

Table 1. Reports of Red-footed Booby from India

State (location)	Date	Bird condition	Reference
West Bengal (New Digha, Baleshwar)	11 May 2011	Died	Karmakar et al. (2011)
Goa (20 NM from the Goa coast)	13 December 2013	Live bird found during voyage	Gandhe (2014)
Karnataka (70–80 NM Mangalore coast)	December 2014	Live bird found during voyage	Lakhman (2015)
Maharashtra (Bhuigaon Beach, Vasai)	05 June 2016	Exhausted bird; died	Lopes & Kasambe (2016)
Kerala (Kanhagad, Kasaragod)	29 August 2019	Exhausted bird; flew away	Bird 1
Kerala (Ayikkara harbour, Kannur)	05 September 2019	Exhausted bird; rescued and released	Bird 2

We would like to thank Jayesh T. V., and Anoop. C., for sending the images of Bird 1, and Jayan Thomas for sending the images of Bird 2. Special thanks to the effort of Sreejith Harvest, Pradeep Alavil, Seena Pradeep, Padmakumar, Suresh, and all others took care of Bird 2. Thanks to MNHS members and anonymous supporters for the financial help in feeding Bird 2.

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Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris* preying upon a Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus flaviventris* nestling

The Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris* is one of the frequently occurring hornbill species in Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary (26.87°N, 88.86°E) which lies in the Dooars region of northern West Bengal, India, close to Gorumara National Park. It is dominated by moist deciduous forests.

At 1100 h, on 01 June 2016, we spotted a pair of extremely agitated Black-crested Bulebuls *Pycnonotus flaviventris* perched on the lower branches of a tree. They were calling out loudly. Moments later a male Oriental Pied Hornbill appeared near the bulbuls. The bulbuls got further agitated and started dive-bombing and attacking the hornbill. Their aggression didn't seem to affect the hornbill in any way, and it went into the understory.

A few seconds later, it flew out of the understory and perched on a branch of a nearby tree. It held, in its beak, a Black-crested Bulbul nestling [51]. The hornbill ignored the continuous distress calls of the bulbuls and gulped down its prey before flying away.



51. Oriental Pied Hornbill with Black-crested Bulbul nestling.

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The Black-crested Bulbul is known to make nests c.30–250 cm above the ground. These are cup-shaped, comprising fine twigs, leaves, bark, and fiber, and well hidden in a thick bush or sapling (Ali & Ripley 1983). We assume the hornbill may have discovered the nest's location based on the bulbuls' movements, while they provisioned their offspring.

While Oriental Pied Hornbills are primarily frugivorous, small animals have been recorded as part of their diet. Goyal & Saxena (2018) reported an instance of birds hunting an adult Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* but failing to consume it. They have been known to hunt and consume insects, fishes, reptiles, small birds and mammals (Ali & Ripley 1983; Poonswad et al. 1998; Kinnaird & O'Brien 2007; Rahman et al. 2019). Rahman et al. 2019 also reported bird chicks to be a part of the hornbill's diet. Infanticide-cannibalism has also been reported in this species (Chan et al. 2007; Ng et al. 2011). This record of it hunting and feeding on the Black-crested Bulbul nestling is further proof to its propensity to feed on birds.

We would like to thank K. Supriya, Arizona State University, for her encouragement and comments on the manuscript.

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A recent record of the Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus* from Dang District, Nepal

The Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus* is found in South and South-East Asia, from northern India through the foothills of the Himalayas to southern China, Nepal, Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand, and through peninsular Malaysia and Singapore to the western islands of Indonesia and the Philippines (Winkler et al. 2020). It has been listed as Vulnerable under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (BirdLife International 2016) and Endangered in Nepal (Inskipp et al. 2016), where it occurs in the lowland forests, and most of its records are from protected areas.

The Dang District (27.60°–28.48°N, 82.03°–82.08°E; 2,955 sq. km) consists of two valleys: Dang (i.e., upper), and Deukhuri (lower). Dang is surrounded by forest-covered hills that connect Bardia, Banke, and Chitwan National Parks through the Churia forests of Arghakanchi, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, and Nawalpur/Nawalparasi districts in the Dovan Bottleneck. *Shorea robusta*, *Terminalia*, *Dalbergia* and *Acacia* species dominate the forested habitat. Degraded forests are found in patches. Dang is connected with Banke National Park on the western side, and an intact forest on the southern side connects Dang with Sohelwa Wildlife Sanctuary in India (Khanal & Baniya 2018).

Thakuri (2009; 2010) recorded this species from the Dang Deukhuri foothill forest, and West Rapti Wetland. It has also been recorded from adjoining areas in Banke (Baral 2011) and Kapilwastu (Pandey & Ghimire 2018). But none was recorded from the Dang post 2010 (Inskipp et al. 2016). On 18 July 2019, a single Great Slaty Woodpecker was sighted and photographed on a *Terminalia alata* tree in the sal-dominated forest of Arjungkola (27.88°N, 82.48°E), Deukhuri Dang District, Nepal [52]. We regularly surveyed the area, and on 16 August 2019 observed five individuals in the same habitat. This group included one sub-adult, confirming a breeding population in the area. This forest has been declared as community forest and, recently, has seen scientific management wherein mature trees are removed from

forest area using the Irregular Shelterwood system. Sal forest is considered an important habitat for the Great Slaty Woodpecker. Old and middle-aged stands are suitable for excavating cavities, and dead trees and snags are vital for this species (Kumar & Shahabuddin 2013). Such forestry operations are likely to affect the habitats of woodpeckers, and further study is important to find out the relationship between a forest management system and its effects on bird diversity.



52. Great Slaty Woodpecker in Dang.

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