

Table 1. Site records from the Ganga–Brahmaputra Delta arranged chronologically per eBird records (Source: eBird 2021)

Site	Place	Coordinate	District	Division	Number of eBird sightings	Months of sightings
S1	Atong	23.197°N, 90.372°E	Shariatpur	Dhaka	6	March, August, November
S2	Karamjol	22.427°N, 89.590°E	Barisal	Barisal	7	February, May, November
S3	Hijuli	23.187°N, 88.581°E	Nadia	Presidency	7	February, March, November
S4	Katka	21.854°N, 89.770°E	Khulna	Khulna	1	January
S5	Zirarkati	22.844°N, 90.158°E	Barisal	Barisal	13	March, April, May, November
S6	Golaghata	22.266°N, 90.057°E	Barguna	Barisal	22	March, August



190. Male Ruby-cheeked Sunbird photographed on 22 November 2019, at S3.



191. Female Ruby-cheeked Sunbird photographed on 22 November 2019, at S3.

Both: Tanmoy Sarkar

Brahmaputra Delta (Table 1). After our sighting, it has been sighted six more times (all in 2021) from Hijuli forest, which conforms with the trend of regular and repetitive observations from most of the sites (in this delta).

Being a non-migratory, combined with the fact that the birds are being sighted regularly in the sites across all seasons, it is highly probable that these sites also hold a breeding population.

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A Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* in Jammu & Kashmir

On the afternoon of 31 January 2020, we were observing birds near our home in Humhama (34.03°N, 74.76°E; 1,595 m asl), Budgam District, Jammu & Kashmir (J&K). The area consisted of a grove of Poplar trees *Populus deltoides* bordered by a marsh with a large expanse of reeds.

At 1420 h, we saw a single thrush on a Poplar, where it remained for a few seconds before moving to another, before flying away after one minute (Khaliq 2020). Considering the time of year, we immediately suspected the bird was a Black-throated Thrush *Turdus atrogularis*, however on closer observation through a video camera, we saw that it had a rufous breast and throat. We video-graphed it for 54 seconds before it flew away [192,

193]. Based on the footage, we identified it as a Red-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis*. The bird showed a characteristic rufous throat, breast, and supercilium. The characteristic rufous outer rectrices were also observed, which distinguish it from the Black-throated Thrush (Ali & Ripley 1987).

Video link: <https://youtu.be/qKzVP3i0Y>



192. Red-throated Thrush showing the rufous throat and outer rectrices (frame extracted from the recorded video.)



193. Red-throated Thrush showing rufous supercilium.

We present a brief analysis of the historical record of the bird in and around our area.

Ali & Ripley (1987) stated that the Red-throated Thrush did not include Jammu & Kashmir, specifically, in its winter range, though its western distribution extends to the North-western Frontier Province in Pakistan along the Himalaya. Ward (1906: 482) stated that it was 'occasionally found in Kashmir in winter'. In Ladakh, the bird has been described as an occasional winter visitor (Pfister 2004). There have also been a number of recent records of the bird from Ladakh on eBird (2021) but none from Jammu & Kashmir. The photograph of a single bird, from Kishtwar District, Jammu & Kashmir (Roy 2019) was identified as a likely hybrid between Black-throated and Red-throated Thrush on account of the reddish tinge to its throat as well as supercilium, which features a pure Black-throated Thrush will not show (Ashwin Vishwanathan, *in litt.*, e-mail dated 28 June 2021). Abhinav & Rawal (2019) reviewed the bird's status by compiling the known records westwards of Nepal. They found sparing historical and contemporary records from Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, Gilgit (in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir), and three

records from Pakistan, but none within the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, apart from Ward's comment.

There is a paucity of records on the wintering status of the Red-throated Thrush in what is now the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Our sighting is perhaps the first photographic record of the bird from the Kashmir Valley.

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Green-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus burkii*, a new species for Haryana, and Delhi NCR

At 0700 hrs on 31 May 2021, the first author heard a peculiar bird call in his backyard in the Pt. B. D. Sharma Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences Campus, Rohtak, Haryana. As he approached the canopy, he could hear the call clearly but could not see the bird. He recorded the call for good measure (Majumdar 2021). Fortunately, in a few seconds, he got a fleeting glimpse of a small yellow bird, the size of an Indian White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*, but yellow, and perched on a Cluster Fig Tree *Ficus racemosa* at a height of ~4 m. It was a single bird—fast-moving, jumping from one branch to another, and calling out repeatedly. After half an hour it disappeared from the tree, never to be seen or heard again. In relatively poor light, he managed to click a few pictures [194], sure that it was a bird he had not seen earlier. The pictures were initially posted on a birding group as Whistler's Warbler *Phylloscopus whistleri*. A member pointed out that the photographs showed a break at the back of the eye ring and it could be a Green-crowned Warbler *P. burkii*. On closer observation, it was noted from all the other photos that there was indeed a discontinuity at the posterior of the orbital-ring, apart from a greyish-green mesial coronal stripe, bound on either side by black lateral coronal stripes [195]. Additional differentiating features from Whistler's Warbler included a marginally longer and slender bill, and slightly brighter green upperparts.

The Green-crowned Warbler is a medium-sized leaf warbler that breeds between 1,700 and 2,000 m in the Himalaya, from Himachal Pradesh to eastern Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh, wintering in east-central India, in Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, eastern Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Maharashtra, and north-