

Santhoshkumar, E., & Balasubramanian, P., 2015. Food habits of Indian Grey Hornbill *Ocyrceros birostris* in Sathyamangalam forest division, Eastern Ghats, India. *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 111 (2): 90–97 (2014).

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### Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea* and Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* from Jammu & Kashmir, India

This note reports the addition of Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea* and Hair-crested Drongo *D. hottentottus* to the avifauna of Jammu and Kashmir.

On the sunny afternoon of 21 June 2016, NS noticed a medium-sized bird perched on a cherry-bark elm *Ulmus villosa* tree (32.89°N, 75.82°E; c. 2547 m asl), about five kilometers south of Padri, falling within the administrative jurisdiction of Jammu and Kashmir State along Baderwah–Chamba interstate highway. The bird was identified as a Bronzed Drongo [231] from its glossy bluish-green body, with a flatter bill, and less deeply forked tail (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012). The bird stayed on



231. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea*.



232. Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*.

Pics: Neeraj Sharma

the tree for about three minutes and then flew away towards the dense mixed stand of a nearby temperate broadleaved forest. It is a resident of the Himalayas and has, so far, been reported up till Himachal Pradesh (Shah *et al.* 2016) in the north-western Himalayas (Ali & Ripley 2001; Grimmet *et al.* 2011; Rasmussen & Anderton 2012), and so its appearance near the state border is not unexpected, though it's an addition to the avifauna of Jammu & Kashmir.

Two Hair-crested Drongos were sighted near Samba (32.58°N, 75.20°E; c. 471 m asl), and one near Kathua (32.58°N, 75.35°E; c. 570 m asl) on 03 and 15 March 2016 respectively, by Parvez Shagoo (2016a,b). On the evening of 03 February 2017, while walking around the main campus, we noticed a group of five individuals feeding and fluttering around the blooming silver oak *Grevillea robusta*, Indian bottle brush *Callistemon citrinus*, and Silk floss tree *Ceiba speciosa* near the administrative block (32.71°N, 74.86°E; c. 318 m asl), University of Jammu, Jammu. The species was spotted again at the same location on 18 February 2017 by NS (two individuals) and on 11 April 2017 (five individuals) by AS. NS recently sighted a group of seven individuals hovering over a *Toona ciliata* canopy near Dalhori in Rajouri District (33.30°N, 74.45°E; c. 1075 m asl) on 06 August 2017. The species [232] was recognized by its glistening blue-black plumage, highly iridescent wings, sickle-shaped heavy bill, long filoplumes over crown, and steeply triangular tail with curled corners (Rasmussen & Anderton 2012). Its frequent sightings in and around Jammu and up to far west in Rajouri, in the recent past, suggests a possible range extension of the species further westwards of Kangra, Himachal Pradesh (den Besten 2004; Grimmett *et al.* 2011; Rasmussen & Anderton 2012).

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