

Campus Bird Count 2021

12th to 15th February

Mangalore University has been participating in the Campus bird count (CBC) a sub-event of 'Great Backyard Bird Count' (GBBC) organized by Bird Count India, for the past 6 years. This year, CBC was held from 12th to 15th February of 2021 across various campuses in India.

As a part of this, four days event was successfully ended up with the sightings of 108 species of birds from various locations across the campus spread on 353 acres. Some of the birds recorded include, Black Drongo, Black Kite, Brahminy Kite, Common Iora, Green Wabler, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Red-whiskered Bulbul, White-cheeked Barbet, Jungle Babbler and Plum headed parakeets. The observation also included nest and nestlings of House Crow, prey catching by Shikra and Indian Nightjar (nocturnal bird) activity during the day time. Ashy Drongo, Booted Eagle, Grey Wagtail, Indian Pitta are the migratory birds. Grey-headed Bulbul (Near Threatened bird), Rufous Babbler and Flame-throated Bulbul are the endemic birds of the Western Ghats and Barn Owl, Spotted Owlet, Nightjars (Savanna, Indian and Jerdon's) and Sri Lanka Frogmouth, the nocturnal birds were recorded. The rare birds, Yellow-billed Babbler, Green Sandpiper and Grey-necked Bunting are the new additions to avian list of the campus.

CBC of Mangalore University recorded 77 species in the year 2016. Subsequently, 95 species in 2017, 110 species in 2018, 107 species in 2019 and 103 species of birds in 2020 were recorded. However, some of the species like Jerdon's Leafbird, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, Coppersmith Barbet, Stork-billed Kingfisher etc., sighted in the previous years were not seen in the present survey. With the addition of 3 species, the CBC of Mangalore University has so far recorded a total of 146 species in the campus.

This year event was coordinated by Mr. Vivek Hasyagar of Mangalore University and Maxim Rodrigues from Kasaragod. Survey trails were carried out by 54 participants including students, research scholars and faculty members from various departments of Mangalore University. Some of the bird enthusiast from St. Aloysius College, Mangalore, Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal and few local people have also participated in the CBC -2021 of Mangalore University.



MANGALORE UNIVERSITY

Photos:



Vineeth Kumar



Dicrurus leucophaeus
(Ashy Drongo)

Vivek Hasyagar



Accipiter trivirgatus
(Crested Goshawk)

Vivek Hasyagar



Tringa ochropus
(Green Sandpiper)

Vivek Hasyagar



Geokichla citrina
(Orange-headed Thrush)

Vivek Hasyagar



Dicrurus macrocercus
(Black Drongo)

Vivek Hasyagar



Anthus rufulus
Paddyfield Pipit

Vivek Hasyagar



Caprimulgus asiaticus
(Indian Nightjar)

Vineeth Kumar



Ardeola grayii
(Indian Pond Heron)



Rare birds sighted on varsity campus during count

Yellow-Billed Babbler, Green Sandpiper, and Grey-Necked Bunting were some of the avians spotted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

A team of birdwatchers spotted 108 species of birds in the sprawling campus of Mangalore University during the campus bird count (CBC), which is a part of Great Backyard Bird Count organised by the Bird Count of India, a few days ago.

The count was conducted from February 12 to February 15 on the 353-acre campus.

According to Sreepada K.S., chairman, Department of Applied Zoology in the university, the Yellow-Billed Babbler, the Green Sandpiper, and the Grey-Necked Bunting are the new additions to the avian list of the campus. With this, the CBC of the university has so far



(Left) The Grey-Necked Bunting and the Green Sandpiper spotted at Mangalore University during the bird count from February 12 to February 15. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

recorded a total of 146 species in the campus in six years. Some of the birds recorded this year included the Black Drongo, the Black Kite, the Brahminy Kite, the Common Iora, the Green Wabler, the Purple-Rumped Sunbird, the Red-Whiskered

Bulbul, the White-Cheeked Barbet, the Jungle Babbler, and the Plum-Headed Parakeets.

The Ashy Drongo, the Booted Eagle, the Grey Wagtail, and the Indian Pitta are the migratory birds. The Grey-Headed Bulbul (near

threatened bird), the Rufous Babbler, and the Flame-Throated Bulbul are the endemic birds of the Western Ghats and the Barn Owl, the Spotted Owlet, the Nightjars (Savanna, Indian and Jerdon's), and the Sri Lanka Frogmouth, the nocturnal birds, were recorded.

However, some of the species like the Jerdon's Leafbird, the Thick-Billed Flowerpecker, the Coppersmith Barbet, the Stork-billed Kingfisher etc., sighted in the previous years were not seen in the present survey.

The observation also included nest and nestlings of the House Crow, prey catching by the Shikra and the Indian Nightjar (nocturnal bird) activity during the day time. The CBC of the univer-

sity recorded 77 species in 2016. Subsequently, 95 species were recorded in 2017, 110 in 2018, 107 in 2019, and 103 were recorded in 2020.

This year, the event was co-ordinated by Vivek Hasyagar, a research scholar in the Department of Applied Zoology in the university, and Maxim Rodrigues, a bird watcher, from Kasaragod.

Survey trails were carried out by 54 participants including students, research scholars and faculty members from various departments of the university. Some of the bird enthusiast from St. Aloysius College, Mangaluru, Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal and some local people also participated in the CBC.

