

Mr T Ganesh  
16/112 Sainagar Colony  
Trimulghery  
SECUNDERABAD - 500 015

5th May 1985.

Dear Ganesh/Kannaiah, Hi!

Long time no see - no hear!!

I remember having promised to send you a copy of the list of birds we had seen on that enjoyable trip to Fox Sagar on 10th of March 1985. Well, though it is a little delayed, here it is. Actually i have copied the list which i keep in my file and just added the common names of the birds for your benefit. In one or two instances, a single line note has also been inserted. Overlook the undecipherable scrawl till we meet next.

I may have left out some species myself, and would be grateful if you could add to the list.

Happy birding till we meet next,

Yours sincerely

*TK*

Encl: aa

\* Reg. Dunlin - make correction }  
in current issue

Secbad-15

19.4.87

Dear Aasheesh,

Very glad to get your letter along with the enclosed xerox copies. When is the 'list' going to come in Mayura? I feel that pied crested cuckoo should also be included somewhere if it cannot be

included with the Annual migrants. Talking of Mayura, in the last issue (Vol 6) under the some interesting bird sightings from Hyd'bad there is a small error. It is mentioned Dunlin was seen on 20 Dec 85 actually it was sighted on 20 Oct 85. I hope you remember that day (20.10.85) at Foxsagar when we also saw the curlew.

How is the birding going on out there? Here Kanniah and myself saw a solitary Black stork. Is it a rare bird here? If you wish I will send a short note on it to Mayura. Oh! there was another 1st sighting for us, few days back saw what certainly looked like a Spotted Redshank near Dundigal. Presently I am observing some woodshrike nesting in a babul. I am enclosing an old article on a visit to kollapur in March 85.

How are the others out there? Convey my regards to Shiraj & Rajiv. When are we going to meet and where? I did not hear from the society.

Till we meet again bye.

With regards

Jans,

Jayesh

Encl: Article for Mayura.

25th April 1987

Mr T Ganesh  
16/112 Sainagar Colony  
Trimulgherry  
SECUNDERABAD - 500v015

Dear Ganesh,

It was a great joy to hear from you. Thank you for the little present for Mayura. We need many more of such. I have not yet gone through it properly, but bet it will be interesting reading.

Regarding the inclusion of the pied crested cuckoo in the winter migrant list - i have spoken to Siraj Sahab and suggested that he write a separate piece for those birds which come to visit us during other times of the year, besides the winter months. Like the pitta and the above mentioned.

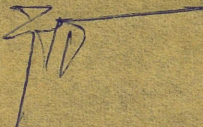
Your errata about the dunlin is correct. I will correct it in the forthcoming issue. I cannot forget that day ever!

Now the most interesting part - your sighting of the Black Stork. The inevitable question - are you perfectly sure???? Yours could well be the very first record from AP and we have not got it on our AP List. If we include it, you will be quoted and then responsible to answer any queries. Please rush a note for Mayura. By the way, the black stork has a red beak and white underparts and is shaped like the white stork. (Hope it was not a juvenile painted stork you saw?). Whereas the black necked stork is a very big bird and has a black bill and looks more like a huge painted stork. (Do not mind my questions for i have to be careful and penetrating for such rare records!) PLEASE ANSWER THESE QUERIES IMMEDIATELY. I'LL BE GRATEFUL.

Also write more about the spotted redshank. I have not seen one myself (not that i have seen the black stork either), most probably having overlooked them on one occassion or another. Bajeev also keeps saying he has seen them here and there. Let me know how you identified it. Was it in breeding plumage?

Thanks once again for the article and the NEWS.

Good wishes,



Jai'bad-15

29.4.87

Dear Aasheesh,

Got your letter today. I have been expecting it especially with the affair of the new bird still hot. Yes, Aasheesh we are perfectly sure that the bird is a Black stork. I think you will be convinced after reading the article for Mayura that I am enclosing on the Black stork. The bird is not at all difficult to identify and is distinctly different from any other stork that we commonly see around. It is confusable with none other like in warblers, pipits etc. Regarding the queries, yes we shall be responsible to answer them. You may safely include it in the A.P list. By the way when is the list coming out?

Coming to S. Redshank, I saw one at Foxsagar on 21.4.87. The light was not much when I saw a blackish wader sitting on the shore. Coming closer it flew away but showed a clear white in the lower back and rump region. Its <sup>(the base)</sup> bill and legs were somewhat red and tail was dark. Referring to Orbis Encyclopedia of Birds of Britian (Marsh & shore birds) I found the field characters of what I had seen tally very closely with that given for Spotted Redshank in breeding plumage. Flight illustration was identical to what I had seen. The one seen earlier at Dindigal (14.4.87) was somewhat lighter (Maybe better light) otherwise it was identical to the Foxsagar one. I think these are sufficient to put the bird as S. Redshank. Any questions please?

Well, Aasheesh that is the story here. Kanniah was with me in all these places and in fact it was his idea to visit Kookoor in the morning on 5th April. Much credit goes to him. He sends his greetings to all of you there along with mine.

With best wishes

J. Jaganesh

Mr T Ganesh  
16/112 Sainagar Colony  
Trimulgherry  
SECUNDERABAD - 500 015

7th May 1987

Dear Ganesh,

Thanks for yours of 29/4/'87 and the article on the black stork enclosed with it. Thank you for the latter especially! We shall carry it with pride in Mayura - when the next issue comes out. Your query about its' date of arrival - we await more articles, even though there are some to make an issue, we want to make a bigger issue!

Your 'other bird', the spotted redshank it so happens is also not listed from A.P. Needless to say it has been overlooked many times. But what clinches the issue in favour of this species is the 'blackish wader' bit in your letter. The birds must be coming into their breeding plumage, which is unmistakable in identification. Congratulations!! By the way, the red legs and base of bill are also good pointers, but confusable with the redshank. To differentiate between them is when they fly. The redshank has a chunk of white on the trailing edge of its wings (Secondaries) whereas the spotted redshank does not!

I have got into my hands a marvellous book on the shorebirds of the world. It makes ones eyes pop seeing all those illustrations in various plumages. You should see it.

The BSAP is planning a 3 day camp to Farahabad (c. 130 km from here) around the 23, 24 and 25th of this month. 15 people who enter their names first will be taken. If both or either of you are/is interested, please contact Siraj sahab immediately.

All the best,

Yours sincerely,



Ahmedabad,  
30 Dec 87.

Dear Asheesh

Long time no hear from you.  
As probably Taher might have told you  
I have joined a M.S course in Ecology  
offered by the new Salim Ali School  
of Ecology at Pondicherry. I am on vacation  
here at A'bad. V. Sentharam of  
Madras Naturalist Society is my classmate  
now. He is really very good with  
birds.

How are things going on at  
Hyd'bad? Did the Magura come out  
at last? What happened to the  
Barn Owl that Kanniah and Myself gave  
to Taher in Nov for stuffing? Did you  
see it? It was a lovely specimen when  
we brought it - a victim of the APSEB.

What are the plans for ~~the~~ next  
years Water fowl count? I wish to come  
and join you all but that seem to be  
quiet ruled out now. Kanniah is doing  
his own birding at Atwal and keeps  
writing to me about it. There seems to  
be a lot of water at Foxsagar and good number  
of harriers at the grassland near Kompali.  
Why not plan a field trip to these places.

I also like to suggest the inclusion of Dundigal lake in the BSAP's trip. It is a good place for ducks and also ideal for the waterfowl count. You can inform Kanniah when ever you plan a trip to these places he will be delighted to accompany you.

So long do convey my regards to Taher, Rajeev, Balu and all others out there and also best wishes for a happy new year.

With regards

Yours affectionately  
J. Ganesh

P.S:

My addresses.

Salim Ali School of Ecology,  
Pondicherry University,

PONDICHERRY - 605001

I shall be there around 18 Jan onwards. Till then you can write to old Seebad address.

To

Dear Aasheesh

Wish you a very enjoyable  
and happy new year 88.

Yours Sincerely

J. Ganesh

**Demoiselle Crane (*Anthropoides virgo*)**

**Local Names** : Karkara, Koonj, Kurra, Garara

**Size** : About 76 cm to top of head

**Habitat &**

**Distribution** : Found all over the country, most abundant in the northwest.

Affects open, cultivated country, sandy margins of river beds and flat open margins of jheels and tanks.

**Status** : Common

**Artist** : J P Irani



The sale proceeds of this card will finance wildlife and nature conservation projects of World Wide Fund for Nature-India, Post Box 6042, Bombay 400 012.

Dear Aasheesh,

Pondy - 1

5<sup>th</sup> March 88

Havent heard from you for a long time now. I just don't get to know what's happening at BSAP these days. Do keep me informed how are things out there, occasionally at least.

As part of the Ecology course I am leaving for Andamans on 8<sup>th</sup> March by ship from Madras. My self and Shantaram are trying to gather as much material as possible on the bird life of Andamans. I have seen your article ~~on~~ also on ~~the~~ Bird watching around Port Blair. I will try to come to Hyd<sup>bad</sup> some where around end of March from Andamans for a short visit. Do we have any field trips then? Do let me know so that we can meet. My address at Andaman is

c/o Principal,  
Govt. Arts College  
Port Blair,  
Andamans

When is the Mayura of 86, 87 & 88 coming out? Recently, Perevov of the French Institute had seen a Black stork near Pondy. He is sending a short note to BNHS on it. Have you seen his article on wetlands near Pondy in Black Buck?

My best wishes to all the guys there  
and Siraj Sahab.

Keep writing

Yours affectionately

Ganesh

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
INLAND LETTER CARD



To

Mr Aasheesh Pittie

14-7-370

Begum Bazar

HYDERABAD

पिन PIN

5 0 0 0 1 2

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

पते में पिन कोड लिखें WRITE PIN CODE IN ADDRESS

प्रेषक का नाम और पता : — SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS : —

T. Ganesh  
Salim Ali School of Ecology  
Pandya Univ, Pondicherry

पिन PIN

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Pandicherry-1  
29. X. 88

RECEIVED  
DATE 3/11/88

Dear Aasheesh,

I came to know through Kanniah about the possible existence of the G.I bustard near Hyd'bad. Are you planning a survey for it? Kanniah knows quite a few local people near Chevella village; he could be of use. I plan to be at Hyd'bad for Diwali and will try to meet you. I will be coming to Taher's house sometime after 9th Nov.

I want you to do me a small favour. As part of my course I have to give a seminar on some eco-development projects. I have chosen Nehru Zoo for which I don't have much information in hand. In case you have some data on number of visitors coming daily, resource availability for the animals like beef, grass & water; a little bit of its past history and future plans etc would be of great use to me. I am not sure if Pushpa Kumar would be giving all these details though I would like to meet him and ask. In case you have any slides etc it also could be of much use which I will return it in Dec. You can leave them at Taher's house and I will try to collect them. Sorry for all these troubles etc etc . . . . .

How are other things around Hyd'bad?  
I do miss those outings sometimes esp  
the winter mornings. Did Kanniah send  
you any articles for Maywa? Any new  
sightings this time, Durlin? etc. Did  
you visit Fox Sagar any time?

I have asked <sup>Taker</sup> A for a few things  
like Mist net, camera etc for my  
final project on Rosy Pastors around Hyd'bad.  
The project is still in a tentative  
stage with a bit of thinking and planning  
to go. How is the Sriharikota thing  
coming up?

Hope you are all fine. My best  
wishes to every body there. Will  
try to meet you at Hyd'bad. In case  
you want to drop a line do it to  
my Sec'bad address.

With best wishes for a happy

Diwali

Yours affectionately  
T. Ganesh

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
INLAND LETTER CARD

STATIONERY



15P.



To

Mr. Aasheesh

14-7-370

Begum Bazar

HYDERABAD

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T. Ganesh

Salim Ali School of Ecology,  
Pondicherry University,  
PONDICHERRY

पिन PIN

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We could possibly make an appeal to the govt authorities to stop such activities and protect the value of the wooded area in attracting rare species.

How is your birding going on.

I came to know from Teher about your visit to Narsapur. I haven't gone there for ages. Here at Alwal saw possibly a Mottled Wood owl - a pair. Its call was distinctive and there was also a power fl hoot. At Shamirpet saw a Grey Necked bunting this time (March 26). Saw an owl, size Horned owl, Horns? call was a kind of 'shee... 'shee... It was seen at the G.N. bunting spot almost after dusk. It had come out of the deer park. Again at <sup>was a</sup> pair ~~was a~~ ~~pair~~. I wonder if brown fish owl can make such a call? Some additions to the Alwal list includes Brown Flycatcher, & Rose finch.

Please do write whenever you are free.  
With regards to all of you  
Love  
Spansh

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
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लेखन-सामग्री मूल्य 15  
STATIONERY CHARGE 15



To Mr. Ansheesh Pittie

14-7-370, Begum Bazar

Hyderabad

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T. Ganesh

16/112, Sainagar Colony,  
Trinulgherry, Sec'bad

पिन PIN

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- \* Note: ① Motacilla indica seen by BC & me on 1-5-88 in HHV  
 ② Rosefinch also seen recently at Narsapur by  
 Lalal Qader - also photographed.

Replied

21/4/89

Hawal  
 18.4.89

Dear Ashresh,

long long time no see, no hear from you. My way here is same news. Yesterday along with kanniah I was walking ~~at~~ in the Landscape garden OU when under a copper pod tree saw - guess what -- Forest Wagtail (only one) It was feeding among the fallen copper pod flowers, shaking its tail horizontally. ~~The~~ The bands on the sides were very clear and there is no doubt that it is a forest wagtail\* I have seen it before in Andaman & Kalakad. I would like to know about its history in Hyd'bad.

You can make a try for it. Walk along the stone bund till you reach the copper pod tree near the fence on the Physics dept side. Just under the tree, among the flowers you might see it. Also saw a pair of Grey drongos on the same tree. Good luck! <sup>I had gone there at 1pm!</sup> Or in case you are planning a morning visit any day let me know I can also join you. The country down the bund seems interesting but as usual some patches are cleared for 'gardening'.

Secbad-15

12 Nov 89

Dear Aasheesh,

15 DEC 1989

I am sending few articles for Mayura and possibly Pitta. Hope they would be of interest. I will send a few more! on Rosy Posters and some roosting site around Atwal. Since I have nothing much to do I am going through the book logs and writing up whatever I feel is interesting.

How are things at your end. Has any paper for the BSAP seminar come? What is your topic? I was thinking about sending one on the importance of Karchas (grassland) in bird conservation but I feel I may not have 'solid' data regarding botanical aspects of Karchas. Only a general one can be made up. Would that be o.k.?

Did you see my M-S dissertation on Rosy Posters? I had left it with Taher. In case you haven't I will give it to you after coming back from Rajkot. I am taking it there because I don't have any other proof of doing an M-S!

Are you making it on pth?

Convey my regards to Smriti & Co.  
With best wishes.

love

Aash

will have some more 'data' on Col  
Sparrow? I had been to the state  
Archives to see if they have anything  
but found nothing relevant at all.

I am leaving for Ahmedabad  
on 19th and from there to Rajkot. I am  
planning to stay in A'bad for some  
time in Jan. You can write to me  
at A'bad address which I am giving.

Kanniah will be here. In case  
you are making a trip to Eswantarappet  
or Narsapur may be you can let him  
know.

With regards and best wishes  
to the BSAP camp.

to Dr-T. Chandrasekhar  
Room No: 755,  
Physical Research Laboratory  
Ahmedabad  
380009

Yours Sincerely

Gandh

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड  
INLAND LETTER CARD

लेखन-सामग्री मूल्य 15  
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To

Mr Aasheesh Pittie

14-7-370, Begum Bazar

HYDERABAD

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T. Ganesh  
16-112, Salunagar Colony,  
Trimulgherry, Sec 6, Hyd

पिन PIN

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NOTE (1) None of the birds mentioned were seen either by SAI or me. Please send your pers. records with dates & locations. (2) Who saw the White Stork? (3)

Sec'bad  
18 Dec 89

20 DEC 1989

My dear Hasheesh,

Thanks for your letter of 9 Dec.

Sorry I could not make it to Manjira on 17 Dec.

Continuing with the 'status factor' of the check list you had mentioned that status is given to birds which are sighted within 100 kms of Hyderabad. Then I feel that some birds should have same status like King Vulture (Narsapur), white bellied minivet (Eswanturao pet - Cal sparrow) ~~Water the spur fowls (Narsapur & one sighting at Gundlar Pochampalli), Golden plover (Foxsagar), Short toed lark (Shanirpet & Alwal), Reef heron (Hyd'bad, Foxsagar).~~

There is some interesting news. The White stork was sighted on 14 Dec at Military dairy farm here. It was seen with 12 white necked storks in the morning. So it should now have a status isn't it? (BY WHOM???)

What you have suggested is indeed nice to do, comparing bird life of Cal sparrow time and now. I have seen the Hyd'bad Salim Ali's Hyd. Orn Surv report from S.T. Do you think Sec'bad club