



Jan—Mar 2017

Whispering Wings®

NEWSLETTER OF CHANDIGARH BIRD CLUB®

Volume 2 Issue 3

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

*In spring time,
the only pretty ring time
Birds sing,
hey ding A-ding a ding,
Sweet lovers love the spring*

—W. Shakespeare

Spring touches the nature with its magic wand and world around us breaks out into new leaf, bud, flower or a song. Gardens are a riot of colour replete with melodious bird song.

The migrants are winging their way back to distant lands and residents are singing, strutting, displaying—busy in the procreative chores which fecund spring brings along. Now is also the time for some rarely seen passage migrants, stopping to catch their breath on their onward journey. This group is the one which throws up many new surprises year after year like 12 Eurasian Curlews that halted for a breather at Sukhna a few years ago or a large flock of Small Pratincoles with a few Oriental ones too, the later not often seen here.

This spring has been especially fruitful for our club as it was finally registered. The bird-race was a runaway success, and World Sparrow Day was celebrated with great gusto.

The membership of our club is steadily increasing. In this scenario a new roadmap for more pro-active role in Avian habitat protection is the need of the hour. Also, the new urban developments in the Tri-city are encroaching upon existing habitats. Some activity like planting native trees, which provide food, shelter, and nesting sites for birds along new roads should be encouraged. Awareness efforts may be made to educate the multistory apartment dwellers to put water, nest boxes, and plant trees, shrubs or vines which provide food, shelter as well as nesting sites for birds. We do have our work cut out for us.

May you always hear the bird song!!

Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

SUMMARY OF THE CLUB ACTIVITIES

Chandigarh Bird Club® finally became a registered club in March this year. So congratulations to all of us!

Members of the club have been very busy in the last three months with birding tours, bird census and other birding projects. January and February are busy months as the migrant waterfowl census is held throughout the states of Punjab and Himachal. Birders went to Gurdaspur, Harike, Nangal, Ropar and Pong Dam.

In February this year a bird census of the Sukhna Lake was conducted after a gap of several years and it was decided to hold such a census twice every winter---November to coincide with the birth anniversary of Salim Ali and last Sunday of February, in order to keep a record of winter migrants visiting the Lake. Also, the Club organised a photo exhibition on the lake's regulator end.



In March, HSBC Chandigarh Bird-race was conducted. Eleven teams with 48 expert birders participated enthusiastically and a total of 252 species were seen. Also, on request from the Forest Hill Golf Resort, CBC members did a survey of the area and listed 93 species of birds. The area is an extension of Kansal Forest which is a part of the Sukhna Wildlife Sanctuary of Chandigarh.

World Sparrow Day (20th March 2017) was celebrated with great fervour. Awareness programmes were conducted in two schools where poems relating to birds were recited, drawing and colouring competition was held and nest boxes were put up.

As always the meetings of the club were well attended with the excited discussions about various out-station trips made by members and the lifers seen. Fieldtrips were undertaken to Chakkimorh, Morni Hills and Jangeshu on Old Kasauli Road.

The enthusiasm and passion for birds shown by the Chandigarh birders is heartening and augurs well for the conservation of environment around the tri-city.

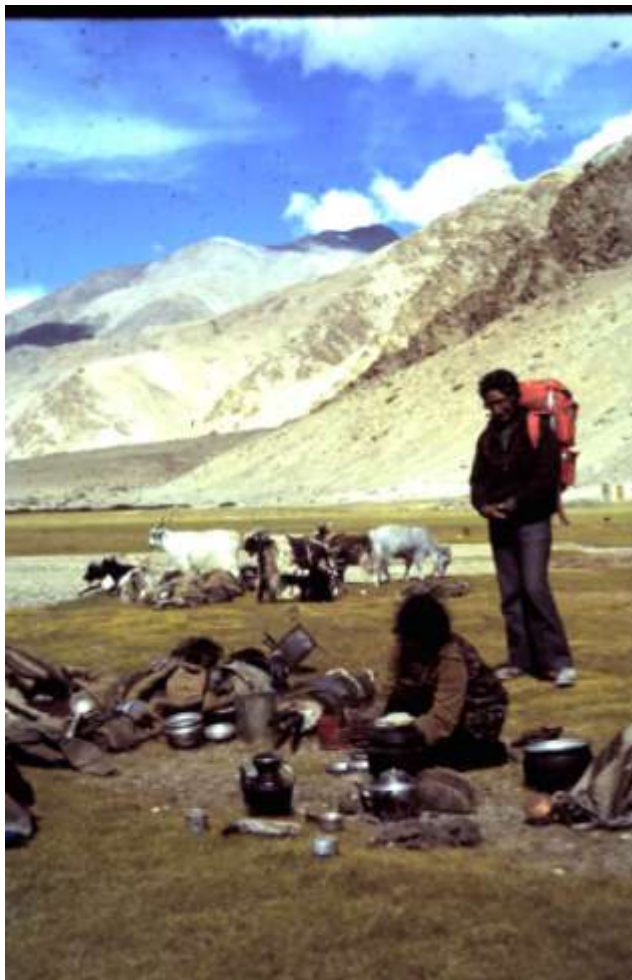
Cheers and Happy Birding!

Rima Dhillon

Secretary, Chandigarh Bird Club®

VISIT TO TSO KAR BY LT. GEN. (RETD.) BALJIT SINGH

I had been to Tso Kar in 1967 when the Indus could only be crossed about 10 km upstream of KIARI. It was a long days walk to Polo KankarLa which overlooks Tso Kar from opposite side of Thaglang La. Sitting in a bunker there, I saw countless sunrise over Tso Kar as also



Approaching Polo Kankar La through the Puga Valey en route to Tso Kar, 1979.



General panorama of Tso Kar, 1979.

the flighting of Rudy Shell ducks and occasionally of Bar Headed geese at dusk as well. Later on, my wife joined up for a long tramping holiday and we spent three nights, in a small army tent pitched by the side of



One solitary stray Kayang in the Tso Kar bowl, 1979.

the only Chorten & a Mani-Wall, about 200 yards from Tso Kar shore line, just to listen to the honking of Ducks & Geese at dusk. And to sit out under a star-spangled night sky! A great pity that we have denied ourselves all those luxuries, in the chase after lucer.



Our tent by the Mani Wall, Tso Kar, 1979.

Have you seen Otto Pfister's book on Birds and Mammals of Ladhak? He takes trouble to point out the precise area which has a good chance of spotting each of the 280 odd species from; just the kind of guide for the jet-set birders.

Good wishes,

Lieutenant General (Retd) Baljit Singh.

CHANDIGARH BIRD CLUB® PHOTO EXHIBITION

On 4th December 2017, Chandigarh Bird Club® organised an exhibition on the regulator end of Sukhna Lake, near the Nature Interpretation Centre, for residents of Chandigarh, to sensitize them about the winged visitors that visit Chandigarh every year, and the resident species.



Narbir Kahlon, Vice-President of Chandigarh Bird Club®, who is also a member of Chandigarh Wildlife Board, obtained permission on the Club's behalf. Members of the club who contributed to and participated in the photo exhibition, included Narbir Kahlon, Sarbjeet Kaur, Rima Dhillon, Munish Jauhar, Saiyam Nagar, Mahesh Garg, Parveen Malhotra, Sarbjit Randhawa, Mohit Kohli, Aprajita Lobana, Jaspreet Kaur, and Amandeep Singh.





The team, splitting in two shifts, arrived at the lake at quarter to eight to set up the exhibition. The initial response from the morning walkers and joggers was overwhelming. The event began at eight and ended at five. This event was positively received by citizens of Chandigarh.



Amandeep Singh Channa
Chandigarh Bird Club®

CHANDIGARH WATERFOWL CENSUS

Chandigarh Bird Club[®] organised Chandigarh Waterfowl Census on 26th March 2017. The census was conducted in and around the lake by members of the Club. The results of the census were passed onto the Chandigarh Wildlife Department.



The census was last conducted in 2010, when the count was near about eight hundred. This year the count was four thousand one hundred and twenty seven, with forty two different species of both the water– and forest– birds.

Sr. no.	Specie Name	Count
1.	Greylag Goose	39
2.	Ruddy Shelduck	138
3.	Red-crested Pochard	60
4.	Common Pochard	160
5.	Ferruginous Pochard	30
6.	Tufted Duck	60
7.	Northern Shoveller	90
8.	Gadwall	14
9.	Eurasian Wigeon	71
10.	Indian Spot-billed Duck	40
11.	Mallard	9

Sr. No.	Specie Name	Count
12.	Northern Pintail	260
13.	Common Teal	290
14.	Painted Stork	15
15.	Woolly-necked Stork	1
16.	Black-crowned Night Heron	4
17.	Indian Pond Heron	6
18.	Grey Heron	18
19.	Purple Heron	4
19.	Great Egret	14
20.	Intermediate Egret	10
21.	Little Egret	22
22.	Cattle Egret	6
23.	Black-winged Stilt	2
24.	Red-wattled Lapwing	14
25.	Common Sandpiper	1
26.	Green Sandpiper	2
27.	River Tern	1
28.	Pied Kingfisher	10
29.	White-throated Kingfisher	4
30.	Little Grebe	41
31.	Great Cormorant	70
32.	Oriental Darter	2
33.	Indian Cormorant	1
34.	Little Cormorant	120
35.	Common Coot	2420
36.	White-breasted Waterhen	4
37.	Purple Swampphen	2
38.	Common Moorhen	65
39.	White-browed Wagtail	2
40	White Wagtail	5

Twelve members of Chandigarh Bird Club® participated in Chandigarh Waterfowl Census. The members are:

1. Amandeep Singh Channa
2. Alpana N.P. Singh
3. Aprajita Lobana
4. Mahesh Garg
5. Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon
6. Narbir Kahlon
7. Nitin Singh
8. Rajiv Das
9. Saiyam Nagar
10. Samrath Singh
11. Sarbjeet Kaur
12. Siddharth Nagar



Amandeep Singh Channa
Chandigarh Bird Club®

Amar Ujala, Dated 25th February 2017

छह साल बाद सुखना लेक पर प्रवासी पक्षियों की होगी गिनती रविवार को चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब के 13 सदस्य गिनेंगे पक्षियों की प्रजाति

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो
चंडीगढ़।

करीब छह साल बाद सुखना लेक में आने वाली प्रवासी पक्षियों की गिनती होगी। चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब के 13 सदस्यों ने इस काम को पूरा करने का बौद्धा उठाया है।

इसके लिए 26 फरवरी रविवार का दिन चुना गया है। पक्षियों की गणना के अलावा उनकी प्रजातियां और पेड़ों पर रहने वाले प्रवासी व स्थानीय पक्षियों की भी गिनती की जाएगी।

बर्ड्स क्लब के प्रेसिडेंट प्रो. एमएस सेखों ने बताया कि गिनती का मकसद यह पता लगाना है कि सुखना लेक में माइग्रेटरी पक्षियों

का स्टेटस क्या है? उनकी संख्या बढ़ रही है या घट रही। सेखों के अनुसार छह साल पहले माइग्रेटरी पक्षियों की संख्या करीब आठ सौ थी। गिनती के बाद आंकड़े चंडीगढ़ प्रशासन को सौंप दिए जाएंगे। साथ ही इसे यूथ लेंटर में भी प्रकाशित किया जाएगा।

ऐसे की जाएगी गिनती : प्रोफेसर सेखों के अनुसार बर्ड्स क्लब के सदस्यों को गुप में बांट दिया जाएगा। एक गुप में तीन से चार सदस्य होंगे, जो लेक के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में रहेंगे। गणना का दायरा लेक के साथ पौछे बनी झाड़ियों तक रहेगा। पक्षियों की फोटोग्राफी करने के बाद शाम को उसका मिलान करने के बाद आंकड़े कम्पाइल कर दिए जाएंगे।

पंजाब व हिमाचल में करते हैं गणना : चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब के सदस्यों को पक्षियों की गणना का काफी अनुभव है। वे अक्सर पंजाब व हरियाणा के डैम में जाते रहते हैं। पंजाब व हिमाचल फॉरेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट के सदस्य क्लब के सदस्यों को बुलाते हैं और पक्षियों की गिनती कराते हैं।

प्रोफेसर सेखों ने बताया कि क्लब के सदस्य पंजाब के नंगल डैम, हरिकेपतन और हिमाचल के पींड डैम में अक्सर जाते रहते हैं। इस बार सदस्यों ने सुखना लेक में गणना करने का फैसला किया है। इस बारे में चंडीगढ़ प्रशासन से भी मदद मांगी गई है, लेकिन अब तक उनकी ओर से कोई रिस्पांस नहीं मिला है।

Dainik Bhaskar, Chandigarh Edition, Dated 27th February 2017

सुखना में नजर आए ओरिएंटल डार्टर, मैलर्ड, वूली नेवड स्टॉक जैसे दुर्लभ प्रजाति के बर्ड सांप सी गर्दन वाले ओरिएंटल डार्टर लेक पर

विश्वी विषेदर/चंडीगढ़

सुखना लेक पर हुई सैमस के दौरान चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब के मैमर्स को कोई नई प्रजाति के पक्षी नजर नहीं आए। कई प्रजातियों के बर्ड्स सुखना के किनारे पर नजर आए जो या बेहद कम नजर आते हैं या विलुप्त होने की कगार पर हैं। ऐसी ही एक प्रजाति है ओरिएंटल डार्टर जिसे इंडियन डार्टर भी कहा जाता है। इस प्रजाति के दो बड़े रिविब्रार को सैमस के दौरान नजर आए। बर्ड्स क्लब के मैमर नरबीर काहलौ का कहना है कि इस प्रजाति के बर्ड चंडीगढ़ या अमरापस के इलाकों में भी बेहद कम नजर आते हैं। लगातार शिकार और पर्यावरण के कारण ये प्रजाति विलुप्त होने की कगार पर है और इसकी घोषणा इंटरनेशनल यूनियन फॉर कंजर्वेशन ऑफ नैचर (आईयूसीएन) भी कर चुका है।

- विस्तृत पेज 3 पर



ओरिएंटल डार्टर (2 बर्ड्स दिखते)

- सांप सी गर्दन के कारण स्पेक बर्ड कहा जाता है।
- मछली को चौंघ में फँसकर ऊपर उठाकर ले तकि मछली संध मुँह में गिरे।

(सबसे पहला और साउथवर्ड पहला में ये पक्षी पाए जाते हैं।)

मैलर्ड (9 बर्ड्स दिखते)

- मैलर्ड ही लगातार सभी टेम्परेट क्लस का पूर्ण है।
- सबसे उदाहरण शिकार हो रहा है। इसलिए ये प्रजाति भी काफी कम हो गई है।

(अमेरिका व नॉर्वे अफ्रीका में ज्यादा पाए जाते हैं।)



वूली नेवड स्टॉक

(1 बर्ड ही दिखता)

- दुर्लभ प्रजाति में गिना जाता है और चंडीगढ़ में कम ही नजर आता है। सैमस में एक ही बर्ड इस प्रजाति का नजर आया।
- इसका घोंसला एक बड़े प्लेटरम और धरती से करीब 50 सेंटर ऊपर होता है।

(सब सातवां अफ्रीका, दक्षिण और साउथवर्ड पहला में मिलता है।)

PRESS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT

Amar Ujala, Dated 25th February 2017

स्वास् स्वस्वर

चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब ने सूझना लेक पर पक्षियों की गिनती की, करीब छह साल बाद गणना की गई है, पेड़ों पर रहने वाली प्रजातियों की भी हुई काउंटिंग

सुखना लेक पर आए 42 प्रजातियों के चार हजार से ज्यादा मेहमान पक्षी



रविचन्द्र को सम्झना था पञ्चपल (तीन)।



when not

अथार उजाला बन्नु
छोटी बन्नु।

सुखन लोक में इस आ बंश मेघमन
 प्यो आर है। ठीकरा को पंजीयु बहुर्य
 माल के सपन्यो ने पिली के ठीकर
 पार कि सिर्फ लोक के पानी में 42
 प्रजिनिने को 4127 मेघमन प्यो है।
 पानी के अलम पड़ो पर भी मेघमन प्यो
 रह रहे हैं। इसमें 47 प्रजिनिने के
 प्यो है।

सुझाव लोक पर करीब छह साल बाद
सिंहों की लालच की गई है। इसी पहाड़ी
जब लगभग छह बी बी उस टीक करीब
800 पहाड़ी आए थे। विशेषज्ञों ने बताया
कि इस पहाड़ी बहुत बड़ी है और इसी
पहाड़ी में लोहा है, बिजली परीक्षा
व जलवायवी सुख लालच जता रहे हैं।



संयुक्त संसद पर विचार को प्रभावी परिणामों की भावना के लिए जारी है।

पहले कम आते थे, इस बार ज्यादा आए

टेलीफोन बंद कर दिया है। फोन पर फोन कर रहे हैं। बस अब कुछ ऐसा
 नहीं करनी संभव है। अब ही, जो पहले बहुत कम जानें थे। इनसे फोन-टेलीफोन बंद
 रखा गया है। फोन पर फोन कर रहे हैं। बस अब कुछ ऐसा
 फोन पर फोन कर रहे हैं। बस अब कुछ ऐसा

ऐसे की गई गणना

चर्चितों की गणना करने के लिए खंडीय
 बहुरंगी भाषण के सातवां टीवी में बीबी
 टीवी टीवी मूवि चैनल में लेकर लगे के चर्चे
 को खोल कर गए। दूसरी टीवी लेख के
 सम्बन्ध में रेणुकाटी टीवी तक गए, जबकि
 तीसरी टीवी (मूवेटीवी) को वे बर्द खिचते
 तक गए। बर्द खिच कर काम करने वाले
 नाम केने में लेकर बर्द बर्द तक गए।
 इस टीवी बर्द चर्चितों में कैप्टन, सुखीन
 और स्मॉल्टी स्मोके का (मिलाना किताब)
 टीवी में आगुलती मिला चला, अगुलती
 सुखान, आगुलत एगुली मिला, टीवी
 चर्चितों, मिला एगुल, एगुल एगुली, एगुली
 बर्दाली, मिला मिला, मिलावली को को,
 मिलावली लाला, लाला मिला, मिलावली
 एगुल व एगुल एगुल एगुली में।

ये प्रजातियां दिखीं

[illegible][illegible]

Dainik Bhaskar, Chandigarh Edition, Dated 27th February 2017

साफ पानी, पूरी खुराक, इसलिए 4 हजार मेहमान परिंदों ने डाला सुखना पर डेरा

■ चंडीगढ़ बर्ड्स क्लब की ओर से सुखना लेक पर करवाई गई बर्ड्स की सेंसस ■ 42 प्रजातियों के 4125 बर्ड्स मिले सुखना वेटलैंड्स पर

[illegible][illegible]

• **आर्यो से अछूता वर्गमन वृष्ट**

[illegible]

• इसलिए जा रहे ज़्यादा बड़

हॉलमार्क के लोग ने मित्रता से ही को का लक्षण है कि उस लोग का बर्तन को बराने की पूरी सुझाव दिए ली है। उसे वह उस लक्षण में बर्तन में ली है। इस बर्तन को लेने की ली लक्षण है और लक्षणों का लक्षण की लक्षण लक्षण है।

• 14 मॅम्बर्स जस्टे सेंसस में



वीर रावरा सेना के विरुद्ध बर्बरता से आगे ५५ सैनिकों की ३ टीमें बनाई थी। इन तीनों से सेना को अलग-अलग दिशा में भेज और वहाँ सशस्त्र जलवा और पैदलों की मदद से बंदूकों की सेना थी। उन्हें अलग सेना से बंदूकें दिये गये थे, उनकी सशस्त्र पैदलों से सेना बंद से उनकी पैदलों की थी।



• कंस्टेंट किंगफिशर



• फेरुजिनस डक



• **पर्पल मूरहेन**



• विडिजिन

CHANDIGARH BIRD RACE

Chandigarh Bird Club®, along with HSBC India Bird-races, organized the 7th Annual Chandigarh Birdrace, on 12th March 2017. Members of Chandigarh Bird Club®, along with some of their family members participated in the event and saw a whooping two-hundred and fifty-two species in one day.

Eleven teams, comprising of forty-eight participants, went about in an area of approximately four-hundred and ninety-one square kilometer. The teams went to Chakki Mor, Morni, Mirzapur, Mote Majra, the Lake etc. and saw multitudes of avian species.



The winning team was Team Falcons, comprising of Nitin Singh, Rakesh Ahlawat, Rick Toor, Geeta Goswamy, and Divya Dixit. They saw one-hundred and sixty-three species, and their Bird of the Day was a Peregrine Falcon.

Sr. No	Team Name	Team Members	Total count of Species	Position	Bird of the Day
1	Falcons	Nitin Rakesh Ahlawat Rick Toor Geeta Goswami Divya Goswami Dixit	163	1	Peregrine Falcon
2	Kestrel	Siddharth Nagar Saiyam Nagar Rajiv Das Mohit Kohli	162	2	Fire-fronted Serin

Sr. No.	Team Name	Team Members	Total count of Species	Position	Bird of the Day
3	Indian Eagle-owl	Janinder Rana Bhupesh Goyal Munish Jauhar Bindoo Nangia Manu Mengi	147	4	Isabelline Wheatear
4	Peregrines	Sarbjeet Kaur Aprajita Lobana Karandeep Singh Amandeep Singh Channa	105	7	Cinereous Vulture
5	Flycatchers	Raghu Ram Shobana Saba	125	5	Crimson Sun-bird
6	Goshawks	Narbir Kahlon Mukesh Sehgal Saroj Gulati	152	3	Eurasian Marsh Harrier
7	Bulbul	Rima Dhillon Suresh Sharma and Children	103	9	Black-necked Stork
8	Junglefowl	Simerpreet Singh Cheema Gajendra Bains Pranav Sharma Shiv Goyal	103	8	Black-throated Thrush
9	Hornbill	Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon Mahesh Garg Rohan Kaushal	79	10	Garganey
10	Bee-eaters	Mrs. Inder Grewal Jaideep Singh Grewal Samrath Singh Ameet Mangat Divjyot Grewal	105	6	Rufous-bellied Niltava
11	Myna	Sushil Kumar, and team from Bapu Dham	38	11	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon

The team that came second was Kestrel, comprising of Siddharth Nagar, Saiyam Nagar, Rajiv Das and Mohit Kohli. They logged one-hundred and sixty-two species, with Fire-fronted Serin as the Bird of the Day.



Cinereous Vulture, by Sarbjeet Kaur

The team at the third position was Goshawks, which included Narbir Kahlon, Saroj Gulati and Mukesh Sehgal. They counted one-hundred and fifty-two species. The Bird of the Day for them was Eurasian Marsh Harrier.

The Bird of the Event, however was the Cinereous Vulture, seen by team Peregrines, led by Sarbjeet Kaur, including Aprajita Lobana, Karandeep Singh, and Amandeep Singh Channa. This vulture was amongst a group of thirty-four vultures of four different types, the others being Himalayan Vulture, Griffon Vulture and White-rumped Vulture. The group was found in Mirzapur, unusual since they are mostly found in the mountains.

The day ended with a magnificent dinner after the prize distribution ceremony. Capt. Suresh Sharma and Dr. Ankur Diwan gave a presentation each on birds and environment respectively, which were immensely informative to the birders about the disturbances to the birds and their migration pattern.

All thanks are due for HSBC and Rima Dhillon, Secretary of the Club, who organize an event of this magnitude with such efficiency and aplomb.



Himalayan Vulture, by Amandeep Singh Channa

The total number of species was two-hundred fifty-two, and the complete list of the species can be found below:

1. Accentor, Rufous-breasted - *Prunella strophciata*
2. Avadavat, Red - *Amandava formosa*
3. Avocet, Pied - *Recurvirostris avocetta*
4. Babbler, Black-chinned - *Stachyris pyrrhops**
5. Babbler, Common - *Turdoides caudatus*
6. Babbler, Jungle - *Turdoides striatus**
7. Babbler, Large Grey - *Turdoides malcomii*
8. Babbler, Puff-throated - *Pellorneum ruficeps*

9. Babbler, Yellow-eyed - *Chrysomma sinense*
10. Babbler, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar - *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*
11. Babbler, White-browed Scimitar - *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*
12. Barbet, Blue-throated - *Megalaima asiatica**
13. Barbet, Brown-headed - *Megalaima zeylanica*
14. Barbet, Coppermouth - *Megalaima haemacephala*

- rufilatus*
20. Bluethroat - *Luscinia svecica*
21. Bulbul, Black - *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*
22. Bulbul, Himalayan - *Pycnonotus leucogenys*
23. Bulbul, Red-vented - *Pycnonotus cafer*
24. Bulbul, Red-whiskered - *Pycnonotus jocosus*
25. Bunting, Crested - *Melophus latham*
26. Bunting, Rock - *Emberiza cia*



Black-winged Kite, by Amandeep Singh Channa

15. Barbet, Great - *Megalaima virens*
16. Bee-eater, Blue cheeked - *Merops persicus*
17. Bee-eater, Green - *Merops orientalis*
18. Besra - *Accipiter virgatus*
19. Bluetail, Himalayan - *Tarsiger (cyanurus)*

27. Bunting, White-capped - *Emberiza stuartii*
28. Bushchat, Grey - *Saxicola ferrea*
29. Bushchat, Pied - *Saxicola caprata*
30. Buzzard, Long-legged - *Buteo rufinus*
31. Chat, Indian - *Cercomela fuscus*

32. Chiffchaff, Common - *Phylloscopus collybita*
33. Cisticola, Zitting - *Cisticola juncidis*
34. Coot, Eurasian - *Fulica atra*
35. Cormorant, Great - *Phalacrocorax carbo*
36. Cormorant, Indian - *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*
37. Cormorant, Little - *Phalacrocorax niger*
38. Coucal, Greater - *Centropus sinensis*
39. Crane, Brown - *Amaurornis akool*
40. Crane, Ruddy-Breasted - *Porzana fusca*
41. Crow, House - *Corvus splendens*
42. Crow, Large-Billed - *Corvus macrorhynchos*

52. Drongo, Black - *Dicrurus macrocercus*
53. Drongo, Spangled - *Dicrurus hottentottus*
54. Duck, Comb - *Sarkidiornis melanotos*
55. Duck, Indian Spot-billed - *Anas poecilorhynchas*
56. Eagle, Black - *Ictinaetus malayensis*
57. Eagle, Booted - *Hieraaetus pennatus*
58. Eagle, Greater spotted - *Aquila clanga*
59. Eagle, Short-toed Snake - *Circus gallicus*
60. Eagle, Steppe - *Aquila nipalensis*
61. Egret, Cattle - *Bubulcus ibis*



Red-wattled Lapwing, by Amandeep Singh Channa

43. Cuckoo, Common Hawk - *Hierococcyx varius*
44. Cuckoo, Indian - *Cuculus micropterus*
45. Cuckooshrike, Black-winged - *Coracina melaschistos*
46. Darter - *Anhinga melanogaster*
47. Dove, Eurasian Collared - *Streptopelia decaocta*
48. Dove, Laughing - *Streptopelia senegalensis*
49. Dove, Red-Collared - *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
50. Dove, Spotted - *Streptopelia chinensis*
51. Drongo, Ashy - *Dicrurus leucophaeus*
62. Egret, Great - *Casmerodius albus*
63. Egret, Intermediate - *Mesiphoys intermedia*
64. Egret, Little - *Egretta garzetta*
65. Falcon, Peregrine - *Falco peregrinus*
66. Fantail, White-browed - *Rhipidura aureola*
67. Fantail, White-throated - *Rhipidura albicollis*
68. Fantail, Yellow-bellied - *Rhipidura nypoxantha*
69. Flowerpecker, Pale-billed - *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*
70. Flowerpecker, Thick-billed - *Dicaeum agile*

71. Flycatcher, Grey-headed Canary - *Culicicapa ceylonensis*
72. Flycatcher, Little Pied - *Ficedula westermanii*
73. Flycatcher, Red-breasted - *Ficedula parva*
74. Flycatcher, Rufous-gorgetted - *Ficedula strophinata*
75. Flycatcher, Ultramarine - *Ficedula superciliaris*
76. Flycatcher, Verditer - *Eumyias thalassina*
77. Flycatcher-shrike, Bar-Winged - *Hemipus pictus*
78. Forktail, Spotted - *Enicurus maculatus*
79. Francolin, Black - *Francolinus francolinus*

88. Greenshank, Common - *Tringa nebularia*
89. Griffon, Himalayan - *Gyps himalayensis*
90. Gull, Brown-headed - *Larus brunnicephalus*
91. Harrier, Eurasian Marsh - *Circus aeruginosus*
92. Heron, Black-crowned Night - *Nycticorax nycticorax*
93. Heron, Grey - *Ardea cinerea*
94. Heron, Indian Pond - *Ardeola grayii*
95. Heron, Little - *Butorides striatus*
96. Heron, Purple - *Ardea purpurea*
97. Honey-Buzzard, Oriental - *Pernis ptilorhynchus*



Ruddy Shelduck, by Amandeep Singh Channa

80. Francolin, Grey - *Francolinus pondicerianus*
81. Gadwall - *Anas strepera*
82. Garganey - *Anas querquedula*
83. Goldfinch, European - *Carduelis carduelis*
84. Goose, Bar-headed - *Anser indicus*
85. Goose, Greylag - *Anser anser*
86. Grebe, Little - *Tachybaptus ruficollis*
87. Greenfinch, Yellow-breasted - *Carduelis spinoides*

98. Hoopoe, Common/Eurasian - *Upupa epops*
99. Hornbill, Indian Grey - *Ocyrceros birostris*
100. Ibis, Red-Naped - *Pseudibis papillosa*
101. Junglefowl, Red - *Gallus gallus*
102. Kestrel, Common - *Falco tinnunculus*
103. Kingfisher, Common - *Alcedo atthis*
104. Kingfisher, Crested - *Megaceyrle lugubris*
105. Kingfisher, Pied - *Ceyrle rudis*

106.Kingfisher, White-throated - *Halcyon smyrnensis*

107.Kite, Black - *Milvus migrans*

108.Kite, Black-eared - *Milvus migrans lineatus*

109.Kite, Black-winged - *Elanus caeruleus*

110.Koel, Asian - *Eudynamys scolopacea*

111.Lapwing, Red-wattled - *Vanellus indicus*

112.Lapwing, White-tailed - *Vanellus leucurus*

117.Laughingthrush, Rufous-chinned - *Garrulax rufogularis*

118.Laughingthrush, Streaked - *Garrulax lineatus*

119.Laughingthrush, White-crested - *Garrulax leucolophus*

120.Leiothrix, Red-billed - *Leiothrix lutea*

121.Magpie, Red-billed Blue - *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*



Spotted Owlet, by Amandeep Singh Channa

113.Lapwing, Yellow-wattled - *Vanellus malarbaricus*

114.Lark, Ashy-crowned Sparrow - *Eremopterix grisea*

115.Lark, Crested - *Galerida cristata*

116.Lark, Greater Short-toed - *Calandrella brachydactyl*

122.Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos*

123.Martin Dusky Craig - *Hirundo concolor*

124.Martin, House - *Delichon nipalensis*

125.Martin, Pale - *Riparia paludicola*

126.Martin, Plain - *Riparia diluta*

127.Minivet, Long-tailed - *Pericrocotus ethologus*

- 128.Minivet, Small - *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*
 129.Moorhen, Common - *Gallinula chloropus*
 130.Munia, Indian Silverbill - *Lonchura malabarica*
 131.Munia, Scaly-Breasted - *Lonchura punctulata*
 132.Myna, Bank - *Acridotheres gingianus*
 133.Myna, Common - *Acridotheres tristis*
 134.Myna, Jungle - *Acridotheres fuscus*
 135.Myna/Starling, Asian Pied - *Sturnus contra*
 136.Niltava, Rufous-bellied - *Niltava sundara*
 137.Nuthatch, Chestnut-bellied - *Sitta castanea*
 138.Openbill, Asian - *Anastomus oscitans*
 148.Petronia, Chestnut-shouldered - *Petronoa xanthocollis*
 149.Pheasant, Kalij - *Lophura leucomelanos hamiltonii*
 150.Piculet, Speckled - *Picumnus innominatus*
 151.Pigeon, Common/ Rock - *Columba livia*
 152.Pigeon, Yellow-footed Green - *Treron phoenicopterus*
 153.Pintail, Northern - *Anas acuta*
 154.Pipit, Long-billed - *Anthus similis*
 155.Pipit, Paddyfield - *Anthus rufulus*



- 139.Osprey - *Pandion haliaetus*
 140.Owlet, Asian Barred - *Glaucidium cuculoides*
 141.Owlet, Jungle - *Glaucidium radiatum*
 142.Owlet, Spotted - *Athene brama*
 143.Parakeet, Alexandrine - *Psittacula eupatria*
 144.Parakeet, Plum-headed - *Psittacula Cyanocephala*
 145.Parakeet, Rose-ringed - *Psittacula krameri*
 146.Parakeet, Slaty-headed - *Psittacula himalayana*
 147.Peafowl, Indian - *Pavo cristatus*
 156.Pipit, Tree - *Anthus trivialis*
 157.Pochard, Common - *Aythya ferina*
 158.Pochard, Ferruginous - *Aythya nyroca*
 159.Pochard, Red-crested - *Rhodonessa rufina*
 160.Pochard, Tufted Duck - *Aythya fuligula*
 161.Prinia, Ashy - *Prinia socialis*
 162.Prinia, Graceful - *Prinia gracilis*
 163.Prinia, Grey-breasted - *Prinia hodgsonii*
 164.Prinia, Plain - *Prinia inornata*
 165.Prinia, Striated - *Prinia criniger*
 166.Redshank, Common - *Tringa totanus*

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| 167.Redstart, Black - <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> | 187.Sibia, Rufous - <i>Hetrophasia gracilis</i> |
| 168.Redstart, Blue-capped - <i>Phoenicurus coeruleocephalus</i> | 188.Skylark, Oriental - <i>Alauda gulgula</i> |
| 169.Redstart, Plumbeous Water - <i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i> | 189.Snipe, Common - <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> |
| 170.Redstart, White-capped Water – <i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i> | 190.Sparrow, House - <i>Passer domesticus</i> |
| 171.Robin, Oriental Magpie - <i>Copsychus saularis</i> | 191.Sparrow, Russet - <i>Passer rutilans</i> |
| 172.Robin, Indian - <i>Saxicoloides fulicatus</i> | 192.Starling/Myna, Brahminy - <i>Sturnus pagodarum</i> |
| 173.Roller, Indian - <i>Coracias benghalensis</i> | 193.Starling, Common - <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> |
| 174.Rosefinch, Common - <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i> | 194.Stilt, Black-winged - <i>Monticola solitarius pandoo</i> |
| 175.Rubythroat, White-tailed - <i>Luscinia pectoralis</i> | 195.Stint, Little - <i>Calidrus minuta</i> |
| 176.Ruff - <i>Philomachus pagnax</i> | 196.Stint, Temminck - <i>Calidris temminckii</i> |
| | 197.Stonechat, Common - <i>Saxicola torquata</i> |



Tufted Duck, by Amandeep Singh Channa

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|--|---|
| 177.Sandpiper, Common - <i>ctitis hypoleucos</i> | 198.Stork, Black - <i>Ciconia nigra</i> |
| 178.Sandpiper, Green - <i>Tringa ochropus</i> | 199.Stork, Painted - <i>Mycteria leucocephala</i> |
| 179.Sandpiper, Marsh - <i>Tringa satagnatilis</i> | 200.Stork, Woolly-necked - <i>Ciconia episcopus</i> |
| 180.Sandpiper, Wood - <i>Tringa glareola</i> | 201.Sunbird, Crimson - <i>Aethopyga siparaja</i> |
| 181.Serin, Fire/Red-fronted - <i>Serinus pusillus</i> | 202.Sunbird, Purple - <i>Nectarinia asiatica</i> |
| 182.Shelduck, Ruddy - <i>Tadorna feruginea</i> | 203.Swallow. Barn - <i>Hirundo rustica</i> |
| 183.Shikra - <i>Accipiter badius</i> | 204.Swallow, Red-rumped - <i>Hirundo daurica</i> |
| 184.Shoveller, Northern - <i>Anas clypeata</i> | 205.Swallow, Wire-tailed - <i>Hirundo smithii</i> |
| 185.Shrike, Isabelline/Rufous-tailed - <i>Lanius isabellinus</i> | 206.Swamphen, Purple - <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> |
| 186.Shrike, Long-tailed - <i>Lanius schach</i> | 207.Swift, House - <i>Apus affinis</i> |

208. Tailorbird, Common - *Orthotomus sutorius*
 209. Tern, River - *Sterna aurantia*
 210. Tern, Whiskered - *Chlidonias hybridus*
 211. Thrush, Black-throated - *Turdus atrogularis*
 212. Thrush, Blue Whistling - *Myophonus caeruleus*
 213. Thrush, Chestnut-bellied Rock - *Monticola rufiventris*
 214. Tit, Black-lored - *Parus xanthogenys*
 215. Tit, Black-throated - *Aegithalos concinnus*
 216. Tit, Cinereous - *Parus cinerous*
 217. Treecreeper, Bar-tailed - *Certhia himalayana*
 218. Treepie, Grey - *Dendrocitta formosae*
 219. Treepie, Rufous - *Dendrocitta vagabunda*
 220. Vulture, Cinereous - *Aegypius monachus*
 221. Vulture, Egyptian - *Neophron percnopterus*
 222. Vulture, Himalayan (Griffon) - *Gyps himalayensis*
 223. Vulture, Red-headed - *Sarcogyps calvus*
 224. Vulture, White-rumped - *Gyps benghalensis*
 225. Wagtail, Citrine - *Motacilla citreola*
 226. Wagtail, Grey - *Motacilla cinerea*
 227. Wagtail, White-browed - *Motacilla maderaspatensis*
 228. Wagtail, White - *Motacilla alba*
 229. Wagtail, Yellow - *Motacilla flava*
 230. Wallcreeper - *Tichodroma muraria*
 231. Warbler, Greenish - *Phylloscopus trochiloides*
 232. Warbler, Grey-hooded - *Seicercus / Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*
 233. Warbler, Hume's Leaf - *Phylloscopus humei*
 234. Warbler, Lemon-rumped - *Phylloscopus chloronotos*
 235. Warbler, Sulphur-bellied - *Phylloscopus griseolus*
 236. Waterhen, White-breasted - *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
 237. Wheatear, Isabelline - *Oenanthe isabellina*
 238. Wheatear, Rufous-Tailed - *Oenanthe xanthopyrna*
 239. Wheatear, Variable - *Oenanthe picata*
 240. Whitethroat, Lesser - *Sylvia curruca*
 241. White-eye, Oriental - *Zosterops palpebrosa*
 242. Wigeon, Eurasian - *Anas fulcata*
 243. Woodpecker, Black-rumped Flameback - *Dinopium benghalense*
 244. Woodpecker, Brown-capped Pygmy - *Dendrocopus nanus*
 245. Woodpecker, Brown-fronted - *Dendrocopus auriceps*
 246. Woodpecker, Fulvous-breasted - *Dendrocopus macei*
 247. Woodpecker, Grey-capped Pygmy - *Dendrocopus canicapillus*
 248. Woodpecker, Grey-headed - *Picus canus*
 249. Woodpecker, Lesser Yellownape - *Picus chlorophus*
 250. Woodpecker, Yellow-crowned - *Dendrocopus mahrattenis*
 251. Wryneck, Eurasian - *Jynx torquilla*
 252. Yuhina, Whiskered - *Yuhina flavicollis*

Amandeep Singh Channa
 Chandigarh Bird Club®

Chandigarh Newslines, Dated 11th March 2017

Bird Race to be held tomorrow

Kamini.Mehta
@timesgroup.com

Chandigarh: It is time for all bird enthusiasts to gear up as the Chandigarh Bird Club is all set for this year Bird Race. To be organized on Sunday, March 12, it is a unique event in which teams of birdwatchers race around the city listing all birds they see during the day. The area designated spans the diverse habitats around Chandigarh, from timber trail to Chhatbir; from Morni hills to Sukhna wetland and sanctuary. Mirzapur dam, among others. All gardens and parks of Chandigarh are included as well.

"This event is organized nationwide and locally, it is coordinated by Chandigarh bird club and the avian habitat and wetland society. It aims at spreading awareness among people about the richness of fauna of India and to promote interaction among birdwatchers and conservationists. The day's bird wat-

TEAM PLAN

- ▶ Each team to have up to four members
- ▶ Each team will be given a bird name
- ▶ A team captain shall be appointed

CHECK LIST

- ▶ **Prizes and dinner on March 12 | 7pm**
- ▶ All teams must turn in their bird lists at Hotel Icon in Sector 8, Chandigarh
- ▶ Two adjudicators shall decide the prize winners

ching culminated in an interactive session with the birders sharing their day's experiences and excitement over dinner," M S Sekhon, president of Chandigarh bird Club, said. This year, he said 14 teams with four or five members each will be partici-

pating in the bird race. This will be the seventh year when the bird race will be organized. Chandigarh Bird Race will further give bird lovers a chance to see different species of birds for real, and to meet many bird enthusiasts. Birders not only from the urban areas, but also from many townships and areas around Tricity will be participating in the race. Chandigarh bird club has been taking initiatives to make birding popular in the Tricity. Recently they took people on wheelchair to Sukhna for bird watching.

The bird race is a full day event. This activity came on the scene in 2005 in Mumbai and has since been successfully conducted over the years in an increasing number of cities across India, with over 3,000 birdwatchers and birding enthusiasts registering for the event. In the city, this will be the seventh bird race this time. The event is supported by HSBC bank since the beginning.

Chandigarh Kesari, Dated 13th March 2017



सुखना लेक में माइग्रेटरी बर्ड्स को खतरा

■ कहिए और महिलाओं को फव्वाने के लिए सुखना लेक में बिछाया जा रहा है जाल ■ रविवार को माइग्रेटरी बर्ड आ गई इन जाल की चपेट में

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दश से पाँचों थी बड़

पुलिस ने बिना वारंट को गिराया
इस वृद्ध नागरिक को अचानक प्रहरी
ने गिरा दिया। वारंट के बिना ही गिराया
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गया। वारंट के बिना ही गिराया गया।

ਦਿਓ ਧੇ ਜਿਧੈਠ

बेटीपूज परम्परा के अन्तर्गत आसाम के गिरीडीह जिले के एक गाँव में एक बच्चा को जन्म हुआ। बच्चा के जन्म के बाद उसका नाम 'बेटी' रखा गया। बच्चा के जन्म के बाद उसका नाम 'बेटी' रखा गया। बच्चा के जन्म के बाद उसका नाम 'बेटी' रखा गया।



लेक नौ लीअद है

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PRESS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT

Dainik Bhaskar, Chandigarh Edition, Dated 13th March 2017

[illegible]

Times of India, Chandigarh Edition, Dated 13th March 2017

Vulture top bird in 5am-5pm race

Neha.Sharma5
@timesgroup.com

Chandigarh: Bird lovers got perfect weather to spot winged beauties in the seventh Chandigarh Bird Race organized by Chandigarh Bird Club in the city on Sunday.

Teams comprising four members each participated in the unique event in which bird-watchers raced around the city listing all birds they spotted from 5am to 5pm. The area designated spanned diverse habitats around Chandigarh, from Timber Trail to Chhatbir, Morni hills to Sukhna wetlands and sanctuary, Siswan dam, Nepli and Kansal forests. All gardens and parks of Chandigarh were included as well.

The bird of the day was cinereous vulture, mostly spotted in Pakistan.

Sartjeet, a bird enthusiast said, "We could spot cinereous vulture, which is rarely spotted here in India. It is majorly found in few parts of Pakistan. Also, Himalayan Vulture is spotted in upper Himalayas. We were fortunate enough to spot around 30 of them. Change in temperature could be the reason for them to come to the lower parts."

▶Continued on P 3

EXPLORING THE CITY FOR WINGED BEAUTIES



PROTOD CLICK: Cinereous vulture (in centre) is rarely spotted here

BIRDS THE TEAMS MANAGED TO SPOT

Graylag Goose, Bar-headed Goose, Comb Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Eurasian Wigeon, Indian Spot-billed Duck, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Common Pochard, Indian Peafowl, Gray Francolin, Little Grebe, Painted Stork, Indian Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Little Cormorant, Gray Heron, Purple Heron, Great Egret, Little Egret, Cattle Egret, Indian Pond-Heron, Black-headed Ibis, Black-shouldered Kite, Eurasian Marsh-Harrier, Black Kite, White-breasted Waterhen and Gray-headed Swamphen among others.

(L to R) Emerald
Cove, Orange-headed
Thrush, Gray Buschat
& Velvet-fronted
Nuthatch



WHAT WAS IT

Bird Race was an event to count as many birds as possible during the day at a particular spot.

SPOTTING SITES

Aerocity, Alamgir in Lalru, Bhoj Nagar, Baddi, Chhappar Chiri, Motemajra, Chakki Mor, Timber Trail, Old Kasauli road

“I have been into this since 1974 but it is my first bird race in Chandigarh. There were so many species we could spot, which clearly depicts that the ecosystem around Chandigarh is suitable for their habitat even though effects of urbanization have gone up

Gajinder Bains
BIRD
ENTHUSIAST

“This is my second bird race. Going to forest is like losing your mind and finding your soul. More than patience, passion is required. Nature also supports you. Whenever there is a yearning to see a bird, it appears from nowhere and satisfies the longing of soul

Brig Bhupesh Goyal (retd)
BIRD
ENTHUSIAST

PRESS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT

Times of India, Chandigarh Edition, Dated 13th March 2017

Falcon team spots 163 birds' species, wins race



Participants of the Chandigarh Bird Race competition on Sunday

► Continued from P 1

This race was won by Falcon team. This team could spot 163 species, including Peregrine falcon. The runner-up team spotted 162 species. The maximum number of birds they could spot was Fire fronted Serin. The team that stood third was Goshawks, spotting 152 species and Eurasian Marsh Harrier the most.

For participants, the day was all about exploring places in and around Chandigarh with birds, counting different species of birds, capturing them in their natural best and spreading the message of saving natural habitats of these winged beauties, which are being constantly threatened with urbanization taking place all around the Tricity.

Designed as a fun event, the race was mainly aimed at generating awareness among people about the bird life surrounding the region as well as get them to support the conservation of nature and



environment. "The Bird Race gave us a good idea about region's avifauna (bird life) and what problems the species and their habitats are facing problems," said Rima Dhillon, chief coordinators for this year's race along with all members of Chandigarh Bird club.

"It started with six members and now the number has gone up to 60. It shows that people are getting closer to nature," she added.

All teams decided their own time and spots for counting birds. However, limits

To rescue an entangled bird

Bird enthusiast Harmanjit Singh along with Manbir Singh and Manmohan Singh saw a duck entangled in fish net at regulator end at Sukhna Lake. They went inside and pulled it out. They said they were going to write to the administration that it should sort out the mess

were set and the teams had to select a spot with those limits.

After a whole day of bird-watching, there was an interactive session where teams shared their experiences of bird watching and counting. The event gave bird lovers a chance to see different species and meet bird enthusiasts from Tricity.

Amreet Mangat, a bird enthusiast, said, "This is my second bird race. I came especially from Delhi. There are many species which I could spot here. I always look forward to these events."

CBC CELEBRATES WORLD SPARROW DAY

World Sparrow Day (20th March 2017) has always been a day of special significance to the Chandigarh Bird Club®, since for most of the residents of the City Beautiful are under the misconception that the sparrows have gone extinct and always question the role of telephone



and mobile towers.



Chandigarh Bird Club® secretary and joint-secretary, Rima Dhillon, Sarbjeet Kaur, and Amandeep Singh, participated in the World Sparrow Day events held in Sehajjot Senior Secondary School, Dhanas,



and Government High School, Sector-35, Chandigarh. Drawing and poetry recitation competitions were held in Dhanas. The Club also donated five wooden nest boxes to the school.

In Government High School, Sarbjeet Kaur presented a slide show about sparrows and the



significance of the day, about it being not only about sparrows but about birds of all kind in general. Rima Dhillon showcased home-made bird feeders and explained the procedure. The students also put up two bird nests on a heritage Banyan tree in the school grounds.





Amandeep Singh Channa
Chandigarh Bird Club®

PRESS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT

Ajit, Dated 21st March 2017

ਵਿਸ਼ਵ ਚਿੜੀ ਦਿਵਸ ਮਨਾਇਆ

ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ, 20 ਮਾਰਚ (ਮਨਜੋਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੌਤ)- ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਬਰਡ ਕਲੱਬ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਅੱਜ ਵਿਸ਼ਵ ਚਿੜੀ ਦਿਵਸ ਮਨਾਇਆ ਗਿਆ। ਇਸ ਮੌਕੇ ਚਿੜੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਆਲ੍ਹਣੇ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਲੱਕੜ ਦੇ ਬਣੇ ਬਕਸੇ ਲਗਾਏ ਗਏ। ਸੈਕਟਰ 35 ਵਿਚ ਸਥਿਤ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਹਾਈ ਸਕੂਲ ਅਤੇ ਧਨਾਸ ਵਿਚਲੇ ਸੋਹਾਜੋਤ ਪਬਲਿਕ ਸਕੂਲ ਵਿਚ ਇਹ ਲੱਕੜ ਦੇ ਬਣੇ ਬਕਸੇ ਲਗਾਏ ਗਏ। ਇਸ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਹੀ ਕਲੱਬ ਮੈਂਬਰਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਚਿੜੀਆਂ ਸਬੰਧੀ

ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵੀ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ। ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਬੜੀ ਤੇਜ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਅਲੋਪ ਹੋ ਰਹੀਆਂ ਚਿੜੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਬਚਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਸੰਦੇਸ਼ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਪੇਂਟਿੰਗ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਸਾਹਿਤ ਵੀ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ। ਸਕੂਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੱਗੇ ਰੁੱਖਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਲੱਕੜ ਦੇ ਬਕਸੇ ਟੰਗ ਗਏ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਚਿੜੀਆਂ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨੀ ਨਾਲ ਆਲ੍ਹਣਾ ਬਣਾ ਸਕਣ।

Permanent Residency

Ajit, Dated 21st March 2017



BIRDING IN THATTEKAD

Thattekad is the dream destination for every birder in India. After all, Salim Ali himself called this flat forested land, with its highest density of birds, the haven for birding. When our tour operator, Rajesh Panwar, announced this trip, I was probably the first one to book it!

After an overnight bus ride from Chennai, I reached Kochi, the assembly place for the group, on the morning of 23rd December 2016 where only two other members of the group, Harish and Aruna, had been waiting for me. We quickly proceeded towards our destination, Eldhose's Birding Lodge, a name that has become synonymous with Thattekad birding. After crossing Kothamangalam, we left the main road first for the forest and then into a rubber plantation area that nestled the lodge. The soft spoken and smiling Eldhose received us and within the next few minutes, we were sighting Nilgiri flowerpecker, Chestnut-headed bee eater, Jerdon's leafbird, Golden fronted leafbird, Malabar parakeet and Blue bearded bee eaters dancing about the trees around his camp. What a way to begin a birding trip!!

Another few minutes and we were ushered to a secluded area of the plantation where an Indian pitta was busy foraging on the ground, unmindful of human presence in close vicinity. He allowed us to set our tripods, adjust our ISOs and ensure we took the best possible pictures.

Soon after, we were packed off with Dhanish, the guide, to look out for the frogmouths near Uru-lanthanny. On the frogmouth trail, we saw the Orange headed thrush frantically turning the leaves around for its meal and a Forest wagtail, feeding on the track till we came, making a hasty retreat for cover on seeing so many of us after it. Deeper into the rainforest, Dhanish told us to wait on the track while he went into the thick grove of trees within a heavy undergrowth to spot the frogmouths. After a few minutes, he found them, and, whoa, we were going to see them, finally!! The couple sat close, but not huddled together like they are normally seen in most pictures, on a branch that was almost at eye level, looking straight back into us, without any signs of fear or anxiety. Not only did we get to see them to our heart's content but also got to take close shots. As we moved further on, we saw the Flame throated bulbul, the Grey headed bulbul and the Malabar woodshrike flitting about on the trees next to a small stream. In fact, the woodshrike was busy carrying insects to its two chicks and dropping them into their gaping mouths. Sighting of fresh elephant droppings had everyone alarmed a bit. "Hope you will be able to run if 'he' comes!" said Dhanish sending shivers down our spines. Further into the forest, we saw another pair of frogmouths, a Dark fronted babbler, Bronzed drongos and some more. We turned back to look for the trogon on another trail. After a longish search, another major attraction of the western ghats, the Malabar trogon, was sighted and it chose to move from branch to branch ensuring that we got to see and capture its beauty from all angles. Yellow browed bulbuls were playing about at a nearby stream and Green imperial pigeons called from high up. It required full craning of our necks to see them.

We made our way back to the camp for lunch. We were ushered by Eldhose into his home and served delicious homemade food on the dining table by his daughter Ashy and the host himself, with such tender love and care, that dining at their home, meal after meal, became one of the most memorable parts of the trip.

The afternoon was spent at a bird feeder at the edge of a forest near Thattekad village. There was an agronet enclosure for the birders to be seated just about twenty feet from the feeding area. No sooner than the feed was scattered that a variety of birds started trooping in, one after the other. Orange headed thrush, Brown cheeked fulvetta, Brown breasted flycatcher, Blue throated blue flycatcher, Blyth's starlings, Racquet tailed drongos, Puff throated babblers, Dark faced babblers, Asian paradise flycatcher, Little spider-hunter, Red whiskered bulbuls, Malabar whistling thrush were some of the species seen from really close quarters.

On our way back, it was getting dark and we stopped for tea. That also gave us the right moment of

the day when the Great eared nightjar would fly by, according to Eldhose. And lo and behold, fly past it did, right over our heads looking big and majestic!

By the time we returned to the camp, it was dark. One flash of the torch from Eldhose and the brown fish owl showed itself perched on top of one of the service cottages on the campus.

Day 2 started real early for sighting the spurfowls. We drove in our jeeps to just outside the camp. We were warned to maintain utmost silence considering how sensitive the spurfowls are. We did. First came the Grey junglefowls, in pairs, and we had our great clicks. Then came Mr Red Spurfowl and shared the stage with Mr Grey junglefowl and finally came Mrs Red spurfowl with her beautiful chequered coat of feathers. Simply amazing. Also got to see the Philippines shrike, a variant of brown shrike with a paler head.

Post breakfast session was with Dhanish searching for the Black baza and the owls at Cheekkodu. We drove around 15 km and reached a stretch of dense forest. The vehicle was parked at the edge and we started walking down the trail. A pair of Brown hawk owl was sighted high into a bamboo grove, peering down at our cameras excitedly. A little bit behind, we saw a Brown fish owl in broad day light and happily snapped many pictures. Black hooded orioles flitted about. As we moved further, the reclusive Black baza showed itself in the middle of a dense forest patch. It never came low enough for perfect shots but kept going hither and thither, but never far away. Aruna sighted the White-bellied woodpecker somewhere in the vicinity but we could not catch it. Further trek into the forest took us to where a Brown wood owl lived but on hearing the commotion of six people getting in, chose to take off. We missed it. I had to wait till my Sri Lanka tour, a month later, for the brown wood owl.

We came back for lunch and spent the afternoon in a hide inside the camp. White cheeked barbet, Nilgiri flowerpecker, Asian paradise flycatcher visited us besides a whole lot of herons and egrets. Early in the evening, we were walking outside the camp when our tour operator Rajesh sighted the poster boy of Thattekad birding - the Heart spotted woodpecker. Tiny fella was just too beautiful and kept shuttling between two trees located on either side of the clearing. Got really close to it over the next one hour. The evening ended with the sighting of two Jungle owlets and one Mottled wood owl.

Day 3 started with a long drive towards a dam. We were likely to get the White-bellied treepie on that trail. A road meandering through undulating land, surrounded by forest and zero human activity. The first place where we stopped showed us the Rufous babbler, Grey-fronted green pigeon and Lesser hill myna. The Bombax tree nearby showed a whole lot of action in no time. Asian fairy bluebird, Vernal hanging parrots, Black naped oriole, Flame-throated bulbuls, Brown capped pygmy woodpecker and many others. As we went down further, we got to see the White-bellied treepie, Drongo cuckoo and Bay banded cuckoo. Just missed the Crimson backed sunbird and Black throated munia though we could hear them. On our way back, the Dollarbird and Black baza were seen. The afternoon was spent at a designated feeding station where we the Malabar hornbills gave us a super show! After it grew dark, we went looking for the nightjars with Eldhose. We spent nearly two hours chasing the call of the Jerdon's nightjar through thick forest but could not spot it.

Our last day was earmarked for Munnar. We left very early that day and headed straight to Eravikulam National Park, past the beautiful landscapes of the tea gardens. The Park involved a bus ride up the hills to a certain distance and then a trek. An Indian blue robin hid behind some bushes but could be seen through the chinks. A little further, White-bellied blue robin was busy feeding on insects out in the open. And finally, we had the Kerala laughingthrushes and Indian blackbirds and the Indian scimitar babblers coming out for us. We missed the Nilgiri thrush by a whisker, and Harish, one of the group members, just could not get over it. We came out of the Park after shopping at the Souvenir Shop. A little drive from the park and we were seeing the Nilgiri flycatcher, Velvet fronted nuthatch, Indian yellow tit, Square-tailed bulbul and the beautiful Orange and black flycatcher. We then drove towards another area where we saw the Nilgiri pipit, Nilgiri wood pigeon and Eurasian crag martins. By the time we got back to the camp, it

was nearly 9 PM. Just outside the camp, we asked our guide if he could look out for the nightjar. He flashed the torch light and spotted the shiny-eyes, the only way to spot the nightjars at night. We carefully walked towards it and finally could see the Jerdon's nightjar perched majestically on a low level bare branch of a tree!

What a way to conclude Thattekad Birding Trip!

We bid adieu to Thattekad the next day.

Bhupesh Goyal
Chandigarh Bird Club®

RINGING WORD NEW TO ME

Ringing or bird banding word, is new to me. As a bird photographer I had heard of it and was amazed that how and why ringing is done to birds. I realized that it is a part of research in the field of ornithology. Bird banding—or ringing, as it is called in Europe—dates back at least to the 16th century, and was first performed in the United States of America by none other than John James Audubon. This word was heard by me when one of my friends went to Nagrota Surian for landscape photography. After he came back, he told me that he met his friend Shiv Kumar (Forest Guard) from Lahaul, who was there for ringing of the birds of different species available at Pong Dam along with his team, some from the U.S.A and some from southern India. To his surprise they were putting up big nets and were waiting for a long time in a hide nearby and as the bird got entangled in the net, they picked it up, took some measurements like, weight, size, sex and noted it down number wise and then the same number was put on the bird ring, which identified the individual, and released it.

However, in some species, individuals may react negatively to rings, causing leg injuries and, in extreme cases, the loss of a foot or limb. By this method we can infer the behavioural, migration, breeding and feeding patterns of the birds. This study helps us to know how far the bird has flown. Many studies have shown that birds ringed during the breeding season quickly return to incubating eggs, or feeding chicks, once they are released, and long distance migrants continue to travel thousands of miles between breeding and wintering grounds. It is because of the change in season, scarcity of food or in search for better breeding grounds. This also helps to analyse the data which can tell us that the bird is coming on the same pattern year after year and after some time it will bring its off springs too.

I remember 2 years back I saw a photo of bar headed geese with the tag which appeared in the newspaper that this bird is a common visitor to the Pong Dam as it was ringed there and it was sighted there for 2 to 3yrs consecutively. Bar headed geese come to India for breeding. The species has been reported as migrating south from Tibet, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Russia before crossing the Himalayas. Long-term banding or ringing efforts can be a means of providing science education, job training, and ecotourism opportunities to locals, as well as initiating grassroots conservation projects.

Vikas Sharma
Chandigarh Bird Club®

BIRDING IN DIGHAL

On a wintery morning, Prof. Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon asked me out of the blue to join him for a trip to Dighal, a birding spot which was on the radar of the Chandigarh Bird Club®. So on 3rd of January, Miti Sir, Mahesh Garg and I, along with Prof. Sekhon's daughter, who we were dropping off in Delhi, left for Rohtak. A very good friend and fellow birder Bhupesh Goyal was waiting for us in



Rohtak at his home, where we stayed for the duration of our trip.

The news for us when we reached there was that the fog only lifts near about ten in the morning, and, well, not exactly what we birders expect when birding. But, it seems fortune really favours the brave,



especially when you bathe with cold water. On the morning of the 4th January, the fog lifted early, and we were off. We were joined by Mr. Rakesh Ahlawat, the bird expert and resident of the area. He was instrumental in helping us record one-hundred and thirty-seven species, with thirteen lifers for me, including Sarus Crane, and Moustached Warbler.

Dighal is a cluster of small villages near Rohtak, which, due to their maintained ponds, and fields attract a large number of water and forest birds. The area is very rich in bird species and density. One of the



highlights of the trip was the Moustached Warbler, and for me especially the Sarus Crane, Spanish Sparrow, Sind Sparrow and the Bluethroat. According to BKG sir, we were fortunate that the fog lifted early on the day were devoted to birding, and we saw the next day, 5th January, when were leaving for Chandigarh that the fog does stay for a long while in the morning, but still we saw a number of species, determined as we were to photograph the Moustached Warbler. We left for Chandigarh at about 2:00 p.m. But most exciting was BKG sir's and my attempt to click nice photographs of the Sarus, when I learned the importance of not looking them head-on.

The off-birding time too was no less interesting and entertaining. My partners in birding are very well-travelled nature enthusiasts and they made sure to impart much of their knowledge to me and regaled tales of their various adventures, tales surrounding the birds. It was most interesting to hear BKG sir regaling of his recent trip to Thattekad, which is also reported in this edition of the newsletter.

The trip was a very enjoyable one, and most fruitful one, leaving us with an appetite for more, even though we had the famous two-foot-diameter paranthas of Rohtak. So much so, had the plans to go to Dighal, two weeks later, had not been shelved, I would have gone along.

Amandeep Singh
Chandigarh Bird Club®

BIRD LIST FOR DIGHAL

1. Avadavat, Red—*Amandava amandava*
2. Avocet, Pied—*Recurvirostra avosetta*
3. Babbler, Common—*Turdiodes caudata*
4. Babbler, Jungle—*Turdiodes striata*
5. Babbler, Large Grey—*Turdiodes malcolmi*
6. Babbler, Striated—*Turdiodes earlei*
7. Barbet, Coppersmith—*Megalaima haemacephala*
8. Bluethroat—*Luscinia svecica*
9. Bulbul, Red-vented—*Pycnonotus cafer*



Dusky Eagle Owl, by Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

10. Bushchat, Pied—*Saxicola caprata*
11. Bushlark, Bengal—*Mirafra assamica*
12. Buzzard, Long-legged—*Butea rufinus*
13. Chat, Indian—*Cercomela fusca*
14. Chiffchaff, Common—*Phylloscopus collybita*
15. Coot, Common—*Fulica atra*
16. Cormorant, Great—*Phalacrocorax carbo*

17. Cormorant, Indian—*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*
18. Cormorant, Little—*Phalacrocorax niger*
19. Coucal, Greater—*Centropus sinensis*
20. Crane, Sarus—*Grus antigone*
21. Crow, House—*Corvus splendens*
22. Crow, Large-billed—*Corvus macrorhynchos*
23. Dartar, Oriental—*Anhinga melanogaster*
24. Dove, Eurasian Collared—*Streptopelia decaocto*
25. Dove, Laughing—*Stigmatopelia senegalensis*
26. Drongo, Black—*Dicrurus macrocercus*
27. Duck, Knob-billed—*Sarkidiornis melanotos*
28. Duck, Spot-billed—*Anas poecilorhyncha*
29. Duck, Tufted—*Aythya fuligula*



Moustached Warbler, by Mitinderpal Singh Sekhon

30. Dunlin—*Calidris alpina*
31. Eagle, Booted—*Hieraaetus pennaatus*
32. Egret, Cattle—*Bubulcus ibis*
33. Egret, Great—*Casmerodius albus*
34. Egret, Intermediate—*Mesophoyx intermedia*
35. Egret, Little—*Egretta garzetta*
36. Falcon, Peregrine—*Falco peregrinus*
37. Flamingo, Greater—*Phoenicopterus roseus*
38. Flycatcher, Red-breasted—*Ficedula parva*
39. Francolin, Grey—*Francolinus pondicerianus*
40. Gadwall—*Anas strepera*
41. Goose, Bar-headed—*Anser indicus*
42. Goose, Greylag—*Anser anser*

- 43. Grebe, Little—*Tachybaptus ruficollis*
- 44. Greenshank, Common—*Tringa nebularia*
- 45. Heron, Black-crowned Night—*Nycticorax nycticorax*
- 46. Heron, Grey—*Ardea cinerea*
- 47. Heron, Indian Pond—*Ardeola grayii*
- 48. Heron, Purple—*Ardea purpurea*
- 49. Honey-buzzard, Oriental—*Pernis ptilorhynchus*
- 50. Hoopoe, Common—*Upupa epops*
- 51. Hornbill, Indian Grey—*Ocyeros birostris*
- 52. Ibis, Black-headed—*Threskiornis melanocephalus*



Greater Flamingo, by Amandeep Singh Channa

- 53. Ibis, Glossy—*Plegadis falcinellus*
- 54. Ibis, Red-naped—*Pseudibis papillosa*
- 55. Kingfisher, Common—*Alcedo atthis*
- 56. Kingfisher, Pied—*Ceryle rudis*
- 57. Kingfisher, White-throated—*Halcyon smyrnensis*
- 58. Kite, Black—*Milvus migrans*
- 59. Kite, Black-winged—*Elanus caeruleus*

60. Lapwing, Red-wattled—*Vanellus indicus*
61. Lapwing, White-tailed—*Vanellus leucurus*
62. Lark, Crested—*Galerida cristata*
63. Lark, Greater Short-toed—*Calandrella brachydactyla*
64. Martin, Pale—*Ripara diluta*
65. Martin, Plain—*Ripara paludicola*
66. Martin, Sand—*Ripara ripara*
67. Moorhen, Common—*Gallinula chloropus*
68. Myna, Bank—*Acridotheres ginginianus*
69. Myna, Common—*Acridotheres tristis*
70. Osprey—*Pandion haliaetus*
71. Owl, Dusky Eagle—*Bubo coromandus*
72. Owl, Indian Eagle—*Bubo (bubo) bengalensis*
73. Parakeet, Alexandrine—*Psittacula eupatria*



Sarus Crane, by Amandeep Singh Channa

74. Parakeet, Rose-ringed—*Psittacula krameri*
75. Peafowl, Indian—*Pavo cristatus*
76. Pigeon, Rock—*Columba livia*
77. Pintail, Northern—*Anas acuta*
78. Pipit, Paddyfield—*Anthus rufulus*
79. Plover, Little-ringed—*Charadrius dubius*
80. Pochard, Common—*Aythya ferina*
81. Pochard, Ferruginous—*Aythya nyroca*
82. Pochard, Red-crested—*Netta rufina*
83. Prinia, Ashy—*Prinia socialis*

- 84. Prinia, Graceful—*Prinia gracilis*
- 85. Prinia, Plain—*Prinia inornata*
- 86. Redshank, Common—*Tringa totanus*
- 87. Redshank, Spotted—*Tringa erythropus*
- 88. Robin, Indian—*Saxicoloides fulicatus*
- 89. Roller, Indian—*Coracias benghalensis*
- 90. Ruff—*Philomachus pugnax*
- 91. Sandpiper, Common—*Actitis hypoleucos*
- 92. Sandpiper, Green—*Tringa ochropus*
- 93. Sandpiper, Marsh—*Tringa stagnatilis*
- 94. Sandpiper, Wood—*Tringa glareola*



Painted Stork, by Amandeep Singh Channa

- 95. Shelduck, Ruddy—*Tadorna ferruginea*
- 96. Shikra—*Accipiter badius*
- 97. Shoveller, Northern—*Anas clypeata*
- 98. Shrike, Isabelline—*Lanius collurio*
- 99. Shrike, Long-tailed—*Lanius schach*

100. Silverbill, Indian—*Euodice malabarica*
101. Skylark, Oriental—*Alauda gulgula*
102. Snipe, Common—*Gallinago gallinago*
103. Sparrow, House—*Passer domesticus*
104. Sparrow, Sind—*Passer pyrrhonotus*
105. Sparrow, Spanish—*Passer hispaniolensis*
106. Spoonbill, Eurasian—*Platalea leucorodia*
107. Starling, Asian-pied—*Gracupica contra*
108. Starling, Common—*Sturnus vulgaris*
109. Stilt, Black-winged—*Himantopus himantopus*
110. Stint, Little—*Calidris minuta*
111. Stint, Temminck's—*Calidris temminckii*
112. Stonechat, Siberian—*Saxicola torquatus*
113. Stork, Asian Openbill—*Anastomus oscitans*



Common Kingfisher, by Amandeep Singh Channa

114. Stork, Painted—*Mycteria leucocephala*
115. Stork, Woolly-necked—*Ciconia episcopus*
116. Sunbird, Purple—*Cinnyris asiaticus*
117. Swallow, Barn—*Hirundo rustica*
118. Swallow, Red-rumped—*Cecropis daurica*
119. Swallow, Streak-throated—*Petrochelidon fluvicola*
120. Swallow, Wire-tailed—*Hirundo smithii*
121. Swampphen, Purple—*Porphyrio porphyrio*
122. Swift, Little—*Apus affinis*
123. Tailorbird, Common—*Orthotomus sutorius*
124. Teal, Common—*Anas crecca*

- 125. Tern, River—*Sterna aurantia*
- 126. Vulture, Egyptian—*Neophron percnopterus*
- 127. Wagtail, Grey—*Motacilla cinerea*
- 128. Wagtail, White—*Motacilla alba*
- 129. Wagtail, White-browed—*Motacilla maderaspatensis*
- 130. Wagtail, Yellow—*Motacilla flava*
- 131. Warbler, Moustached—*Acrocephalus melanopogon*
- 132. Waterhen, White-breasted—*Amaurornis phoenicurus*
- 133. Weaver, Baya—*Ploceus philippinus*
- 134. Weaver, Black-breasted—*Ploceus benghalensis*
- 135. Weaver, Streaked—*Ploceus manyar*
- 136. Whitethroat, Lesser—*Sylvia curruca*
- 137. Wigeon, Eurasian—*Anas penelope*



Bluethroat, by Amandeep Singh Channa

Whispering Wings®



Newsletter of the Chandigarh
Bird Club

Incepted in 2008, the Chandigarh Bird Club has been dedicated to its goal of protecting the environment. The Club owes its existence to those few dedicated and expert members, who started this club in the Chandigarh Boat Club, namely, Navjit Singh, Narbir Kahlon, Vikramjeet Singh, Mrs. Rima Dhillon, Mrs. Sarbjeet and Mrs. Geeta Goswami. The Basic objective of the Chandigarh Bird Club continues to be to:

- Bring people specially the younger generation closer to nature through birding and help them to enjoy the outdoors while making it a fun activity
- To make people and government more sensitive towards the environment to create a dynamic database for analysis in order to focus conservation efforts.
- To create a forum for birders to share information and discuss issues related to this activity

- President, CBC — M. S. Sekhon
- Vice-President, CBC — Narbir Kahlon
- Secretary, CBC — Rima Dhillon
- Joint Secretary, CBC — Sarbjeet Kaur
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