

A checklist of the birds of Karnataka

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Abstract

A checklist is the first metric of the biodiversity of an area. Here, we present a checklist of the birds of Karnataka State (India; *hereinafter* Karnataka). All references that deal with the collection of specimens, and all online and published sources that deal with photographs, have been collated as supporting evidence. Karnataka has 531 species of birds, 16 of which are endemic to the Western Ghats, and 27 species that fall under the various threatened categories of the IUCN. The inclusion of 524 species have been supported with collected specimens, or with clear photographs. Accepted sight records (seven species), and a secondary list of unconfirmed records are also discussed.

Introduction

Blessed with a variety of habitats, Karnataka is home to more than 35% of the bird species found in India. The three major landscapes (Fig. 1) of Karnataka are the coastline, the Western Ghats, and the Deccan Plateau. The western coastal strip is a narrow stretch of low-lying fertile plain with tiny coastal wetlands, estuaries, creeks, and beaches. The Western Ghats range of mountains have rolling foothills on their eastern slopes, including a few spur hills, while its western slopes rise abruptly, and steeply from the coastal plane (Fig. 1). A wide variety of natural forests including moist- and dry-deciduous, and wet- and semi-evergreen, apart from small pockets of high altitude montane forests and grasslands occur in the Western Ghats. Several human-modified habitats, including forest plantations, cash croplands, inland reservoirs, and degraded secondary forests also exist in this landscape. The Deccan Plateau is a high-rise cultivated plateau with large expanses of dry/fallow grasslands, freshwater lakes, scrub forests, and barren

rocky hillocks. While most of this plateau area is a dry zone, there exists a narrow transition zone on the side that flanks the ghats. The southern part of the Deccan Plateau is bounded by the dry-deciduous, and scrub forests of the Eastern Ghats. The dry, parched terrain of the Deccan Plateau is dotted with innumerable man-made village irrigation tanks and several large reservoirs. The coastal plane have several fast-flowing minor rivers that drain into the Arabian Sea,

while all the rivers that originate on the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats drain into the major river systems of the Cauvery, and the Krishna that finally empty into the Bay of Bengal. All these habitats provide an excellent landscape for several resident and migratory species of birds.

Ornithology of Karnataka: A brief history

The geo-political entity of Karnataka was formed only in 1956 but all the historical studies for the region, antedate its formation; they focussed on the erstwhile regions of Bombay Presidency, Madras Presidency, and the states of Mysore, Coorg, and Hyderabad: parts of which were carved up to form Karnataka State. Historically however, certain parts of present day Karnataka have been ornithologically well studied. Edward Aurther Butler was the first (Butler 1881) to collect data from an entire district in Karnataka, and he contributed extensively to the ornithology of Belagavi District, apart from several portions in present day Maharashtra. William Ruxton Davison covered parts of Mysuru [=Mysore] District (Davison 1883). In 1887, C. J. W. Taylor compiled a list of 139 species from Sakleshpur/Manjarabad [=Manzeerabad], Hassan District (Taylor 1887), which was then part of Mysuru, but Allan Octavian Hume added a footnote that Taylor's list was far from exhaustive, based on the specimens he received from that region, and would best be treated as a first list. James Davidson surveyed Uttara Kannada District for five years between 1888 and 1896, and identified 341 species (Davison 1898a, b). Parts of this district, along with several sites in Belagavi District, were covered for three months in 1938 by Walter Norman Koelz, who listed 232 species (Koelz 1942). However, he seems to have also collected in the area in the 1940s, as evident from some of his specimens in American museums. Sálím Ali, in his landmark survey of Mysore State (Ali & Whistler 1942a, b–1943a, b, c), covered much of southern and central Karnataka, and came up with a total of 343 species. His five-part paper, co-authored with Hugh Whistler, is still the single most comprehensive work covering a major portion of the state. Major E. G. Phythian-Adams collected in parts of Mysuru and provided the only records of several uncommon species (Phythian-Adams 1937, 1939, 1940, 1943, 1948). Frederick Nicholson Betts covered Kodagu [=Coorg] District, then disjunct



Fig. 1. Biogeographic zones of Karnataka.

from Mysore State, and documented 279 birds of the Western Ghats (Betts 1951–1952). Finally, the last work to have relied on some amount of fresh specimen collection was on the birds of Sanduru [=Sandur] Taluk in Ballari [=Bellari] District, by Kumar Ghorpadé (Ghorpadé 1974a). In summary, by 1970, when modern field ornithology and amateur bird-watching were popularised through *The book of Indian birds* (Ali 1968), and the *Newsletter for Birdwatchers*, a moderate level of documentation had already taken place in the state. The only areas that remained unexplored were the north-eastern regions, which were a part of the erstwhile Hyderabad State. Sálím Ali, during his Hyderabad State Ornithology Survey, could not visit these parts as the survey had to be cut short due to financial challenges (Ali & Whistler 1933). Post 1970, amateur bird-watching took off on a large scale, contributing extensively to our existing knowledge of birds. The era of digital photography started in this new millennium. This user-friendly tool was a boon for bird-watchers and this technology change contributed significantly in adding many species into the state's checklist.

The first attempt to create a checklist for Karnataka was by Ameen Ahmed on the website *Karnataka Birds* (now hosted at: <https://sites.google.com/site/karnatakabirds/checklist>), published online in 2000. This relied on a priori lists from eleven different sources that included two peer-reviewed papers, five books, and four unpublished reports. Later, in 2004, with Uday Veer Singh, and then again in 2007, he updated the list to 561 species, including Kannada names for most of the birds (Singh & Ahmed 2007). There are several online versions of this checklist, on multiple websites, and even books: the same, with some updates, has been followed until recently (Islam & Rahmani 2004; Narasimhan 2004). By its very nature, compilation relies solely on secondary sources, and comes with its own pros and cons. A few extralimital species (e.g., *Orthotomus atrogularis*, *Luscinia pectoralis*, *Zoothera spiloptera*, and *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*), and several ill-documented records (e.g., *Ardenna pacifica*, *Leptoptilos dubius*, and *Falco columbarius*), which were listed in some of the primary references, crept into this checklist. The Wikipedia page, *Birds of Karnataka*, accessed on 22 August 2016, lists 521 species, and attempts to find published references or photographs for most of them. In February 2015, we attempted to update the checklist of Karnataka with the most recent taxonomy, and clean up the ill-documented species: this was published by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, Government of Karnataka, covering 524 species (Praveen *et al.* 2015). The present paper is an extension of that, and provides supplementary documentation to support species inclusions.

Methodology

Keeping in mind the limitations of previous compilations, as cited above, and utilising the new technologies now available, we approached this project differently—accepting species into the Karnataka list if they passed one of at least four criteria listed here. Of various forms of documentation (see Table 1 in Praveen *et al.* 2013a) that relate a species' record to a locality, a specimen deposited in a museum, and examined by competent taxonomists, is the most authentic. This is followed by a photograph that definitely establishes the identity of a species, and is available in the public domain, either having been published, or is on an accessible website, or available to, and examined by us. Unpreserved specimens, examined by knowledgeable field workers, follows this, and the last being sight

records with varying degrees of documentation.

Specimens

Ali & Whistler (1942a, b–1943a, b, c), and Koelz (1942) are two works from Karnataka that documented birds mostly through collection of specimens: Their specimens were deposited in the collections of the Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai (*hereinafter* BNHS), Natural History Museum, London (*hereinafter* NHMUK), and several American museums, like American Museum for Natural History, New York (*hereinafter* AMNH), Field Museum for Natural History, Chicago (*hereinafter* FMNH), Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History (*hereinafter* YPM), and National Museum of Natural History, Washington (USNM). We tabulated all species from these works that were indicated as having been collected. We did not track down the actual specimens as the related text is sufficient reference that all of them were well-examined and measured. In some cases, it is clearly indicated that specimens were not collected during the surveys, and we did not include such species, which had only sight records, as the intention of this process is to arrive at a list of birds that had valid specimens. Incidentally, these two large collections enlisted more than 300 species to Karnataka. These records were supplemented with relevant records from the BNHS Catalogue (Abdulali 1968, 1969a,b,c, 1970a,b, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1981, 1985, 1986a,b), apart from a few specimens from the catalogue of the NHMUK (Sharpe 1883; Sclater & Shelly 1891; Salvin & Hartert 1892; Ogilvie-Grant 1893), and online catalogues of FMNH, AMNH, and Royal Ontario Museum (*hereinafter* ROM) available via VertNet. All these data took the list of species with well-documented specimens to nearly 350. In fact, Rasmussen & Anderton (2012) derived their distribution data mostly by examining specimens from various museums, and we cross-verified our records with their distribution maps to spot any anomaly. Lastly, various works, mainly those of Phythian-Adams, and E. A. Butler, have indications of skins of at least 50 more species, but we have not been able to locate those specimens, if indeed deposited somewhere. These are considered “In-Hand” records. In summary, this list of specimens is mainly historical as there are hardly any specimens collected after 1970.

Photographs

Bird-watchers in Karnataka were among the pioneers of bird photography in India, contributing massively to several online websites. While there are several avenues for posting photographs, the Oriental Bird Images (*hereinafter*, OBI) (www.orientalbirdimages.org) moderated by Krys K., is a class apart in terms of accurate identification of the photographs. Though he states that OBI is not an image database (Krys K., *in litt.*, e-mail dated 19 August 2014) that accepts any images—e.g., www.hbw.com/ibc, or macaulaylibrary.org/—and is only intended for identification, routinely replacing existing images with better images whenever available, as on 28 July 2016, more than 400 species photographed from Karnataka were present on this website. Hence, this became one of the primary sources for our image list. In November 2015, eBird (eBird 2016), in collaboration with the Macaulay Library (macaulaylibrary.org), made it possible for its users to upload and permanently archive their pictures. As on 28 July 2016, this source had photographs of more than 440 species found in Karnataka. An additional 32 species were added after consulting other sources, including published photographs in journals like *Indian BIRDS*, and *Malabar Trogon*, and digital

media like *India Nature Watch* (www.indianaturewatch.net), *Saevus* (www.saevus.in), *Birds of Coastal Karnataka* (Facebook forum), *Bngbirds* (Yahoo Groups), the Flickr collections of various photographers, and in a few cases, by direct e-mail to us which we reproduce here. This combined list of species with 'definite' photographs, is nearly 500 strong, almost all of them post 2000, and reflects the most recent trends in recording ornithology by amateur bird-watchers.

Observations with field notes

It is probably an anomaly that observation-based field ornithology has taken a back seat in this compilation as we rely primarily on museum specimens, and photographs. Sight records, published or otherwise, are extremely difficult to evaluate, unless presented with fairly detailed field notes. Mostly these relate to birds that are quite variable in plumage, difficult to identify, or have been a source of contention due to insufficiently detailed literature on their identification. Records themselves are strewn across a plethora of sources ranging from journal publications to verbal communications. Though it is a normal practice to accept any record published in a journal, we have taken a precautionary stand by evaluating sight records from all published sources for veracity. Published sight records that are found wanting in details or lacking in corroboration were not included.

The only location where a systematic organisation of field listing for Karnataka exists today is in eBird (www.ebird.org). The eBird database is dynamic, with filters and reviewers sieving through the records on a continuous basis. Hence, any snapshot of the database would be less than ideal with its share of doubtful records that escaped the filter and is yet to be picked up and invalidated by a reviewer (See <http://help.ebird.org/customer/portal/articles/1055676-understanding-the-ebird-review-and-data-quality-process> for more on the eBird data quality procedures). However, as on July 2016, 496 species had been recorded in eBird, and validated by the respective filters/editors. Extra care was taken by the editors to ensure that the accepted records of species of special interest are associated with adequate documentation in the form of a photograph or field notes. We also ensured that we did not include any species, in this checklist, based solely on an eBird sight record without discussing it here.

In summary, records from specimens, photographs, and cases of in-hand identification cover more than 520 species seen in Karnataka, which is quite remarkable. This leaves out very few species that have entered the state list purely on sight records, in eBird or otherwise. We review each of them critically, and provide a rationale for their inclusion in the state checklist.

The list follows the taxonomic order and species limits defined by Dickinson & Remsen (2013), and Dickinson & Christidis (2014). English names follow Praveen *et al.* (2016). It should be noted that several regionally occurring subspecies have been elevated to the status of full species by Rasmussen & Anderton (2012). However, not all world authorities have accepted all of these proposed splits. Wherever applicable, the regionally occurring subspecies name is also provided, and the alternate English name is mentioned in brackets. Hopefully, this will keep the list relevant even when taxonomic uncertainties are resolved. Finally, certain readily identifiable subspecies also find a place in the list with a letter of the alphabet appended to their respective species number.

It is worth mentioning that this is only a list of birds that have

occurred in Karnataka in an apparently wild state. Though species with naturalised populations that have self-sustaining populations like Rock Pigeons *Columba livia* are included; potential or definite cage escapees like Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri*, Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*, Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*, Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla*, etc., are excluded.

All species that have been recorded from Karnataka till 30 September 2016 are considered. Species which are considered provisional, or unconfirmed, introduced, or escapees are not included in this checklist.

Results

The current checklist of Karnataka stands at 531 species; of which 499 have been photographed, 404 have been examined in hand, while 495 have been reported in eBird (Table 1). A summary of the source of records is provided in Figs. 2–4.

Below, we add our evaluation notes for certain species which have not gained an automatic entry into the checklist, based on the criteria discussed above. The first set includes species which we now accept, while the second list (Appendix) includes species for which there are no indubitable records from Karnataka.

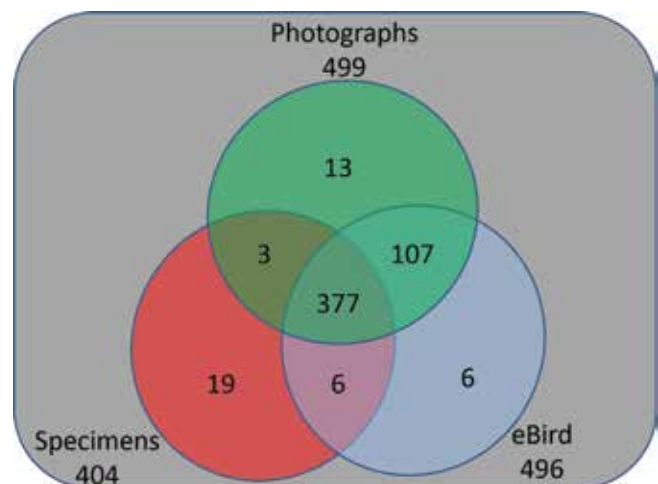


Fig. 2. Overview of species documentation.

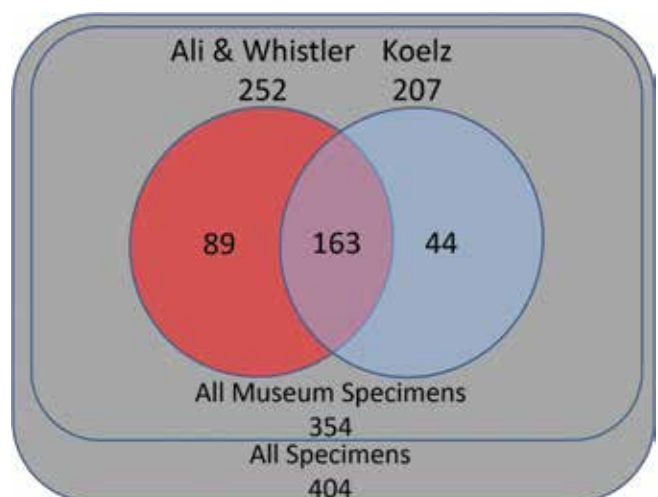


Fig. 3. Overview of species documentation that have a supporting specimen.

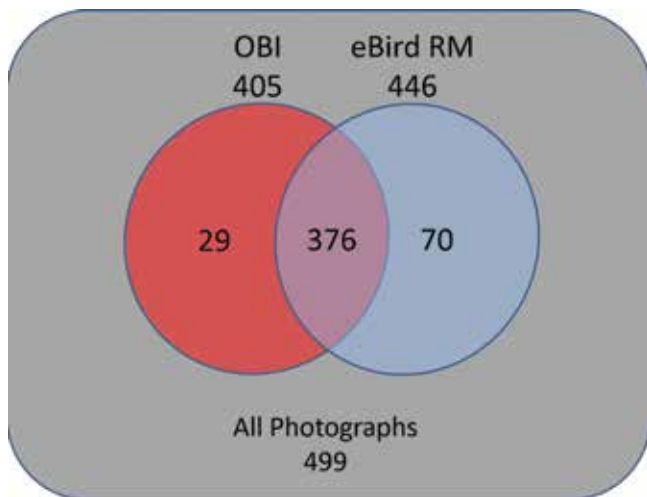


Fig. 4. Overview of species documentation that have a supporting photograph. [OBI=Oriental Bird Images; eBird RM=eBird Rich Media]

Notes on accepted species

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor*

Three sight reports exist. Asian Wetland Census (hereinafter, AWC) volunteers reported a single bird from Hadinaru, Nanjanagudu on 28 January 1994 (<http://www.mysorenature.org/>), without further details. One bird was seen by Aravind Madhyastha near the outskirts of Biligirirangan Hills, post September 1998, however no field notes exist. Ulhas P. A., and M. B. Krishna saw two juvenile birds on 01 January 1996 at Ardesnahalli Tank, Doddaballapur during the AWC. During the period of observation, those birds were mostly standing on one leg, and at times foraging. One of them had a white patch and its legs were turning pinkish. As per information from the local people, there were about eight to ten birds (Ulhas P. A., *verbally*, 22 November 2015). Next day, J. N. Prasad and S. Karthikeyan confirmed their record at the same site (J. N. Prasad, *verbally*, 23 November 2015). The Lesser Flamingo is a regular winter migrant, in small numbers, to the south-eastern coast of India and is a likely passage migrant through Karnataka. We accept the species here based on the report from Doddaballapur that has been documented as confirmed by two independent sets of experienced observers.

Great Eared Nightjar *Lyncornis macrotis*

The Great Eared Nightjar was listed in Achar & Nayak (2000), and Achar & Shivashankar (2012). M. B. Krishna reported seeing a photo of a vehicle-hit bird, of this species, from Agumbe (M. B. Krishna, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 24 January 2012 to bngbirds). Rajmohan reported hearing its calls in Durga Reserve Forest in Udupi District, about 50 km south of Agumbe, (Shivashankar Manjunatha, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 24 January 2012 to bngbirds), as did Shivashankar Manjunatha (Manjunatha 2015), who compared them with digital recordings on www.xeno-canto.org (Shivashankar Manjunatha, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 12 December 2015). Though primarily reported from south of the Palakkad Gap, this species has been sparingly reported from northern Kerala (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011), and hence, is likely to occur in areas adjoining Kerala in south-western Karnataka. It is accepted here, based on the record of an experienced observer having examined a photo, and an auditory record from an adjacent area.

Pacific (Blyth's) Swift *Apus pacificus leuconyx*

As per James Davidson, it is common in Uttar Kannada, where he noted its forked tail, and larger size, compared to an Indian House Swift *A. affinis*. It appears in large flocks after rains, and has also been seen close to Dudhsagar in Goa (Davidson 1898b). J. N. Prasad saw a single individual in a flock of Indian House Swifts on 26 January 1985 at Jayanagar, Bengaluru (George 1994); no field notes were provided. Further records have come from sites in Bandipur National Park, three seen by Craig Robson on 07 February 1984 (Robson 1984), and multiple sight records near Gopalaswamy Betta inside Bandipur National Park, the last one being of five birds seen on 10 February 2001 (Prashanth 2011). This species is quite likely to occur in Bandipur National Park as it is present in neighbouring Wayanad (Kerala), where some observers have even reported it as common (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011), and in Mudumalai (Tamil Nadu) where it has been recently photographed (Anand 2016). The species is accepted here based on the strength of independent observations from Bandipur by experienced observers.

Cinereous Vulture *Aegypius monachus*

A huge Vulture with broad wings having "...very dark chocolate brown underparts with pale feet and a smaller (unfeathered) head" was noted from Harangi Dam on 15 December 1998 and identified as this species (Subramanya 2001). No pale patches whatsoever were noted on its under parts eliminating other similar vultures of this size, no red face or lappet eliminating a more likely, and equally dark, Red-headed Vulture *Sarcogyps calvus* (SS *pers. obsv.*). Cinereous Vulture has occurred further south of this area, twice in Kerala, as a vagrant (Sashikumar *et al.*, 2011). The species is accepted here based on this sole record.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Several sight records with varying degrees of documentary evidence exist from Karnataka. A 'grey' harrier, with 'broader/larger black wingtips' that appeared 'more rounded', seen at Kalkare, Bengaluru on 16 January 1990 (George 1994) was identified as this species (SS *verbally*). Krishna *et al.* (1994) reported a female at Doddakere, off the Chikkaballapur road, Bengaluru on 20 January 1990 (seen by SS, J. Hemanth, and J. N. Prasad; unfortunately further details are not available for this record). It was also reported, twice, from the Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) factory area, which is a few kilometres off the Hunsur road, outside Mysuru (Prashanth N. S., *in litt.*, e-mail dated 02 January 2008 to bngbirds). A male was reported from Krishnarajasagar Reservoir on 26 January 2012 by members of the Mysore Amateur Naturalists, without further details (A. Shivaprakash, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 2 March 2012 to bngbirds, Migrantwatch 2012). More records from Mysuru exist in the Migrantwatch database uploaded to eBird. Ramit Singal, and Vishnupriya reported a male from Chikkamagaluru on 24 February 2014, noting "...lack of markings on secondaries/tertiaries ruled out Montagu's. Five fingers, black primaries ruled out Pallid" (Singal 2014). Records of Hen Harrier from southern India, with supporting documentation, do not exist, though there are sight reports from Kerala (Sashikumar *et al.*, 2011), but these latter are lacking in field details. We admit this record to the state checklist based on the 1990 record from Bengaluru, and the recent record from Chikkamagaluru.

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

One Dollarbird was seen perched on the bare branch of a large tree close to the path at Sampaje range, Kodagu by S. Karthikeyan, M. B. Krishna, N. R. Swamy, and Priya Venkatesh during 25–27 December 2002. They also heard its “very harsh and unexpectedly loud” call a few times (Birdspot 2002). On 07 November 2005 a single bird flew in and sat on a dead tree, for a few seconds, near the reception of Bandipur National Park (VMR *verbally*). Its presence in adjoining northern Kerala (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011) makes it a likely candidate in Bandipur and Kodagu, and we include it based on these two records.

Plain (Grey-throated) Martin *Riparia paludicola chinensis*

Two historical records from Uttar Kannada exist: One bird was seen near Honnavar in January 1889, and a pair, east of Halyal, in February 1896 (Davidson 1898a), but no field notes on identification were provided; a pair was seen at a water body at Dandeli National Park by Manoj Sharma and Alka Vaidya on 02 April 2004 who noted, “...overall grayish on the upper body, brownish-grey throat and sides of the face and upper breast, white belly and undertail,” (Birdspot 2004). Sharma and Vaidya were familiar with the bird from elsewhere. One bird recorded on 09 March 2008 at Hesserghatta Lake, Bengaluru by Mike Prince, with notes as, “Seen very clearly in flight on two occasions: no clear-cut breast-band but instead the whole throat and upper breast had more solid, darker grey-brown, streaks. It also had a paler rump than the Sand Martins [Editor: *R. riparia* and *R. diluta*]” (Prince 2008). Recently, on 11 December 2015, two birds were noted, amongst other Swallows (Barn- *Hirundo rustica*, Red-rumped- *Cecropis daurica*, and Wire-tailed Swallows *H. smithii*), by A. Shivaprakash and Girija T at Narasambudhi, Chamrajnagar District. Their notes state, “smaller size comparing other three, ... dark greyish upper face and throat, of the same color, notched small tail and whitish underparts” is convincing enough to eliminate any other confusion species (Shivaprakash 2015). Plain Martin has occurred once further south (Sashikumar *et al.*, 2011), while Lainer & Alvares (2013) indicate that it is a rare winter visitor to Goa. We accept this species here based on the notes of three recent observations made by experienced observers who were aware of other confusion species and the importance of their records.

Discussion

Compared to the other southern state of India that has an up-to-date checklist, Kerala (Praveen 2015b), Karnataka has slightly more species (500 vs 531 respectively). This would coincide with large areas of arid Deccan landscapes in Karnataka, which bring in a different set of species, when compared to the western slopes of the Western Ghats in Kerala. Kerala has more pelagic species and coastal vagrants, which relates to more intense birding rather than presence of any habitat which is absent in Karnataka. More than 98% of the birds in the Karnataka checklist have a validated specimen or photographic evidence (96% for Kerala, PJ unpublished). Only 75% of the birds in the Karnataka list have been collected before 1970, which also indicates the progress of ornithology in Karnataka post 1970. More than 93% of the birds figure in eBird, and a similar percentage have at least one photograph from the state. 84% of these photographs are in eBird. This style of documentation is probably biased towards districts

around Bengaluru, Mysuru, and coastal Karnataka. Large parts of central, northern, and north-eastern Karnataka remain largely unexplored till today. This probably explains why 25 species of birds, which have found a place in the checklist, based on historical records of specimen, have never been photographed.

Threatened species

Karnataka has 27 species that fall under various categories of the IUCN Red List, of which five are Critically Endangered (CR), eight Endangered (EN), and 14 Vulnerable (VU). Additionally, 29 are Near Threatened (NT). Kerala too has 25 threatened species, 32 NT species (Nameer *et al.* 2015; Praveen 2015b). Habitats in the state hold a substantial portion of the remaining global population of several threatened species including White-rumped- *Gyps bengalensis*, Indian- *G. indicus*, and Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*, Greater- *Clanga clanga*, and Indian Spotted Eagle *C. hastata*, Black-bellied Tern *Sterna acuticauda*, Nilgiri Wood Pigeon *Columba elphinstonii*, Yellow-throated Bulbul *Pycnonotus xantholaemus*, and Broad-tailed Grassbird *Schoenicola platyurus* (Islam & Rahmani 2004 with recent adaptations to IUCN redlist).

Endemic species

16 species of birds seen in Karnataka are endemic to the Western Ghats (Table 2); Kerala has 17 endemic species (Nameer *et al.* 2015; Praveen 2015b). The race of the Black-chinned Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron cachinnans* that occurs within the boundaries of the state is *jerdoni* (aka Banasura Laughingthrush), and that of the White-bellied Shortwing *Brachypteryx major* is the nominate *major* (aka Nilgiri Shortwing). Apart from the 16, several endemic races of the Western Ghats that also occur in Karnataka are sometimes considered as full species (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012, del Hyoto *et al.*, 2016). These include the *gularis* race (aka Flame-throated Bulbul) of Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus*, the *blythi* race (aka Malabar Starling) of Chestnut-tailed Starling *Sturnia malabarica*, the *neilgherriensis* race (aka Nilgiri Thrush) of Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma*, the nominate race (aka Nilgiri Flowerpecker) of Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum concolor*, the *cuprea* (aka Nilgiri Imperial Pigeon) race of Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia*, and the *sylicola* (aka Malabar Woodshrike) race of Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis virgatus*.

Of interest, in this context, is the *erythrocephalus* race of the Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis* found in the montane grasslands of central Western Ghats. With the exception of a few mountain tops in northern Kerala, the entire population is restricted to Karnataka. The breeding male is distinct, with bright golden-orange crown vis-à-vis the milky-white crown of the subspecies *tytleri*, found in the Himalayan terai. Ecologically this subspecies is restricted to the high hills while the northern subspecies occupies the grass swamps in the flood plains of large northern Indian rivers.

It is worth mentioning that the only true endemic taxon of Karnataka is the Laterite Rock Bush Quail *Perdica argoondah salimalii*. This was a remarkable discovery of Sálím Alí's Mysore State survey when he collected four males and one juvenile female in Vani Vilasa Sagara [=Marikanive], Chitradurga District (13.89°N, 76.48°E). Whistler describes the adult males having the entire dorsal plumage, wings, and tail bright brick-red, agreeing with the colour of the forehead in the nominate race.

The ventral plumage is similar to that of the nominate race, but is slightly warmer in tint, being washed with brick-red on the flanks, lower abdomen, and undertail coverts. The type of this taxon (NHMUK ZOO 1949.Whi.1.17443), which is a male, and two other males (AMNH Birds Skin-344169; BNHS #13566), all of them collected on 10 January 1940, are traceable, while the other two (a male collected on 08 January 1940, and a juvenile female on 10 January 1939) are probably in NHMUK too. Apart from the above, a pair (BNHS #13537-38), collected by Guy Chester Shortridge on 20 July 1912 in Hampi [=Vijayanagar], Ballari District (15.34°N, 76.46°E) are also in the BNHS (Abdulali 1969b). BNHS #13508 attributed to J. Pemberton Cook, tagged "Wynaad, Travancore", and collected on 12 April 1893 is of doubtful provenance, as Wayanad was never a part of erstwhile Travancore State, and Cook has no other contributions from the said regions. BNHS #28170, attributed to Reverend Brother Antonio Navarro, listed from "Madras" in the BNHS Catalogue (Rahul Khot, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 02 February 2016) appears to be a recent addition, post Abdulali (1969b), and a deeper examination is recommended to ascertain the right subspecies.

There have been recent surveys in the general region where the subspecies was first collected, but the details have not yet been published.

Though only the white-throated *albugularis* race of Tawny-bellied Babbler has been reported from Karnataka till now, the buffy-rufous-throated nominate race occurs in Bidar District of north-eastern Karnataka (Fig. 11). It has been suggested that both races intergrade in the Nallamalla Hills in Andhra Pradesh, and similar intergradation zones could exist in Karnataka where their ranges abut each other—more studies are needed to locate this zone.

Conclusion

Karnataka has 524 species of birds, 16 of which are endemic to the Western Ghats, and 27 species fall under the various Red List categories of the IUCN. 517 species are corroborated by the presence of specimens, or with clear photographs. Seven species are accepted based on sight records. Some of the species from the secondary list are likely to turn up in the future.

Table 1. Checklist of birds of Karnataka

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Photographs: All: All Photographs; OBI: Oriental Bird Images; eRM: eBird Rich Media. **eBD:** eBird

No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
I. Anseriformes										
1. Anatidae (Ducks, geese, swans)										
1	Fulvous Whistling Duck <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	X								One shot on Kabini [=Cubbany] River near Nanjanagudu (Phythian-Adams 1948) from a small flock behind the traveller's bungalow (Ali & Whistler 1943). Identification details not presented, but Major Phythian-Adams has also collected Lesser Whistling Duck from Mysuru and hence should be certain of the identification, particularly in hand, which is straightforward.
2	Lesser Whistling Duck <i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
3	Bar-headed Goose <i>Anser indicus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen from Tungbhadra in BNHS (Abdulali 1968).
4	Greylag Goose <i>Anser anser</i>					X	X		X	
5	Greater White-fronted Goose <i>Anser albifrons</i>					X				Photographed from Mysuru (Dutt 2010).
6	Ruddy Shelduck <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	X				X	X	X	X	One shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1948).
7	Red-crested Pochard <i>Netta rufina</i>					X			X	Photograph from Bidar [106]
8	Common Pochard <i>Aythya ferina</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).
9	Ferruginous Duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i>	X							X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940), procured near Belagavi (Butler 1881) and Honnavar on 3 December 1895 (Davidson 1898b).
10	Tufted Duck <i>Aythya fuligula</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).
11	Garganey <i>Spatula querquedula</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).
12	Northern Shoveler <i>Spatula clypeata</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940), another shot on Shivpur Tank, Sanduru Taluk on 03 December 1971 (Ghorpade 1973).
13	Gadwall <i>Mareca strepera</i>	X				X	X		X	Two instances of birds being shot from Gundlupet (Phythian-Adams 1940 & 1948, Buxton 1944).
14	Eurasian Wigeon <i>Mareca penelope</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940) and from Sanduru (Ghorpade 1973).
15	Indian Spot-billed Duck <i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
16	Mallard <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	X								Butler shot one from a flock of three from MK Hubli [=Hablī], Belagavi (Butler 1881).
17	Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).
18	Common Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
19	Comb Duck <i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1943).
20	Cotton Teal <i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen from Uttara Kannada in BNHS (Abdulali 1968b).
II. Galliformes										
2. Phasianidae (Partridges, pheasants, grouse)										
21	Indian Peafowl <i>Pavo cristatus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen from Ramandurg (ROM #26.3.23.144) by EH Pooler.
22	Common Quail <i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	X	X		X				X	Specimens shot in Tumakuru and Chitradurga (Anderson 1883) and Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).
23	Rain Quail <i>Coturnix coromandelica</i>	X	X		X	X		X	X	
24	Blue-breasted Quail <i>Synoicus chinensis</i>	X	X							Davison did not see it but obtained specimens from Rampore near Mysuru (Davison 1883), of which a female is in NHMUK (Ogilvie-Grant 1893).
25	Jungle Bush Quail <i>Pedicularia asiatica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
26	Rock Bush Quail <i>Pedicularia argoondah</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
26a	Laterite Rock Bush Quail <i>Pedicularia argoondah salimalii</i>	S	S		S					
27	Painted Bush Quail <i>Pedicularia erythrorhyncha</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
28	Painted Francolin <i>Francolinus pictus</i>	X				X		X	X	Shot from hills between Chitradurga and Tumakuru (Anderson 1883).
29	Grey Francolin <i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
30	Grey Junglefowl <i>Gallus sonneratii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
31	Red Spurrow <i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
32	Painted Spurrow <i>Galloperdix lunulata</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Butler examined the skin of a bird shot from Gokak, Belagavi (Butler 1881).
III. Phoenicopteriformes										
3. Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)										
33	Greater Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Juveniles collected from a large flock in Karwar in October 1893 (Davidson 1898b).
34	Lesser Flamingo <i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>								X	See species accounts.
4. Podicipedidae (Grebes)										
35	Little Grebe <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
IV. Columbiformes										
5. Columbidae (Pigeons)										
36	Rock Pigeon <i>Columba livia</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen from Jog Falls in BNHS (Abdulali 1971).
37	Nilgiri Wood Pigeon <i>Columba elphinstonii</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
38	Oriental Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
39	Eurasian Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
40	Red Collared Dove <i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
41	Spotted Dove <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
42	Laughing Dove <i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
43	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon <i>Treron bicinctus</i>	X	X			X	X		X	Three Uttara Kannada specimens in BNHS (Abdulali 1971), probably the same as in Davidson (1898a).

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
70	Pied Cuckoo <i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
71	Chestnut-winged Cuckoo <i>Clamator coromandus</i>					X	X		X	
72	Asian Koel <i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
73	Banded Bay Cuckoo <i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
74	Grey-bellied Cuckoo <i>Cacomantis passerinus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
75	(Fork-tailed) Drongo Cuckoo <i>Surniculus lugubris dicruroides</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Uttara Kannada in BNHS (Abdulali 1972), possibly one from the many shot as per Davidson (1898b).
76	Large Hawk Cuckoo <i>Hierococcyx sparverioides</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
77	Common Hawk Cuckoo <i>Hierococcyx varius</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
78	Indian Cuckoo <i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	X	X			X		X	X	A specimen (by M James) from Uttara Kannada in NHMUK (Sclater & Shelly 1891).
79	Common Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimens from Mysuru (by Davison) and Belagavi (by Butler) in NHMUK (Sclater & Shelly 1891).
80	Himalayan Cuckoo <i>Cuculus saturatus</i>					X		X		
81	Lesser Cuckoo <i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>	X	X			X		X	X	Two specimens from Kodagu in BNHS (Abdulali 1972).
IX. Gruiformes										
12. Rallidae (Rails and coots)										
82	Slaty-legged Crake <i>Rallina eurizonoides</i>	X	X			X	X		X	Two specimens (Karwar and BR Hills) in BNHS Collection (Abdulali 1969c), latter possibly the same as Morris (1939).
83	Slaty-breasted Rail <i>Lewinia striata</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Obtained several specimens and nests from Belagavi (Butler 1881), two nests in Supa, several nests from Karwar, where common during rains (Davidson 1898b).
84	Spotted Crake <i>Porzana porzana</i>	X							X	Specimens obtained from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
85	Ruddy-breasted Crake <i>Zapornia fusca</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
86	Brown Crake <i>Zapornia akool</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Belagavi (FMNH #41952) taken in 1941, most likely from Koelz's collection.
87	Little Crake <i>Zapornia parva</i>	X	X							A specimen from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali & Nair 1969).
88	Baillon's Crake <i>Zapornia pusilla</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
89	White-breasted Waterhen <i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
90	Watercock <i>Gallixrex cinerea</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	An Uttara Kannada specimen in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
91	Purple Swamphen <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>					X	X	X	X	
92	Common Moorhen <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
93	Common Coot <i>Fulica atra</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A Mysuru specimen in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
13. Gruidae (Cranes)										
94	Demoiselle Crane <i>Grus virgo</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Shot near Nanjangud (Phythian-Adams 1940).
95	Common Crane <i>Grus grus</i>					X				Photograph from Ballari [108].
X. Otidiformes										
14. Otididae (Bustards)										
96	Great Indian Bustard <i>Ardeotis nigriceps</i>	X				X	X		X	Three shot from Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1940).

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97	Lesser Frigatebird <i>Sypheotides indicus</i>	X	X			X				A specimen in BNHS from 'Belikeri (?), Kanara' (Abdulali 1969c). Published photograph from Bengaluru (Raghavendra 2011).
XI. Procellariiformes										
15. Oceanitidae (Austral storm-petrels)										
98	Wilson's Storm-petrel <i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>					X		X	X	
99	White-faced Storm-petrel <i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	X								Bird on board ship (Bourne 1966, Praveen et al. 2013). Specimen probably not preserved.
16. Hydrobatidae (Northern storm-petrels)										
100	Swinhoe's Storm-petrel <i>Hydrobates monorhis</i>					X	X		X	
17. Procellariidae (Petrels & shearwaters)										
101	Flesh-footed Shearwater <i>Ardenna carneipes</i>					X	X		X	
102	Tropical Shearwater (Persian Shearwater) <i>Puffinus bailloni persicus</i>					X	X		X	
103	Jouanin's Petrel <i>Bulweria fallax</i>					X	X	X	X	
XII. Pelecaniformes										
18. Ciconiidae (Storks)										
104	Lesser Adjutant <i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>					X	X	X	X	
105	Painted Stork <i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>					X	X	X	X	
106	Asian Openbill <i>Anastomus oscitans</i>					X	X	X	X	
107	Black Stork <i>Ciconia nigra</i>					X	X	X	X	
108	Woolly-necked Stork <i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
109	European White Stork <i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
19. Pelecanidae (Pelicans)										
110	Great White Pelican <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					X			X	Photographed from Mysuru [109].
111	Spot-billed Pelican <i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>	X				X	X	X	X	A specimen procured from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
20. Ardeidae (Herons)										
112	Eurasian Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	X								Shot from Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1937).
113	Little Bittern <i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>					X				Published photograph from Kodagu (Monnappa 2014).
114	Yellow Bittern <i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>					X	X	X	X	
115	Cinnamon Bittern <i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
116	Black Bittern <i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Shot from Moyar river (Davison 1883), one shot from Kundra on 21 May 1894 (Davidson 1898b).
117	Malayan Night Heron <i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>	X	X			X	X		X	Two Mysuru (one of them probably by Foster 1945) and two Karwar specimens (Abdulali 1968) in BNHS, probably contributed by James Davidson.
118	Black-crowned Night Heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
119	Striated Heron <i>Butorides striata</i>	X	X	X		X	X		X	
120	Indian Pond Heron <i>Ardeola grayii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
121	(Eastern) Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis coromandus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
122	Grey Heron <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen from Dakshin Kannada in BNHS (Abdulali 1968).
123	Purple Heron <i>Ardea purpurea</i>					X	X	X	X	
124	Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>					X	X	X	X	
125	Intermediate Egret <i>Ardea intermedia</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	

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126	Little Egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
127	Western Reef Egret <i>Egretta gularis</i>					X	X	X	X	
	21. Threskiornithidae (Ibises)									
128	Black-headed Ibis <i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>					X	X	X	X	
129	Eurasian Spoonbill <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen (ROM #26.3.23.129) from Ramandurg.
130	Indian Black Ibis <i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
131	Glossy Ibis <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen in BNHS from Uttara Kannada (Abdulali 1968).
	22. Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)									
132	Lesser Frigatebird <i>Fregata ariel</i>					X				Published photograph from Ranganathittu (Huilgol 2007).
133	Christmas Island Frigatebird <i>Fregata andrewsi</i>					X	X	X	X	
	23. Sulidae (Gannets and boobies)									
134	Red-footed Booby <i>Sula sula</i>					X				Published photograph from a ship (Gandhe 2014) that sailed off Karnataka coast.
135	Brown Booby <i>Sula leucogaster</i>	X	X							Specimen from Karwar (Abdulali 1968).
136	Masked Booby <i>Sula dactylatra</i>					X	X	X	X	
	24. Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)									
137	Little Cormorant <i>Microcarbo niger</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
138	Great Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					X	X	X	X	
139	Indian Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen (ROM #26.3.23.128) from Ramandurg.
	25. Anhingidae (Darters)									
140	Oriental Darter <i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>					X	X	X	X	
	XIII. Charadriiformes									
	26. Burhinidae (Thick-knees)									
141	Eurasian Thick-knee (Indian Thick-knee) <i>Burhinus oediacnemus indicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
142	Great Thick-knee <i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>					X	X	X	X	
	27. Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers & ibisbill)									
143	Eurasian Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>					X	X		X	
	28. Recurvirostridae (Stilts and avocets)									
144	Pied Avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					X	X		X	
145	Black-winged Stilt <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					X	X	X	X	
	29. Charadriidae (Plovers & lapwings)									
146	Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					X		X	X	
147	Pacific Golden Plover <i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
148	Little Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius dubius</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
149	Kentish Plover <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Three specimens from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
150	Lesser Sand Plover <i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Kodagu in BNHS (Abdulali 1969c).
151	Greater Sand Plover <i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>					X	X	X	X	
152	Yellow-wattled Lapwing <i>Vanellus malarbaricus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
153	Grey-headed Lapwing <i>Vanellus cinereus</i>					X	X	X	X	

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154	Red-wattled Lapwing <i>Vanellus indicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
155	Sociable Lapwing <i>Vanellus gregarius</i>	X								Bulter's friend shot a few from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
	30. Rostratulidae (Painted-snipe)									
156	Greater Painted-snipe <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Two Karwar specimens in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b).
	31. Jacanidae (Jacanas)									
157	Pheasant-tailed Jacana <i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>					X	X	X	X	
158	Bronze-winged Jacana <i>Metopidius indicus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
	32. Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)									
159	Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Shot on several occasions between Ankola and Gokarna (Davidson 1898b).
160	Eurasian Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>					X	X	X	X	
161	Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>					X	X	X	X	
162	Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>					X	X	X	X	
163	Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>					X	X	X	X	
164	Great Knot <i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>					X			X	Photographed from Mulki (Muroor 2014). Other pictures exist.
165	Ruff <i>Calidris pugnax</i>	X	X			X	X		X	A specimen from Mysuru in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b).
166	Broad-billed Sandpiper <i>Calidris falcinellus</i>					X	X		X	
167	Curlew Sandpiper <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					X	X	X	X	
168	Temminck's Stint <i>Calidris temminckii</i>					X	X	X	X	
169	Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>					X	X	X	X	
170	Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>					X	X		X	
171	Little Stint <i>Calidris minuta</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
172	Eurasian Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	X	X	X					X	
173	Wood Snipe <i>Gallinago nemoricola</i>	X								Two shot in Shivamogga and near Saksheshpur (Anderson 1883); specimen from Bengaluru (Betham 1912), examined at BNHS (by N.B. Kinnear?), seems to be missing in Abdulali (1970b).
174	Pintail Snipe <i>Gallinago stenura</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
175	Swinhoe's Snipe <i>Gallinago megala</i>	X								Shot near Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1939).
176	Great Snipe <i>Gallinago media</i>	X	X							Shot near Bengaluru (Baker 1911) now in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b).
177	Common Snipe <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Shot in Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1939) and Bengaluru (Searight 1932).
178	Jack Snipe <i>Lymnocyptes minimus</i>	X				X	X		X	Shot in Mysuru (Phythian-Adams 1939) and Bengaluru (Searight 1932).
179	Terek Sandpiper <i>Xenus cinereus</i>	X				X		X	X	One shot from a flock in Honnavar on 18 December 1895 (Davidson 1898b).
180	Common Sandpiper <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
181	Green Sandpiper <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
182	Spotted Redshank <i>Tringa erythropus</i>					X	X		X	
183	Common Greenshank <i>Tringa nebularia</i>					X	X	X	X	
184	Common Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1970a).
185	Wood Sandpiper <i>Tringa glareola</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
186	Marsh Sandpiper <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	X				X	X	X	X	One obtained from Honnavar on 10 November 1889 (Davidson 1898b).
187	Red-necked Phalarope <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>					X	X		X	
33. Turnicidae (Buttonquails)										
188	Small Buttonquail <i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>	X								One obtained from Halyal in April (Davidson 1898b). Another obtained from a covey of four birds in February 1968 from Sanduru (Ghorpade 1974a).
189	Yellow-legged Buttonquail <i>Turnix tanki</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Two specimens (Mysuru, Uttara Kannada) in BNHS (Abdulali 1969b).
190	Barred Buttonquail <i>Turnix suscitator</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
34. Glareolidae (Coursers and pratincoles)										
191	Indian Courser <i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Specimen (FMNH #414957) from Chandgad, Belagavi probably from Koelz's collection and another from Mysuru in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b), and the latter probably one reported as shot in Worth (1953).
192	Collared Pratincole <i>Glareola pratincola</i>					X				Published photograph from Bengaluru (Sadagopan 2014).
193	Oriental Pratincole <i>Glareola maldivarum</i>					X			X	Photograph from Tungabhadra dam [110]
194	Little Pratincole <i>Glareola lactea</i>					X	X	X	X	
35. Stercorariidae (Skuas or jaegers)										
195	Long-tailed Skua <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>					X		X	X	
196	Arctic Skua <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>					X	X	X	X	
197	Pomarine Skua <i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>					X		X	X	
198	South Polar Skua <i>Stercorarius maccormicki</i>	X	X							Original record mentioned in Editors (1966), Bhat (2004) reconfirmed by Praveen et al. (2013b), and the specimen is in BNHS.
36. Laridae (Gulls and terns)										
199	Brown Noddy <i>Anous stolidus</i>					X	X		X	
200	Indian Skimmer <i>Rynchops albicollis</i>					X	X		X	
201	Slender-billed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>					X	X		X	
202	Brown-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus</i>	X	X			X	X		X	A specimen from Honnavar in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b).
203	Black-headed Gull <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>					X	X		X	
204	Sooty Gull <i>Ichthyiaetus hemprichii</i>					X				Published photograph from Udupi (Swethadri 2015).
205	Pallas's Gull <i>Ichthyiaetus ichthyiaetus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1970b).
206	Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>					X		X	X	
206a	Heuglin's Gull <i>Larus fuscus heuglini</i>					S	S		S	
206b	Steppe Gull <i>Larus fuscus barabensis</i>					S	S		S	
207	White-eyed Gull <i>Ichthyiaetus leucophthalmus</i>					X	X	X	X	
208	Sooty Tern <i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	X				X				Three instances of having handled injured Sooty Terns that died later from Udyavara, Pangala and Udupi (Aravind Madhyastha). Photographed from Mangalore (Shivashankar 2010).
209	Bridled Tern <i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Several exhausted individuals in May 1890 from Karwar coast (Davidson 1898b). We assume he caught them and was satisfied that they are not Sooty Terns.

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
210	Little Tern <i>Sternula albigifrons</i>					X	X	X	X	
211	Gull-billed Tern <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>					X	X		X	
212	Caspian Tern <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					X	X		X	
213	Whiskered Tern <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>					X	X	X	X	
214	Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger</i>					X	X	X	X	
215	River Tern <i>Sterna aurantia</i>					X	X	X	X	
216	Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>					X	X	X	X	
217	Black-bellied Tern <i>Sterna acuticauda</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
218	Lesser Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>					X		X	X	
219	Sandwich Tern <i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>					X	X		X	
220	Greater Crested Tern <i>Thalasseus bergii</i>					X	X	X	X	
XIV. Accipitriformes										
37. Pandionidae (Osprey)										
221	Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
38. Accipitridae (Kites, hawks and eagles)										
222	Black-winged Kite <i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
223	Oriental Honey Buzzard <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
224	Jerdon's Baza <i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>					X	X	X	X	
225	Black Baza <i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>					X	X		X	
226	Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>					X	X	X	X	
227	Crested Serpent Eagle <i>Spilornis cheela</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
228	Short-toed Snake Eagle <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
229	Red-headed Vulture <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
230	Himalayan Vulture <i>Gyps himalayensis</i>					X	X		X	
231	White-rumped Vulture <i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
232	Indian Vulture <i>Gyps indicus</i>					X	X	X	X	
233	Griffon Vulture <i>Gyps fulvus</i>	X	X	X						Ali & Whistler (1943-1944) nesting record from Jog possibly in error, here we include it based on specimen in Koelz (1942).
234	Cinereous Vulture <i>Aegypius monachus</i>									See species accounts.
235	Mountain Hawk Eagle (Legge's Hawk Eagle) <i>Nisaetus nipalensis kelaarti</i>					X		X	X	
236	Changeable Hawk Eagle (Crested Hawk Eagle) <i>Nisaetus cirrhatus cirrhatus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
237	Rufous-bellied Eagle <i>Lophotriorchis kienerii</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
238	Black Eagle <i>Ictinaetus malaiensis</i>	X				X	X	X	X	A female shot in Manki and another male in Bhatkal [=Bhutkal] (Davidson 1898b).
239	Indian Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga hastata</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Shot from a nest in Tumkuru (Davidson 1908), the specimen now in BMNH (Parry <i>et al.</i> 2002).
240	Greater Spotted Eagle <i>Clanga clanga</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
241	Tawny Eagle <i>Aquila rapax</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
242	Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>					X	X	X	X	
243	Eastern Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>					X				Photograph from Belagavi [111]
244	Bonelli's Eagle <i>Aquila fasciata</i>					X	X	X	X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
XVII. Bucerotiformes										
42. Bucerotidae (Hornbills)										
279	Great Hornbill <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	X	X			X	X		X	A specimen each from Karwar and Honnavar (Abdulali 1974).
280	Malabar Pied Hornbill <i>Anthracoceros coronatus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
281	Malabar Grey Hornbill <i>Ocyrceros griseus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
282	Indian Grey Hornbill <i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
43. Upupidae (Hoopoes)										
283	Common Hoopoe <i>Upupa epops</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
XVIII. Piciformes										
44. Picidae (Woodpeckers)										
284	Eurasian Wryneck <i>Jynx torquilla</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
285	Speckled Piculet <i>Picumnus innominatus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
286	Heart-spotted Woodpecker <i>Hemicircus canente</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
287	Common Golden-backed Woodpecker <i>Dinopium javanense</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
288	Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker <i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
289	Rufous Woodpecker <i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
290	Lesser Yellow-naped Woodpecker <i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
291	Streak-throated Woodpecker <i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
292	White-bellied Woodpecker <i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
293	Greater Golden-backed Woodpecker <i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
294	White-naped Woodpecker <i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
295	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos moluccensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
296	Yellow-fronted Pied Woodpecker <i>Dendrocopos mahrattensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
45. Ramphastidae (Toucans and barbets)										
297	Brown-headed Barbet <i>Psilopogon zeylanicus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
298	White-cheeked Barbet <i>Psilopogon viridis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
299	Malabar Barbet <i>Psilopogon malabaricus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
300	Coppersmith Barbet <i>Psilopogon haemacephalus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
XIX. Coraciiformes										
46. Meropidae (Bee-eaters)										
301	Blue-bearded Bee-eater <i>Nyctyornis athertoni</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
302	Green Bee-eater <i>Merops orientalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
303	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater <i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
304	Blue-tailed Bee-eater <i>Merops philippinus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
305	European Bee-eater <i>Merops apiaster</i>					X	X	X	X	
47. Coraciidae (Rollers)										
306	Indian Roller <i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
307	European Roller <i>Coracias garrulus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Two Karwar skins by T.R.Bell in BNHS (Abdulali 1936) not listed anymore (Abdulali 1973).
308	Dollarbird <i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>								X	See species accounts.

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
48. Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)										
309	Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher <i>Ceyx erithaca</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
310	Blue-eared Kingfisher <i>Alcedo meninting</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	Koelz (1954) indicates only a sighting but a series of ten specimens exists from his collection UMMZ #229656-65.
311	Common Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
312	Pied Kingfisher <i>Ceryle rudis</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
313	Stork-billed Kingfisher <i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
314	White-throated Kingfisher <i>Halcyon smyrmensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
315	Black-capped Kingfisher <i>Halcyon pileata</i>	X	X	X		X		X	X	
XX. Falconiformes										
49. Falconidae (Falcons and caracaras)										
316	Lesser Kestrel <i>Falco naumanni</i>					X		X	X	
317	Common Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
318	Red-necked Falcon <i>Falco chicquera</i>					X	X	X	X	
319	Amur Falcon <i>Falco amurensis</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Two specimens obtained from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
320	Eurasian Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	X				X	X		X	A specimen obtained from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
321	Laggar Falcon <i>Falco jugger</i>					X	X		X	
322	Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	
322a	Peregrine Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus calidus</i>	S	S			S	S	S	S	A specimen, labelled japonensis, in BNHS (Abdulali 1969a) now treated as the wintering calidus (Naoroji 2007)
322b	Shaheen Falcon <i>Falco peregrinus peregrinator</i>					S	S	S	S	
XXI. Psittaciformes										
50. Psittaculidae (Old world parrots)										
323	Plum-headed Parakeet <i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
324	Malabar Parakeet <i>Psittacula columboides</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
325	Alexandrine Parakeet <i>Psittacula eupatria</i>					X	X	X	X	
326	Rose-ringed Parakeet <i>Psittacula krameri</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
327	Vernal Hanging Parrot <i>Loriculus vernalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
XXII. Passeriformes										
51. Pittidae (Pittas)										
328	Indian Pitta <i>Pitta brachyura</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
52. Campephagidae (Minivets and cuckooshrikes)										
329	White-bellied Minivet <i>Pericrocotus erythropygus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Laird obtained it from Belagavi (Butler 1881).
330	Small Minivet <i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
331	Scarlet Minivet (Orange Minivet) <i>Pericrocotus flammeus flammeus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
332	Ashy Minivet <i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>					X	X	X	X	
333	Swinhoe's Minivet <i>Pericrocotus cantonensis</i>					X	X	X	X	
334	Rosy Minivet <i>Pericrocotus roseus</i>	X	X							A specimen from Kadra [=Kader], Uttar Karnataka collected on 18 April 1900 by T. R. Bell in the BNHS (Abdulali 1981)
335	Large Cuckooshrike <i>Coracina javensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
336	Black-winged Cuckooshrike <i>Lalage melaschistos</i>	X	X	X		X			X	Photographed from Nandi Hills (Deshpande 2014)

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367	Pale-billed Flowerpecker <i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
368	Plain Flowerpecker (Nilgiri Flowerpecker) <i>Dicaeum concolor concolor</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
63. Nectariniidae (Sunbirds)										
369	Little Spiderhunter <i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
370	Purple-rumped Sunbird <i>Leptocoma zeylonica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
371	Crimson-backed Sunbird <i>Leptocoma minima</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
372	Purple Sunbird <i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
373	Loten's Sunbird <i>Cinnyris lotenius</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
374	Vigors's Sunbird <i>Aethopyga vigorsii</i>					X	X	X	X	
64. Irenidae (Fairy bluebirds and leafbirds)										
375	Asian Fairy-bluebird <i>Irena puella</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
376	Golden-fronted Leafbird <i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
377	Jerdon's Leafbird <i>Chloropsis jerdoni</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
65. Ploceidae (Weavers)										
378	Black-breasted Weaver <i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>					X	X	X	X	
379	Streaked Weaver <i>Ploceus manyar</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Phythian-Adams reportedly took nests & eggs (Ali & Whistler 1943-44)
380	Baya Weaver <i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
66. Estrildidae (Waxbills)										
381	Red Munia <i>Amandava amandava</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
382	Indian Silverbill <i>Euodice malabarica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
383	White-rumped Munia <i>Lonchura striata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
384	Scaly-breasted Munia <i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
385	Black-throated Munia <i>Lonchura kelaarti</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
386	Black-headed Munia <i>Lonchura malacca</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Five specimens (Belagavi, Karwar & Uttara Kannada) in BNHS (Unnithan 2001).
67. Passeridae (Sparrows, snowfinches and allies)										
387	House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
388	Pale Rock Sparrow <i>Carpospiza brachydactyla</i>					X	X	X	X	
389	Yellow-throated Sparrow <i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
68. Motacillidae (Wagtails and pipits)										
390	Forest Wagtail <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
391	Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
392	Olive-backed Pipit <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
393	Red-throated Pipit <i>Anthus cervinus</i>					X	X		X	
394	Richard's Pipit <i>Anthus richardi</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	One specimen from Karwar and another from Uttara Kannada in BNHS (Unnithan 1995), probably the last one might be one of the two specimens collected by James Davidson from Hoonavar in January 1890 (Davidson 1898a).
395	Paddyfield Pipit <i>Anthus rufulus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
396	Blyth's Pipit <i>Anthus godlewskii</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
397	Tawny Pipit <i>Anthus campestris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
398	Long-billed Pipit <i>Anthus similis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
399	Western Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
399a	Sykes's Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava beema</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	
399b	Black-headed Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>	S	S			S		S	S	Specimen (FMNH #242887) from Londa in 1938, most likely from Koelz's collection. Specimen (AMNH #570959) from Mysuru in 1875, labelled 'melanogriseus'; probably this. Another Uttara Kannada specimen in BNHS listed under 'melanogrisea' (Unnithan 1995); presumably this species.
399c	Grey-headed Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
400	Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
401	Citrine Wagtail <i>Motacilla citreola</i>	X	X	X		X	X		X	
402	White-browed Wagtail <i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
403	White Wagtail <i>Motacilla alba</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
69. Fringillidae (Finches, euphonias and hawaiian honeycreepers)										
404	Common Rosefinch <i>Erythrura erythrura</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
70. Emberizidae (Old world buntings)										
405	Crested Bunting <i>Melophus lathami</i>					X				Photographed from Chitradurga (Deshpande 2010).
406	Red-headed Bunting <i>Granativora bruniceps</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
407	Black-headed Bunting <i>Granativora melanocephala</i>					X	X	X	X	
408	Grey-necked Bunting <i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
71. Stenostiridae (Fairy flycatcher and crested -flycatchers)										
409	Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher <i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
72. Paridae (Tits, chickadees)										
410	Cinereous Tit <i>Parus cinereus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
411	White-naped Tit <i>Machilophus nuchalis</i>	X	X			X	X		X	Major EH Pooler collected a specimen (ROM #26.3.23.124) in 1919 from Ramandurg.
412	(Indian) Black-lored Tit <i>M. xanthogenys aplonotus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
73. Alaudidae (Larks)										
413	Rufous-tailed Lark <i>Ammomanes phoenicura</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
414	Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark <i>Eremopterix griseus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
415	Singing Bushlark <i>Mirafra cantillans</i>	X	X			X		X	X	Specimens by Koelz from Hubballi in FMNH (Praveen 2015a). Koelz (1947) took four birds from Hospet.
416	Indian Bushlark <i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
417	Jerdon's Bushlark <i>Mirafra affinis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
418	Greater Short-toed Lark (Sykes's Short-toed Lark) <i>Calandrella brachydactyla dukhenensis</i>					X		X	X	
419	Oriental Skylark <i>Alauda gulgula</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	Two specimens from Karwar in BNHS (Abdulali 1976).
420	Malabar Lark <i>Galerida malabarica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
421	Sykes's Lark <i>Galerida deva</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Collected, where not at all uncommon, between Gundulpet and Muddur (Davison 1883).
74. Cisticolidae (Cisticolas)										
422	Zitting Cisticola <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
423	Golden-headed Cisticola <i>Cisticola exilis erythrocephalus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
424	Rufous-fronted Prinia <i>Prinia buchanani</i>					X	X		X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
425	Grey-breasted Prinia <i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
426	Jungle Prinia <i>Prinia sylvatica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
427	Ashy Prinia <i>Prinia socialis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
428	Plain Prinia <i>Prinia inornata</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
429	Common Tailorbird <i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
75. Locustellidae (Bush warblers)										
430	Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
431	Broad-tailed Grassbird <i>Schoenicola platyurus</i>	X				X	X	X	X	Obtained specimens from a breeding colony near Belagavi (Hume 1880).
432	Bristled Grassbird <i>Chaetornis striata</i>					X	X		X	
76. Acrocephalidae (Brush, reed and swamp warblers)										
433	Thick-billed Warbler <i>Arundinax aedon</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
434	Booted Warbler <i>Iduna caligata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
435	Sykes's Warbler <i>Iduna rama</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
436	Blyth's Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
437	Paddyfield Warbler <i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
438	Clamorous Reed Warbler <i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
77. Hirundinidae (Swallows)										
439	Northern House Martin <i>Delichon urbicum</i>	X	X			X		X	X	Old Belagavi specimen in Hume's Collection (Ali & Whistler 1943-44).
440	Streak-throated Swallow <i>Petrochelidon fluvicola</i>	X	X			X	X	X	X	A specimen (FMNH #233413) from Hubballi probably collected by Koelz.
441	Red-rumped Swallow <i>Cecropis daurica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
442	Pacific Swallow (Hill Swallow) <i>Hirundo tahitica domicola</i>					X	X		X	
443	Wire-tailed Swallow <i>Hirundo smithii</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
444	Barn Swallow <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
445	Eurasian Crag Martin <i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	X	X		X				X	
446	Dusky Crag Martin <i>Ptyonoprogne concolor</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
447	Plain Martin (Grey-throated Martin) <i>Riparia paludicola chinensis</i>								X	See species accounts.
448	Sand Martin/Pale Martin <i>Riparia riparia/Riparia diluta</i>					X	X		X	Photographed in Hesaraghatta (Prince, March 2008), videographed in Hoskote (Karuthedathu, 2014). Identification as to this species or Pale Martin, impossible on current knowledge.
78. Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)										
449	(Square-tailed) Black Bulbul <i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus ganeesa</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
450	Black-crested Bulbul (Flame-throated Bulbul) <i>Pycnonotus melanicterus gularis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
451	Red-whiskered Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
452	Red-vented Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
453	Yellow-throated Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus xantholaemus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
454	White-browed Bulbul <i>Pycnonotus luteolus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
455	Grey-headed Bulbul <i>Brachypodius priocephalus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
456	Yellow-browed Bulbul <i>Acritillas indica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
79. Phylloscopidae (Old world leaf warblers)										
457	Yellow-browed Warbler <i>Abrornis inornatus</i>					X	X		X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
458	Hume's Leaf Warbler <i>Abrornis humei</i>	X				X	X	X	X	A specimen shot from Belagavi identified as this species by Hume (Butler 1881).
459	Common Chiffchaff (Siberian Chiffchaff) <i>Phylloscopus collybita tristis</i>	X	X			X		X	X	An Uttara Kannada specimen in BNHS (Abdulali 1986b).
460	Tytler's Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus tytleri</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
461	Sulphur-bellied Warbler <i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>	X				X			X	A specimen obtained by James Davidson in January 1890 (Davidson 1898a). One photographed from Bidar (Mahato 2014a).
462	Tickell's Leaf Warbler <i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
463	Green Leaf Warbler <i>Seicercus nitidus</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
464	Greenish Leaf Warbler <i>Seicercus trochiloides</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
465	Large-billed Leaf Warbler <i>Seicercus magnirostris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
466	Western Crowned Leaf Warbler <i>Seicercus occipitalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
80. Sylviidae (Sylvia warblers, parrotbills and allies)										
467	Eastern Orphean Warbler <i>Curruca crassirostris</i>	X	X			X		X	X	A Mysuru specimen in BNHS (Abdulali 1986a).
468	Lesser Whitethroat <i>Curruca curruca</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
468a	(Siberian) Lesser Whitethroat <i>Curruca curruca blythi</i>	S	S		S	S			S	Photographed from Bidar (Mahato 2014b).
468b	Hume's Whitethroat <i>Curruca curruca althaea</i>	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	
469	Yellow-eyed Babbler <i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
81. Zosteropidae (White-eyes)										
470	Oriental White-eye <i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
82. Timaliidae (Scimitar babblers and allies)										
471	Indian Scimitar Babbler <i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
472	Tawny-bellied Babbler <i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Nominate race photographed from Bidar [112]
472a	White-throated Babbler <i>Dumetia hyperythra albogularis</i>					S	S			
473	Dark-fronted Babbler <i>Rhopocichla atriceps</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
474	Striped Tit Babbler <i>Mixornis gularis</i>	X	X		X					
83. Pellorneidae (Smaller babblers)										
475	Puff-throated Babbler <i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
84. Leiothrichidae (Babblers, laughing-thrushes and allies)										
476	Quaker Tit Babbler <i>Alcippe poiocephala</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
477	Large Grey Babbler <i>Argya malcolmi</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
478	Rufous Babbler <i>Argya subrufa</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
479	Common Babbler <i>Argya caudata</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
480	Jungle Babbler <i>Turdoides striata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
481	Yellow-billed Babbler <i>Turdoides affinis</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
482	Wynaad Laughingthrush <i>Garrulax delesserti</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
483	Black-chinned Laughing-thrush (Banapura Laughingthrush) <i>Trochalopteron cachinnans jerdoni</i>	X	X							Specimens from Brahmagiris (Davison 1883) in NHMUK (Sharpe 1883).
85. Sittidae (Nuthatches, spotted creepers and wallcreeper)										
484	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch (Indian Nuthatch) <i>Sitta castanea castanea</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
485	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch <i>Sitta frontalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
86. Sturnidae (Starlings)										
486	Common Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X							X	One shot from a flock of 300 birds on 24 October 1965 (Ghorpade 1974b).

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
487	Rosy Starling <i>Pastor roseus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
488	Asian Pied Starling <i>Gracupica contra</i>					X			X	Photograph in Bidar [113]
489	Brahminy Starling <i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
490	Chestnut-tailed Starling <i>Sturnia malabarica</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
490a	Malabar Starling <i>Sturnia malabarica blythii</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
491	Common Myna <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
492	Jungle Myna <i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
493	(Southern) Hill Myna <i>Gracula religiosa indica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
87. Muscipidae (Chats and flycatchers)										
494	Indian Robin <i>Saxicoloides fulicatus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
495	Oriental Magpie Robin <i>Copsychus saularis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
496	White-rumped Shama <i>Kittacinda malabarica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
497	Dark-sided Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>					X				Photographed in Nandi Hills (Mohan 2014).
498	Asian Brown Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
499	Brown-breasted Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa muttui</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
500	Rusty-tailed Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa ruficauda</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
501	White-bellied Blue Flycatcher <i>Cyornis pallidipes</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
502	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher <i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
503	Blue-throated Flycatcher <i>Cyornis rubeculoides</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
504	Blue-and-white Flycatcher <i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>					X			X	Photographed in Dandeli [114, 115]
505	Verditer Flycatcher <i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
506	Nilgiri Flycatcher <i>Eumyias albicaudatus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
507	White-bellied Shortwing (Nilgiri Shortwing) <i>Brachypteryx major major</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
508	Indian Blue Robin <i>Larivora brunnea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
509	Bluethroat <i>Luscinia svecica</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
510	Malabar Whistling Thrush <i>Myophonus horsfieldii</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
511	Siberian Rubythroat <i>Calliope calliope</i>	X	X	X		X	X		X	A specimen (FMNH #239109) recorded as <i>L. pectoralis</i> in Koelz (1942) was subsequently reidentified as this species (Prasad 2006).
512	Kashmir Flycatcher <i>Ficedula subrubra</i>					X	X		X	
513	Red-breasted Flycatcher <i>Ficedula parva</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
514	Taiga Flycatcher <i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
515	Ultramarine Flycatcher <i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
516	Black-and-orange Flycatcher <i>Ficedula nigrorufa</i>	X	X		X	X	X		X	
517	Black Redstart <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
518	Blue-capped Rock Thrush <i>Monticola cinclorhyncha</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
519	Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush <i>Monticola saxatilis</i>					X		X		
520	Blue Rock Thrush <i>Monticola solitarius</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
521	Siberian Stonechat <i>Saxicola maurus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
522	Pied Bushchat <i>Saxicola caprata</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
523	Isabelline Wheatear <i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>					X			X	Published photograph in Vijayapura (Desai 2014).
524	Desert Wheatear <i>Oenanthe deserti</i>					X	X		X	
525	Brown Rock Chat <i>Oenanthe fusca</i>					X	X		X	

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No	Species	All	Mus	KLZ	ALI	All	eRM	OBI	eBD	Notes
88. Turdidae (Thrushes)										
526	Scaly Thrush (Nilgiri Thrush) <i>Zoothera dauma nelgherriensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
527	Pied Thrush <i>Geokichla wardii</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
528	Orange-headed Thrush <i>Geokichla citrina citrina</i>					X			X	Photographed in Manipal [116]
528a	White-throated Ground Thrush <i>G. citrina cyanota</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
529	Indian Blackbird <i>Turdus simillimus</i>	X	X		X	X		X	X	
529a	Black-capped Blackbird <i>Turdus simillimus nigropileus</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
530	Tickell's Thrush <i>Turdus unicolor</i>	X				X	X		X	A specimen collected in Belagavi (Butler 1881).
531	Eyebrowed Thrush <i>Turdus obscurus</i>	X	X			X	X		X	A specimen collected in Belagavi in Hume's Collection (Baker 1924).
Species Count =>		404	354	207	252	499	446	405	496	

S Karthikeyan



106. Red-crested Pochards at Vilaspur Lake, Bidar on 6 December 2012.



Yathin S Krishnappa

107. Lesser Coucal at Bhadra Tiger Reserve in October 2006.

Samad Koittur



108. Common Cranes at Hachholli, Raichar District in February 2012.



M. K. Saptha Girish

109. Great White Pelican at Mysuru on 4 February 2012.

Vijay Mohan Raj



110. Oriental Pratincole at Tungbhadra Dam in April 2007.



111. Eastern Imperial Eagle in Belagavi on 14 December 2006.



Center: Niranjana Sant

Vaidehi Gunjal

112. Tawny-bellied Babbler nominate race in Bidar on 14 August 2016.

Table 2: Threatened and endemic¹ birds of Karnataka

Species	WG	IUCN	Species	WG	IUCN
Common Pochard		VU	Indian Vulture		CR
Ferruginous Duck		NT	Cinereous Vulture		NT
Lesser Flamingo		NT	Indian Spotted Eagle		VU
Nilgiri Wood Pigeon	X	VU	Greater Spotted Eagle		VU
Great Indian Bustard		CR	Steppe Eagle		EN
Lesser Florican		EN	Eastern Imperial Eagle		VU
Swinhoe's Storm-petrel		NT	Pallid Harrier		NT
Jouanin's Petrel		NT	Lesser Fish Eagle		NT
Lesser Adjutant		VU	Grey-headed Fish Eagle		NT
Painted Stork		NT	Great Hornbill		NT
Woolly-necked Stork (Asian Woolly-neck)		VU	Malabar Pied Hornbill		NT
Spot-billed Pelican		NT	Malabar Grey Hornbill	X	
Black-headed Ibis		NT	Malabar Barbet	X	
Christmas Island Frigatebird		CR	Red-necked Falcon		NT
Oriental Darter		NT	Laggar Falcon		NT
Great Thick-knee		NT	Malabar Parakeet	X	
Eurasian Oystercatcher		NT	White-bellied Treepie	X	
Sociable Lapwing		CR	Crimson-backed Sunbird	X	
Eurasian Curlew		NT	Vigors's Sunbird	X	
Bar-tailed Godwit		NT	White-naped Tit		VU
Black-tailed Godwit		NT	Broad-tailed Grassbird	X	VU
Great Knot		EN	Bristled Grass Warbler		VU
Curlew Sandpiper		NT	Yellow-throated Bulbul		VU
Wood Snipe		VU	Grey-headed Bulbul	X	NT
Great Snipe		NT	Tytler's Leaf Warbler		NT
Indian Skimmer		VU	Rufous Babbler	X	
River Tern		NT	Wynaad Laughing-thrush	X	
Black-bellied Tern		EN	Black-chinned Laughing-thrush	X	EN
Egyptian Vulture		EN	White-bellied Blue Flycatcher	X	
Red-headed Vulture		EN	Nilgiri Flycatcher	X	NT
Himalayan Vulture		NT	White-bellied Shortwing (Nilgiri Shortwing)	X	EN
White-rumped Vulture		CR	Kashmir Flycatcher		VU
			Black-and-orange Flycatcher	X	NT

Sugandhi & Rana Belur



113. Asian Pied Starling in Bidar on 30 January 2015.

Suru Nair



114. Blue-and-white Flycatcher in Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary on 07 March 2015.

1 Endemic to the Western Ghats



Bhavita Toliya

115. Blue-and-white Flycatcher in Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary on 18 March 2015.



Ramit Singal

116. Orange-headed Thrush nominate race in Manipal on 10 March 2013.

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Appendix

Notes on species not included in the checklist

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*

Listed in Singh & Ahmed (2007) based upon Achar & Nayak (2000) but the latter does not mention this species. Maps in www.seabirdtracking.org seem to indicate that this bird has occurred in the maritime waters off Karnataka; however, details of actual locations are not available for our assessment and the resolution of the Global Location Sensor (GLS) devices is only +/-200km (Mathieu Le Corre, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 01 December 2015).

White-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon lepturus*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012); no actual records traced. Like the former, this is also reported as occurring in Indian waters in www.seabirdtracking.org.

Black-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis*

Only an old hunting record mentioned in Baker & Inglis (1930) as, "Big Bore records the shooting of three specimens in Mysore", without any further details.

Sykes's Nightjar *Caprimulgus mahrattensis*

Sykes collected his type specimen (now in NHMUK) somewhere in the Deccan, probably in Maharashtra (apparent by its specific name). The only report from the state was from Bengaluru and that refers to a sighting from the campus of the Indian Plywood Industries Research Institute on Tumkur Road on 17 February 1977 by Joseph George. "The bird gave out a low soft chuckle when flushed from the base of a bamboo clump" (George 1994). This is the most southerly record of this species, far away from its regular and extended wintering range. It is unclear how George eliminated other resident nightjars, and hence the record is not accepted here.

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius*

Photographs, purporting to be of this species, were taken in Rajeev Nagar, Mysuru (Michaelsen 2016); identification not conclusive from the available pictures, and it has not occurred in South Asia earlier.

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012), most likely a result of nomenclature confusion with Grey-bellied Cuckoo *C. passerinus*.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna pacifica*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012), no actual records traced. Like the tropicbirds, this is also reported as occurring in our waters in www.seabirdtracking.org.

Greater Adjutant *Leptoptilos dubius*

One bird seen, east of Sirsi, in cold weather by James Davidson (Davidson 1898b); however he does not list the more likely Lesser Adjutant *L. javanicus*, and hence this could likely be an error.

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

A sight report from Mugut Khan Hubballi [=MK Habli] (Butler 1881), with no further details, is the only historical report from Karnataka. Neginhal (1971) narrates a conversation where another birder indicated its presence in Tungabhadra Reservoir, but provides no notes on identification. Two sight records from Raichur, mentioned in Rahmani (1989), seem unlikely based on the associated description. Observers reported "four" and "seven" birds which are highly unlikely for a species known to be solitary; it is likely that another species is involved, or this is a nomenclature confusion with Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*. One possible report from Devanahalli (J Harsha) in 2003 (BirdSpot 2003), also not accepted here.

Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it could very well occur based on its presence in Kerala (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011).

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Singh & Ahmed (2007) list it, referring to multiple primary works like Ali & Whistler (1943-1944); George (1994); Chakravarthy & Tejasvi (1992); and Achar & Nayak (2000): the first two works

cited, do not even list this species! Chakravarthy & Tejasvi (1992) describe an unconfirmed record of eight to ten birds seen at the Chikkamagaluru Tank along with other waders. Achar & Nayak (2000) list the species as 'least abundant' and 'infrequently seen' with no additional notes. This is likely a case of nomenclature confusion with Little Ringed Plover *C. dubius*, though the species itself may not be entirely unlikely, going by its regular presence in Kerala (eBird 2016).

Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it might occur as a vagrant on the western coast.

Crab-plover *Dromas ardeola*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it might occur as a coastal vagrant.

Jerdon's Courser *Rhinoptilus bitorquatus*

An egg of this species, from the collection of Ernest Gilbert Meaton at University of Aberdeen, was recently documented. It had probably been collected in 1917, having been procured from c. 100 km from the Kolar Gold Fields (*hereinafter*, KGF), where Meaton resided (Knox & Piertney 2013; Knox 2014). The exact collection locality is unknown, but 100 km from KGF will include a sizable part of adjoining Andhra Pradesh, and also Tamil Nadu; hence the species is not considered here for want of a definite claim from within Karnataka.

Lesser Noddy *Anous tenuirostris*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it could occur as a pelagic vagrant.

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it could occur during spring passage.

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

An exhausted individual was recovered in Udipi on 16 June 1990, which subsequently flew off (Aravind Madhyastha *in litt.*, e-mail dated 20 November 2015). The specimen was identified as this species, but its photograph, and identification details remain unpublished. However, it could occur in off-shore waters as the species has been recorded in Goa (Lainer 2004), and in northern Kerala (Karuthedathu & Raju 2014).

White-cheeked Tern *Sterna repressa*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). No actual records traced though it could occur as a pelagic vagrant. Several photographs in recent times, claiming to have been of this species, turned out to be of Common Tern *S. hirundo*.

Pallas's Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus leucoryphus*

Listed for Bandipur National Park in Singh & Ahmed (2007), but this is, most likely, an error. Also a sight record from Bidar District (Vivekananda, *verbally* January 2015) during winter but no photographs or notes are available for examination.

White-tailed Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*

Listed for Dakshin Kannada by Singh & Ahmed (2007), but the original reference, Achar & Nayak (2000), does not include it. No actual records traced, and probably a result of nomenclature confusion with White-bellied Sea Eagle *H. leucogaster*.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*

Thejaswi & Shivaprakash (2005a) reported this species from Mysore but extreme similarity of this species with the eastern races of Eurasian Sparrowhawk, coupled with lack of any records from the southern India prompts us to treat this sight record with caution until further evidence builds.

Dusky Eagle Owl *Bubo coromandus*

Taylor (1887) took a female from its nest in Manjarabad [=Manzoorabad], Sakleshpur. Identification details are unclear and it is possible that another species is involved. It has been reported from many other parts of the state: Biligirirangan Hills (Aravind *et al.*, 2001), Sanduru (Krishnan 2012), Uttar Kannada (Daniels *et al.*, 1990), Dakshin Kannada (Achar & Shivashankar 2012), etc., with no supporting details of identification.

Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris*

Ahmed & Singh (2007) list Uttar Kannada, and Dakshin Kannada (based on Achar & Shivashankar 2012) for this species; however the senior author of the primary reference for Uttar Kannada states he has not reported it there nor is aware of any other observer having done so (R. J. Ranjit Daniels, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 26 July 2016). Numerous reports by the field staff of Karnataka Forest Department at Karwar were followed up by VMR but no concrete observations resulted. Though it is likely to occur in Karwar, in the absence of definite evidence, we do not include the species in the checklist.

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Listed from Bandipur National Park by Singh & Ahmed (2007). This is a likely case of nomenclature confusion with Red-necked Falcon *F. chicquera*, earlier known as 'Red-headed Merlin'.

Oriental Hobby *Falco severus*

Listed from Bandipur National Park by Singh & Ahmed (2007); no actual records traced though it could occur as it has been recorded from adjoining Wayanad (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011).

Nilgiri Pipit *Anthus nilghiriensis*

Several sight records from Bababudan Hills during 2011–2013 (Shashank Dalvi, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 13 June 2013; Ramit Singal, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 16 June 2013). One photograph of a bird trapped in a net in 2012–2013 claimed to be this species; however, opinion on its identification is divided. Another photograph from Rajeev Nagar, Mysuru plains, exists (Kulashekara 2009), though ID is probably correct, provenance of the photograph has not been established. We do not include this species in the checklist pending further investigation. All records of this species, from north of the Nilgiris, have been challenged, and Robin *et al.* (2014) have proposed that its range statement not include such areas. For now we follow this distribution.

Bimaculated Lark *Melanocorypha bimaculata*

Reported from Mysuru by Thejaswi & Shivaprakash (2005b). However, this appears to be the first and the only report from anywhere in southern India, and hence not included here for want of corroboration.

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*

Listed in Achar & Shivashankar (2012). Likely nomenclature confusion with Malabar Lark *G. malabarica* cannot be ruled out.

Rusty-rumped Warbler *Locustella certhiola*

Reported by Thejaswi & Shivaprakash (2005c) from Mysuru. Though it has been reported from Kerala (Sashikumar *et al.* 2011) and more recently Tamil Nadu (Amirtharaj 2016), we retain this sighting in this list until further corroboration from Karnataka is obtained.

Bank Myna *Acridotheres ginginianus*

Most records for the state have come from the Dharwad, and Uttar Kannada regions by Gurunath Desai. A pair of birds was regularly seen in the botanical garden of Karnataka University, Dharwad since 20 March 2005. On 19 June 2005, one bird was seen in Kalkeri forest, and later again on 23 July 2006 on the Hubli–Yellapur road (Gurunath Desai, *verbally on* 20 November 2015). However, there have not been any records since then and Gurunath Desai believes all these birds were escapees that perished, and recommends caution in considering this species for the state checklist (Vaidehi Gunjal, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 17 August 2016). Taher *et al.* (2010) cite a record from northern Karnataka, which infact refers to these records. Bank Myna occurs as far south as Goa (Lainer & Alvares 2013), where a feral population has established itself, and continues to survive—these could be stragglers from that population. However, we agree with Desai, and do not include this species into the state checklist until definite evidence builds up in favour of feral population.

Yellow-rumped Flycatcher *Ficedula zanthopygia*

Reported from Lokkere Reserve Forest, Bandipur National Park on 15 July 2006 by Nithila Baskaran, Sanjay Reddy, and Siddharth Rao where they record a flycatcher of the size of a Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata* "or maybe just a little bigger", flitting on the lantana scrub and the lower branches of small trees "within 10–15 feet" from the observers. Their notes included "...bright yellow rump and under parts with black above.... a distinctive white bar on the wing and a clear white eyebrow" (M. B. Krishna, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 22 July 2006, to bngbirds) is probably sufficient to be sure of the identification. However, we treat this as tentative, as this record, particularly being in July, needs to be evaluated at the Indian Subcontinent level, as it is a national rarity.

Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferreus*

Reported by Thejaswi & Shivaprakash (2004) from Mysuru; but this appears to be the first and the only report till date from southern India and hence not included here for want of corroboration.