



**DIVERSITY OF AVIAN FAUNA OF THE CHOPA VILLAGE,
GONDIA DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA INDIA**

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Abstract

Birds are the beautiful aerial creatures on earth and its play an important role in ecological balance, Random survey carried out during June 2016 to December 2016 to study the diversity of Avian fauna of the Chopra village, Gondia District, Maharashtra. A total number of 126 species of birds were observed belonging 15 order and 43 families. Order Passeriformes were the most dominant species consisting of 20 families followed by the family Muscicapidae of this order to be dominant with 12 species. Out of total 126 species 20 are migrant, 71 are Resident and 35 are Resident migrant. Seasonal variation is well marked in birds due to the availability of food and nesting and suitable environmental conditions.

Keywords- *Avian Fauna, Chopra village, Migratory, Residential*

Introduction

Birds are the beautiful aerial creatures on earth and its play an important role in ecological balance (Datta, (2011). They provide a direct and indirect contribution to the ecosystem and act as an excellent indicator of environment (Bhandarkar and Paliwal (2014). They play the major role of scavengers and pollinating agents and also help in dispersal of seeds of different vegetations. Large forest area is available for nesting the birds, Chulband river is present near the Chopra village is the important water source for Gondia district to preserve its forest, wildlife, and tribal population depend on it. Therefore the present investigation carried out to prepare checklist of avian diversity and ecological status of birds species of this region near Gondia district.

Materials and Methods

Study Area

The avian survey was conducted around Chopra village of Gondia district; Maharashtra. Study area is located in the Nagpur division. 21°27'41"N 80°11'29"E This district covered with large biodiversity, it is famous for pond ecosystem and biodiversity zone. The study region consists of a variety of agriculture crops and vegetables. Gondia and Bhandara cities are famous for Rice cultivation and ponds. Five zones were selected for observe the biodiversity of birds located around Chopra village.

Data Collection

Random survey carried out during June 2016 to December 2016 to study the diversity of avian fauna of chopra village of Gondia district, Maharashtra. The observation of bird done at morning 6.30 am to 11.30 am and at evening 5 pm to 7 pm, in this time avian activities was in highest peak. Sometimes afternoon visits were made to observe the bird activities; particularly in winter season when migratory species reported in this area. The observations were made with the aid of binocular and Digital camera Nikon 5700D; lense 70-300mm was used for photography of birds. The line transects method (Ali, 2002 and Gregory et al., 2004) was used to study the avian population. The area of Chopra village near the Gondia district was covered by line transects method. The scientific and local names were ascertained based on the key of Manakadan and Occurrence status of each species is categorized as Residential (R), Residential migrant (RM), Migrant (M) and Winter Migrant (WM).

Table no.1: Table showing list of Avian Fauna of the Chopra village, Gondia District, Maharashtra

Sr. No	Order	Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
1	Anseriformes	Anatidae	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern Pintail	M
			<i>Anas Penelope</i>	Eurasian wigeon	M
			<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	M
			<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	Indian spot-billed duck	M
			<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Garganey	M
			<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall	M
			<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Common pochard	M
			<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	Lesser whistling duck	RM
			<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	Cotton pygmy goose	R
			<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Ruddy shelduck	M
2	Apodiformes	2.Apodidae	<i>Apus affinis</i>	House Swift	R
3	Charadriiformes	3.Jacaniidae	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	Bronze winged Jacana	R

	mes	4.Charadriidae	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper	M
			<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	Temminks stint	R
4	Columbiformes	5.Columbidae	<i>Columba livia</i>	Blue Rock Pigeon	R
			<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Spotted Dove	R
			<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Eurasian Collared Dove	R
			<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Oriental Turtle Dove	RM
			<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Little Brown Dove	R
			<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	Red Collared Dove	RM
5	Coraciiformes	6.Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Common Kingfisher	R
			<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Pied Kingfisher	R
			<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	WhiteThroated Kingfisher	R
		7.Meropidae (Bee-eaters)	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Small Bee eater	R
			<i>Merops philippinus</i>	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	R
		8.Coraciidae	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	Indian Roller	R
		9.Upupidae (Hoopoes)	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Common Hoopoe	R
		10.Bucerotidae (Hornbills)	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>	Indian Grey Hornbill	R
6	Cuculiformes	11.Cuculidae (Cuckoos)	<i>Cacomantis passerinus</i>	Indian Plaintive cuckoo	RM
			<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Common Cuckoo	R
			<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	Indian cuckoo	RM
			<i>Cuculus varius</i>	Common hawk cuckoo	RM
			<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	Asian Koel	RM
7	Falconiformes	12.Accipitridae (Hawks,Kites and Eagles)	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Shikra	RM
			<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Eurasian sparrowhawk	RM
			<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	Besra	M
			<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Common Buzzard	RM
			<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Black-shouldered Kite	RM
			<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black -kite	RM
			<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Tawny Eagle	RM
8	Galliformes	13.Phasianidae	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	Red Junglefowl	R
			<i>Gallus lafayetii</i>	Srilanka Junglefowl	R
			<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>	Grey JungleFowl	R
			<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	Common Indian Peafowl	R
9	Gruiformes	14.Gruidae	<i>Grus grus</i>	Common crane	M
		15.Rallidae (Rails and Coots)	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	White-breasted Waterhen	R
			<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Common Moorhen	R
10	Passeriformes	16.Alaudidae (Larks)	<i>Ammomanes phoenicura</i>	Rufous Tailed finch lark	R
			<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>	Greater short toed lark	RM
			<i>Eremopterix griseus</i>	Ashy-crowned sparrow lark	R
		17.Dicruridae (Drongos)	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	Black Drongo	R
			<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Ashy Drongo	R
		18.Campephagidae (Cuckooshriks and Minivets)	<i>Coracina macei</i>	Large Cuckooshrike	R
			<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	Common Woodshrike	R
			<i>Pericrocotus</i>	Small minivet	R

		<i>cinnamomeus</i>		
19. Corvidae (Crows and Treepie)		<i>Corvus splendens</i>	House Crow	R
		<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	Jungle Crow	R
20. Hirundinidae (Swallows)		<i>Hirundo concolor</i>	Dusky Crag Martin	R
		<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	Red-rumped swallow	RM
		<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	Wire-tailed swallow	R
		<i>Hirundo riparia</i>	Sand martin	RM
		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common Swallow	RM
21. Laniidae (Shrikes)		<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Red-backed shrike	M
		<i>Lanius schach</i>	Long-tailed shrike	R
22. Muscicapidae		<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Oriental Megpie Robin	R
		<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	White Rumped shama	R
		<i>Copsychus fulicatus</i>	Indian Robin	R
		<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	Thrush nightingale	M
		<i>Myophonus blighi</i>	Sri Lanka whistling thrush	R
		<i>Oenanthe fusca</i>	Brown rock chat	R
		<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Common stonechat	M
		<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	Pied bush chat	R
		<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>	Paddy field Warbler	RM
		<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>	Tickells blue flycatcher	R
		<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common tailorbird	R
		<i>Phylloscopidae collybita</i>	Common chiffchaff	RM
23. Leiothrichidae		<i>Argya malcolmi</i>	Large grey babbler	R
		<i>Turdoides striata</i>	Jungle Babbler	R
		<i>Turdoides caudata</i>	Common Babbler	R
24. Turdidae		<i>Geokichla citrina</i>	Orange-headed thrush	R
25. Cisticolidae		<i>Prinia socialis</i>	Ashy prinia	R
		<i>Prinia inornata</i>	Plain prinia	R
26. Motacillidae (Pipits and Wagtails)		<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Western yellow wagtail	WM
		<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Paddyfield pipit	R
		<i>Anthus richardi</i>	Richards pipit	WM
		<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White wagtail	WM
27. Dicaeidae		<i>Dicaeidae erythrorhynchos</i>	Pale-billed flowerpecker	R
28. Nectarinidae (sunbirds)		<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	Purple sunbird	R
		<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>	Purple rumped Sunbird	R
		<i>Leptocoma calcostetha</i>	Copper-throated sunbird	R
29. Passeridae (sparrows)		<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House sparrow	R
		<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>	Yellow throated sparrow	R
30. Ploceidae		<i>Pioceus philippinus</i>	Baya weaver	RM
31. Estrildidae		<i>Amandava amandava</i>	Red avadavat	RM
		<i>Euodice malabarica</i>	Indian silverbill (white throated munia)	R
		<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Scaly breasted munia	R
32. Pycnonotidae		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	Red vented bulbul	R
33. Sylviidae		<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	Yellow eye Babbler	R
34. Sturnidae (mynas)		<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	Bank myna	RM
		<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common myna	R
		<i>Acridotheres Fuscus</i>	Jungle myna	R
		<i>Sturnia contra</i>	Asian pied starling	R

			<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>	Brahminy starling	R
			<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>	Chestnut Tailed starling	M
11	Strigiformes	35.Strigidae	<i>Athene brama</i>	Spotted Owlet	R
12	Peleconiforms	36.Phalacrocoracidae	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	Indian cormorant	R
			<i>Phalacrocorax Niger</i>	Little cormorant	R
			<i>Phalacrocorax Carbo</i>	Great cormorant	M
13	Ciconiiformes	37.Ardeidae	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Grey Heron	RM
			<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	Indian pond heron	R
			<i>Butorides striata</i>	Striated heron	R
			<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cattle egret	R
			<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little egret	R
			<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Little bittern	M
		38.Ciconiidae	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	Asian openbill stork	RM
			<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Black stork	M
			<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White stork	RM
14	Psittaciformes	40.Psittacidae	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	Plum-headed parakeet	RM
			<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	Alexandrine parakeet	RM
			<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Rose ringed parakeet	RM
15	Piciformes	41.Picidae	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>	White naped woodpecker	R
			<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	Black rumped flameback woodpecker	R



a.Chinese Grey Shrike



b.Brahminy starling



c.Indian Hornbill



d.Indian Roller



e.Bronz jacana



f.Sunbird



g.Bulbul



h.Cattle egret



i.Black shouldered kite



j. Hawk



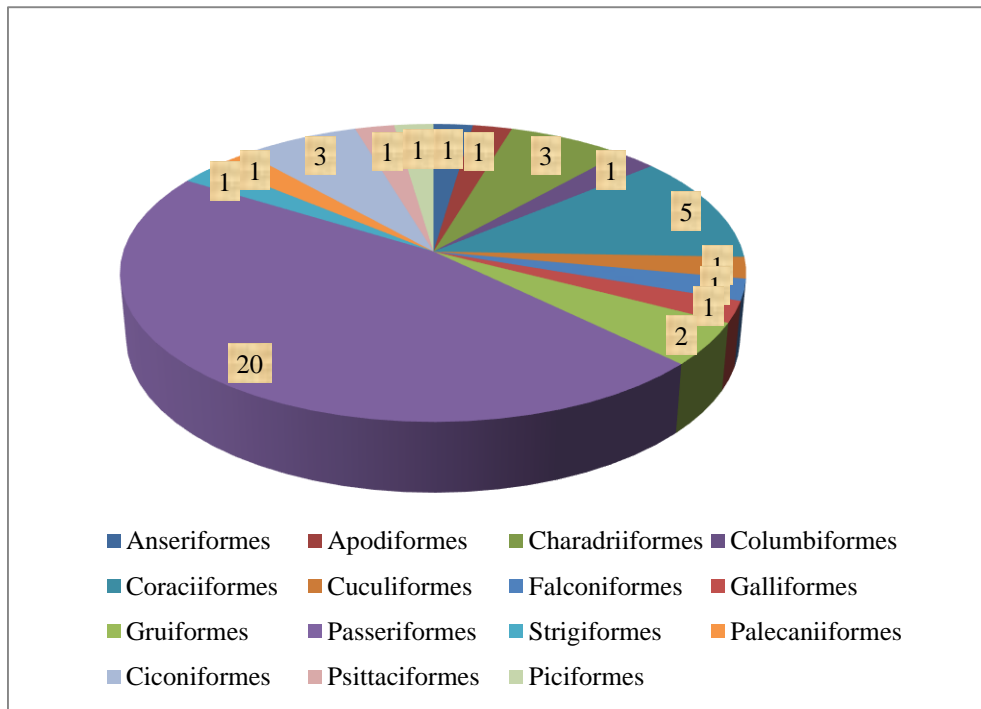
k.Black kite



l.Black-winged stilt

Photographs of some Birds species

Figure no 1: Pie charts showing % of Avian Order



Result and Discussion

A total number of 126 species of birds were observed belonging 16 order and 43 families. Order Passeriformes were the most dominant species consisting of 20 families followed by the family Muscicapidae of this order to be dominant with 12 species. Out of total 126 species 20 are migrant, 71 are Resident and 35 are Resident migrant. Seasonal variation is well marked in birds due to the availability of food and nesting and suitable environmental conditions (Patil, and Tijare 2012). Passeriformes is more in number due to present plenty of food available for them in Agriculture field so they are survives in more number. The findings match with those of Harney et al., (2012); Parwate et al., (2012); Wanjari (2012) and Chavhan and Dhamani (2014).

Conclusion

This study contributes to the knowledge of bird diversity in Chopra village area and provides the most recent status of bird diversity in Gondia district. Our findings confirm that bird diversity in urban areas, such as a densely populated city, can be as great as that in present of dense forest which provide plenty of food sources to the avian fauna and water availability in all seasons. The total number of Bird species in Chopra village of Gondia was very similar to that of nearest protected areas.

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