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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.



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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.



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).

My acknowledgements to Arghya Adhikary for sharing information on the species.



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