

the presence of the birds comes as no surprise as Rasmussen & Anderton (2012) include the Punjab for both the species' passage migration.

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## Juvenile Lesser Flamingos *Phoeniconaias minor* in Najafgarh Drain, Haryana, India

The Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* is known to breed at the Little Rann of Kachchh in Gujarat (Ali 1974; Parasharya & Tere 2006; Tere & Parasharya 2011), and in the non-breeding season, it disperses to the coasts of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and various inland wetlands of northern India (Parasharya & Tere 2006). It is a vagrant to Delhi, presumably from its nearest habitat in Rajasthan's Sambhar Salt Lake (Vyas 2019). Prince (2003) recorded a single Lesser Flamingo at Basai Wetland in 2003.



104. Resting Lesser Flamingos in Najafgarh Jheel, Haryana, India.



105. Lesser Flamingos foraging in shallow water in Najafgarh Jheel, Haryana, India.

Both: Amit Kumar

Najafgarh Drain (28.49°N, 76.95°E), which is also known as Najafgarh Jheel, is part of the Sahibi River, located at the Delhi-Haryana border. As it receives untreated sewage, the jheel is one of the most contaminated, and yet a very productive, habitat for plants and bird species. Najafgarh Jheel is the only site in Haryana where Flamingos are found throughout the year (Vyas, 2019; Kumar & Rana 2020; 2021).

We have been monitoring Najafgarh Jheel for a few years (November 2018 to August 2021). On 2 February 2020, we observed four juvenile Lesser Flamingos [104, 105] feeding in shallow water in the Najafgarh Jheel, along with an adult Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* and this continued till March 2020. When seen well, a juvenile Lesser Flamingo can be easily distinguished from a juvenile Greater Flamingo by its smaller size, a dark smaller bill, and short legs and neck (Grimmett et al. 2011). This is one of the northern-most Lesser Flamingo distributions recorded in India.

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## Opportunistic feeding by *Psittacula krameri* on white efflorescence salts at building wall

The Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* is a native species of sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Subcontinent. It is highly adaptive of a wide array of habitats, ranging from forests, grasslands, deserts, wetlands, foothills, agricultural fields, and urban environments. It is highly commensal, living in close association with human beings, and found across human settlements, roadsides, and urban parks. The Rose-ringed Parakeet is a widespread resident in the Indian Subcontinent, inhabiting forests, gardens, cultivations, towns, and cities (Ali & Ripley 1983; Rasmussen & Anderton 2005).

The species is, primarily, an opportunistic granivore and is known to feed on a wide variety of cereals, grains, seeds, fruits, berries, nectar, etc., and interestingly, also on food provided by people on the roadside, and in urban parks. It flies in small,