

has revealed that they migrate southwards through to Sri Lanka, and directly across the Bay of Bengal to Indonesia and onwards to Australia. The migratory movements revealed by this species have challenged our traditional definition of flyways. That said, this research work was initiated in 2019 and may have come to light after the book was finalised. Given the increase of research of migratory shorebirds in the flyways, there will no doubt be a lot more information in the coming decade to plug into a future edition of the book!

Invariably, a book that covers so much ground has a few errors. Endearingly the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species “Near Threatened” category is referred to as “Nearly Threatened” through the book.

Weighing in at 1,600 gm, I am sure that I will keep this ‘fact book’ safe at home so I can come back and read at leisure to learn more about these amazing species.

All said and done, this book is a must buy for anyone interested in birds and quite a steal at INR 3,500. Perhaps well worth getting a copy before it sells out.

– Taej Mundkur

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Letter to the Editor

Retraction of record of Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea* from Jammu & Kashmir

We were pleased to publish a record of Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea* from Jammu & Kashmir (UT), India through a note in *Indian BIRDS* (Sharma & Sohil 2017). However, I request you to retract the said record as I believe that this could be an incorrect identification of an Ashy Drongo *D. leucophaeus* as a Bronzed Drongo. My comment comes after a careful perusal of the photograph where I could see the red iris and comparatively longer tail of the former. The glossy plumage of the bird in the original image could be due to some light effects. My attention was drawn towards this misidentification after receiving comments on the image uploaded in www.ebird.org/india as a Bronzed Drongo. My colleague, Muzaffar A. Kichloo, who is also the eBird editor for the state, and I re-investigated this by checking other high-quality images where we could see the key characteristics of a Bronzed Drongo—unfortunately absent in our record photo. Muzaffar A. Kichloo also consulted Maxim Rodrigues, Vyom Vyas, and Ashwin Viswanathan regarding the ID and all of them verified the bird as an Ashy Drongo. Therefore, this record may be retracted.

Reference

Sharma, N., & Sohil, A., 2017. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aenea* and Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* from Jammu & Kashmir, India. *Indian BIRDS* 13 (6): 168.

– Asha Sohil

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