2013. Bal Pandy,

who first reported these birds, thought they were White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus*. Though considered a vagrant to India (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005), it has been reported from the wetlands of SE. coast of India in 1990 (Kazmierczak et al. 1993, Balachandran 1994) apart from W. Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Sri Lanka (Sangha et al. 2010).

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### Blue-cheeked Bee-eater from Kole Wetlands, Kerala

PP Sreenivasan



A single Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* was photographed on 29 April 2013 from Uppungal (10°43'N, 75°58'E), Kole Wetlands in Central Kerala. There is only prior report of this species from S. India was from Goa (Holt 2009) and hence is a first record for Kerala. However, it is known to migrate across the Arabian sea during spring (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005) and hence should be expected from the W. coast of India.

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