Megha Rao

68. Eastern Imperial Eagle at Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, eastern Assam.

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– Rohan K. Menzies & Megha Rao

Both: Research Affiliate, Nature Conservation Foundation, 1311, "Amritha", 12th Main, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, Mysore 570017, Karnataka, India

E-mail: rohanmenzies@ncf-india.org

E-mail: megha@ncf-india.org

Himalayan Rubythroat *Calliope pectoralis* in southern Bengal

At 1500 h, on 12 February 2017, while birding on the outskirts of the Uluberia Subdivision (22.47°N, 88.02° E) of Howrah District, West Bengal, I heard a sound from within a low dense bush as if a predator had caught a bird. In the enclosing darkness, when I checked the bush, I saw a bird perched on a branch. Initially thought it was an Oriental Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis*; but when my eyes got accustomed with the darkness, I saw a vivid scarlet red spot on the throat of the bird. I began to take pictures immediately—managing six shots before the bird flew away.

I was unable to identify the bird until I compared my images with those of rubythroats *Calliope* sp., on Wikipedia, and my bird seem to be a Himalayan Rubythroat *C. pectoralis* **[69]**. The absence of a white sub-moustachial stripe eliminated the closely related Chinese Rubythroat *C. tschebaiewi*. This bird also had a smaller red throat patch, greater extent of white on the tail, and a wider supercilium, which eliminated the Chinese Rubythroat. The Siberian Rubythroat *C. calliope* was also considered, but it is plain brown above, except for the distinctive black tail with red side patches.

A. K. Hazra

69. Himalayan Rubythroat.

Several other birders confirmed identification. It seems to be the first photographic record from southern Bengal (south of River Ganga). A female was collected on Sagar Island, South 24-Parganas District by Srikumar Chattopadhyay on 11 November 1979, which might be held in the collections of the Zoological Survey of India (Chattopadhyay 1987; Majumdar *et al.* 1992); this bird is listed as '*pectoralis*' and could imply either species. This needs to be revisited. There are no other records of either of the erstwhile 'White-tailed Rubythroats' from southern Bengal (Grimmett *et al.* 2011; Rasmussen & Anderton 2012; eBird 2019a, 2019b, 2019c)

I thank Kanad Baidya, Santanu Manna, Sandip Das, and Swapnodeep Sarkar for confirming the species and providing the information on historical records.

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– Asim Kumar Hazra

Sijberia Village, Uluberia PO+PS, Howrah District 711315, West Bengal, India

E-mail: asimkhazra@yahoo.com

A leucistic Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus* from West Bengal

On 25 April 2019, while birding in Khimsa forest (24.25°N, 88.59°E), Nadia District, West Bengal, Joydeep Mukherjee, Jayanta Manna, Prasil Biswas, and I spotted a colour aberrant Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus*. Identification was easy due to the tuft above its bill. It had large white patches all over its body **[70]**. It was not an albino as it had normal coloured eyes and all its other features were inherently that of a Jungle Myna, except for the body colour.

Sarbajit Nandy

70. Colour aberrant Jungle Myna.

This appears to be an instance of leucism (rather than progressive greying) as per the classification of van Grouw (2012) and strangely, this is probably the first instance of any kind of colour aberration in Jungle Myna from the country (Mahabal *et al.* 2016).

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– Sarbajit Nandy

82/4 Barabagan Colony, Kastadanga Road,Sarsuna, Kolkata 700061, West Bengal, India

E-mail: nandysarbajit@gmail.com

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* in Pune District, with notes on its status in Maharashtra

On 23 March 2019 we visited Lake House Telco Lake (18.64°N, 73.81°E; Fig. 1) in Pimpri–Chinwad, Pune, for birdwatching and photographing the heronry. The Lake House is a cluster of five lakes spread over an area of 34 ha **[71]** This is an artificial wetland contructed to manage the industrial waste water of TATA Motors. The water treatment is done so efficiently that it supports a large heronry, as well as several bird species. The entire wetland is enclosed by a wall, and hence, protected from all sides. This protection has gradually shaped this area into a water bird refuge.

About 0730 h, while photographing the birds from the hideout, SBP observed a stork flying towards the hideout and perching on a nearby tree. We observed the bird for about five minutes, and identified it as a Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*, due to its triangular head, yellow neck without air sac, and dark slaty back. Meanwhile, SBP clicked several photographs, which further confirmed the identification of the species.

S. B. Pradhan

71. Lesser Adjutant at Telco Lake.

Being well managed and protected, this is one of the most secure wetland in the entire region. Thus, occurrence of Lesser Adjutant further signifies the importance of this wetland. TATA Motors, as a part of their environmental sustainability dictum, are