

FEATHERED FRIENDS OF THENI



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FOREWORD



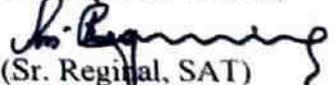
Avian Community is the most popular group in animal Kingdom. 'Feathered friends of Theni' is the positive outcome of the meticulous bird watching of the members of 'JAC Avian Club' since 2005. Accuracy and reliability are the special hall marks of the bird watchers in their observation, classification and compilation of the wetland and land birds in Theni District.

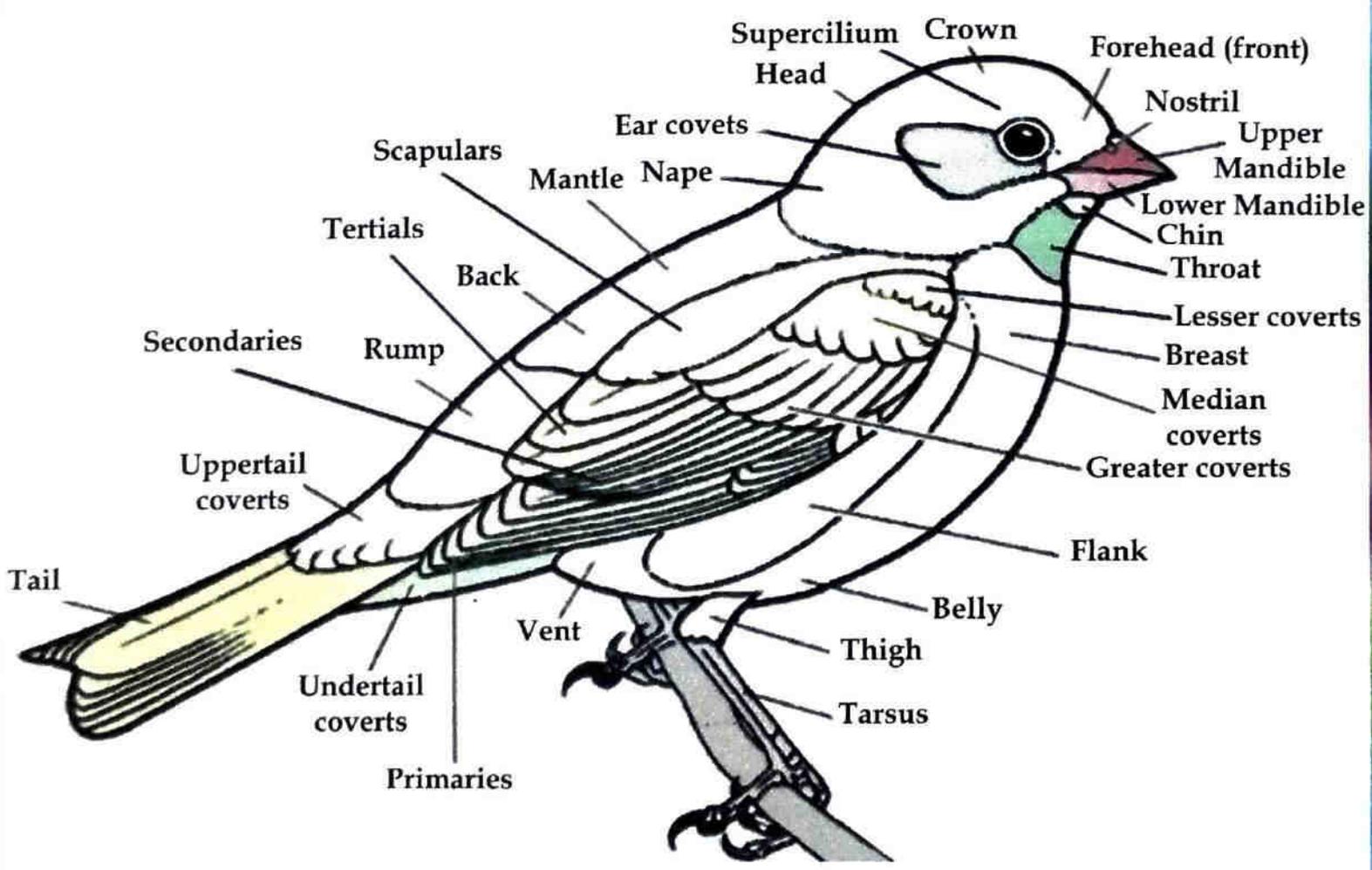
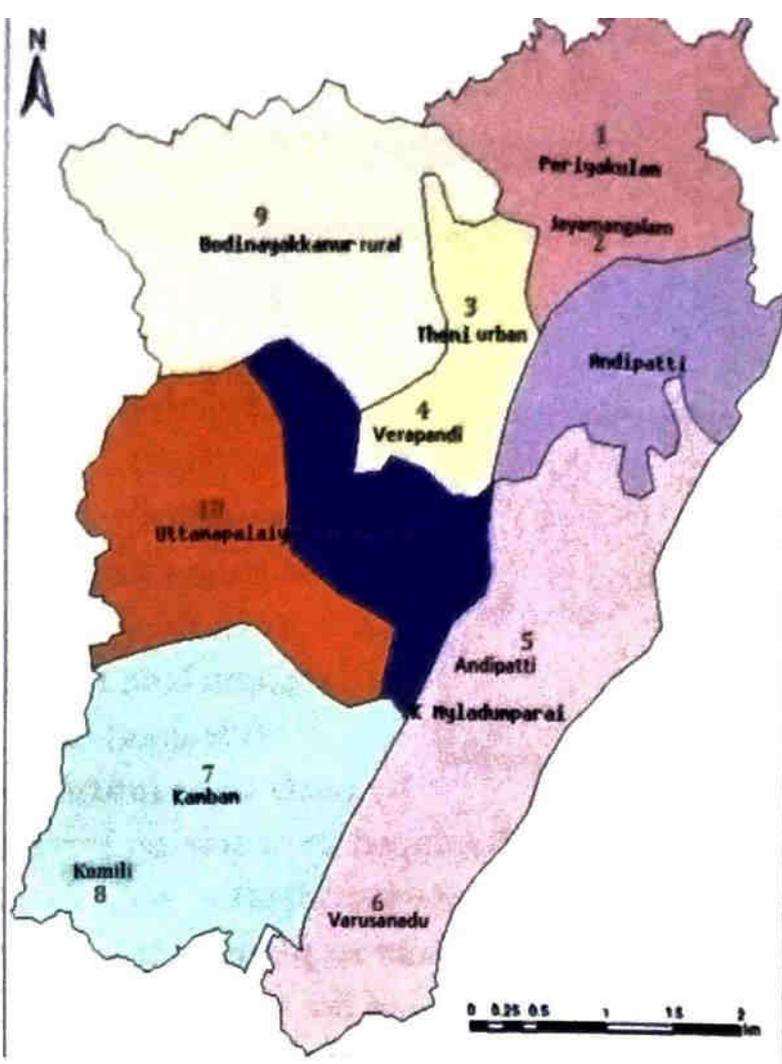
It is good for man to grow up with birds. Birds are glorified by poets as beautiful species. The hand book on 'Feathered Friends of Theni' has displayed the amazing services of birds and significantly as indicators of environment, primary pollinator, seed dispersers, scavengers, fighters of pollution and suppliers of nutrients to plants. It is a remarkable book that will develop a positive outlook and attitude of the academic community and the public towards birds. The good impact of the book will inculcate love for the birds in human beings which will go a long way in conserving biodiversity.

There are indirect and direct advantages and benefits to the lovers of birds. The presence and song of birds comfort and soothe their hearts burdened by the stress of day to day life. The love of birds has promoted the profitable industry of ecotourism. This book provides the pictorial classification of 150 feathered friends found in and around Theni district. It can draw the bird watchers towards their habitats. It can inculcate love for birds which has to be fostered to maintain ecological balance.

I congratulate the author Dr. Sr. T. Nirmala and the co-authors Dr. Sr. A. Iruthaya Kalai Selvam and Sr. S. Jothi on their successful and needful compilation of the hand book on 'Feathered Friends of Theni'.

With Prayerful Wishes,


(Sr. Reginal, SAT)
SUPERIOR GENERAL



From the Author "The birth of the handbook"

"Earth can be without human beings, No Earth can be without birds."

The love for birds is my inborn trait. The success of my Ph. D. Thesis in Ornithology had fetched me Gold medal from Bharathiar University, Coimbatore is a great turning point in my life. It has intensified my passion for bird watching to be friend them and record their indispensable service to ecosystem. As a result 'Avian Club and Eco Club with the motto 'Live and Let Live' were born in J. A. College for Women in 2005 to widen the circle of friends of birds. Bird watching has become a regular feature of our Academic work outside the working hours within the college campus, wetlands and the forest in and around Theni District.

The impact of bird watching has influenced my wards to base their research on birds for their M. Sc., M. Phil., Ph. D. and publication of research papers on birds in peer reviewed International and National Journals. The need for compiling the details of birds especially the characteristic features and classification is to fulfil the need for the knowledge of birds and understand their ecosystem services by the amateurs of JAC Avian Club is acutely felt. This hand book will serve the purpose of taking birds close to human beings who will become their champions. Friends (Professors) of JAC, Theni created 'feathered friends of Theni.'

By

Dr. Sr. T. Nirmala

Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Podicepsiformes
: Podicepsidae
: Little Grebe
: *Tachypterus ruficollis*



Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Pelecaniformes
: Pelecanidae
: Spot-billed Pelican
: *Pelecanus philippensis*



1. Little Grebe

Tachybaptus ruficollis (Pallas, 1764)

முக்குளிப்பான், தண்ணி புழு

1. Little Grebe or Dabchick is a resident bird found in thousand in **Thamaraikulam** and in hundreds in **Bangarukulam**, **Sothuparai** and in the wetlands of **Theni** throughout the year.
2. It is a drab coloured, plump and **squat little water** bird with silky white under parts with a short pointed bill, and without tail.
3. In breeding plumage, its head and neck are **dark brown** and **chestnut** colour.
4. Its yellow swollen gape is conspicuous.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. They are in pairs or groups.
7. They are always on wheels found on village tanks, rain-filled ditches and ponds.
8. It is a good swimmer and expert diver. It dives and vanishes below the surface at astounding rapidity, leaving scarcely a ripple behind.
9. It is normally sedentary, but capable of flying strongly to cover long distances on its diminutive wings at times of drought in search of new habitation.
10. It normally feeds on aquatic insects and larvae, tadpoles, frogs, crustaceans, etc.

2. Spot-billed Pelican

Pelecanus philippensis (Gmelin, 1789)

பள்ளி அலகு கூழைக்கடா

1. It is a resident migrant spotted in a small number in **Melmangalam** and **Thamaraikulam** during winter season.
2. It is a large squat water bird, chiefly grey and grayish white, with a brown nuchal crest. Its short stout legs, large webbed feet and enormous heavy flattened bill are underhung throughout its length by an elastic bag of dull purplish skin.
3. Large blue-black spots are seen along the edge of upper mandible, blackish wing quills and grayish brown tail diagnostic.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They float buoyantly or rest on mud banks preening themselves.
6. They fish by cooperative effort, swimming in a semi-circle, driving the fish before them into the shallows with vigorous splashing of their great wings, and scooping them up in their pouch which acts like a landing net.
7. These Birds take off from the water with little effort and when once launched, they fly strongly with steady rhythmical wing beats, head drawn in between the shoulders.
8. They are frequently seen during midday soaring in circles at great heights in the company of storks.

3. Dalmatian Pelican

Pelecanus crispus (Bruch, 1832)

அலகில் புள்ளிகளையுடைய பெலிக்கான் பறவை

1. It is a migratory bird found a few in number in Thamaraiikulam, Melmangalam and Bangarukulam during winter season.
2. It is difficult to distinguish from the white pelican at a distance. Its legs and feet are dark grey instead of pink.
3. It is feathered on the forehead end in a concave crescentic line.
4. It's white under wing distinctive while flying.
5. Its purplish final skin counteracts with the pale circumorbital skin.
6. Flocks of such birds seen on large rivers, jheels and other such reservoir.

4. Little Cormorant

Phalacrocorax niger (Vieillot, 1817)

சிறிய நீர்க்காகம், கடல் காகம்

1. It is a resident migrant bird recorded around 400 - 500 each and seen throughout the year in Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam, Bangarukulam and Sothuparai.
2. It is a glistening black, duck-like water bird with a long stiff tail and a slender, compressed bill sharply hooked at the tip.
3. The small white patch on throat suggests a crest at the back of head.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. It is found in single or group gregariously, at tanks in all inland water reservoir, brackish lagoons and tidal creeks.
6. It is an expert diver and submarine swimmer.
7. It chases and captures fish as it lives exclusively on fish.
8. It flocks occasionally hunt in concert like pelicans.
9. It perches upright on a rock with outstretched wings to dry them after satiety.

Order : **Pelecaniformes**
Family : **Pelecanidae**
Common Name : **Dalmatian Pelican**
Scientific Name : ***Pelecanus crispus***



Order : **Pelecaniformes**
Family : **Phalacrocoracidae**
Common Name : **Little Cormorant**
Scientific Name : ***Phalacrocorax niger***



Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

Phalacrocoraciformes
Phalacrocoracidae
Great Cormorant
Phalacrocorax carbo



Order : **Pelecaniformes**
Family : **Anhingidae**
Common Name : **Darter**
Scientific Name : **Anhinga melanogaster**



5. Great Cormorant

Phalacrocorax carbo (Linnaeus, 1758)

பெரிய நீர்க்காகம்

1. Black in colour.
2. The breeding bird has white on its head and neck and a large white patch on either flank conspicuous in flight. The nonbreeding birds have no white patch.
3. It has a yellow gular pouch which becomes less bright in non-breeding birds.
4. It doesn't have the white patch in its plumage.
5. It acquires adult plumage from the fourth year.
6. These birds inhabit in large inland water bodies, sand banks, tidal lagoons singly or in small flocks.
7. It lives exclusively on fish and procures it by diving and chasing under water.
8. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus and Thamaraiikulam.

6. Darter

Anhinga melanogaster (Pennant, 1769)

பாம்புத் தாரா

1. It is a black, cormorant-like waterbird with silvery grey streaks on the back and velvety brown head and neck.
2. Its chin and throat are whitish, tail is long, stiff and wedge-shaped.
3. The slender, snake-like neck, narrow head and pointed dagger bill are its diagnostic features.
4. Both the sexes are alike and are seen in singly or loose parties on tanks and jheels.
5. It is like the cormorants except that it is more individualistic, less gregarious and does not hunt in cooperative flocks.
6. While swimming the body remains submerged; only the slender, snake-like neck shows above the surface, swaying and turning this way and that, aptly suggestive of the bird's name.
7. The darter chases its staple food, fish below the surface with speed.
8. Its wings held half open and head and neck swaying back and forth like a javelin-thrower poising his missile.
9. They dive and scatter in all directions and surfacing again a safe distance away. It is a resident migrant spotted at Thamaraiikulam, Sengulam & Melmangalam.

7. Little Egret

Egretta garzetta (Linnaeus, 1766)

சின்ன வெள்ளைக்கொக்கு

1. It is a lanky snow white marsh bird differentiated from the very similar Cattle Egret in non-breeding plumage by its black bill and partli-coloured black and yellow feet.
2. A long drooping crest of two narrow plumes are acquired during the breeding season and also dainty filamentous ornamental feathers in both back and breast.
3. Both the sexes are alike, roosts in trees.
4. They flocks on marshland, jheels, etc.
5. It affects marshes, jheels and rivers and also tidal mudflats.
6. It flies with steady wing beats and neck pulled in like a heron.
7. It eats insects, fish, frogs and small reptiles.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Southuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

8. Grey Heron

Ardea cinerea (Linnaeus, 1758)

சாம்பல் நாரை

1. It is a lanky stork-like bird, ashy grey above with white crown and neck; greyish white below, with long slender S-shaped neck, narrow head and pointed dagger bill.
2. It has a long black occipital crest and elongated white feathers on the breast with some black streaks and a conspicuous black dotted line down middle of fore neck.
3. Crest and pectoral plumes are less developed in female.
4. It is solitary, found at reedy jheels, rivers etc.
5. It flies with steady wing beats, neck folded back and head drawn in between the shoulders, with the long legs trailing behind.
6. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Little Egret
Scientific Name : *Egretta garzetta*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Grey Heron
Scientific Name : *Ardea cinerea*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Large Egret
Scientific Name : *Casmerodius albus*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Cattle Egret
Scientific Name : *Bubulcus ibis*



9. Large Egret

Casmerodius albus (Linnaeus, 1758)

பெரிய கொக்கு

1. It is lanky snow white egret with its legs bare, black, bill black-and-yellow or yellow.
2. Breeding birds develop a cluster of flimsy ornamental dorsal plumes ('aigrettes') falling over beyond the tail.
3. It is seen in jheels, marshes, rivers, etc.
4. It is usually solitary.
5. Its behaviour and feeding habits are similar to Grey Heron's.
6. It feeds on fish, frogs, etc.
7. It is a resident migrant bird spotted in Melmangalam, Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

10. Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis (Linnaeus, 1758)

உண்ணிக்கொக்கு

1. In non-breeding, it has pure white plumage distinguished from the Little Egret by the colour of bill which is yellow and not black. Its orange-buff head, neck and back of the breeding plumage render it unmistakable.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It is gregarious.
4. It is mostly seen with grazing cattle, stalking energetically beside the animals, moving in and out of their legs or riding upon their backs or lounging out to seize insects disturbed by their movements in the grass.
5. They feed on grasshopper, bluebottle flies, cicadas, frog, lizard, fish and other insects. They gulped down Banyan capsules greedily in season.
6. They roost in favorite trees sharing with crows, mynas and other birds.
7. It is a resident migrant bird found at JAC Campus, Melmangalam and Sothuparai.

11. Indian Pond-Heron

Ardeola grayii (Skyles, 1832)

குருட்டுக்கொக்கு, குளத்துக்கொக்கு, மடையன்

1. It is an egret-like marsh bird, earthy brown while resting, but the glistening white wings, tail and rump flash into prominence immediately in flight.
2. In breeding season it acquires maroon hair-like plumes on its back, and long white occipital crest.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are found in single or in loose parties wherever there is water; river, jheel, roadside ditch, kutch a well, or temple pond, often even in the midst of populous towns and also on the seacoast in mangrove swamps, tidal mudflats, etc.
5. Its normal method of feeding is to stand hunched up at the water's edge watching patiently for movement and jobbing at the quarry when opportunity arises.
6. It also wades into the shallows, moving forward stealthily and with circumspection, neck craned and bill poised in readiness.
7. They feed on frogs, fish, crabs and insects.
8. It roosts in large leafy trees in mixed congregations of crows and other birds.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Southuparai, Melmangalam, Thamarikulam and Bangarukulam.

12. Black-crowned Night-Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax (Linnaeus, 1758)

வக்கா, இராக்கொக்கு

1. It looks a stocky Paddy Bird with stouter bill, ashy grey above with glistening black back and scapulars, white below. Crown, nape and long occipital crest black; the last with some white plumes intermixed.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are gregarious.
4. They fly at dusk with loud, raucous *kwaark*.
5. They are largely crepuscular and nocturnal.
6. They are spotted in jheels and other inland waters as well as tidal, creeks and mangrove swamps.
7. In colonies they spend the daytime resting in some clump of leafy trees, often far from water, and fly out to their accustomed feeding grounds at dusk in straggling ones and twos uttering a distinctive *kwaark* from time to time.
8. They resemble both the flying fox's and the gull's while flying
9. They occupy the same communal roosts and nesting trees year after year. They feed on crabs, fish, frogs, aquatic insects, etc.
10. They are more actively procured and not usually in the 'wait and strike' manner of herons.
11. It is a resident bird found in Melmangalam, Thamarikulam and Bangarukulam.

Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Indian Pond-Heron
Scientific Name : *Ardeola grayii*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ardeidae
Common Name : Black-crowned Night-Heron
Scientific Name : *Nycticorax nycticorax*



Order

: Ardeidae

Common Name

: Chestnut Bittern

Scientific Name

: *Isobrychus cinnamomeus*



Order

: Ciconiiformes

Family

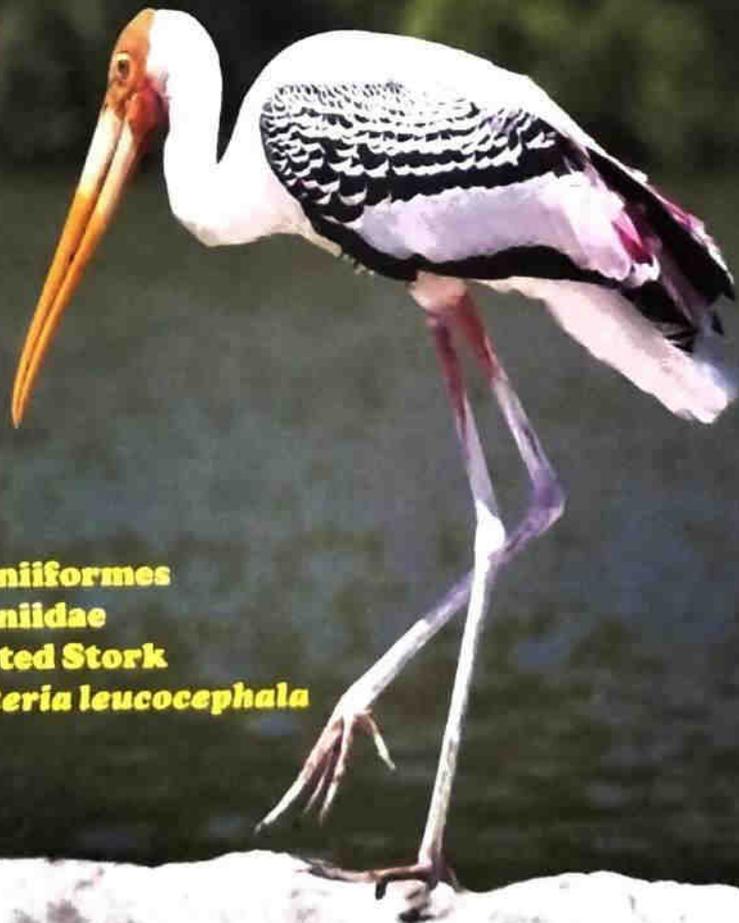
: Ciconiidae

Common Name

: Painted Stork

Scientific Name

: *Mycteria leucocephala*



13. Chestnut Bittern

Ixobrychus cinnamomeus (Gmelin, 1789)

செங்குருகு

1. It is an unmistakable cousin of the Paddy Bird.
2. Its upperparts are chestnut - colour, chin and throat whitish with a dark median stripe down foreneck.
3. Its upper breast chestnut and black and the rest of the underparts are pale chestnut.
4. The female has duller with brown-streaked rufous-buff under parts.
5. It is solitary, found in and around reedy marshes, etc.
6. It is very similar to those of the Little Green Bittern.
7. The neck is stretched perpendicularly with the bill pointing skyward, while the bird 'freezes', it becomes astonishingly obliterated among its reedy environment.
8. It is a resident migrant bird found in Melmangalam.

14. Painted Stork

Mycteria leucocephala (Pennant, 1769)

மஞ்சள் மூக்கு நாரை

1. It is a typical large stork with long, heavy, yellow bill slightly decurved near tip, and unfeathered waxy yellow face.
2. It has white plumage, closely barred and marked with glistening greenish black above with a black band across breast.
3. It is the only white stork having a delicate rose-pink about the shoulders and on wing. Wing and tail quills are black.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are found in pairs, parties or large congregations at jheels and marshes.
6. In general they are similar to those of other storks.
7. They spend the day standing 'hunched up' and inert or sauntering about sedately on grassy marshland in quest of fish, frogs and snakes.
8. They also wade into shallow water moving forward with neck craned down, bill immersed and partly open swaying from side to side.
9. It is a resident migrant spotted at Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

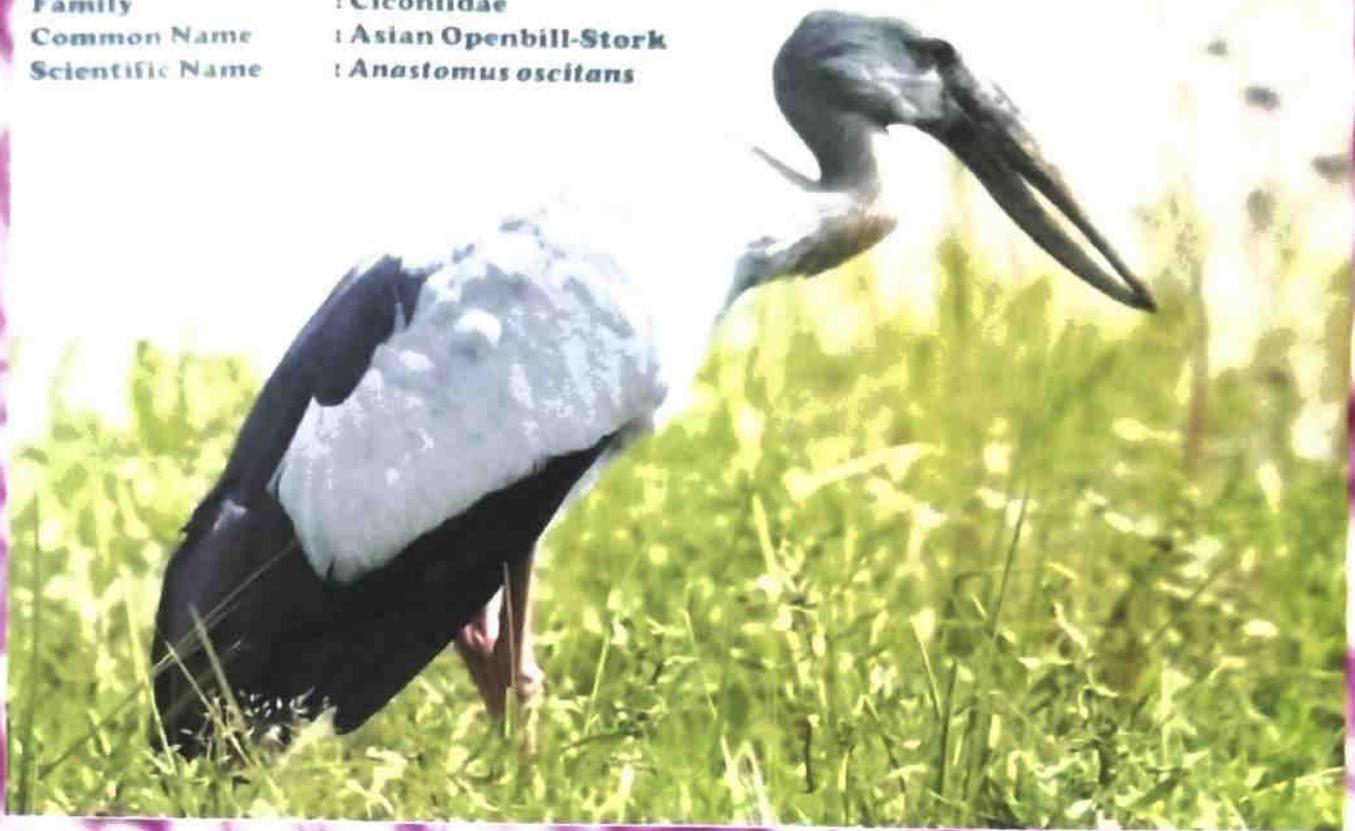
15. Asian Openbill-Stork
Anastomus oscitans (Boddaert, 1783)
நத்தைக்குத்தி நாரை

1. It is a small white or greyish white stork, but black only in the wings.
2. In the distance it is rather like the white stork but the peculiar reddish black bill with arching mandibles leaving a narrow open gap between them is diagnostic.
3. Both the sexes are alike. They are in twos and threes or in flocks at jheels and marshes, occasionally in tidal mudflats.
4. It is one of our commonest storks with a wide and general distribution.
5. Its general habits are typical of the storks.
6. The precise significance and function of the curiously shaped bill is obscure, and it may have to do with opening the thick shells of the large *Ampullaria* snails found on marshes, the soft body and viscera of which form a large proportion of its food in due season. It also eats frogs, crabs, large insects and other small living things.
7. It is a resident bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

16. White-necked Stork
Ciconia episcopus (Boddaert, 1783)
வண்ணாத்தி நாரை, வெண்கழுத்து நாரை

1. It is a glistening black stork with conspicuous white neck and black 'skull cap'. It has white in abdomen and vent.
2. It has long red legs and heavy blackish bill.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs, or in parties on or near marshland.
5. It affects well-watered plains country.
6. Live in partial to water-logged ground, and the environs of rivers, jheels and ponds especially where the latter are in the process of desiccation leaving fish and frogs high and dry.
7. They are soaring aloft and other habits similar to those of the White Stork.
8. They feed on fish, frogs, reptiles, crabs, molluscs, large insects, etc.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ciconiidae
Common Name : Asian Openbill-Stork
Scientific Name : *Anastomus oscitans*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ciconiidae
Common Name : White-necked Stork
Scientific Name : *Myresia erythrope*

Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Ciconiidae
Common Name : Greater Adjutant-Stork
Scientific Name : *Leptoptilos dubius*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Threskiornithidae
Common Name : Oriental White Ibis
Scientific Name : *Threskiornis melanocephalus*



17. Greater Adjutant-Stork
Leptoptilos dubius (Gmelin, 1789)
பெருநாரை

1. It is a large, black, grey and dirty white stork with an enormous yellow wedge-shaped bill, naked head and neck.
2. The long naked ruddy pouch pendent from the chest is diagnostic.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It is singly or in parties, located in marshes.
5. As an efficient scavenger, it often consorts with kites and vultures to feed on carcasses and garbage dumps in the outskirts of villages.
6. It also eats frogs, fish, reptiles, large insects, etc, though heavy in the take-off.
7. It flies strongly with noisy rhythmical flaps when once properly air-borne, and also circles aloft gracefully on motionless wings as most other storks do.
8. A loud clattering of the mandibles is the only sound normally produced.
9. It is a resident migrant spotted twice in Thamaraikulam.

18. Oriental White Ibis
Threskiornis melanocephalus (Latham, 1790)
தலைக்காத்தி கொண்டான், வெள்ளை அரிவாள் மூக்கன்

1. It is a large white marsh bird with naked black head and neck, and long, stout, black, downcurved curlew-like bill.
2. In breeding plumage, it has some slaty grey on scapulars and in wings, and ornamental plumes at the base of neck.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in parties, on marshy land.
5. It is a close relation of the Spoonbill and very like it, in habits and habitat.
6. It walks about actively on marshy land probing with its bill into the soft mud and mandibles partly open like forceps.
7. It often feeds in shallow water with the head momentarily submerged.
8. Like the storks and the Spoonbill, it lacks true voice-producing mechanism and is silent except for peculiar ventriloquial grunts uttered while nesting.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at Thamaraikulam during winter season.

19. Black Ibis

Pseudibis papillosa (Temminck, 1824)

கரிய அரிவாள் மூக்கன்

1. It is a large black bird with long curlew-like downcurved bill, a conspicuous white patch near the shoulder, and brick red legs.
2. It has a naked black head with a triangular patch of crimson warts on the crown.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs, or scattered parties, on the open countryside.
5. Though it is often found in the neighbourhood of rivers and jheels it is by no means as dependent on water as the White Ibis, usually feeding around the dry margin higher up and in the surrounding stubble and fallow land.
6. It keeps to favoured localities, and roosts in accustomed trees.
7. The parties fly in V-formation with steady wing beats alternated with short glides.
8. It feeds on insects, grain and small reptiles.
9. It is a resident bird found in Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam, sited often.

20. Eurasian Spoonbill

Platalea leucorodia (Linnaeus, 1758)

கரண்டி வாய் நாரை

1. It is a long-necked, long-legged snow-white marsh bird with black legs
2. It has a distinctive, large, flat, black-and-yellow spoon-shaped bill.
3. A pale yellowish brown patch is on its foreneck.
4. A long, full nuchal crest is seen in the breeding season.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. It is found in flocks or individually at jheels, etc.
7. It affects marshes and jheels, mudbanks in rivers, and also estuarine mudflats.
8. It feeds actively in the mornings and evenings.
9. A flock wades into shallow water with outstretched necks and obliquely held partly opened bills.

Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Threskiornithidae
Common Name : Black Ibis
Scientific Name : *Pseudibis papillosa*



Order : Ciconiiformes
Family : Threskiornithidae
Common Name : Eurasian Spoonbill
Scientific Name : *Platalea leucorodia*



Order : Anseriformes
Family : Anatidae
Common Name : Bar-headed Goose
Scientific Name : *Anser indicus*



Order : Anseriformes
Family : Anatidae
Common Name : Spot-billed Duck
Scientific Name : *Anas poecilorhynchos*



21. Bar-headed Goose

Anser indicus (Latham, 1790)

நீர் வாத்து, பட்டைத்தலை வாத்து

1. It is a grey, brownish white goose, with white head and sides of neck and two distinctive broad black bars across nape.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It gaggles on rivers and jheels.
4. It arrives about October and departs by March in Theni.
5. It is rather crepuscular and nocturnal.
6. It congregates in large gaggles when grazing in young gram fields, or when resting during the daytime on sandbanks in the middle of large rivers.
7. It is usually excessively wary and difficult to circumvent.
8. They fly in V-formation or in straight ribbons over a wide front to and from their feeding grounds.
9. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

22. Spot-billed Duck

Anas poecilorhyncha (J. R. Forester, 1781)

புள்ளி மூக்கு வாத்து

1. It has large size, scaly patterned light and dark brown plumage.
2. Its white and metallic green wing-bar or speculums are leading pointers.
3. Bright orange-red legs, yellow-tipped dark bill with 2 orange-red spots at its base (one on either side of the forehead), confirm the diagnosis.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in pairs, or small flocks on jheels.
6. It is one of our most widely distributed resident ducks.
7. It is among the species that seem fully conscious of their good qualities as sporting and edible birds.
8. It eats chiefly vegetable matter and a surface feeder, obtaining its food chiefly by tipping or 'up-ending' in shallow water.
9. When reaching down for food, the tail end of the bird sticks out comically above the surface, the vertical stance being maintained by a kicking of the legs.
10. It is a resident migrant bird recorded in Tamaraiikulam.

23. Northern Shoveller

Anas clypeata (Linnaeus, 1758)

மட்டிமிக் செரவி, தட்டை வாயன்

1. **Drake:** Its head and neck are glossy dark green; breast white, rest of underparts mostly chestnut, pale blue on forewing with a white bar between it and the metallic green speculum.
2. **Duck:** It is mottled dark brown and buff, with grayish blue on wings, green speculum, and conspicuous bright orange bill at the base.
3. It has broadened shovel-shaped bill and orange legs diagnostic in both sexes.
4. They are in parties, and small flocks, found in jheels, irrigation reservoirs, village tanks, etc.
5. The peculiar spatulate bill is adapted to its special method of feeding.
6. It swims with neck and bill stretched rigidly in front, the lower mandible immersed furrowing the water while the upper is exposed and skims flat along the surface.
7. The minute food particles so collected are strained out by means of the comb-tooth edges of the bill.
8. Occasionally it also tips or 'up ends' in shallow water.
9. It feeds largely on animal matter.
10. It is not exacting (demanding) in its food preferences, and therefore its flesh is usually rank and unpalatable, but in flight and other respects, it is a good sporting bird.
11. It is a migrant spotted in Bangarukulam.

24. Northern Pintail

Anas acuta (Linnaeus, 1758)

மார்காலியன், ஊசிவால் வாத்து

1. **Drake:** It has upper plumage penciled grey, head is in chocolate colour with a white band on either side running down into the white neck and underparts.
2. It has long, pointed pin-like feathers projecting well beyond the tail, usually sufficiently diagnostic.
3. **Duck:** It is mottled brown and buff with characteristic elongated body and tapering tail, but without the pins.
4. It differs from female Gadwall by absence of white in the wing and from female Mallard without the bright wing-speculum.
5. They are in pairs, or flocks, on reed-fringed vegetation and covered jheels.
6. It is one of our commonest migrant ducks and table bird.
7. It is largely vegetarian in its food preferences.
8. It grubs in squelchy mud inundated cultivation and on grassy tank margins.
9. It is also 'up-ends' in shallow water.
10. It is a migrant bird spotted at Bangarukulam.

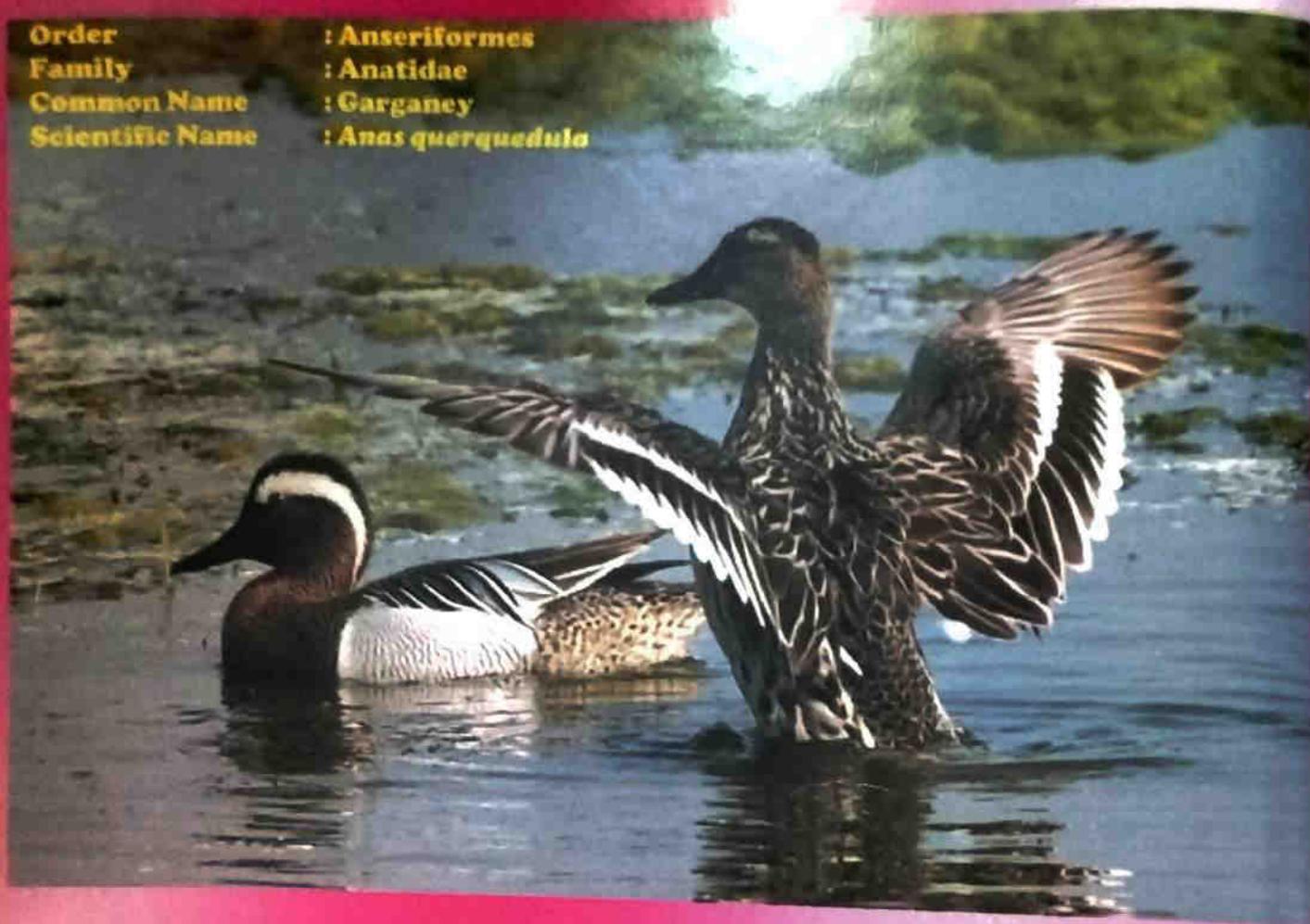
Order : Anseriformes
Family : Anatidae
Common Name : Northern Shoveller
Scientific Name : *Anas clypeata*



Order : Anseriformes
Family : Anatidae
Common Name : Northern Pintail
Scientific Name : *Anas acuta*



Order : Anseriformes
Family : Anatidae
Common Name : Garganey
Scientific Name : *Anas querquedula*



Order : Falconiformes
Family : Accipitridae
Common Name : Black-shouldered kite
Scientific Name : *Elanus caeruleus*



25. Garganey

Anas querquedula (Linnaeus, 1758)

நீலச்சிறகி

1. **Drake:** It is recognizable by his pink-brown white-speckled head, with conspicuous broad white eyebrows and bluish grey on wing and shoulders.
2. **Duck:** It closely resembles female Teal but is paler. In flight, her very indistinct speculum as compared with the Teal's is suggestive. At close range the pure white throat (instead of brown-speckled) and the prominent superciliary stripe distinguish her.
3. It flocks on grassy jheels, etc.
4. It is a swift flier and a good sporting and table bird.
5. It is largely a vegetarian.
6. It is a migrant bird in Bangarukulam.

26. Black-shouldered Kite

Elanus caeruleus (Desfontaines, 1789)

சிறிய கரும்பருந்து

1. Dainty hawk has ashy grey above and white below with a black line above the eyes and black patches on shoulders, conspicuous at rest as well as in flight.
2. When closed, its wing tips extend beyond the short, square and white tail.
3. It is rather crepuscular, but also active in daytime.
4. It inhabits well-wooded country and cultivation and also thin deciduous forest and grassland.
5. It avoids dense jungle as well as arid plains.
6. It keeps to a favoured locality and perched on the same pole or tree-top from day to day
7. It keeps a lookout and pounce upon crawling prey.
8. Cocks are jerking tail up and down between the drooping wings from time to time.
9. It also hovers in mid-air to scan the ground and parachutes down in steps with motionless wings raised vertically above the body till when only a few feet above closes them and drops on the quarry, bearing it away in its claws.
10. It eats locusts, crickets, mice, lizards, etc.
11. It is sluggish in flight and has slow deliberate wing strokes alternated with short glides.
12. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Southuparai and Melmangalam.

27. Black Kite

Milvus migrans (Boddaert, 1783)

பெரிய பருந்து, கள்ளப் பருந்து

1. It is a large brown hawk and is also known as Raptor.
2. It is distinguished from all similar birds by its forked tail, particularly in overhead flight.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are seen in singly or gregariously, scavenging in towns and villages.
5. It is found in the neighbourhood of human habitations, particularly in populated city or outlying hamlet.
6. It remarkably adroit on the wing such as turning and twisting, banking and stooping to scoop up scraps from a traffic-congested thoroughfare and avoiding tangles.
7. It is found on overhead telephone, electric wires with masterful ease and on trees.
8. It eats animal waste, offal garbage, earthworms, winged termites, lizards, mice, disabled or young birds and almost anything else that can be procured.
9. It is a resident, spotted in Melmangalam, JAC Campus and Thamaraiikulam.

28. Western Marsh-Harrier

Circus aeruginosus (Linnaeus, 1758)

சேற்று பூனைப்பருந்து

1. Male has dark brown with pale rufous head, neck and breast, and dark rufous below.
2. It has silvery grey tail.
3. Wings have silvery grey with black tip.
4. Female has dark chocolate-brown with creamy buff cap on head and buff at leading edge of wing at shoulder.
5. It is a marsh frequenting harrier and seen in frequently on wheels, marshes and paddy fields etc.
6. It flies leisurely a few metres above the marsh vegetation occasionally dropping to seize its prey.
7. Unlike other harriers it spends considerable time for sitting on the ground or soaring aloft with wings held in a wide V above the body.
8. It eats frogs, fish, small birds, mammals and carrion.
9. It is a migrant spotted in Melmangalam alone.

Family : **Accipitridae**
Common Name : **Black Kite**
Scientific Name : ***Milvus migrans***



Order : **Falconiformes**
Family : **Accipitridae**
Common Name : **Western Marsh-Harrier**
Scientific Name : ***Circus aeruginosus***



Order : Falconiformes
Family : Accipitridae
Common Name : Shikra
Scientific Name : *Accipiter badius*



Order : Falconiformes
Family : Accipitridae
Common Name : Eurasian Sparrowhawk
Scientific Name : *Accipiter nisus*



29. Shikra

Accipiter badius (Gmelin, 1788)

வில்லேத்திரன் குருவி

1. It is a lightly built hawk.
2. It has ashy blue-grey above and white below cross-barred with rusty brown.
3. Female has browner above and larger.
4. Immature has brown and rufous above with broad brown vertical streaks on the underside.
5. It has broad, blackish cross banded tail.
6. They are found singly or pairs in lightly-wooded country.
7. It affects open wooded country and avoids heavy forest.
8. It is fond of groves of large trees in the neighbourhood of villages and cultivation.
9. It flies like swift with several rapid win strokes followed by a glide.
10. Usually flies close to ground and shooting upward to alight on a branch.
11. It feeds on lizards, mice, squirrels, birds and at times chicken-lifter from the poultry yard.
12. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus and Southuparai.

30. Eurasian Sparrowhawk

Accipiter nisus (Linnaeus, 1758)

ஐரோவாசியச் சிட்டுப்பருந்து

1. It is a medium-sized short-winged hawk
2. It is difficult to distinguish from the shikra or the Besra Sparrow- Hawk.
3. It lacks mesial stripe on throat.
4. Male has darker and saltier upperparts and legs are longer and slenderer than shikra's.
5. It has a white supercilium and four or five blackish bands on tail.
6. Female is larger than male and has more brown. Immature birds are dark brown with rufous edged feathers and conspicuous white base to neck and nape feathers.
7. Its breast feathers have heart-shaped rufous-brown spots and bars on abdomen, flanks and thigh coverts.
8. The resident race has darker slate above deeper rufous below.
9. It is usually solitary and hunts as other species of the group ambushing unwary prey by pouncing from a tree or flies at great speed close to the ground flushing small birds feeding on the ground or in bushes.
10. It is a resident migratory bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

31. Changeable Hawk-Eagle
Spizaetus cirrhatus (Gmelin, 1788)
குடுமிப் பருந்து

1. It is a slender forest eagle, brown above and white below with black longitudinal streaks on throat and chocolate streaks on breast.
2. It has long narrow crest projecting behind head.
3. In overhead flight, comparatively rounded wings (upturned at tip), longish tail, white body (spotted with brown) and grey underside of wings (streaked and spotted) are leading pointers.
4. Both the sexes are alike but female is larger.
5. They are in singly in well wooded country.
6. It keeps a sharp lookout, perched bolt upright on a bough amongst the foliage canopy of some high tree standing near a forest clearing for junglefowl, pheasants, hares and other small animals coming out into the open.
7. It swoops down with a terrific rush, strikes and bears them away in its talons.
8. It is resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

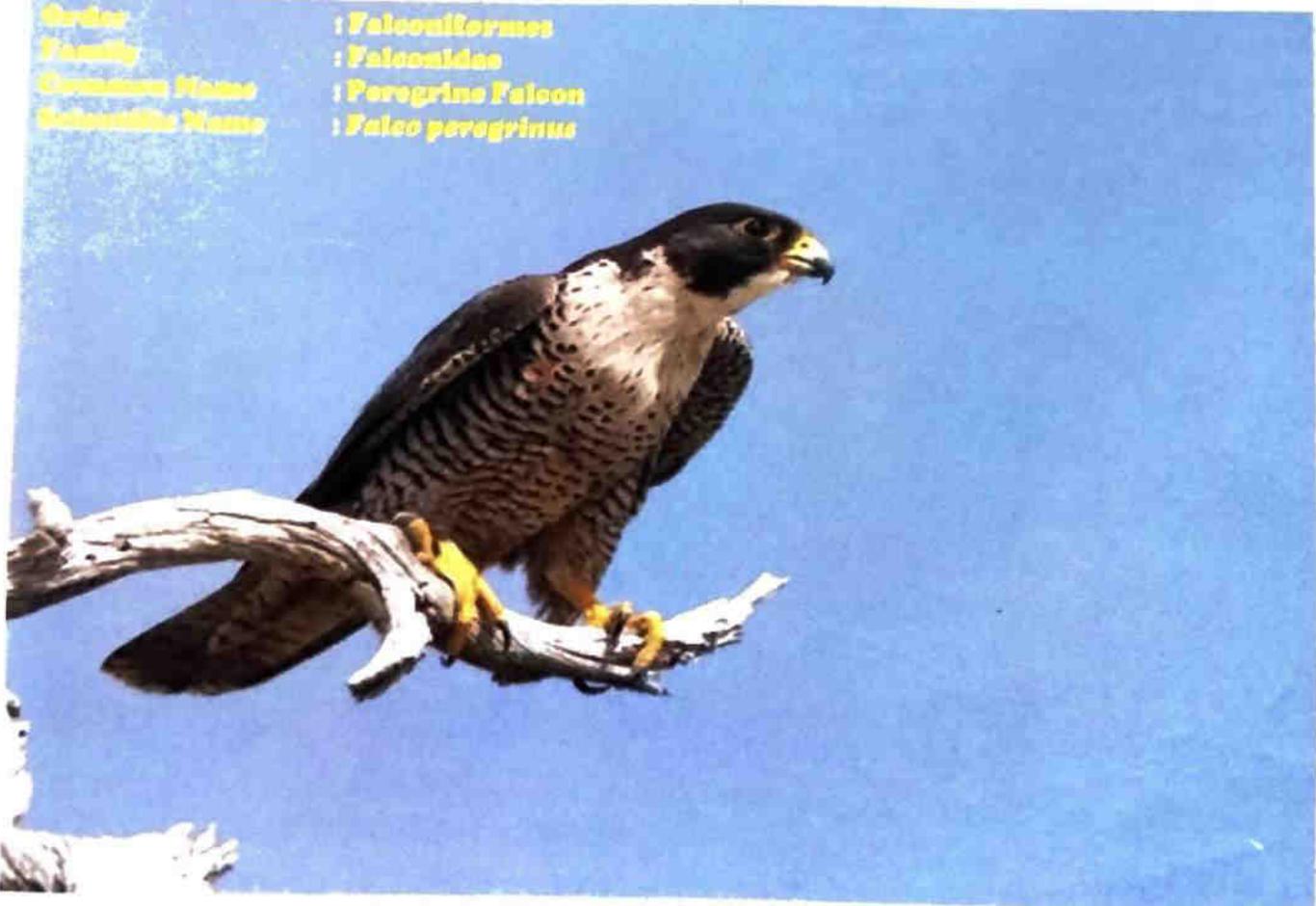
32. Peregrine Falcon
Falco peregrinus (Tunstall, 1771)
பொரி வல்லூறு

1. It is a compact, pointed winged and sleek falcon.
2. Head has slaty black conspicuous with black cheek stripes and contrasting sharply with white chin and throat diagnostic in flight.
3. It has grey barred with black above on lower breast and rufous white below.
4. In overhead flight whitish coloured compact body, black-barred under wings, unexpanded tail and deliberate flight are distinctive.
5. Female is larger, keeps in singly.
6. It is usually hunting at dawn or early dusk and stooping on prey at incredible speed.
7. It feeds mainly on ducks, wader and other waterfowl.
8. It is a migrant spotted at JAC Campus and Southuparai.

Order : Falconiformes
Family : Accipitridae
Common Name : Changeable Hawk-Eagle
Scientific Name : *Spizæetus cirrhatus*



Order : Falconiformes
Family : Falconidae
Common Name : Peregrine Falcon
Scientific Name : *Falco peregrinus*



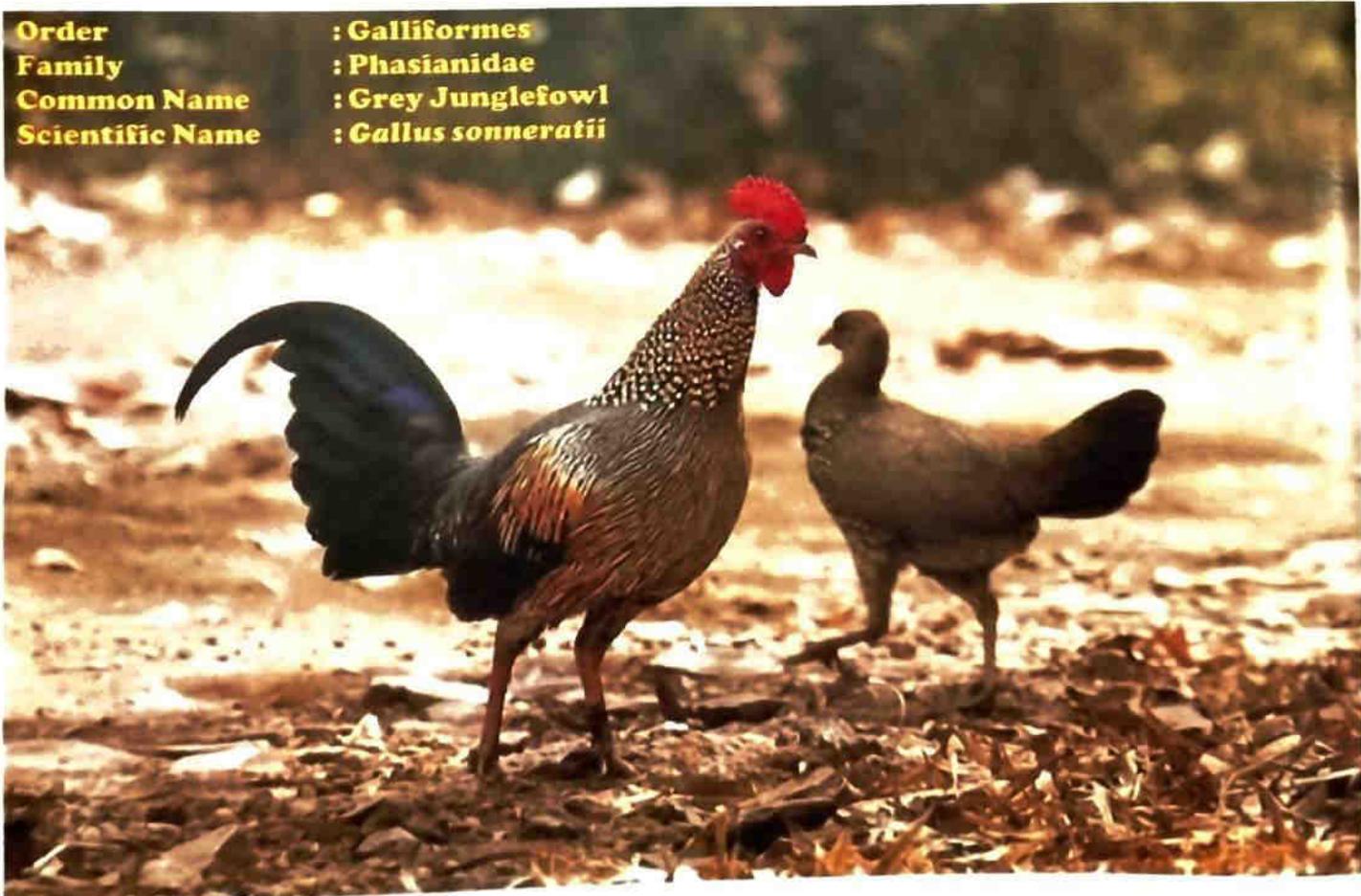
Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Galliformes
: Phasianidae
: Grey Francolin
: *Francolinus pondicerianus*



Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Galliformes
: Phasianidae
: Grey Junglefowl
: *Callus sonneratii*



33. Grey Francolin

Francolinus pondicerianus (Gmelin, 1789)

கௌதாரி

1. It is a stub-tailed greyish brown game bird with chestnut blotching above
2. It has fine wavy black and buff vermiculations with chestnut tail.
3. Its throat is rufous-buff circumscribed by a broken blackish line.
4. Both the sexes are alike
5. Cock has a pointed spur on each leg.
6. They are in pairs or coveys in dry scrub country and cultivation.
7. It affects dry, open grass and thorn-scrub country.
8. It avoids heavy forest and humid tracts, found in villages and cultivation.
9. Coveys (a small flock of Francolin) scratch the ground or cattle dung for food such as grain, seeds, termites, beetle, larvae, etc.
10. It is largely terrestrial but roosts in babul and similar trees.
11. When flushed, it rises with a loud whir of wings.
12. It usually trusts to its legs for escape so it is a very fast runner.
13. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Southuparai and Thamaraiikulam.

34. Grey Junglefowl

Gallus sonneratii (Temminck, 1813)

காட்டுக்கோழி

1. It has general effect of the cock.
2. It has streaked grey with a metallic black sickle-shaped tail.
3. Hen is distinguishable from that of red jungle flow by her white breast with blackish borders to the feathers producing a scaly pattern.
4. They are in singly or in small parties found in forest and scrub jungle.
5. It inhabits in deciduous as well as evergreen forest, plain and hills. Particularly fond of lantana and other scrub growing on the site of abandoned forest clearings.
6. They are very shy and wary.
7. It scuttles into cover on the least suspicion, neck outstretched and tail drooping.
8. It roosts up in trees or bamboo clumps.
9. It eats grain, shoots, tubers, berries, termites and other insects.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

35. Indian Peafowl

Pavo cristatus (Linnaeus, 1758)

மயில் அல்லது நீல மயில்

1. The gorgeous ocellated 'tail' of the adult cock, 1 to 1.5 m long, is in reality the abnormally lengthened upper tail-coverts.
2. Hen is also crested like cock, but smaller, mottled brown with some metallic green on lower neck without lacking the ornamental train.
3. They are in parties or droves in deciduous forest and locally semi-domesticated about villages and cultivation, where they are protected by religious sentiments.
4. It inhabits in dense scrub and deciduous jungle, plain and foothill, preferably in the neighbourhood of rivers and streams.
5. It is polygamous; usually one cock with 4 or 5 hens, but seasonally of the sexes separately.
6. It is always excessively shy and alert.
7. It slinks sway through the undergrowth on its legs and flies only when suddenly comes upon or crosses a ravine or open river bed and roosts at night on large trees.
8. It feeds on grain, vegetable shoots, insects, lizards, snakes, etc.
9. It is a resident bird found at JAC Campus and Southuparai.

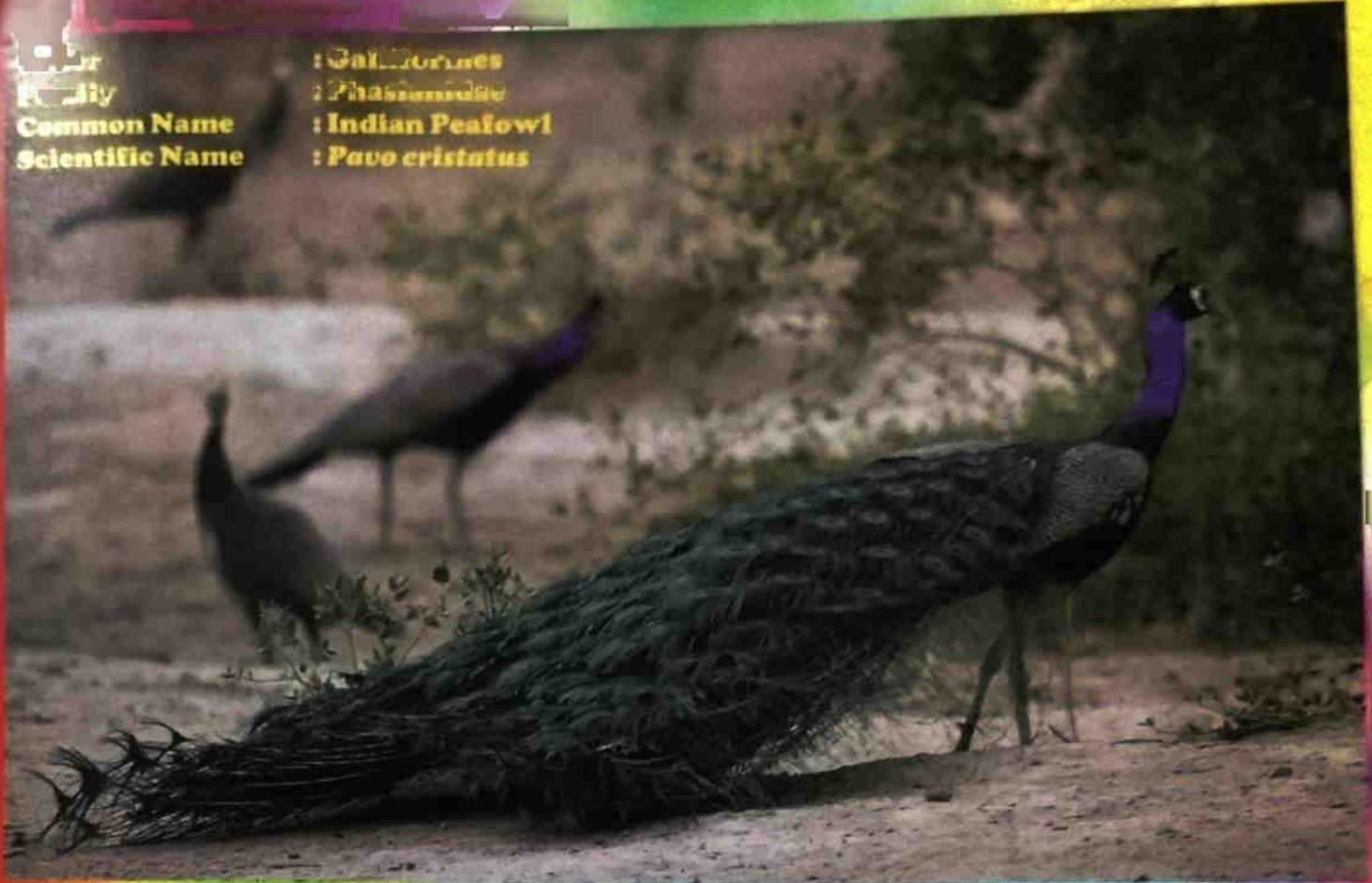
36. Common Buttonquail

Turnix suscitator (Gmelin, 1789)

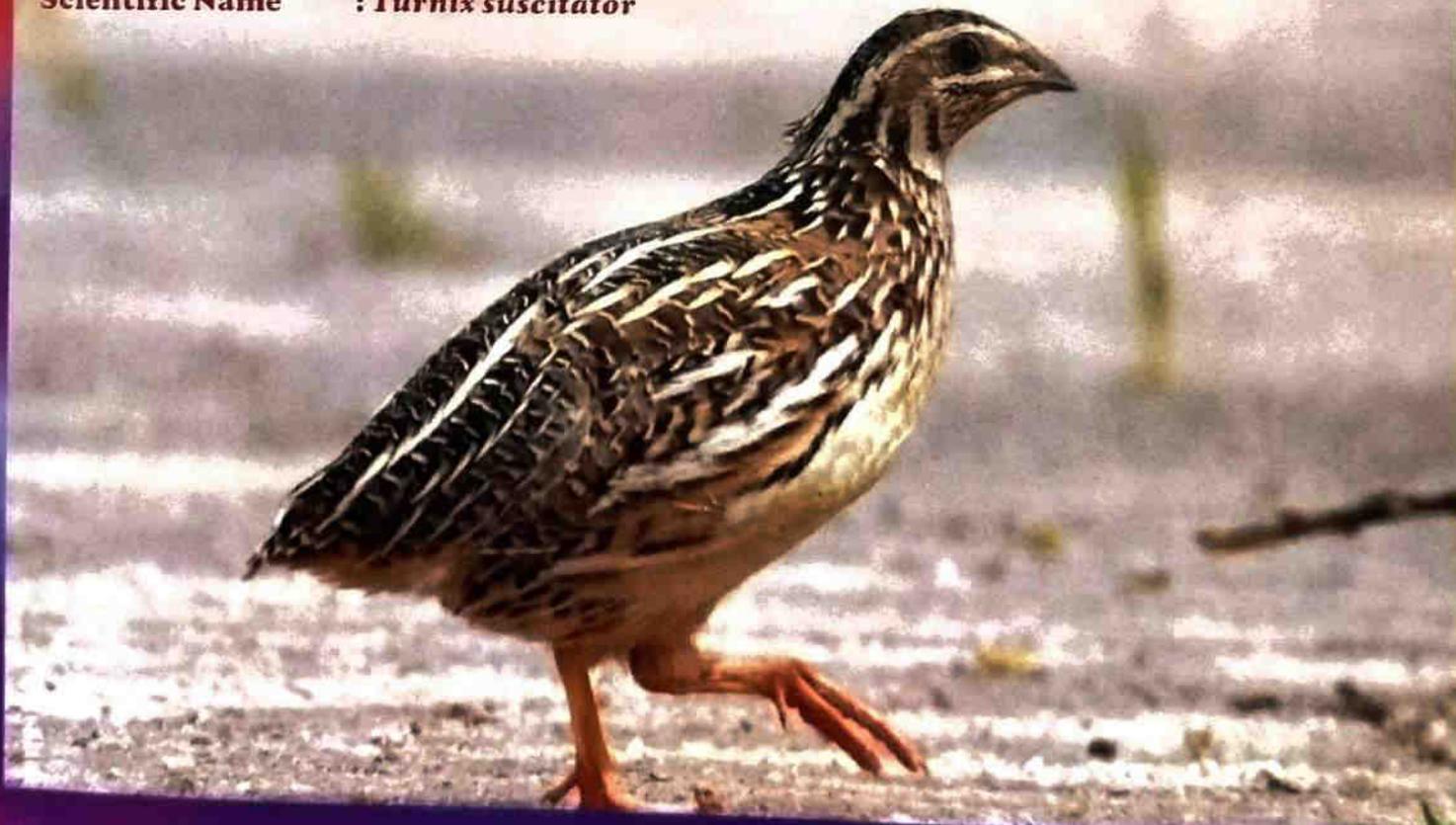
கருங்காடை

1. It is a typical little quail, rufous-brown above, rusty and buff below.
2. Its chin, throat and breast are closely barred with black.
3. The female is larger and more richly coloured, throat and middle of breast is black. The blue-grey bill and legs, and yellowish white eyes are diagnostic with the pale buff shoulder-patches on the wings in flight.
4. Absence of a hind toe distinguishes Bustard and Buttonquail.
5. They are in pairs, in scrub and grassland.
6. It is found in every type of country except in dense forest and desert.
7. It is partial to scrub jungle, light deciduous forest, and neighbourhood of cultivation.
8. It differs from true quails chiefly in the female being polyandrous.
9. She fights with other females for the possession of a cock, uttering a loud drumming drr-r-r-r-r as a challenge to rival hens and also announces herself to a cock.
10. It's eggs are left to be incubated by the cock that also tends the young.
11. The hen goes off to acquire another husband and perhaps yet another, and so on, evidently only one at a time.
12. It is a resident bird found in JAC Campus, Melmangalam and Sothuparai.

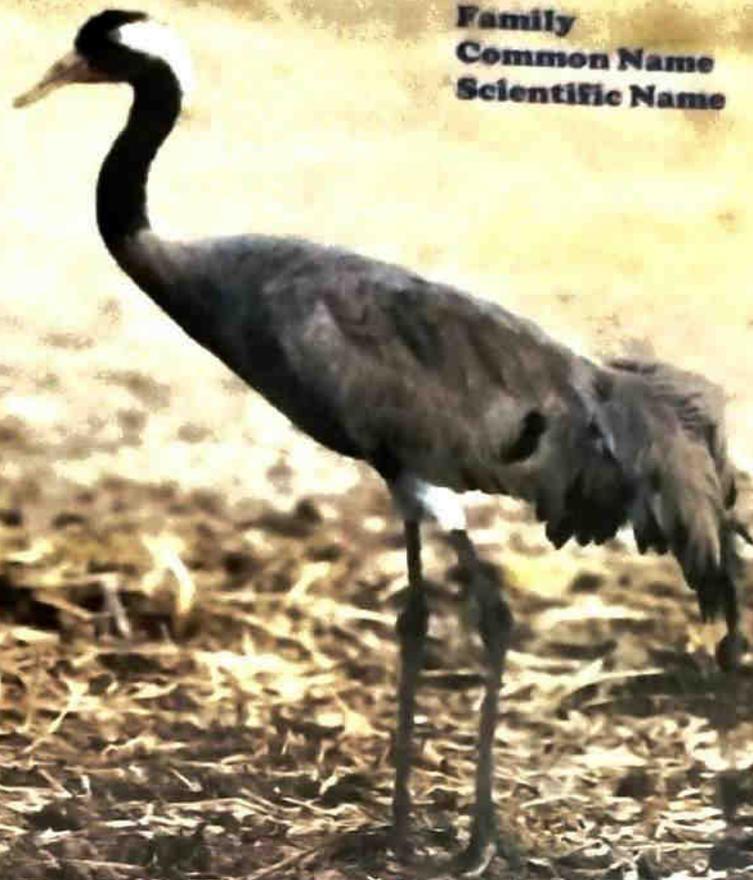
Order : Galliformes
Family : Phasianidae
Common Name : Indian Peafowl
Scientific Name : *Pavo cristatus*



Order : Gruiformes
Family : Turnicidae
Common Name : Common Buttonquail
Scientific Name : *Turnix suscitator*



Order : Gruiformes
Family : Gruidae
Common Name : Common Crane
Scientific Name : *Grus grus*



Order : Gruiformes
Family : Rallidae
Common Name : Common Moorhen
Scientific Name : *Gallinula chloropus*



37. Common Crane
Grus grus (Linnaeus, 1758)
கொக்கு, நாரை

1. It is a large, stork-like, long necked grey bird with head and upper neck blackish with a dull red naked patch on nape and a distinctive white band from behind eye along sides of neck.
2. Flight feathers are in black and a mass of grey plumes above tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It is seen in cultivated plains and sandy river-beds.
5. It keeps in large, very wary, keeps flocks which spend the warmer parts of the day and most of the night on river sandbanks flying out each morning and evening to feed in cultivated fields.
6. It is largely vegetarian, feeds on shoots of grass and cereal crops, tubers, grain, insects and small reptiles.
7. It is a migrant bird sited in Melmangalam.

38. Common Moorhen
Gallinula chloropus (Linnaeus, 1758)
தாழைக்கோழி

1. It is a typical waterhen, on water it looks like a small duck.
2. It has a slaty grey and brown marsh bird with white edges to the closed wings and conspicuous white under tail-coverts.
3. Its forehead (frontal shield) and base of greenish bill are bright red with longish green legs and large feet.
4. They are in pairs or gregariously, amongst partially submerged rushes, swimming or skulking about.
5. It is typical of the rails.
6. It is very like the White breasted Water hen; except that it swims a great deal more. On water, it is jerky bobbing of head and a flicking up of tail when the white under tail-coverts flash prominently.
7. In flight it labors usually low over the water with rapid wing beats, neck stretched in front and legs trailing behind.
8. It feeds on insects, worms, molluscs, grain and shoots of paddy and marsh plants..
9. It is a resident migrant bird found in Thamaraiikulam.

39. Common Coot
Fulica atra (Linnaeus, 1758)
நாமக்கோழி

1. It is a slaty black, dumpy, practically tailless waterbird.
2. The ivory white pointed bill and frontal shield (on forehead) are diagnostic. The peculiar lobed or scalloped toes are also characteristic.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They live gregariously, on tanks and jheels.
5. It is found sparingly on rush-bordered irrigation tanks etc., in winter.
6. Numbers are vastly augmented by immigrants from central and western Asia.
7. It skitters along the water to take off; half running and half flying; it rises with much labour and patterning, but flies strongly when properly launched.
8. The rapid almost hovering wing beats, the blunt barrel-shaped body and the legs trailing behind rail-like, distinguish it from a duck in flight.
9. It eats grass and paddy shoots, aquatic weeds and insects, mollusks, etc.
10. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam, Sothuparai and Bangarukulam.

40. Red-wattled Lapwing
Vanellus indicus (Boddaert, 1783)
சிவப்பு மூக்கு ஆள்காட்டி

1. It is a familiar plover, bronze-brown above, white below, with black breast, head and neck and a crimson fleshy wattle in front of each eye.
2. A broad white band is from behind the eyes running down the sides of the neck to meet the white underparts.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in scattered pairs at tanks, puddles etc.
5. It affects open country, ploughed fields, grazing land and margins and dry beds of tanks and puddles.
6. It is also found in forest glades around rain-filled depressions.
7. It runs about in short spurts and dips forward obliquely to pick up food in the typical plover manner.
8. It is strange and rather frightening and ceaselessly vigilant, day or night, and foremost to detect intrusion and raise the alarm.
9. It eats on insects, grubs, mollusks, etc.
10. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam and Thamaraiikulam.

Order : Gruiformes
Family : Rallidae
Common Name : Common Coot
Scientific Name : *Fulica atra*



Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Charadriidae
Common Name : Red-wattled Lapwing
Scientific Name : *Vanellus indicus*





Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Scolopacidae
Common Name : Marsh Wren
Scientific Name : Tringa melanochloros



Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Scolopacidae
Common Name : Common Greenshank
Scientific Name : Tringa nebularia

41. Marsh Sandpiper
***Tringa stagnatilis* (Bechstein, 1803)**
சதுப்பு மண்கொத்தி

1. It is a dainty smaller version of the Greenshank including absence of wing-bar.
2. In winter its forehead, supercilium, sides of head, lower back and rump are pure white in colour otherwise greyish brown above.
3. Immaculate white is seen in below and sides of breast are marked in brown
4. Its bill is black and almost straight, with slender green legs.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. In summer, it has sandy grey above with dark angular spots on back and below white.
7. It has brown spotted on foreneck and upper breast.
8. It flanks irregularly barred.
9. It is seen along swamp edges of freshwater ponds, jheels and paddy fields, etc.
10. They found in small parties in company with other sandpipers randomly prospecting by pivoting in semi-circles.
11. It feeds on insects, other invertebrates and also small frogs.
12. It is a migrant spotted at Bangarukulam.

42. Common Greenshank
***Tringa nebularia* (Gunner, 1767)**
பெரிய கோட்டான், பச்சைக்காலி

1. It is the largest among Indian Sandpipers.
2. It is distinguished from Marsh Sandpiper by larger size and from the Redshank by the absence of a wing bar seen in flight.
3. It has olive-green legs and slightly upturned bill
4. It has forehead, lower back, rump and faintly barred tail with white colour.
5. Its above is dark greyish brown and its below white except greyish foreneck and sides of head.
6. Both the sexes are alike.
7. In summer, it is darker and richer above, feathers of the back and scapulars with broad black centres, its foreneck and sides of breast has dark brown spots on white.
8. It is usually solitary or in small parties, often found in the company of the Redshank.
9. It has the habit of moving at a run on a straight line with its neck outstretched and bill submerged.
10. It feeds on insects and other invertebrates, occasionally tadpoles and even frogs.
11. It is a migrant bird in Melmangalam, Bangarukulam and Thamaraiikulam.

43. Temminck's Stint
Calidris temminckii (Leisler, 1812)
கொக உள்ளான்

1. It is similar to the Little Stint but distinguished from it by the pure white outer tail feathers and olive-green legs.
2. No white stripes are on its back.
3. It is almost identical in plumage and leg colour to the Common Sandpiper but smaller in size.
4. It keeps in mixed flocks with the Little Stint and other waders.
5. It flies straight up like a snipe when flushed.
6. It feeds on marine invertebrates and insects.
7. It is a migrant bird found in Melmangalam. It is sighted only once in Vaigai reservoir.

44. Ruff and Reeve
Philomachus pugnax (Linnaeus, 1758)
வார்ரா செரவி

1. It is rather a dumpy greyish brown wader with bold scaly patterned upper plumage and relatively short sandpiper-like bill.
2. In flight, it has a narrow white wing-band and whitish patches on either side at base of tail, suggestive clues.
3. Both sexes are alike, but Reeve (Female) is considerably smaller. In summer plumage, sometimes partially acquires before emigration (April/May).
4. Ruff (Male) is extremely different with much black, white, purple, chestnut and buff in it, and with a peculiar ruff and ear tufts.
5. Reeve is like that in winter, but blacker above. It flocks on marshes and tidal mudflats etc.
6. It is gregarious, its behavior, food, etc. are like the other migrant waders, but takes larger quantities of weed seeds.
7. It is a good sporting bird. Ruff is best known for its promiscuous breeding habits and its fantastic communal sparring tournaments or courtship displays.
8. Ready-to-breed females visit the 'hills' from time to time and mate with the Ruff of their choice. He takes no part in the nesting chores,
9. It is a migrant bird in Melmangalam, Bangarukulam and Thamaraiikulam.

Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Scolopacidae
Common Name : Temminck's Stint
Scientific Name : *Calidris temminckii*



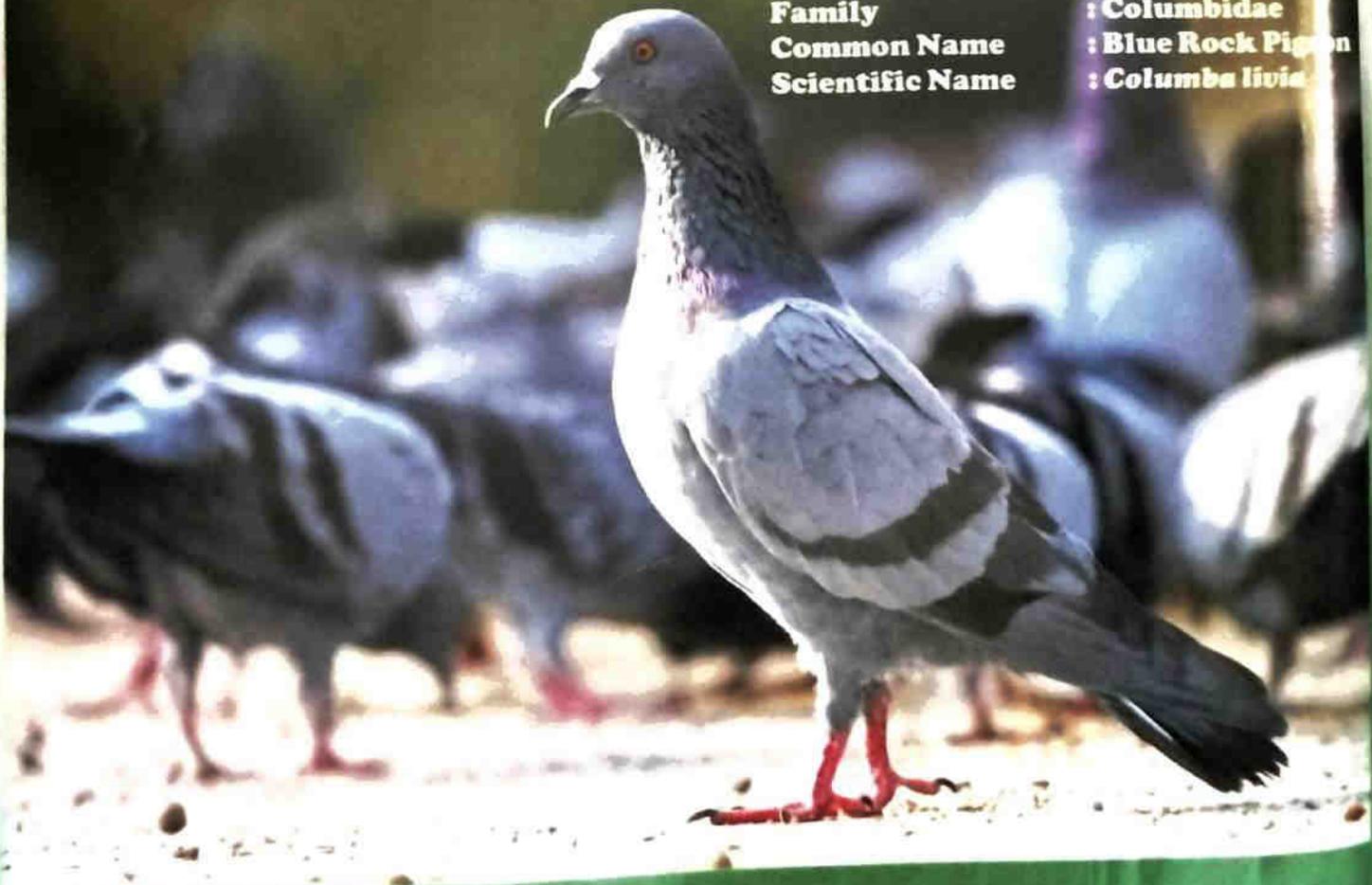
Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Scolopacidae
Common Name : Ruff (Reeve)
Scientific Name : *Philomachus pugnax*



Order : Charadriiformes
Family : Recurvirostridae
Common Name : Black-winged stilt
Scientific Name : *Himantopus himantopus*



Order : Columbiformes
Family : Columbidae
Common Name : Blue Rock Pigeon
Scientific Name : *Columba livia*



45. Black-winged Stilt

Himantopus Himantopus (Linnaeus, 1758)

பவில்ல காலுள்ளன், நெடுங்கால் உள்ளான்

1. It is a lanky black, greyish brown and white wading bird with a straight slender black bill and enormously long, tin reddish legs.
2. The sexes differ in details of coloration, as also in the summer and winter plumages.
3. They are in pairs or flocks at jheels.
4. It affects marshes, jheels, village tanks, salt pans and tidal mudflats.
5. Its stilt legs enable it to wade into comparatively deep water where it probes into the squelchy bottom mud for worms, molluscs, aquatic insects, etc.
6. Head and neck submerged at a steep angle and it's hind part of the body sticking out, rather like duck up ending. It also swims well. In flight, it is weak flapping with neck extended and long red legs trailing beyond the tail.
7. It is a resident bird found in Bangarukulam.

46. Blue Rock Pigeon

Columba livia (Gmelin, 1789)

மாடப்புறா, மலைப்புறா

1. It is a familiar slaty grey bird with glistening metallic green, purple and magenta sheen on neck and upper breast.
2. Two dark bars are on wings and a band across the end of the tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They flock in colonies, about cliffs and human inhabitations.
5. In its perfectly wild state, it affects open country with cliffs and rocky hills. Grain warehouse, railway stations and old or disused buildings are their favorite haunts.
6. It is mostly seen in a semi-domesticated condition, living as a commensal of man and largely adulterated through interbreeding with fancy artificial strains.
7. This semiferal stock has become thoroughly inured to the din and bustles of urban life and is now well established in most Indian towns.
8. Wild birds occupy cliffs and crumbling battlements of hill forts etc., and glean in outlying cultivation.
9. It eats cereals, pulses, groundnuts etc.
10. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

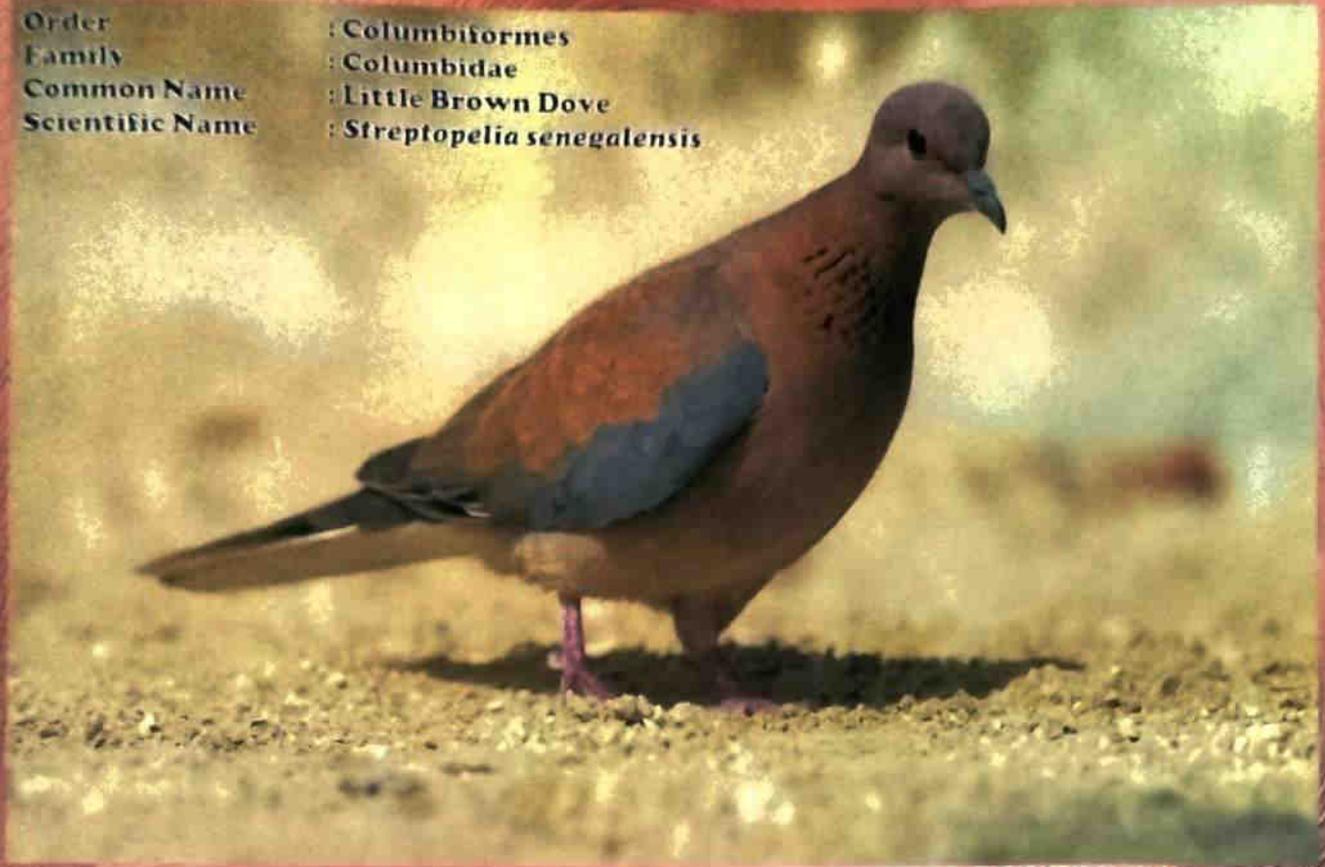
47. Little Brown Dove
***Streptopelia senegalensis* (Linnaeus, 1766)**
சிறிய தவிட்டுப்புறா

1. It is a small and slim dove.
2. It has earthy brown and grey above with pinkish brown.
3. It also has white below with a miniature 'chessboard' in rufous and black on either side of neck.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in pairs or loose flocks in dry scrub or semi-desert country.
6. It affects dry stony scrub country with 'cactus' (*Euphorbia and Opuntia*) brakes, etc., in the neighbourhood of villages and cultivation and often side by side with Ring Dove.
7. It is tame and confiding.
8. It freely enters bungalows and nests on rafters and cornices.
9. It gleans on seeds and grain on the ground.
10. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

48. Spotted Dove
***Streptopelia chinensis* (Scopoli, 1786)**
புள்ளிப்புறா

1. It is a white-spotted pinkish brown bird with grey upperparts and white and black 'chessboard' on hindneck.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are in pairs or parties found in open wooded country, gleaning in stubble fields, on cross-country cart tracks, etc.
4. It affects open well-wooded and cultivated country and it avoids arid tracts.
5. It becomes quite tame and confiding if unmolested, freely entering gardens and verandas of bungalows.
6. In flight like other doves, it is swift and strong, accompanied by vigorous wing strokes.
7. It is a resident bird in JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

Order : Columbiformes
Family : Columbidae
Common Name : Little Brown Dove
Scientific Name : *Streptopelia senegalensis*



Order : Columbiformes
Family : Columbidae
Common Name : Spotted Dove
Scientific Name : *Streptopelia chinensis*



Order : Columbiformes
Family : Columbidae
Common Name : Eurasian Collared-Dove
Scientific Name : *Streptopelia decaocto*



Order : Psittaciformes
Family : Psittacidae
Common Name : Alexandrine Parakeet
Scientific Name : *Psittacula eupatria*



49. Eurasian Collared-Dove
Streptopelia decaocto (Frivaldszky, 1838)
கள்ளிப்புறா, சாம்பல் புறா

1. It is a pale vinous grey and brown pigeon with a prominent narrow black half-collar or ring on the hindneck.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are in pairs or loose flocks found in open scrub and cultivated country.
4. It affects open and cultivated though essentially dry country abounding in groves, e.g. of babool (*Acacia*) or dhak (*Butea*) trees in which to retire during the midday heat.
5. It is locally abundant in the neighbourhood of human habitation and freely enters gardens and bungalow verandas, etc.
6. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

50. Alexandrine Parakeet
Psittacula eupatria (Linnaeus, 1766)
பெரிய பச்சைக்கிளி

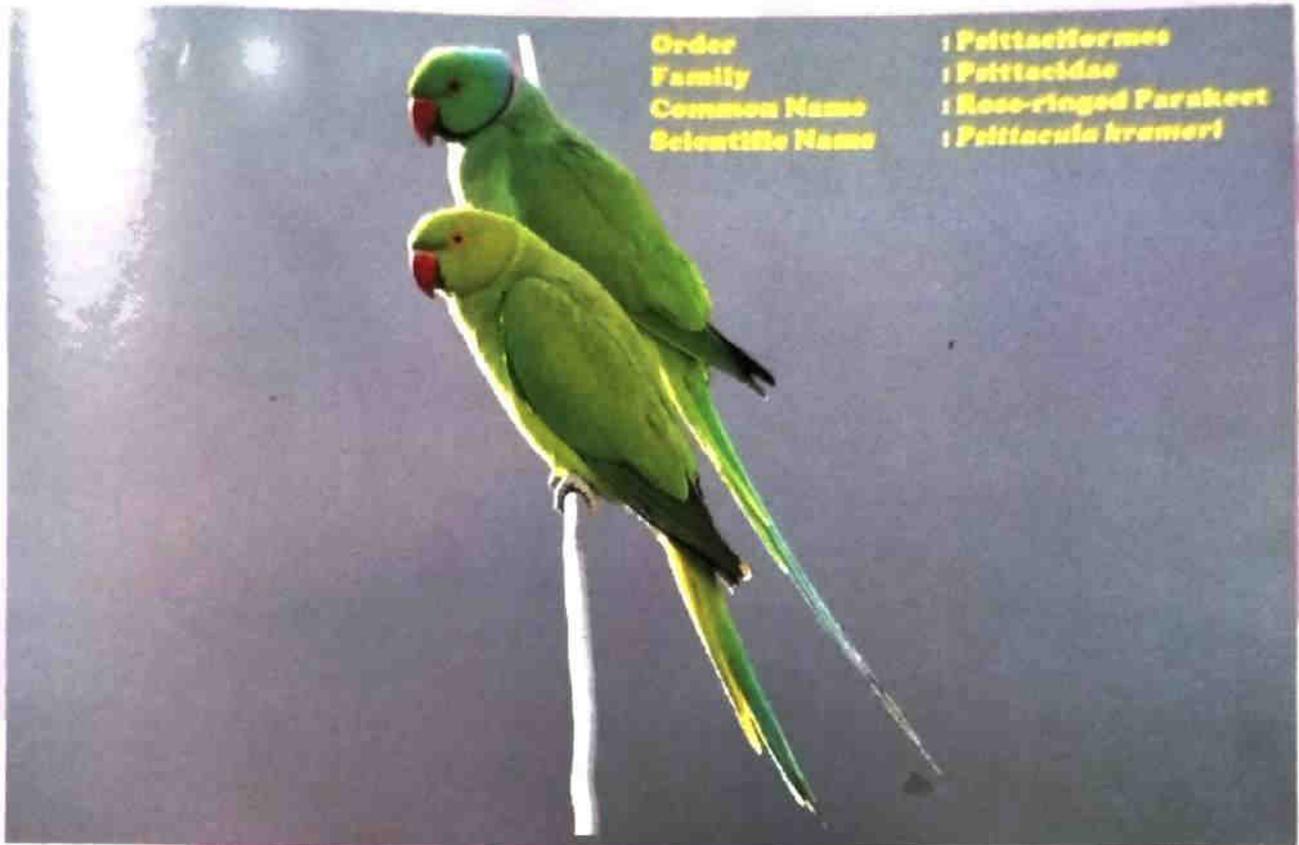
1. It is a large grass-green parakeet with the typical short, massive deeply hooked red bill, and a conspicuous maroon patch on each shoulder.
2. The female lacks the rose-pink and black collar of the male.
3. Noisy parties in cultivation and wooded country.
4. It affects wooded country, orchards and cultivation.
5. It occasionally collects in large flocks which do considerable damage to ripening fruit and standing crops of maize and jowar.
6. It has communal roosts amongst groves of leafy trees where enormous numbers collect each night to the accompaniment of much noise and chatter.
7. It has deeper voice and more powerful than that of the common Roseringed species.
8. It flies gracefully and swift in spite of the seemingly leisurely wing beats.
9. It is a popular cage bird and learns to repeat a few words rather indistinctly as compared with the Hill Myna.
10. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.

51. Rose-ringed Parakeet
Psittacula Krameri (Scopoli, 1769)
பச்சைக்கிளி

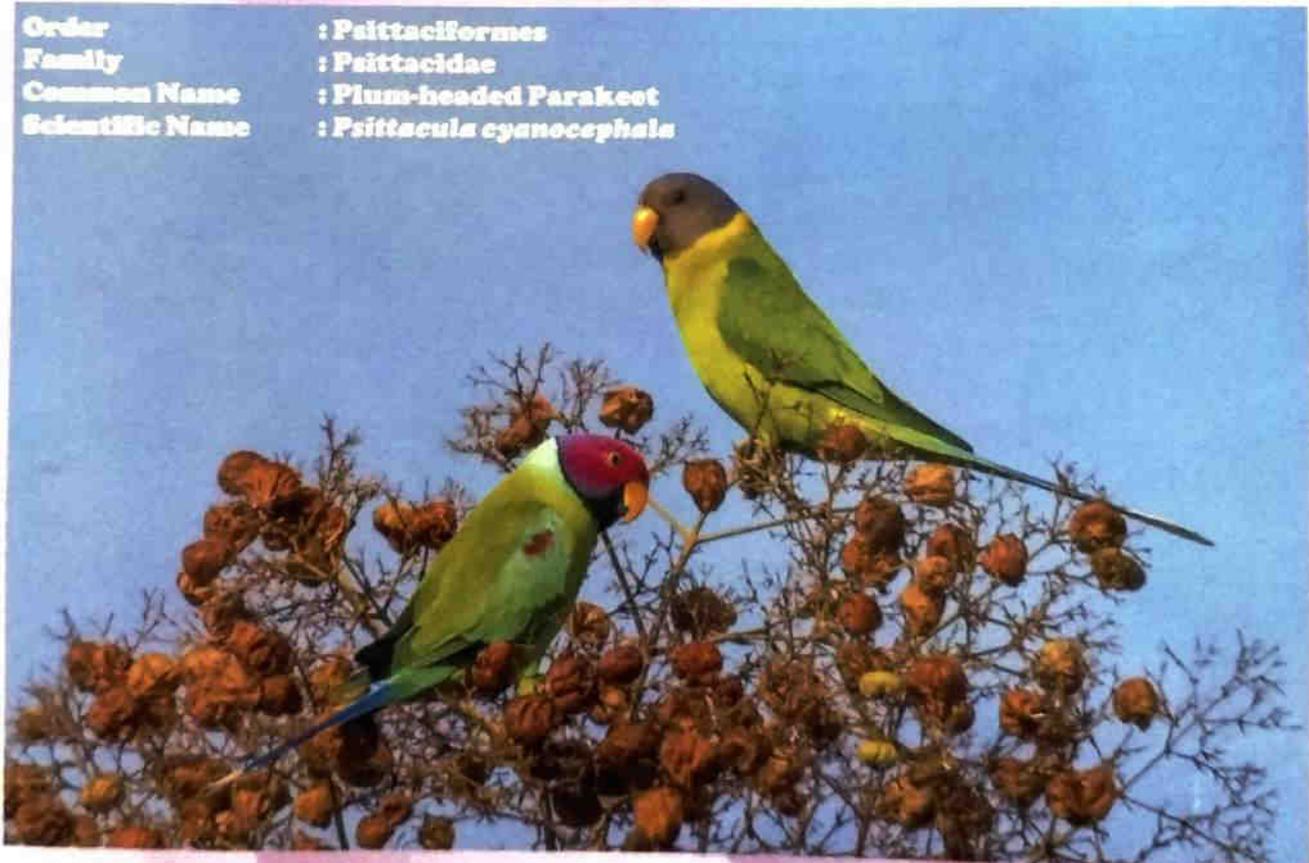
1. It is a smaller size of the Alexandrine Parakeet, but lacking the maroon shoulder-patches.
2. Its female lacks the black and rose-pink collar of male.
3. They are noisy flocks about cultivation in lightly-wooded country.
4. It is one of the most familiar of Indian birds as much at home on the countryside as within villages and towns.
5. It often bands itself into large flocks.
6. It highly destroys at all times to crops and orchard fruit with gnawing and wasting far more than it actually eats.
7. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

52. Plum-headed Parakeet
Psittacula cyanocephala (Linnaeus, 1766)
செந்தலைக்கிளி

1. It is distinguished from Rose Ringed Parakeet by smaller in size with bluish red head and maroon shoulder-patches.
2. The female has greyer head with a bright yellow collar round neck, and no maroon shoulder-patches.
3. White tips to the two long central tail feathers diagnostic in flight, as also the sharp, interrogative *too?* uttered on the wing.
4. It flocks in wooded country and about forest cultivations.
5. It is a typical of the parakeets.
6. It prefers better-wooded country than Rose Ringed Parakeets.
7. It flies like swift.
8. It flocks on the wing turn and twist their way through stems of forest trees with astonishing celerity and orderliness, uttering their distinctive shrill *too?* or *too-too?* as they dash along.
9. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.



Order : *Psittaciformes*
Family : *Psittacidae*
Common Name : *Rose-ringed Parakeet*
Scientific Name : *Psittacula krameri*

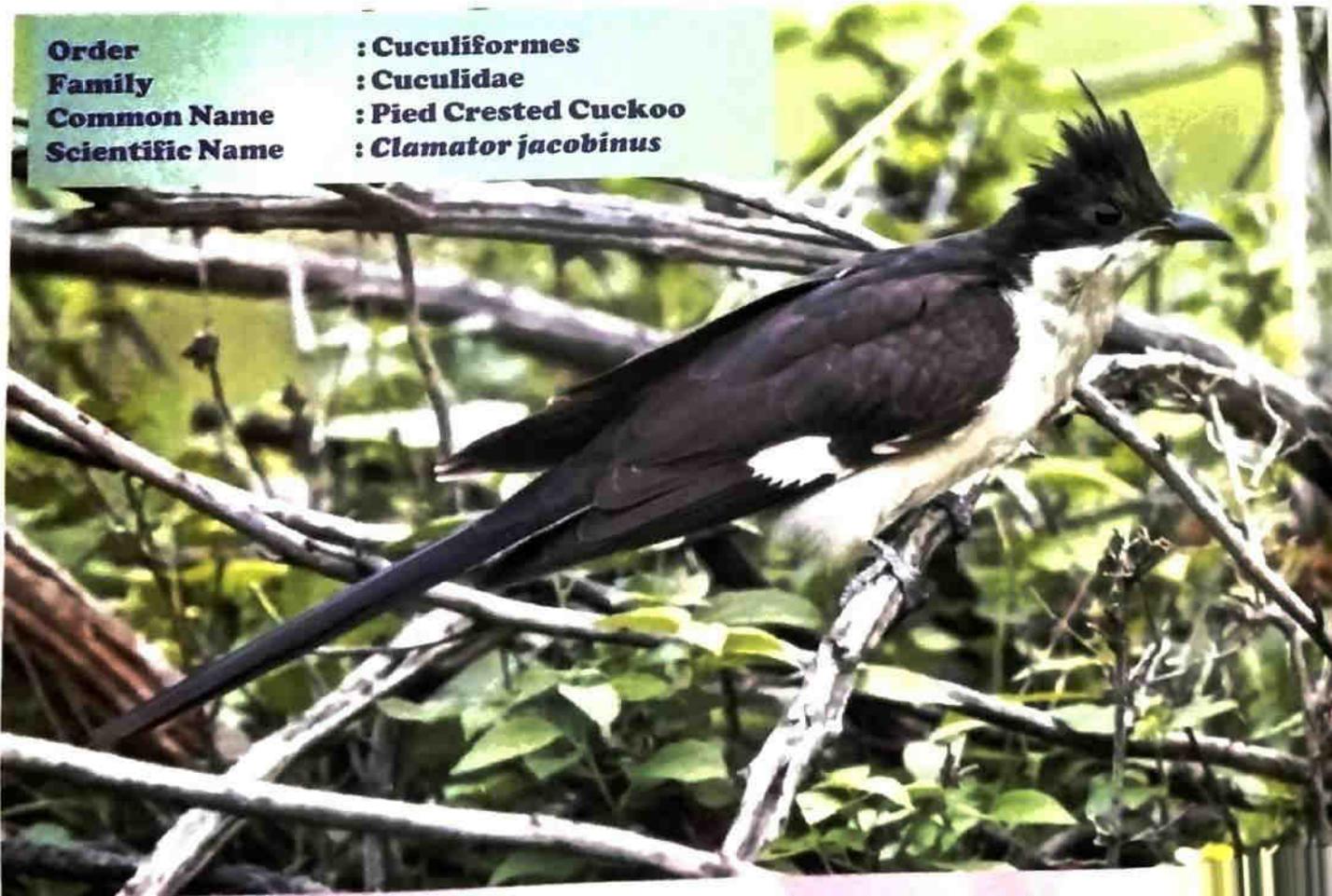


Order : *Psittaciformes*
Family : *Psittacidae*
Common Name : *Plum-headed Parakeet*
Scientific Name : *Psittacula cyanocephala*

Order : Psittaciformes
Family : Psittacidae
Common Name : Blue-winged Parakeet
Scientific Name : *Psittacula columboides*



Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Pied Crested Cuckoo
Scientific Name : *Clamator jacobinus*



53. Blue-winged Parakeet

Psittacula columboides (Vigors, 1830)

நீலப்பைபங்கிளி

1. It is similar to plum-headed Parakeet, but it has greyish green rather than yellowish green with brilliant blue-green and black collar.
2. It has conspicuous blue wings and tail with yellow tips.
3. No maroon red shoulder patch is seen.
4. The female lacks verditer collar behind black neck-ring.
5. It keeps in noisy parties of 4 or 5 or small flocks.
6. It abandoned in forest clearings with relict trees.
7. Secondary jungles are among it's favourite haunts.
8. Its flight and general ecology as of plum-headed Parakeet which is addicted to a dry-deciduous forest habitat.
9. It feeds on grain and fruits, especially wild figs (*ficus*), flower-petals and nectar.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

54. Pied Crested Cuckoo

Clamator jacobinus (Boddaert, 1783)

கொண்டை குயில்

1. It is a handsome, crested black and white cuckoo. It has white tips of tail feathers and a roundish patch on wings conspicuous in flight.
2. They are in singly, or in pairs in wooded country.
3. It is a nest-parasitic.
4. It frequents open and well-wooded country.
5. Commonly found in the neighbourhood of habitation.
6. Its local migrations are largely controlled by the south west monsoon.
7. Its arrival and presence in a locality advertised by the birds chasing one another, flying from tree to tree and calling excitedly a rather plaintive, metallic, piu-piu-pee-pee-piu... pee-pee-piu, or merely a tinkling piu..piu, voice.
8. It is chiefly arboreal, but occasionally descends to ground and hops about in search of food.
9. It feeds on grasshoppers, hariy caterpillars, and sometimes berries.
10. It is a resident and migrant spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

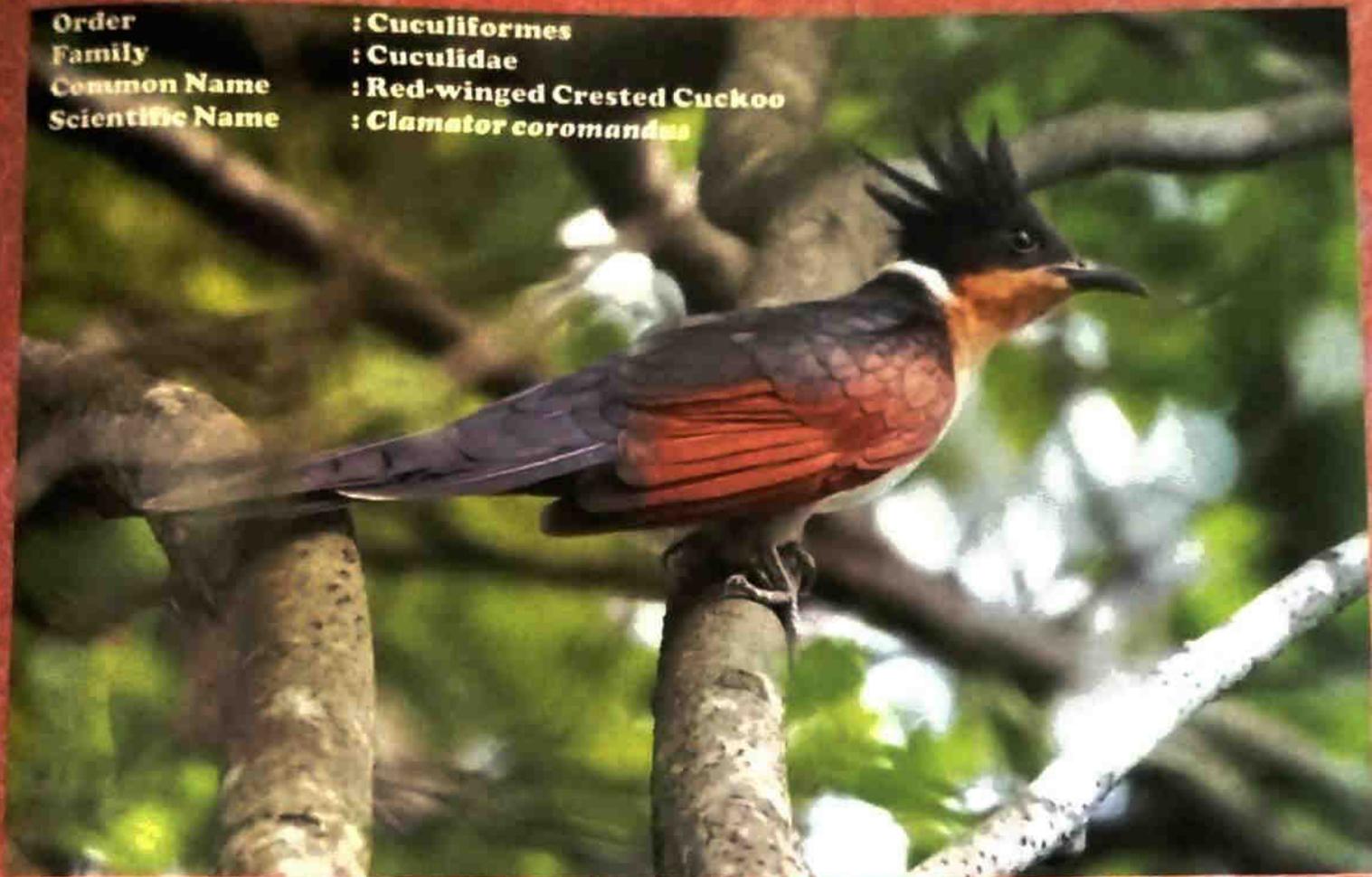
55. Red-winged Crested Cuckoo
Clamator coromandus (Linnaeus, 1766)
செவ்விறகுக் கொண்டைக்குயில்

1. It is a crested, metallic glossy black cuckoo with a white half collar on hindneck and chestnut wings.
2. Its chin, throat, upper breast are rust red and lower parts otherwise white.
3. In flight crested head, white collar, red wings and white underparts are diagnostic characters.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in singly or in loose parties of 3 or 4.
6. It is strictly arboreal.
7. Its behavior is similar to that of the Pied Crested Cuckoo.
8. It eats mainly caterpillars.
9. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

56. Brainfever Bird
Hierococcyx varius (Vahl, 1797)
அக்கா குயில்

1. It has ashy grey above, whitish below and cross-barred with brown.
2. It has broadly barred tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. Superficially it is very like the Shikra hawk in flight and movements.
5. They are found in singly, in wooded country and is a nest-parasitic.
6. It inhabits in light forest and also partial to gardens, groves and mango archard etc., near human habitations.
7. Mostly they are silent during winter and therefore liable to be overlooked. It becomes increasingly obstreperous with the advance of the hot weather.
8. It eats hairy caterpillars, other insects, berries, wild figs, etc.
9. It repeatedly 5-6 times screams as brain-fever, brain-fever This call rendered in Hindi as Pee-Kahan? (Where is my love) and Marathi as Paos-ala (Rain is Coming!)
10. It is a resident spotted in Melmangalam.

Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Red-winged Crested Cuckoo
Scientific Name : *Clamator coromandus*



Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Brainfever Bird
Scientific Name : *Hierococcyx varius*



Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Common Cuckoo
Scientific Name : *Cuculus canorus*



Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Asian Koel
Scientific Name : *Eudynamis scolopacea*

57. Common Cuckoo
Cuculus canorus (Linnaeus, 1758)
இந்தியக்குயில்

1. It has dark ash grey above with pale below on chin, foreneck and breast.
2. Otherwise white below cross-banded with black
3. It has blackish brown, spotted and tipped with white tail.
4. Its female has a rufous tinge on upper breast, throat and sides of neck.
5. Its females occasionally in a hepatic phase with upper parts barred chestnut and blackish brown.
6. It is largely arboreal.
7. It is seen among the canopy in well-wooded country.
8. It is silent and non-obtrusive in non-breeding season and thus easily overlooked.
9. It eats insects, predominantly hairy caterpillars and cicadas.
10. It is a resident migrant spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

58. Asian Koel
Eudynamys scolopacea (Linnaeus, 1758)
கூயில் (ஆசியக்கூயில்)

1. Male has glistening black with yellowish green bill and crimson eyes.
2. Female has brown, profusely spotted and barred with white.
3. It has familiar shrieking crescendo call kuoo-kuoo-kuoo.
4. They are in singly or in pairs and in groves of trees, etc. It is brood-parasitic and arboreal.
5. It frequents gardens, groves and open country abounding in large leafy trees.
6. It is silent in winter thus often overlooked and recorded as absent.
7. It becomes increasingly noisy with the advance of the hot weather and one of the earliest bird voices at dawn is evident in JAC campus.
8. The call begins with a low kuoo, rises in scale with each successive kuoo until it reaches fever pitch at the seventh or eighth, and breaks off abruptly.
9. It is soon commenced all over again. The female only utters a sharp, quick-repeated kik-kik-kik as she dashes from tree to tree.
10. It feeds on largely fruits and berries, caterpillars and insects.
11. Its flight is straight and swift with rapid wing beats.
12. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

59. Small Green-billed Malkoha
Rhopodytes viridirostris (Jerdon, 1840)
பச்சைவாயன் குயில்

1. It is a greenish ashy grey non-parasitic cuckoo with rufous suffused underparts.
2. It has bright green bill and naked blue patch round eye.
3. It has long, broad, graduated, conspicuously white-tipped tail.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are found in singly or in pairs skulking in dry thorn jungle.
6. It is a reminiscent of Crow-Pheasant.
7. It creeps through thickets and clammers actively among branches of low trees, rarely descending to the ground.
8. It is a poor flier and seldom seen on the wing except when moving from one thicket to another.
9. It feeds on caterpillars, large insects (grasshopper, mantis, etc.), lizards and other small animals; probably also some berries.
10. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

60. Greater Coucal
Centropus sinensis (Stephens, 1815)
செம்போத்து

1. It is a clumsy, glossy black bird with conspicuous chestnut wings.
2. It has long, broad and black graduated tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are found in singly or in pairs and stalking along the ground in undergrowth.
5. It is one of the non-parastic cuckoos and largely terrestrial.
6. It affects open forest, scrub and bush country interspersed with grassland and shrubbery and groves about human habitations.
7. It stalks along the ground or clammers and hops with agility amongst branches of shrubs in search of food.
8. It feeds on caterpillars, large insects, snails, lizards, young mice and bird's eggs.
9. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.



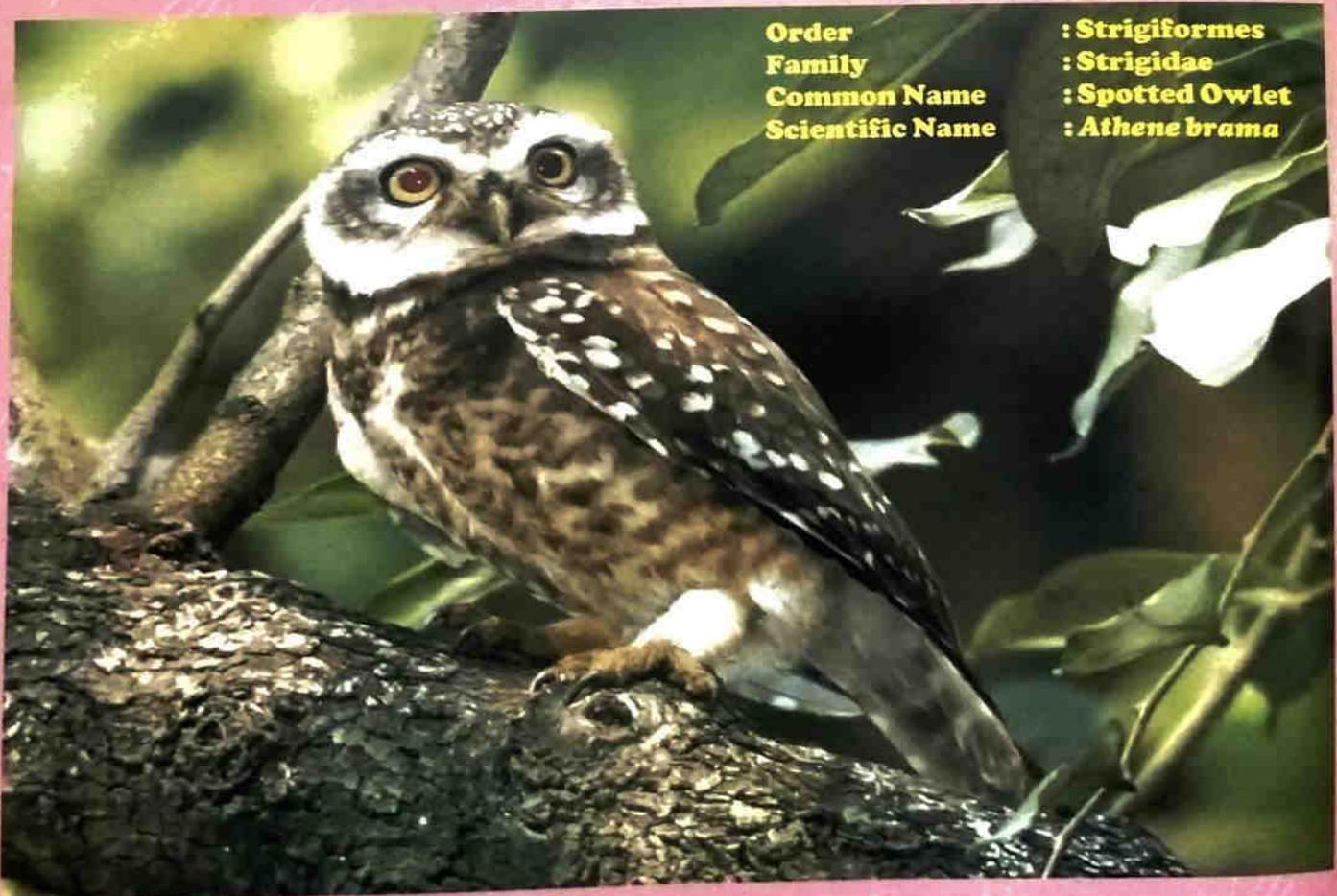
Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Small Green-billed Malkoha
Scientific Name : *Rhopodytes viridirostris*



Order : Cuculiformes
Family : Cuculidae
Common Name : Greater Coucal
Scientific Name : *Centropus sinensis*



Order : Strigiformes
Family : Strigidae
Common Name : Jungle Owlet
Scientific Name : *Glaucidium radiatum*



Order : Strigiformes
Family : Strigidae
Common Name : Spotted Owlet
Scientific Name : *Athene brama*

61. Jungle Owlet

Glaucidium radiatum (Tickell, 1833)

சிறிய காட்டு ஆந்தை

1. It shows a general effect as of the Spotted Owlet, but dark brown above and conspicuously barred with pale rufous.
2. Its underparts are rufous and white, closely barred with blackish brown.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are found in singly in open deciduous forest.
5. It is crepuscular and nocturnal but apparently little inconvenienced by sunlight and frequently on the move in daytime.
6. It shares its preferential habitat is in open forest such as of mixed teak and bamboo.
7. It eats mainly beetles and other insects.
8. It is a resident spotted in Sothuparai.

62. Spotted Owlet

Athene brama (Temminck, 181)

பள்ளி ஆந்தை

1. It is a squat, white-spotted grayish brown little owl with a typical large round head and forwardly directed staring yellow eyes.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are found in pairs or family parties in villages, in ruins, and groves of ancient trees etc.
4. It is chiefly crepuscular and nocturnal.
5. It is our commonest and most familiar owl.
6. It affects all types of country excepting heavy forest.
7. Particularly they are abundant near human habitations.
8. Pairs spend the daytime in some hollow in an ancient tree-trunk or sitting huddled together on a secluded branch.
9. They fly out fussily when suspicious of being observed and bob and stare at the intruder from a distance in clownish fashion.
10. It eats chiefly beetles, other insects, young birds, mice, lizards etc.
11. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

63. Alpine Swift

Tachymarptis melba (Linnaeus, 1758)

மலி உழவாரன்

1. It is a large swift dark brown above, white below with a diagnostic dark brown band across the breast.
2. It has short tail and square-cut, wings are very long, pointed and bow-like.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are found in loose parties and dashing at terrific speed around hilltops, etc.
5. It is an extremely fast and sustained flier with a speed estimated at between 130 and 250 km/h. They cover enormous distances during the day's foraging and make sudden and momentary appearances in localities a hundred (or perhaps many hundred) kilometers from likely roosting sites, passing on as suddenly as they appeared.
6. The birds spend the daylight hours hawking insects high up in the air, but descend to lower levels in cloudy overcast weather.
7. In the evenings they 'ball' up in the heavens with noisy twittering in the manner of the House Swift.
8. It feeds on hemipterous bugs and other tiny winged insects.
9. It is a resident migrant spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

64. House Swift

Apus affinis (J.E. Gray, 1830)

நாட்டு உழவாரன்

1. It is a small smoky-black bird with white throat, white rump, short square tail, and long narrow wings.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are flying about gregariously near human habitations.
4. It resides in the ancient forts, ruined mosques and buildings, and dwelling houses-deserted or occupied-often in the midst of noisy cities.
5. It flies about at great speed almost incessantly throughout the day, hawking flies and midges.
6. The inordinately widened gape facilities capture of tiny prey in the air.
7. It eats chiefly dipterous insects.
8. It has peculiar structure of foot and all the four toes directed forward.
9. Swifts cannot perch in the ordinary way, but only cling to rough surfaces.
10. In the evening's disorderly rabbles 'ball' high up in the air in play, uttering shrill joyous twittering screams.
11. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

Family : Apodidae
Common Name : Alpine Swift
Scientific Name : *Tachymarptis melba*



Order : Apodiformes
Family : Apodidae
Common Name : House Swift
Scientific Name : *Apus affinis*





Order : Trogoniformes
Family : Trogonidae
Common Name : Malabar Trogon
Scientific Name : *Harpactes fasciatus*



Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Alcedinidae
Common Name : Small Blue Kingfisher
Scientific Name : *Alcedo atthis*

65. Malabar Trogon

Harpactes fasciatus (Pennant, 1769)

தீக்காக்கை

1. It is brilliantly coloured arboreal forest bird with relatively long
2. It has a broad, curiously truncated and graduated tail.
3. Both the sexes are dissimilar.
4. Male's head, neck and breast are sooty black, back yellowish brown with wings barred.
5. Brilliant crimson is seen below and separated from black breast by a white gorget.
6. Female has orange-brown underparts.
7. They are in singly or widely separated pairs in evergreen or moist-deciduous forest and mixed foothills bamboo jungle.
8. They are perches, bolt upright and motionless for long periods on tree stumps and low branches. They are making occasional agile sallies after winged insects.
9. It feeds on caterpillars, beetles, cicadas and other insects and also some leaves and berries.
10. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.

66. Small Blue Kingfisher

Alcedo atthis (Linnaeus, 1758)

சிறால் மீன்கொத்தி

1. It is a dapper, blue and green, little kingfisher.
2. It has deep rust coloured underparts, short stumpy tail and long, straight, pointed bill.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in singly by stream, tank or puddle and perched on an overhanging branch or flying swiftly over the water.
5. From time to time as the bird sits scanning the water from an over-hanging branch.
6. It bobs its head, turning it this side and that, and jerks it's stub tail to the accompaniment of subdued *click*.
7. A sharp *chichee, chichee* is uttered as it dashes off at top speed, low over the surface, from one corner of it's beat to another.
8. Its normal method of hunting is to drop bill foremost upon it's quarry from an overhanging perch.
9. Occasionally it also hovers like Pied Kingfisher.
10. It feeds on small fish, tadpoles and aquatic insects.
11. It is a resident migrant spotted at Sothuparai.

67. Blue-eared Kingfisher

Alcedo meninting (Horsfield, 1821)

ஊதா காது மீன்கொத்தி

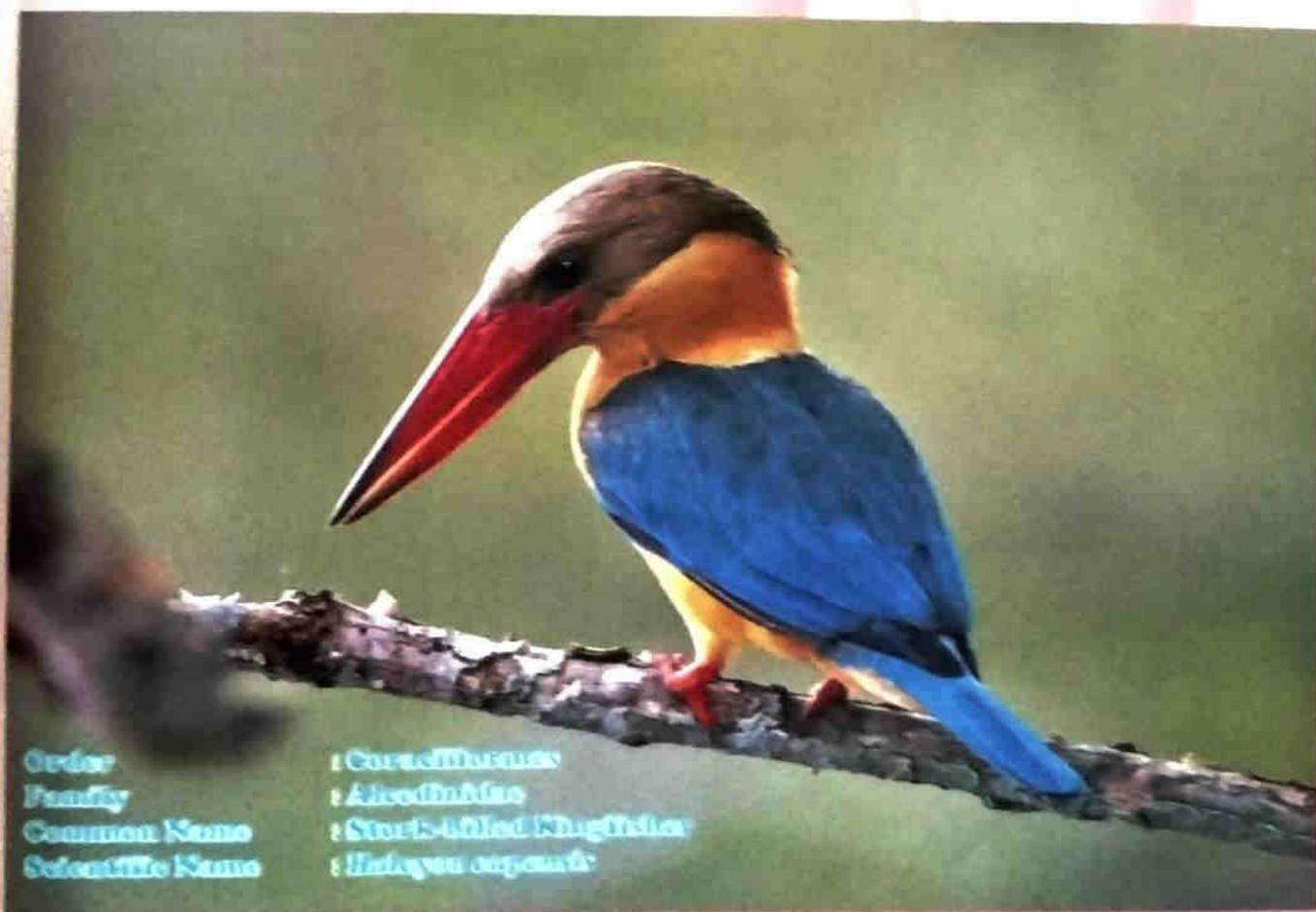
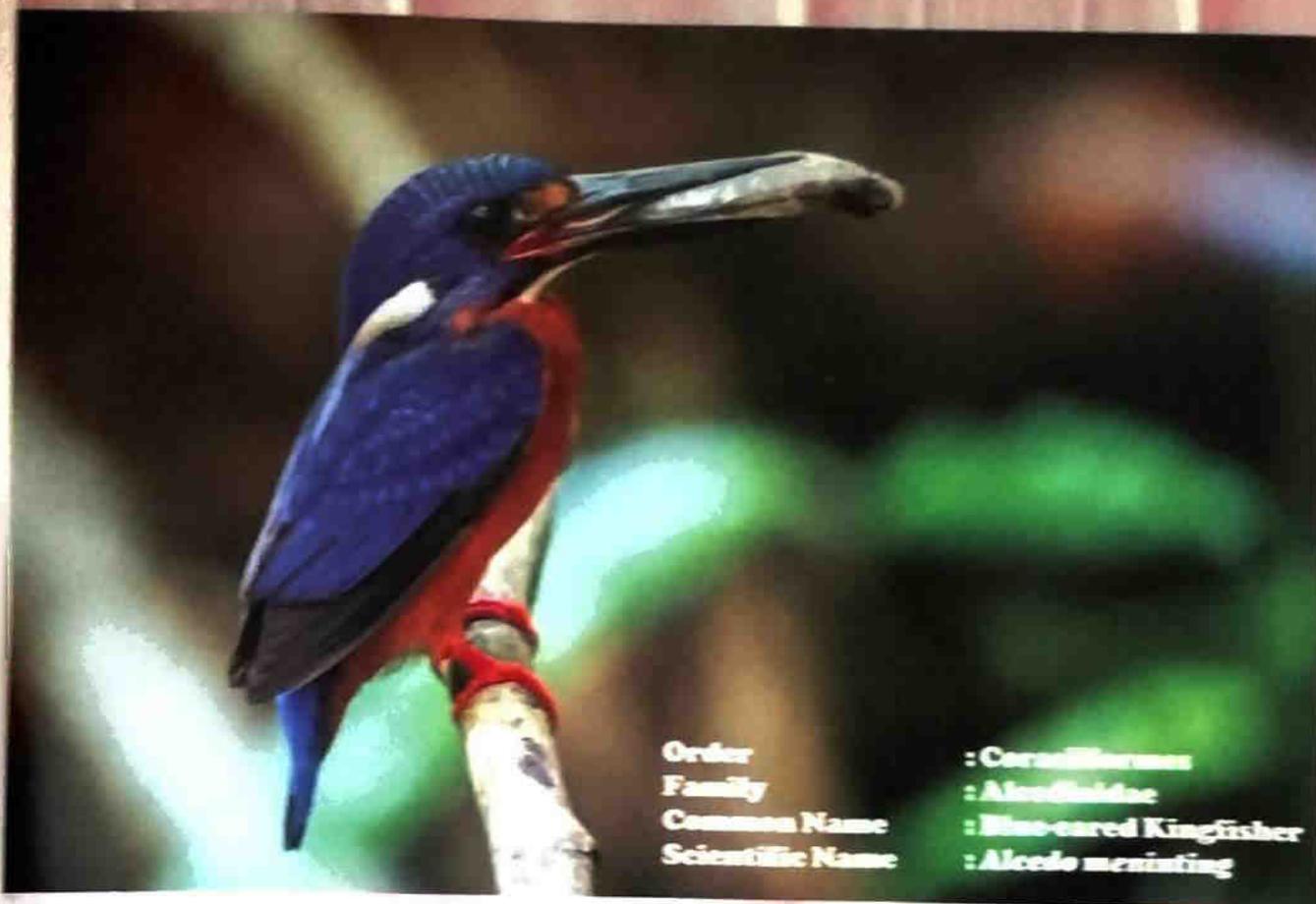
1. It is very similar to the Small Blue Kingfisher but a deeper purplish blue and white neck patches are absent.
2. It has blue ear coverts contra ferruginous.
3. It is an exclusively forest species.
4. It confined to forests preferably evergreen or bamboo facies.
5. It keeps in singly to stretches of forest streams.
6. It eats fish and aquatic insects.
7. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.

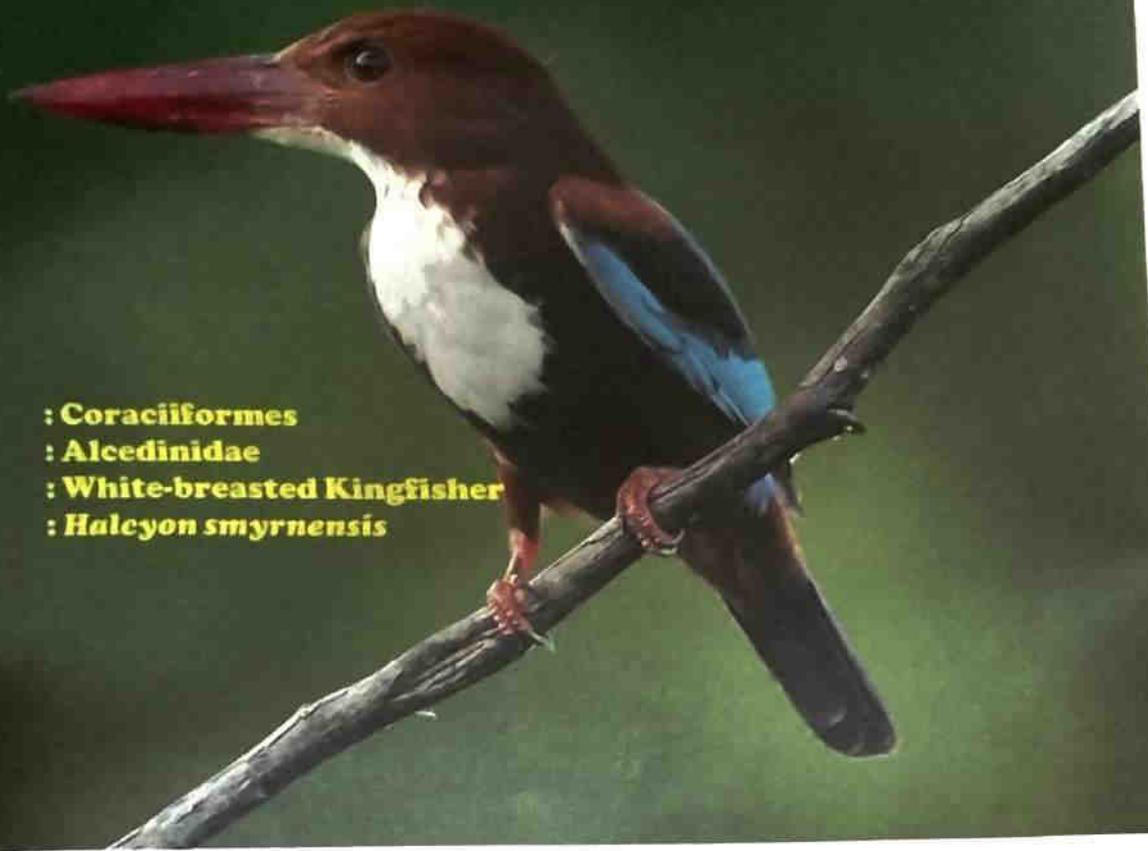
68. Stork-billed Kingfisher

Halcyon capensis (Linnaeus, 1766)

பெரிய அலகு மீன்கொத்தி

1. It has brown head and pale greenish blue upper parts but underparts are pale yellowish brown or ochraceous.
2. It is easily distinguished from all other brightly coloured kingfishers by it's large size, enormous and compressed blood-red bill.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are seen in singly or separated pairs at forest streams.
5. It is found in well-watered country, keeps to shady forest streams, jungle pools, and swampy glades.
6. It sits on branches overhanging water and hidden by foliage. They are seen chiefly when coursing up and down forest streams
7. Its method of hunting resembles that of the Small Blue Kingfisher but it does not hover and plunge from the air.
8. It feeds on fish, crabs, reptiles, frogs, eggs from nests and occasionally also young birds.
9. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.





Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Alcedinidae
Common Name : White-breasted Kingfisher
Scientific Name : *Halcyon smyrnensis*



Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Alcedinidae
Common Name : Lesser Pied Kingfisher
Scientific Name : *Ceryle rudis*

69. White-breasted Kingfisher

Halcyon smyrnensis (Linnaeus, 1758)

பிச்சுளி, வெண்தொண்டை மீன்கொத்தி

1. It is a brilliant turquoise-blue kingfisher with deep chocolate-brown head, neck and underparts.
2. It has a conspicuous white 'shirt front' long, heavy, pointed red bill.
3. It has a white wing-patch prominent in flight.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are seen in singly in cultivated and wooded country, both near and away from water.
6. They are seen at ponds, puddles, rain-filled ditches, inundated paddy fields and near the seashore, but also in light forest at considerable distances from water.
7. It often found on telegraph wire or post and it pounces down on creeping prey and flies off with it to another perch nearby where the victim is battered to death and swallowed.
8. It eats fish, tadpoles, lizard, grasshoppers and other insects. Occasionally it also eats young birds and mice.
9. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

70. Lesser Pied Kingfisher

Ceryle rudis (Linnaeus, 1758)

கருப்பு வெள்ளை மீன்கொத்தி

1. It is a speckled and barred black and white kingfisher.
2. It has typical, stout, dagger-shaped bill.
3. Female is similar to male but with a single black gorget broken in the middle as against two more or less complete ones in the male.
4. They are found in singly or in pairs at streams and tanks and perched on rock or hovering above water.
5. It is found in rivers, jheels, irrigation tanks and tidal creeks.
6. Usually it is perched on a favorite rock or stake near water and flicking up its tail and bobbing its head now and again.
7. It has the spectacular method of fishing. It is "standing on it's tail" and hurls itself for considerable periods eg. 10 m or so above the water. And then its wings pulled in at the sides while fish coming up within striking depth.
8. On emergence with the prey, the bird flies off to a convenient rock where the victim is battered before being swallowed.
9. It eats fish, tadpoles, frogs and aquatic insects.
10. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai and Thamaraiikulam.

71. Small Bee-eater

Merops orientalis (Latham, 1758)

பஞ்சுருட்டான்

1. It is a dainty grass-green bird tinged with reddish brown on head and neck.
2. Its central pair of tail feathers is prolonged into blunt pins.
3. It has slender, long, slightly curved bill.
4. It has conspicuous black 'necklace'.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. They are in pairs or parties and found in open country on telegraph wires, fence-posts, etc.
7. It inhabits in open country-the neighbourhood of cultivation, forest clearings, fallow land, gardens and golf links.
8. It is also found in partial to the zone above sandy beach along the seacoast.
9. It launches aerial sallies after bees, snapping them up in its bill and circling back gracefully on outstretched motionless wings to the perch, where the quarry is battered to death and swallowed.
10. It eats insects, chiefly diptera and hymenoptera.
11. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai.

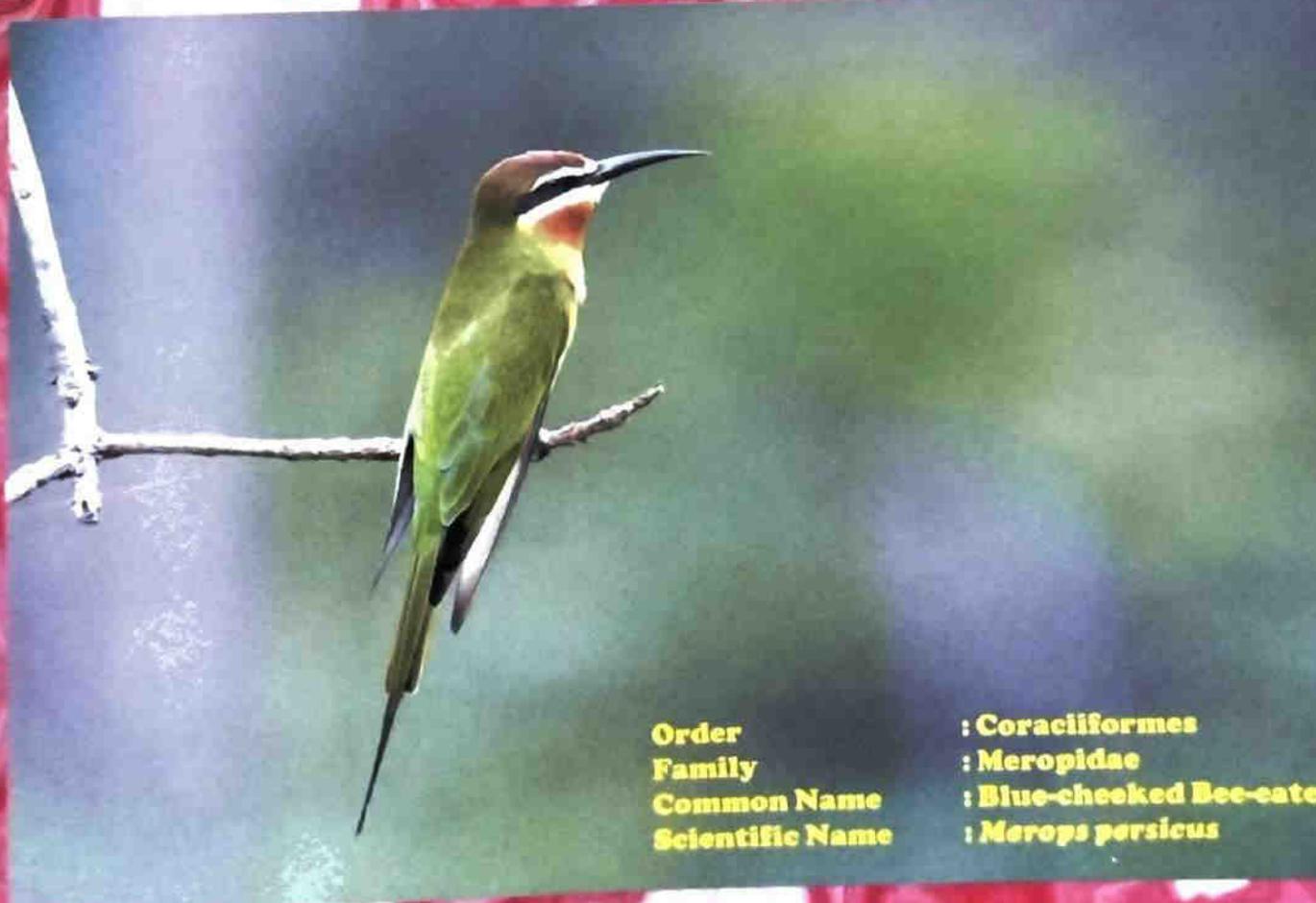
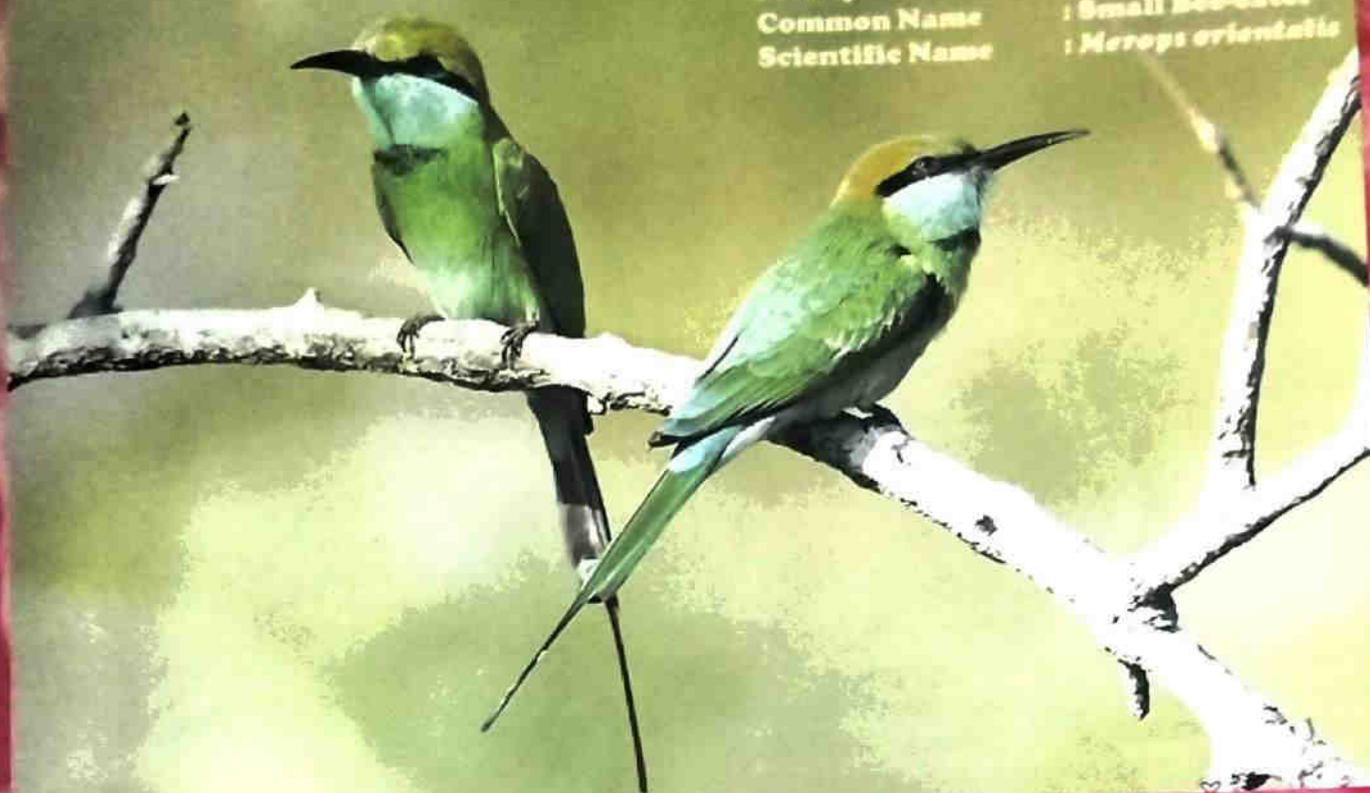
72. Blue-cheeked Bee-eater

Merops persicus (Pallas, 1773)

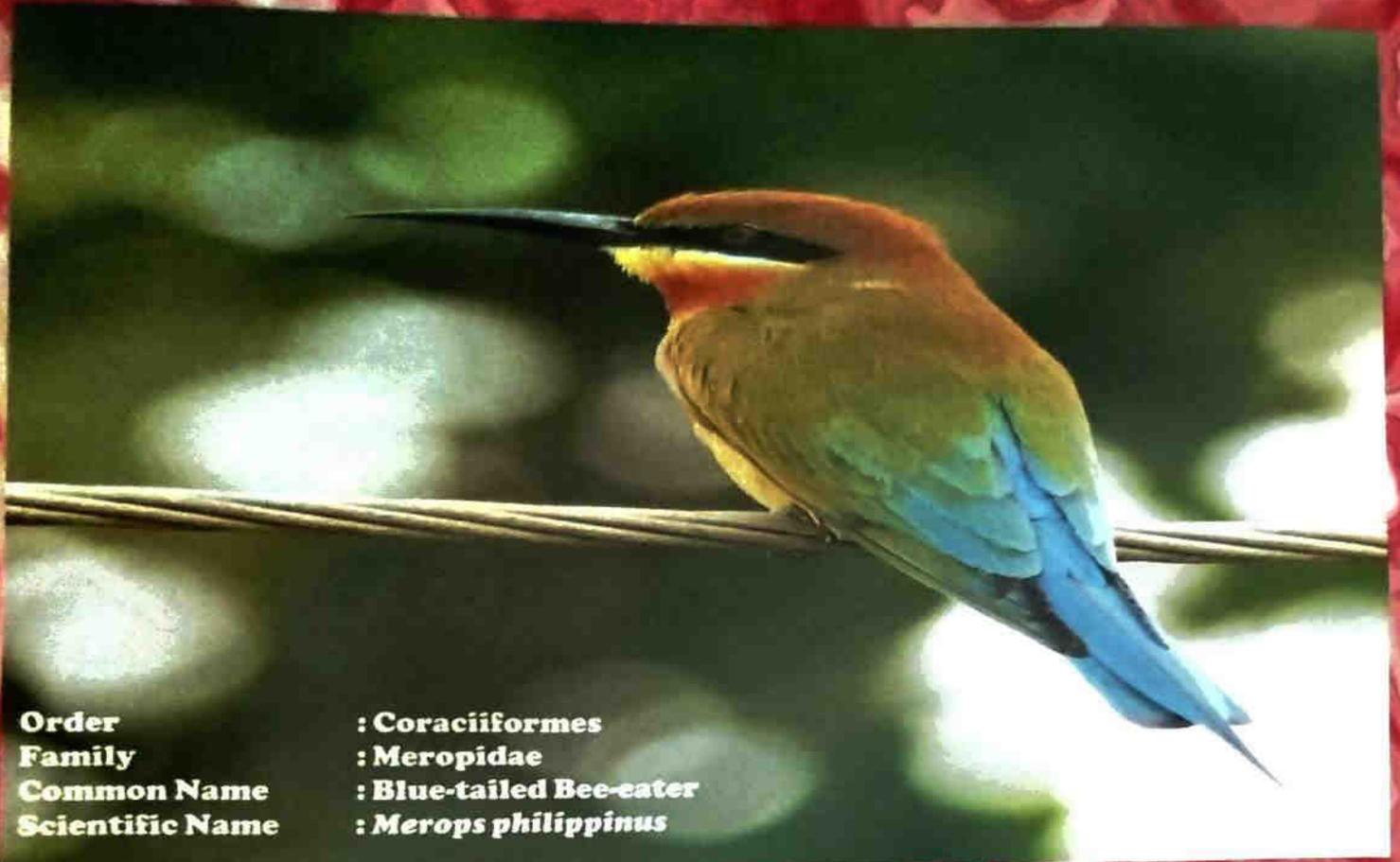
காட்டுப் பஞ்சுருட்டான்

1. It is readily distinguished from the common and familiar Small Bee-eater by its larger size with a pale chestnut patch on throat and broad black streak from base of bill through eye to ear-coverts with a conspicuous white and blue-green cheek-patch below it.
2. Its rump and tail are green.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It is found in the neighbourhood of jheels, tanks and sandy seashores.
5. Its behaviour similar to other bee-eaters.
6. It eats dragonflies, bees, wasps, etc.
7. It is a resident migrant spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

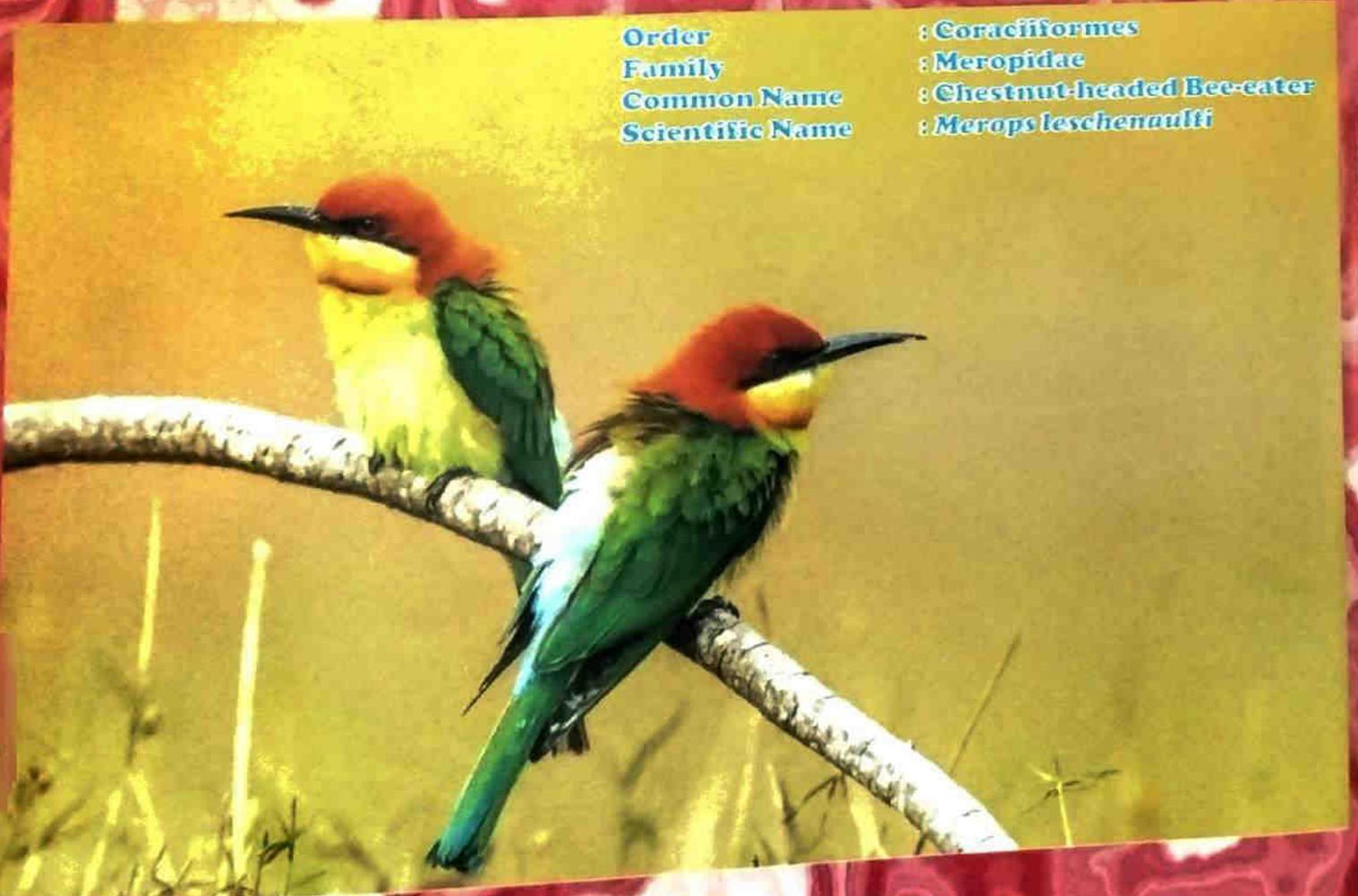
Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Meropidae
Common Name : Small Bee-eater
Scientific Name : *Merops orientalis*



Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Meropidae
Common Name : Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
Scientific Name : *Merops persicus*



Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Meropidae
Common Name : Blue-tailed Bee-eater
Scientific Name : *Merops philippinus*



Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Meropidae
Common Name : Chestnut-headed Bee-eater
Scientific Name : *Merops leschenaulti*

73. Blue-tailed Bee-eater

Merops philippinus (Linnaeus, 1766)

குற்றாலக்குருவி, பஞ்சாங்கம், நீலவால் பஞ்சுருட்டான்

1. It is distinguished from Small Bee-eater by its larger size, black stripe through the eyes, deep chestnut throat, breast, blue rump and tail.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are found in small flocks in open country, especially about tanks and jheels.
4. It inhabits more or less the same type of country as Small Bee-eater but on the whole definitely prefers better-wooded tracts and the neighbourhood of jheels and streams.
5. Its food and general habits are similar to other Bee-eater.
6. It is a resident migrant spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

74. Chestnut-headed Bee-eater

Merops leschenaulti (Vieillot, 1817)

கட்டாலங்குருவி, பஞ்சாங்கம், செந்தலை பஞ்சுருட்டான்

1. It is similar in general effect to Blue-tailed Bee-eater but its central pin feathers are projecting slightly beyond tail.
2. Its head and upper back are bright chestnut.
3. Its chin and throat are yellow.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. It is seen in small flocks on exposed branches of trees in wooded country.
6. They are found in patchily and locally in fairly well-wooded country intermediate between the moist evergreen and the dry deciduous types.
7. It prefers foothills up to 1000 m elevation. Large gatherings collect at nightly roosts in favorite leafy trees.
8. Its food and general habits are similar to Small Bee-eater.
9. Its voice and notes are closely resembled to those of the Blue-tailed Bee-eater.
10. It is a resident spotted at Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

75. Indian Roller

Coracias benghalensis (Linnaeus, 1758)
காட்டுக்காடை, பால்குருவி, பனங்காடை

1. It is striking Oxford and Cambridge-blue bird.
2. It has big head, heavy black bill, rufous-brown breast
3. Its abdomen and under tail possesses pale blue colour.
4. The dark and pale blue portions of the wings show up as brilliant bands in flight.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. They are seen in singly and perched on telegraph wires. From a lookout on a telegraph wire or other point of vantage it pounces upon some large insect, frog or lizard on the ground, returning with it either to the same perch or flying leisurely across to another nearby. Here the quarry is battered to death and swallowed. It is found in open cultivated country and light deciduous forest.
7. It is highly beneficial to agriculture since it destroys vast quantities of injurious insects.
8. It has a variety of loud, raucous croaks and chuckles.
9. It is a resident spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

76. Common Hoopoe

Upupa epops (Linnaeus, 1758)
சாவல்குருவி, கொண்டலாத்தி

1. It is a fawn coloured bird with black and white zebra markings on back, wings and tail.
2. It has a conspicuous fan-shaped crest and long, slender, gently curved bill.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in singly or in pairs, usually on the ground in lightly-wooded country.
5. It lives in open country, plains and hills up to about 2000m elevation.
6. It is also fond of lawns, gardens and groves in and around villages and towns.
7. It walks and runs with a quail-like but waddling gait, probing into the soil for food with bill partly open like forceps.
8. When digging, the crest is folded back and projects in a point behind the head.
9. It is flicked open and erected fanwise from time to time.
10. It eats insects, grubs and pupae and hence it is beneficial to agriculture.
11. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Coraciidae
Common Name : Indian Roller
Scientific Name : *Coracias benghalensis*



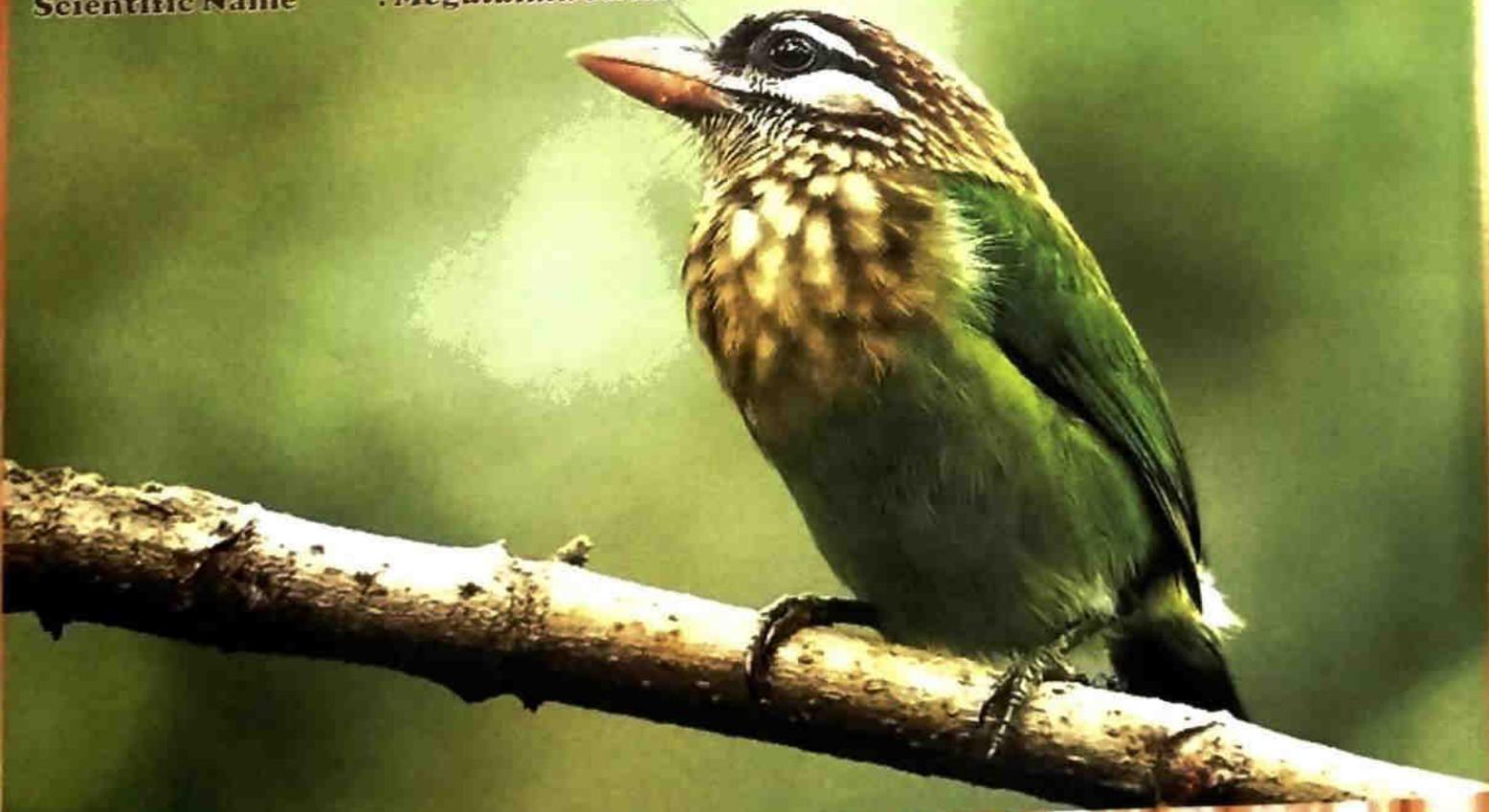
Order : Coraciiformes
Family : Upupidae
Common Name : Common Hoopoe
Scientific Name : *Upupa epops*





Order : **Piciformes**
Family : **Capitonidae**
Common Name : **Brown-headed Barbet**
Scientific Name : **Megalaima zeylanica**

Order : **Piciformes**
Family : **Capitonidae**
Common Name : **White-cheek Barbet**
Scientific Name : **Megalaima viridis**



77. Brown-headed Barbet
Megalaima zeylanica (Gmelin, 1788)
பச்சக்குக்குருவான்

1. It is a chubby, heavy-billed grass-green, arboreal bird.
2. Its head, neck, upper back and breast are brown and streaked with white.
3. Its lower breast and abdomen are green.
4. It has bluish under tail-coverts and conspicuous orange bare patch around eye extending to base of bill.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. It is arboreal and frugivorous.
7. It is usually seen in singly but congregations of 20 or more seen on fruit-laden banyan or peepul trees.
8. It eats ficus figs and other drupes, berries and occasionally insects.
9. It also eats flower petals and flower nectar.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

78. White-cheeked Barbet
Megalaima Viridis (Boddaert, 1783)
காட்டுக் குக்குருவான்

1. It is similar to the Brown-headed Barbet but easily distinguished from it by the white cheek stripe.
2. Generally it has grass green, dark brown crown and nape with a blackish band running backward from eye.
3. It has a broad white cheek stripe including the ear-coverts.
4. Its chin and throat are whitish.
5. Its breast is whitish streaked with brown.
6. It has blackish naked eye patch.
7. Both the sexes are alike.
8. It is usually seen in pairs or in small parties. They congregate on fruit laden banyan or peepul trees in some numbers but quarrelsome in such situations.
9. It feeds on fruits, mainly wild figs, but eats cultivated fruits especially coffee berries.
10. It also eats flower nectar from *Erythrina*, etc., and takes flying termites in mid-air.
11. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

79. Coppersmith Barbet

Megalaima haemacephala (P.L.S. Muller, 1776)

சின்னக் குக்குருவான், செம்மார்பு குக்குருவான்

1. It has a heavy-billed and grass-green barbet with crimson breast and forehead
2. It has yellow throat and green streaked yellowish underparts.
3. It has short truncated tail, distinctly triangular in flight silhouette.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in singly or in loose parties found on banyan and peepul trees in fruit.
6. It is arboreal and found commonly wherever there are fruiting trees especially the various species of wild fig.
7. It also found in outlying forest or within a noisy city.
8. It eats fruits and berries especially fond of banyan and peepul figs. Sometimes eats winged termites captured by ungainly flycatcher-like sallies.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

80. Common Golden-backed Woodpecker

Dinopium javanense (Ljungh, 1797)

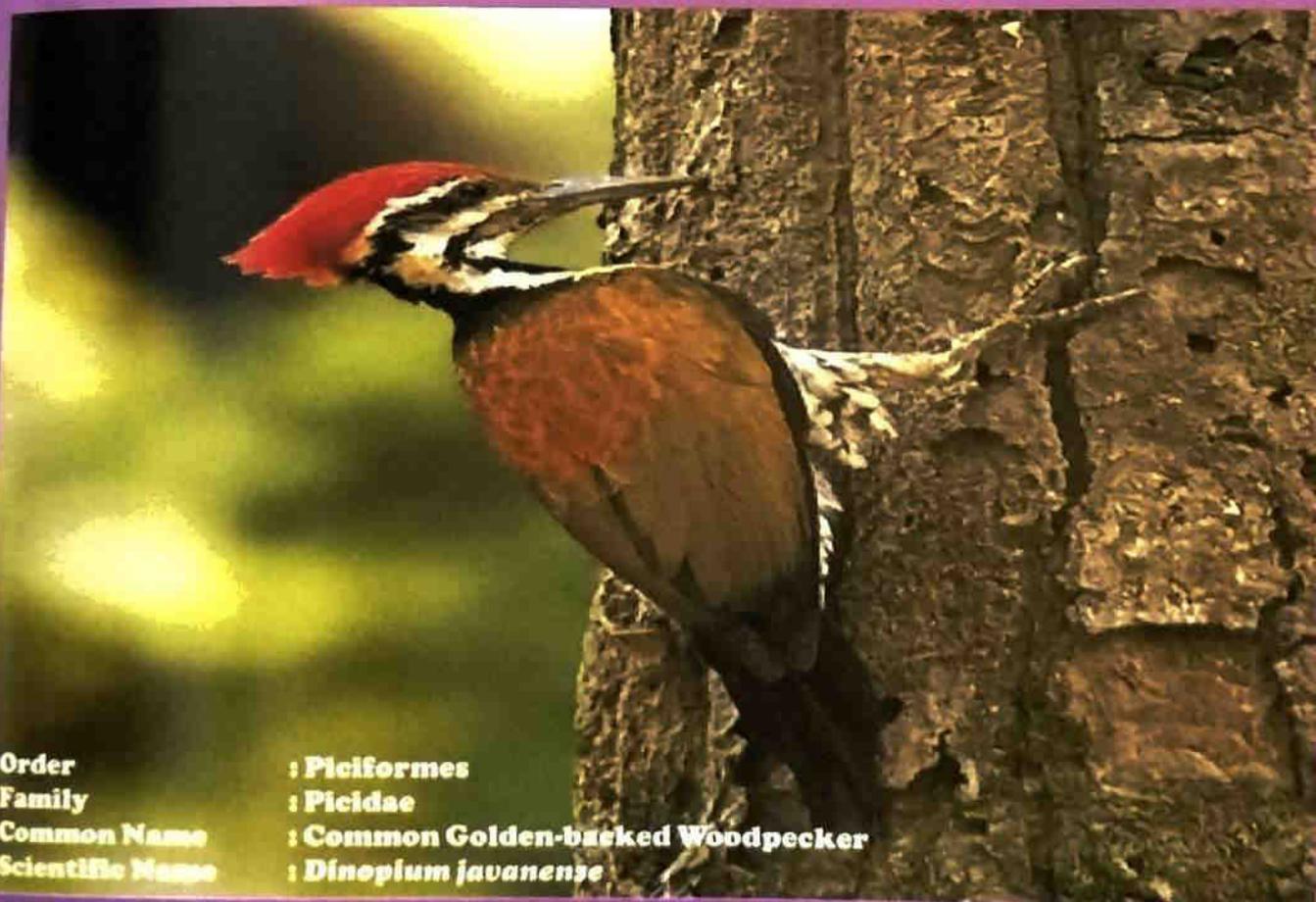
மரம்துளச்சி, தச்சன் குருவி, மேற்கத்திய பொன்முதுகு மரங்கொத்தி

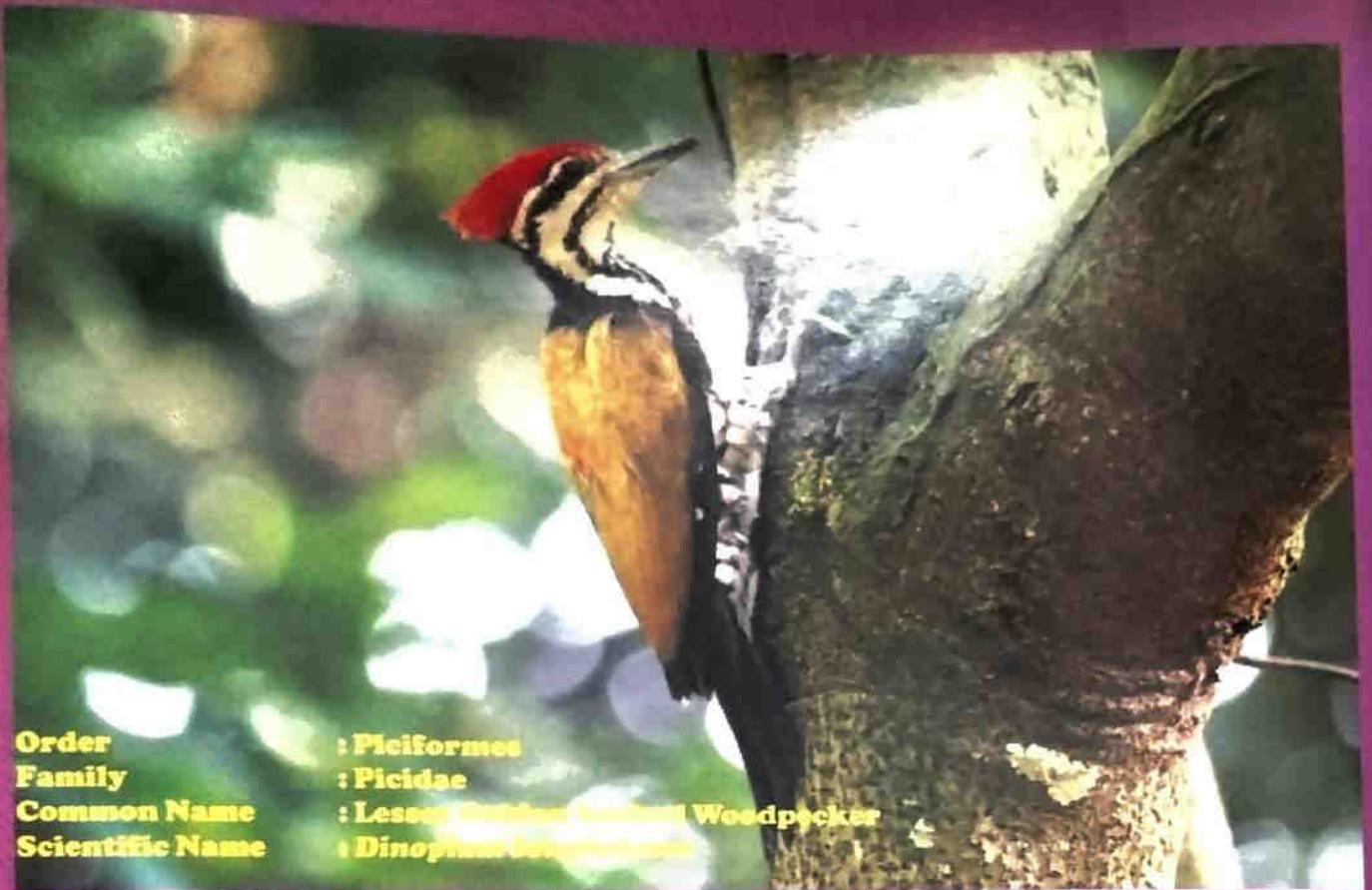
1. It is distinguished from the very similar Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker by the crimson rump and orange or scarlet mixture on upper back.
2. It has black nape.
3. Male has crown and crest crimson in colour
4. Female has black stippled with white colour.
5. It is found in foothill, moist-deciduous and evergreen forests.
6. It keeps in pairs and often in the company of mixed hunting parties.
7. It feeds on insects and insect larvae.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Piciformes
Family : Capitonidae
Common Name : Coppersmith Barbet
Scientific Name : *Megalaima haemacephala*



Order : Piciformes
Family : Picidae
Common Name : Common Golden-backed Woodpecker
Scientific Name : *Dinopium javanense*





Order : Piciformes
Family : Picidae
Common Name : Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker
Scientific Name : *Dinopium everetti*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pittidae
Common Name : Indian Pitta
Scientific Name : *Pitta brachyura*

81. Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker

Dinopium benghalense (Linnaeus, 1758)

தச்சன் குருவி மற்றும் பொன்முதுகு மரங்கொத்தி

1. It has golden yellow and black upper plumage.
2. It has lower buffy white streaked with black, more boldly on breast.
3. It has crown and occipital crest crimson in colour.
4. Female is similar but it has fore crown black stippled with white and occipital crest alone crimson in colour.
5. They are found in singly or in pairs on tree-trunks in open wooded country, orchards, and scrub jungle and is partial to mango garden topes, groves of ancient trees and coconut plantations.
6. It works up stems and boughs of trees, in jerky spurts, directly or in spirals, occasionally sliding a few feet down in 'reverse gear', tapping on the bark and chiselling away rotten wood for beetles and insects hiding in the crannies. Black ants form a considerable proportion of it's diet.
7. Pulp of ripe fruit as well as flower nectar are also eaten.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

82. Indian Pitta

Pitta brachyura (Linnaeus, 1766)

அருமனிகுருவி, தோட்டக்கள்ளன்

1. It is a gaudy stub-tailed thrush-like bird.
2. It has green, blue, fulvous, black and white with crimson abdomen and under tail.
3. In flight a round white spot near tip of wing conspicuous.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in singly on ground in undergrowth in scrub jungle.
6. It is mainly terrestrial and roosts in trees.
7. It affects wooded country and is fond of dry nullahs and ravines with tangled undergrowth.
8. It hops along like thrush turning over dead leaves and digging into damp earth for insects and grubs which comprise it's food.
9. Stumpy tail wagged slowly and deliberately up and down.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

83. Singing Bush-Lark

Mirafra cantillans (Blyth, 1845)

சிவந்த இறக்கை வானம்பாடி

1. It is similar to a female sparrow with much more rufous or chestnut in the wings which are very noticeable during it's undulating flight.
2. It's outer tail feathers are white, below fulvous streaked with triangular brown marks.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It occurs in dry bush covered undulating plains and foothills in grassland, fallow cultivation and scrubby, sandy, semi-desert.
5. It keeps in singly or in pairs or in small parties foraging on the ground.
6. It eats grass and weed seeds and insects.
7. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

84. Bengal Bush-Lark

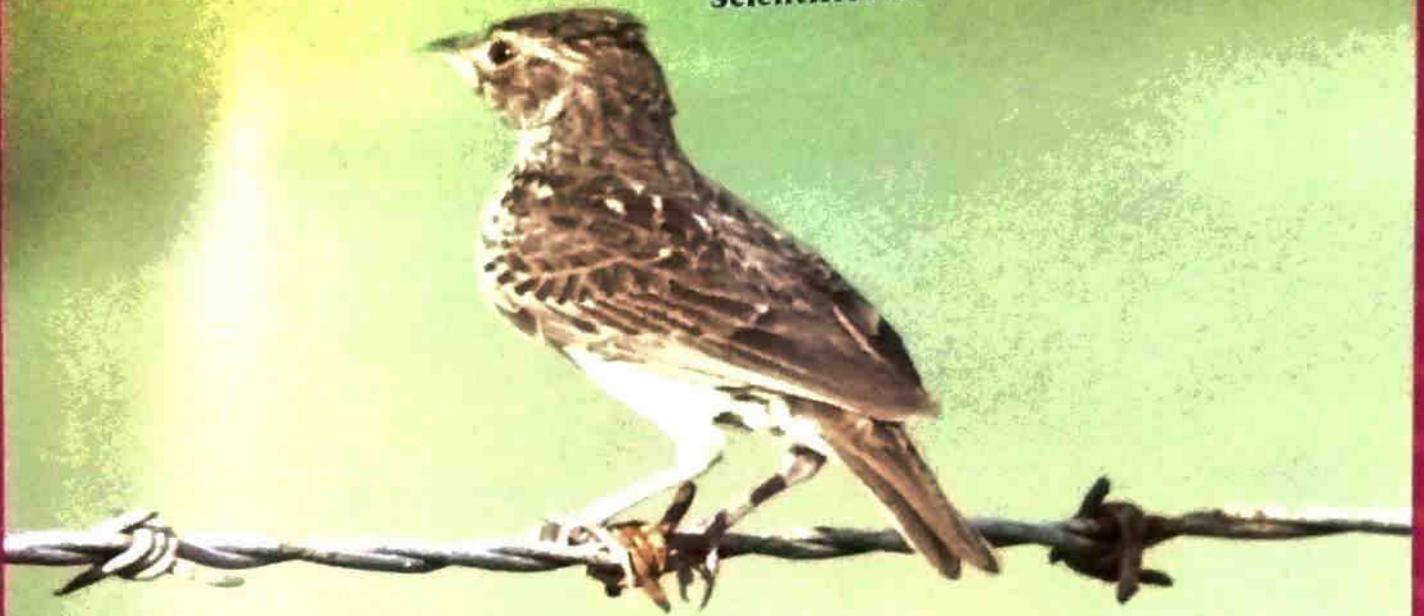
Mirafra assamica (Horsfield, 1840)

புதர் வானம்பாடி

1. It's upperparts are ashy brown with dark centers and without rufous (race *assamica*)
2. It's upperparts are not dark but very rufous (race *affinis*).
3. The large rufous or chestnut patch on wing conspicuous in flight is a diagnostic character.
4. It is found in open country.
5. They are seen in singly or in pairs or in small parties and running about on the ground or perched on a bush, rock, etc.
6. It feeds on insects, seeds of grass and weeds.
7. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Passeriformes
: Alaudidae
: Singing Bush-Lark
: *Mirafra cantillans*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Alaudidae
Common Name : Bengal Bush-Lark
Scientific Name : *Mirafra assamica*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Alaudidae
Common Name : Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark
Scientific Name : *Eremopterix grisea*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Alaudidae
Common Name : Rufous-tailed Finch-Lark
Scientific Name : *Ammodramus phoeniceus*



85. Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark

Eremopterix grisea (Scopoli, 1786)

சாம்பல்தலை வானம்பாடி, முனன் வானம்பாடி

1. It is a small, squat, thick-billed crestless lark.
2. Male has sandy brown in above and black in below with ashy crown and whitish cheeks.
3. Female is rather like the hen House Sparrow.
4. They are in pairs or in small flocks in open plains country.
5. It affects open cultivated country and semi - barren waste land.
6. It squats close to the ground and shuffles along in zigzag spurts in search of seeds and insects.
7. It flies by a series of rapid wing beats as in hovering.
8. The male performs a remarkable aerobatic display. He shoots up vertically on quivering wings upto thirty metres or so, then nosedives perpendicularly some distance with wings pulled in at sides. Using the momentum he suddenly turns about to face the sky and with a few rapid flaps and wings again closed, shoots up a few metres once more. At the crest of the wave he reverses and repeats the nosedive and so on in descending steps till when near the ground he flattens out and comes to rest on a stone. A pleasant little 'wheeching' song accompanies these extravagant proceedings. The whole maneuver is soon repeated.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Melmangalam.

86. Rufous-tailed Finch-Lark

Ammomanes phoenicurus (Franklin, 1831)

சிவப்பு வால் வானம்பாடி

1. It is a squat, dark rufous brown stout-billed lark with a bright rufous tail ending in a black band.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are in pairs or in small flocks found in dry open country.
4. It affects open, stony scrub-and-bush country, ploughed fields, fallow land and the neighbourhood of cultivation.
5. It zigzags on the ground in short spurts picking up grass and weed seeds, paddy and other grains and insect as food. It stampedes insects out of their hiding in the little unevenness's of the ground by rapidly, flicking open it's wings.
6. It performs pleasant rollicking notes, uttered chiefly during the spectacular aerial display similar to that of the Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark.
7. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

87. Common Swallow

Hirundo rustica (Linnaeus, 1758)

தலையில்லாத குருவி, அடைக்கலான் குருவி

1. It has glossy steel blue or purplish blue above, pale pinkish white below.
2. It has chestnut forehead and throat where the throat is bordered by a broad glossy black pectoral band.
3. It has deeply forked 'swallow' tail especially prominent in flight.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. It is gregarious and usually seen huddled on telegraph wires or hawking midges over open country or marshland.
6. It is a winter visitor. It commences its arriving on September / October and departs April / May.
7. It hawks winged insects high up in air or close to ground. It roosts in large congregations amongst reed-beds and tamarisk thickets standing in water.
8. Flight swift and graceful - a few rapid wing strokes followed by a long glide.
9. It has deeply forked tail adds to agility in turning, twisting and wheeling movements.
10. It feeds chiefly on flies and midges.
11. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus, Melmangalam and Thamaraikulam.

88. House Swallow

Hirundo tahitica (Gmelin, 1789)

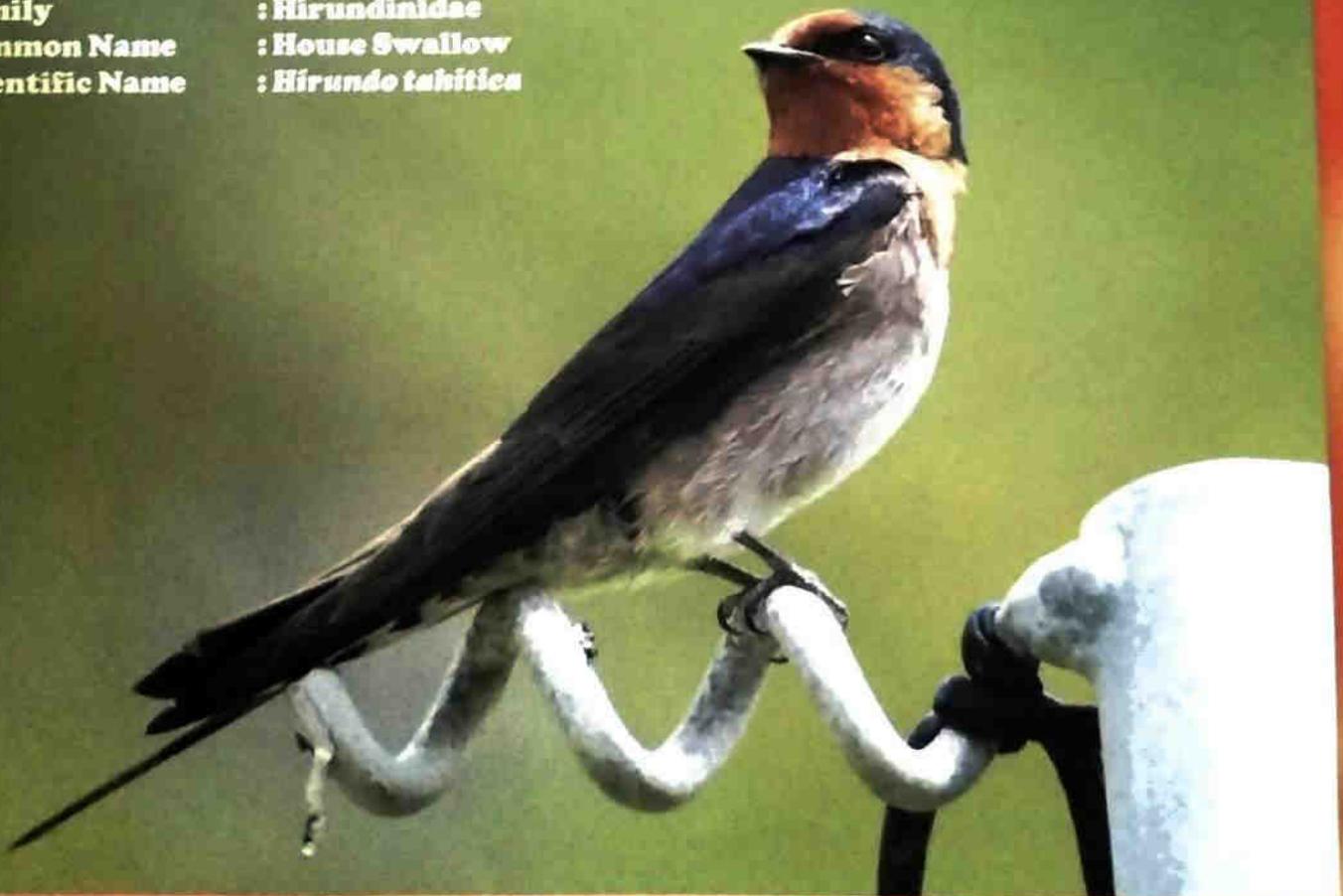
தலையில்லாத குருவி, நாட்டுத் தகைவிலான் குருவி

1. Its forehead is chestnut including deeply forked tail and black with a metallic green gloss above. Below chin, throat and upper breast chestnut, rest of underpart pale ashy.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It is similar to other swallows and it is also tame and confiding.
4. It is often seen in perched huddled together on bare branches or quartering for insects along grassy slopes.
5. It feeds on midges and other insects taken in flight.
6. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Hirundinidae
Common Name : Common Swallow
Scientific Name : *Hirundo rustica*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Hirundinidae
Common Name : House Swallow
Scientific Name : *Hirundo tahitica*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Hirundinidae
Common Name : Wire-tailed Swallow
Scientific Name : *Hirundo smithii*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Hirundinidae
Common Name : Red-rumped Swallow
Scientific Name : *Hirundo daurica*



89. Wire-tailed Swallow

Hirundo smithii (Leach, 1818)

தலையில்லாத குருவி, அடைக்கலான் குரவி, தம்பாடி,
கம்பிவால் தகைவிலான்

1. It has glossy steel blue above, with a chestnut cap.
2. It is readily distinguished from other swallows by its glistening white underparts and two long, fine 'wires' in the tail, but tail wires of female are shorter.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs or in parties found in open cultivation and near water.
5. It is typical of the swallows but it is more confined to the neighbourhood of water.
6. It's seldom encountered away from streams, tanks, reservoirs, etc, or in large flocks.
7. It utters a lively chit-chit while hawking midges over a jheel or ploughed field.
8. Male has a pretty twittering song during breeding season.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

90. Red-rumped Swallow

Hirundo daurica (Linnaeus, 1771)

செம்பிட்ட தகைவிலான்

1. It has glossy deep blue above and fulvous white below finely streaked with dark brown.
2. It has the chestnut half-collar on hind neck.
3. It has deeply forked 'swallow' tail and the chestnut rumps (conspicuous when banking in flight) are its distinguished features. Sometimes the red rump looks very pale or almost whitish.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in pairs or parties hawking insects on the wing about cliff, ancient hill forts and ruined buildings and also in open country.
6. It is similar to those of the Common Swallow and often seen hawking in association with it and with crag martins and swifts.
7. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

91. Northern House-Martin
Delichon urbica (Linnaeus, 1758)
தகைவிலான் குருவி

1. It is a small black and white swallow with short forked tail.
2. It has glossy blue black above with white rump and pure white below.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It affects open valleys and grassy hillsides with cliffs
5. The flight is swift and graceful.
6. It is gregarious.
7. It feeds on midges and other insects hawked in flight.
8. It is a resident migrant bird spotted in Melmangalam.

92. Forest Wagtail
Dendronanthus indicus (Gmelin, 1789)
கொடிக்கால் வாலாட்டி

1. It has olive brown above with a pale supercilium and has eye ring.
2. It's wings are blackish brown with large yellow spots or patches forming two prominent bands.
3. Tail has dark brown white edged and white with yellow wash below.
4. It has a blackish brown collar across throat and a second interrupted one on breast diagnostic taken with the double wing bands.
5. It is found in evergreen and deciduous forests and haunts cardamom and coffee plantations.
6. It is usually seen in singly and foraging on the ground but a good deal of it's food is obtained in trees.
7. It feeds on insects, spiders and other invertebrates.
8. It is a resident migratory bird spotted at Sothuparai.

Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Passeriformes
: Hirundinidae
: Northern House Martin
: *Hirundo lunifrons*



Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Passeriformes
: Motacillidae
: Forest Wagtail
: *Dendronanthus indicus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Motacillidae
Common Name : Large Pied Wagtail
Scientific Name : *Motacilla maderaspatensis*



93. Large Pied Wagtail

Motacilla maderaspatensis (Gmerlin, 1789)

கருப்பு வெள்ளை வாலாட்டி (அ) வெண்புருவ வாலாட்டி

1. It is a large wagtail of black and white plumage, resembling in pattern that of the familiar Magpie Robin but it has a prominent white eyebrow.
2. In the female, the black portions are duller and browner.
3. They are in pairs at streams, tanks, etc.
4. In the forehead, the black of the crown extends in a point over the forehead to base of the bill.
5. It affects clear, shingly or rocky smooth-running streams with diminutive grass-covered islets here and there.
6. It is also found in village tanks and irrigation reservoirs.
7. Usually it is tame and confiding.
8. It has a number of loud, pleasant whistling calls.
9. It feeds like other wagtails.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

94. Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava (Linnaeus, 1758)

மஞ்சள் வாலாட்டி

1. It is a slim, lively, long tailed bird chiefly yellowish or olive-green above, yellow below, seen running about in marshy fields and pastureland, constantly wagging it's tail up and down.
2. It is a winter visitor.
3. It is easily identified in adult summer plumage.
4. It is similar to the other wagtails. It runs about in short spurts with brisk mincing steps, picking up tiny insects and occasionally springing into the air to capture a fleeing midge.
5. It flies in undulating curves; a few quick wing flaps followed by a pause-accompanied by the distinctive call note weeps.
6. It roosts in reed beds and standing sugarcane crops in enormous swarms often commuting long distances upto 30 km or more at sunrise and sunset between the feeding ground and roost, milling around in dense 'clouds' above the roosting fields before dropping into them like a rain of falling leaves!
7. It is a resident migratory bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

95. Grey Wagtail
Motacilla cinerea (Tunstall, 1771)
கரும்சாம்பல் வாலாட்டி

1. It is a sprightly, slim, long tailed bird chiefly grey and yellow running about singly on ground near rocky streams and stickles in wooded country and forest glades.
2. Both the sexes are alike in winter. Chin, throat and upper breast of male is black in summer.
3. It runs about briskly in spurts chasing tiny insects, turning and twisting with agility in their pursuit and often springing up into the air to capture winged ones.
4. The tail is incessantly and characteristically wagged up and down.
5. In it's flight, a series of long undulating curves, produced by alternate quick flapping and closing of the wings.
6. Sharp chicheep, chicheep, etc. is uttered on the wing.
7. It is a migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

96. Paddyfield Pipit
Anthus rufulus (Vieillot, 1818)
புல்லு பொறக்கி, வயல் நெட்டைக்காலி

1. It is dark brown above marked with fulvous; pale fulvous below streaked with brown on breast.
2. It is slimmer with slender bill and longer tail in which outermost feathers are white.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs or in loose parties found on fallow land, etc.
5. They are mainly terrestrial and found in open country, plains and hills up to about 2000 m.
6. Ploughed and stubble fields, grazing land and grass covered stony hillsides are favourite haunts.
7. It feeds on weevils and other small insects.
8. It runs about briskly in spurts and wags tail up and down like a wagtail but much more slowly.
9. It has the same undulating flight accompanied by a distinctive *pipit, pipit* or *tseep, tseep*, etc.
10. It is resident bird spotted at Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

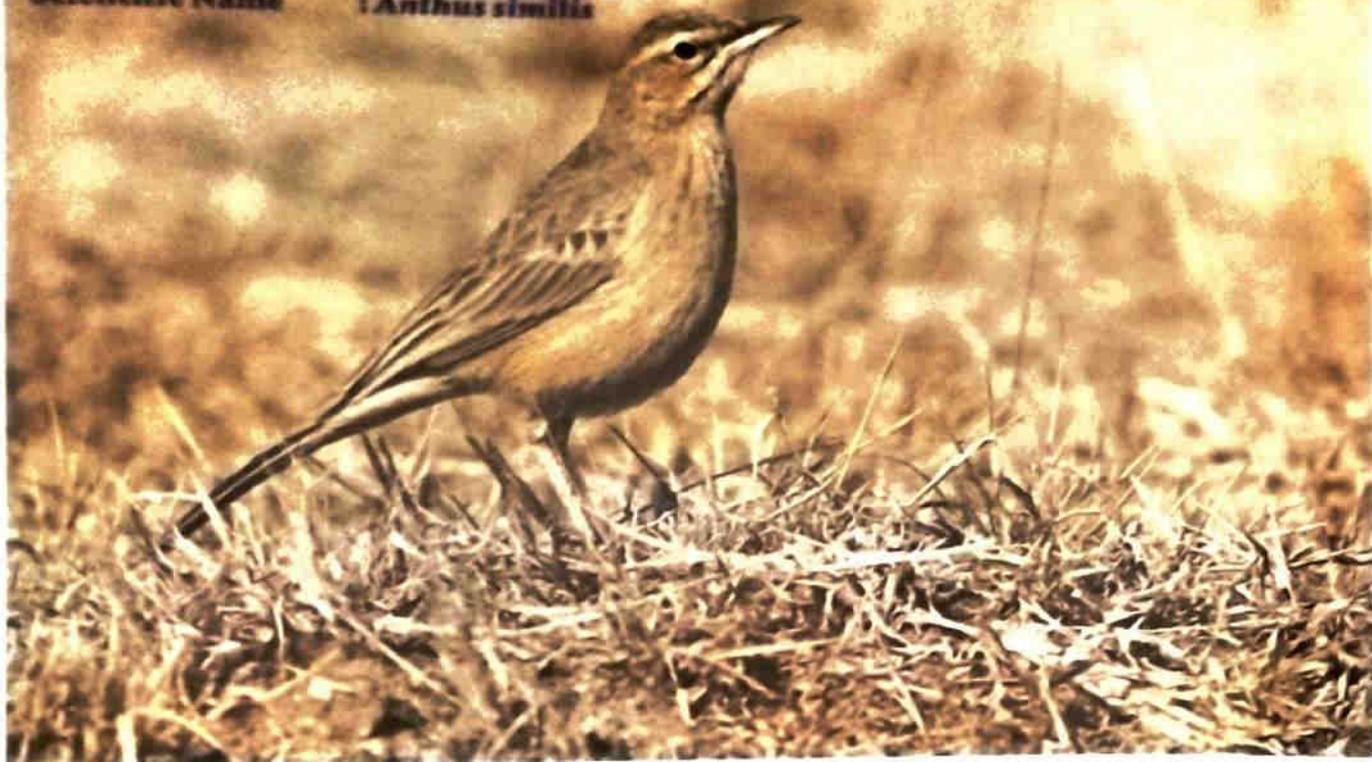
Order : Passeriformes
Family : Motacillidae
Common Name : Grey Wagtail
Scientific Name : *Motacilla cinerea*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Motacillidae
Common Name : Paddyfield Pipit
Scientific Name : *Anthus rupestris*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Motacillidae
Common Name : Brown Rock Pipit
Scientific Name : *Anthus similis*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Campephagidae
Common Name : Large Cuckoo-Shrike
Scientific Name : *Coracina macei*



97. Brown Rock Pipit
Anthus Similis (Jerdon, 1840)
மலை நெட்டைக்காலி

1. It is a large, pale brown long tailed pipit with lightly streaked above
2. It has distinct buff supercilium.
3. It's wings and tails are darker.
4. Tail has whitish outer edge.
5. It's throat has white and otherwise pinkish buff below with faint brown streaks, which may be absent.
6. Both the sexes are alike.
7. They are in singly or in pairs.
8. They feed on the ground. When flushed among crops rises, hovers and drops back or settles on an exposed rock or scrub.
9. It feeds on insects and berries.
10. It is a resident migrant bird spotted in Melmangalam.

98. Large Cuckoo-Shrike
Coracina macei (Gmelin, 1830)
குயில் கீச்சான்

1. It is a thick-set grey bird, whitish from breast down with a broad dark eye-streak.
2. It's wings and tail are black.
3. Eye-streak is less prominent in female and her underparts barred grey and white.
4. They are found in pairs, in foliage canopy and in wooded country.
5. It is arboreal and found in deciduous forest as well as secondary evergreen jungle, plain and hills alike.
6. They are partial to groves of trees about villages and cultivation and to orchards and forest plantations.
7. They are found in pairs or in family parties fly from tree-top to tree-top in irregular follow my-leader fashion uttering their distinctive shrill but pleasant double noted call *ti-eee* from time to time.
8. It feeds on large insects captured in the foliage as well as berries and banyan, peepul and other wild figs.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

99. Small Minivet

Pericrocotus cinnamomeus (Linnaeus, 1766)

சின்ன மின்சிட்டு

1. Adult male is chiefly black, grey and orange-crimson.
2. Female and young male are without black in head and with yellow largely replacing the red.
3. They are in flocks found in foliage canopy of trees.
4. It is exclusively arboreal.
5. It inhabits in gardens, groves and light deciduous jungle in flocks, particularly large in winter when also the sexes tend to keep segregated.
6. Food and feeding habits are similar to those of the scarlet minivet.
7. It feeds on insects and their larvae.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

100. Scarlet Minivet

Pericrocotus flammeus (Forster, 1781)

பொட்டுக்குருவி, மின்சிட்டு

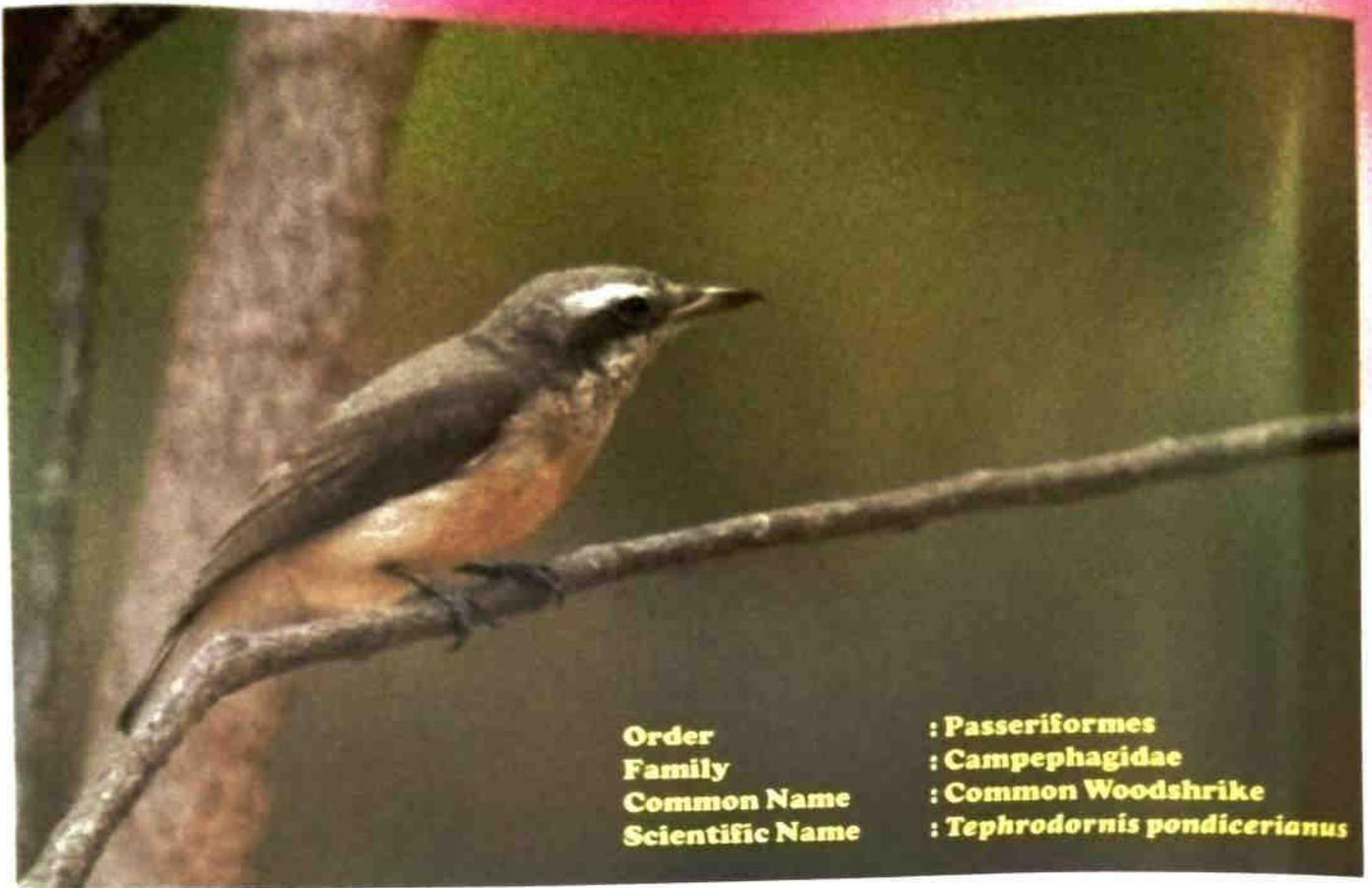
1. Adult male has glistening black and orange-red to deep scarlet.
2. Female and young male has grey and olive-yellow above, yellow below with two yellow bars in the black wings.
3. They are seen in flocks among foliage canopy of trees.
4. It is exclusively arboreal.
5. In winter, the flock consists of 30 or more.
6. It is found in well-wooded country and evergreen forest.
7. It flits restlessly amongst insects and following one another from tree-top to tree-top.
8. It feeds on insects and their larvae sometimes captured in air like flycatcher.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Campephagidae
Common Name : Small Minivet
Scientific Name : *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Campephagidae
Common Name : Scarlet Minivet
Scientific Name : *Pericrocotus flammeus*





Order : Passeriformes
Family : Campephagidae
Common Name : Common Woodshrike
Scientific Name : *Tephrodornis pondicerianus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pycnonotidae
Common Name : Black-crested Bulbul
Scientific Name : *Pycnonotus melanicterus*

101. Common WoodShrike

Tephrodornis pondicerianus (Gmelin, 1789)

காட்டுக் கீச்சான்

1. It is a plain grayish brown bird with a dark stripe below the eye and a distinct whitish supercilium.
2. It has a hook-tipped shrike bill with short square tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs or in parties and found in light jungle.
5. It affects scrub and bush country and light deciduous forest. Commonly seen in gardens, among roadside trees and in groves of babool, neem, etc. around cultivation and villages.
6. They are in parties hunt amongst foliage often in mixed company of other small birds, and follow one another gliding from tree to tree, calling in rich liquid whistling notes-weet-weet followed by a quick interrogative *whi-whi-whi-whi*.
7. It eats moth, beetles, caterpillars, etc. captured in trees.
8. It is occasionally in the air like a flycatcher seldom on ground as in true shrikes.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

102. Black-crested Bulbul

Pycnonotus melanicterus (Gmelin, 1789)

செந்தொண்டைச் சின்னான்

1. It's head, face and throat have glossy black and pointed erect crest.
2. It has olive-yellow upper and bright olive-yellow lower parts.
3. It has pale yellow eyes conspicuous at short range.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in singly or in pairs or in small parties found in secondary scrub jungle, shrubbery around cultivation and on the outskirts of forest.
6. It's habits are similar to the Redvented and other Bulbuls.
7. It is mainly frugivorous but also eats insects.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

103. Red-whiskered Bulbul
Pycnonotus jocosus (Linnaeus, 1758)
செம்மீசைச் சின்னான்

1. It has brown above and white below with a broken blackish necklace on breast.
2. Black, upstanding, pointed crest, crimson 'whiskers' and crimson patch under root of tail are distinguishing features.
3. Both the sexes are alike. They are in pairs or loose gatherings.
4. It prefers better-wooded localities than the Redvented species and commonly found in hills up to 2500 m.
5. Sometimes the two species are found side by side but normally the habitat preferences are marked.
6. It enters gardens and is usually tame and confiding.
7. It's joyous querulous notes are rather similar to those of the Redvented Bulbul but more musical and readily distinguishable.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

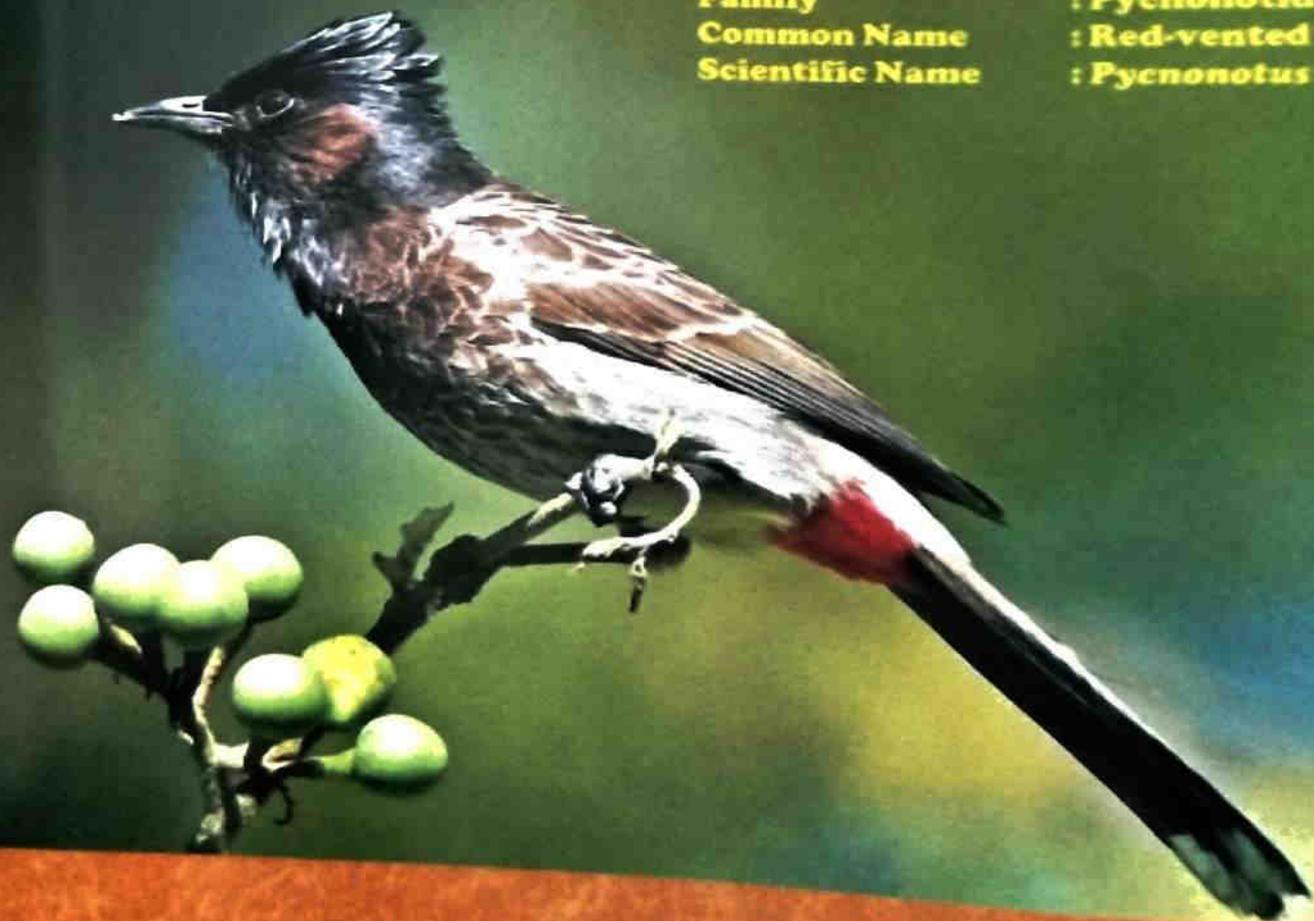
104. Red-vented Bulbul
Pycnonotus cafer (Linnaeus, 1766)
கொண்டைக் குருவி

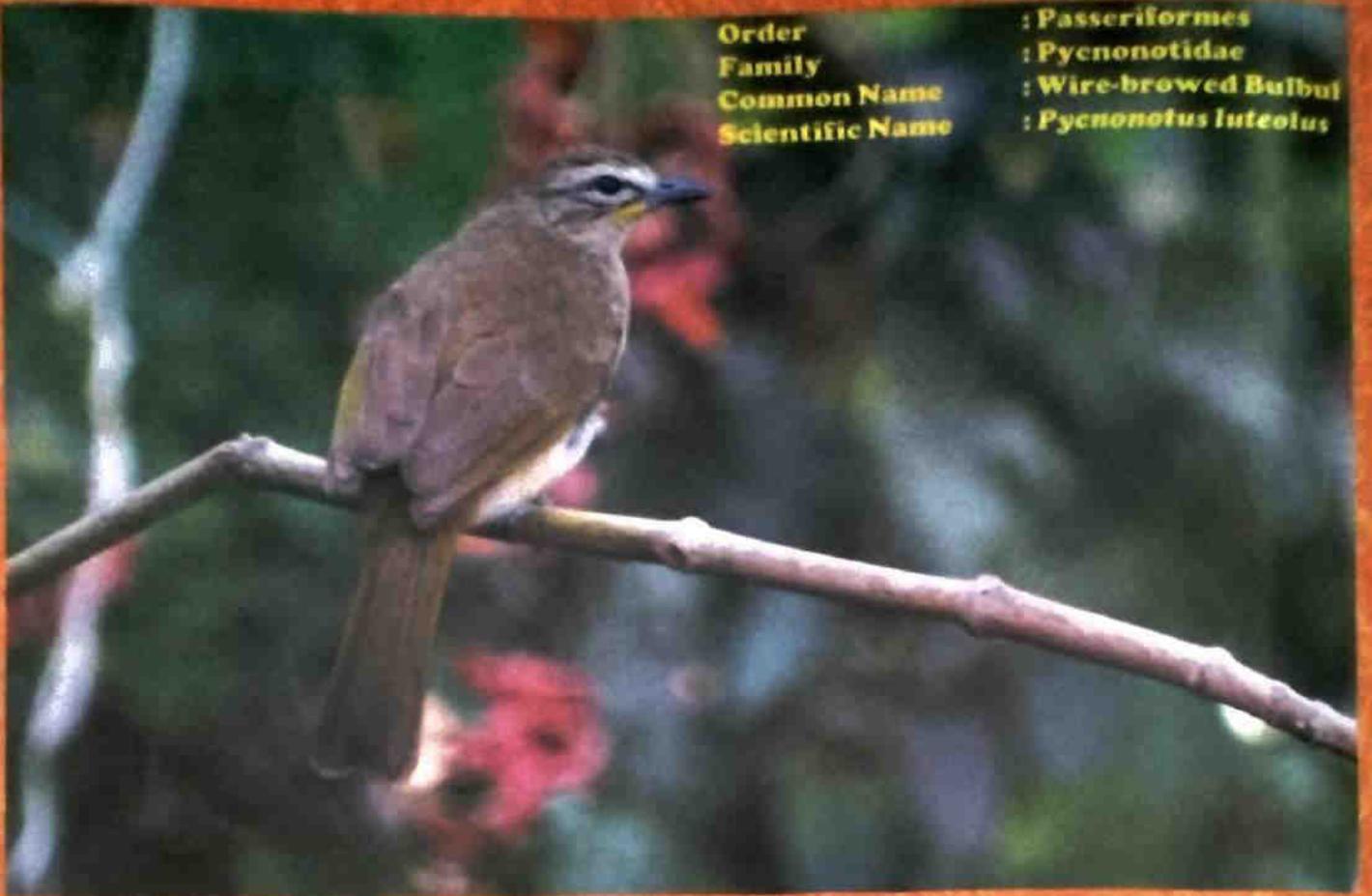
1. It's a perky smoke-brown bird with partially crested black head.
2. It has scale-like markings on breast and back.
3. It has a conspicuous crimson patch below, root of tail and a white rump, the last particularly noticeable in flight.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They are in pairs or in small gatherings in gardens and lightly wooded country.
6. They are common in gardens and light scrub jungle, both near and away from human habitations.
7. They are in large numbers collect to feed on banyan and peepul figs and winged termite swarms.
8. It has no song as such but it's joyous notes and vivacious disposition make it a welcome visitor to every garden.
9. It's pugnacity makes it a favorite with fanciers as a fighting bird, and large stakes are wagered on bulbul fights.
10. It eats insects, fruits and berries, peas, vegetables, and flower nectar.
11. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pycnonotidae
Common Name : Red-whiskered Bulbul
Scientific Name : *Pycnonotus jocosus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pycnonotidae
Common Name : Red-vented Bulbul
Scientific Name : *Pycnonotus cafer*





Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pycnonotidae
Common Name : Wire-browed Bulbul
Scientific Name : *Pycnonotus luteolus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Pycnonotidae
Common Name : Black Bulbul
Scientific Name : *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

105. White-browed bulbul
Pycnonotus luteolus (Lesson, 1841)
வெண்புருவக் கொண்டலாத்தி

1. It has uncrested, sober brownish olive-green with pale underparts and conspicuous white forehead and eyebrows.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It is unobtrusive and skulking pairs in scrub and bush jungle.
4. It frequents shrubbery in dry, open scrub and bush country.
5. Occasionally it enters rambling jungly gardens and compounds. Normal note a subdued *churr* but every now and then the male explodes in loud, abrupt snatches of rattling song, quite unmistakable when once heard.
6. It feeds on banyan and peepul figs, berries from *Zizyphus* sp. and *Lantana* sp., insects and flower nectar.
7. All species of bulbuls being predominantly fruit and berry eaters and play an important role in the dispersal of seeds and dissemination of plant life over the countryside.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

106. Black Bulbul
Hypsipetes leucocephalus (P.L.S. Muller, 1766)
கருப்பு கொண்டை குருவி

1. It is a slaty grey and black-crested bulbul.
2. It has slightly forked tail and bright red bill and legs.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It is arboreal. They are noisy boistrous parties of 6 to 10, sometimes large flocks, in the foliage canopy of lofty forest trees.
5. They are flying in rabbles from tree to tree, commonly keeping company with the mixed hunting flocks.
6. Its seldom descends to bushes and often launches short twisting sallies from treetops to capture insects in the air.
7. It feeds on mainly fruits and berries, also insects and flower-nectar.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

107. Common Iora
Aegithina tiphia (Linnaeus, 1758)
பச்சைப்புறா, சின்ன மாம்பழச்சிட்டு

1. It is a black and yellow tit-like bird with two white wing bars.
2. Female and male in non-breeding plumage, have largely greenish yellow with whitish wing bars, the latter differentiated by black tail.
3. They are in pairs in gardens groves and light forest.
4. It is arboreal and inhabits in gardens, towns, groves of trees (Mango, Tamarind and Neem, etc.) on village outskirts and secondary jungle.
5. It hops from twig to twig, frequently clinging on sideways or upside down in search of insects among the foliage.
6. The birds keep in touch by sweet long-drawn musical whistles and short chirrups.
7. At the arrival of migrants, it comes down from its original feeding layer, the canopy to the stem or branches.
8. It eats insects, their eggs and larvae.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

108. Jerdon's Chloropsis
Chloropsis cochinchinensis (Gmelin, 1788)
நீலச்சிட்டு

1. It has bright purplish blue moustachial streaks.
2. The female has pale bluish green chin and throat, and bright greenish blue moustachial streaks.
3. They are in pairs or parties found in leafy trees.
4. They are entirely arboreal.
5. It prefers less thickly-wooded country, forest as well as neighbourhood of habitation.
6. They are partial to groves of trees around villages, and scattered amongst cultivation.
7. They are invariably present at flowers of silk cotton, coral, palas and other trees, feeding greedily on the nectar and often acting dog-in-the-manager to other bird visitors.
8. It is also a very good mimic.
9. It is popular cage bird, but bullying and pugnacious and unsuitable for mixed aviaries.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai and JAC Campus.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Irenidae
Common Name : Common Iora
Scientific Name : *Aegithina tiphia*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Irenidae
Common Name : Jerdon's Chloropsis
Scientific Name : *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Icteridae
Common Name : Gold-fronted Chloropsis
Scientific Name : *Chloropsis aurifrons*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Laniidae
Common Name : Bay-backed Shrike
Scientific Name : *Lanius vittatus*



109. Gold-fronted Chloropsis
Chloropsis aurifrons (Temminck, 1829)
 பச்சைச்சிட்டு

1. It is a spruce grass-green bird with bright golden forehead.
 2. It has purple and black chin and throat.
 3. It has a slender curved bill.
 4. Female is paler and duller.
 5. They are in pairs or in parties, in leafy or flower-laden trees.
 6. It is found in well-wooded areas, forest as well as neighbourhood of habitation.
 7. It hunts for insects and spiders in the foliage where it's plumage blends perfectly. Therefore, far often heard than seen.
 8. It is accomplished mimic of the calls of other birds such as Bulbul, Drongo, Shrike, Magpie-Robin, etc.
 9. Sometimes mimics migratory birds during a season when they should be absent, thereby intriguing and confounding the observer.
 10. Besides insects it feeds on spiders and fruit, largely on flower nectar.
1. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

110. Bay-backed Shrike
Lanius vittatus (Valenciennes, 1826)
 கருஞ்சிவப்பு முதுகு கீச்சான்

1. It is the smallest Indian shrike.
2. It has hook-tipped bill.
3. It has grey and white head with broad black band across forehead and backward through the eyes, chestnut-maroon back, white underparts.
4. It has black and white graduated tail
5. It has whitish rump with white 'mirrors' on black wing quills.
6. Both the sexes are alike.
7. They are in singly in dry, thinly-wooded country, babool jungle and cultivation.
8. It is very similar to those of the Grey Shrike.
9. It avoids pure desert areas as well as humid forest.
10. It normally utters harsh churring notes but in breeding season male has pleasant warbling song in which imitations of other birds' calls are freely intermingled.
11. It eats locusts and other large insects, lizards, etc.
12. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

111. Rufous-backed Shrike

Lanius schach (Linnaeus, 1758)

காட்டு குருவி, பேய் குருவி, செம்முதுகு கீச்சான்

1. It's forehead and a band through the eyes are black.
2. Head is grey and lower back rump is bright rufous.
3. It's underparts are washed with rufous.
4. It has a typical stout hooked bill.
5. Both the sexes are alike.
6. It is found in singly in open lightly wooded and scrub country.
7. It's general habits and behaviour are typical but affects less arid country than the two foregoing species.
8. It eats grasshoppers, large insects, lizards, young mice, etc.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

112. Oriental Magpie-Robin

Copsychus saularis (Linnaeus, 1758)

வண்ணாத்திக் குருவி

1. It is a trim black-and-white bird with cocked tail as in Indian Robin.
2. Black portions of male replaced by brown and slaty grey in female.
3. They are in singly or in pairs found in human habitations.
4. It is one of the more familiar birds in towns and villages.
5. It is a shy, silent and unobtrusive bird during non-breeding season and then skulking in shrubbery and only uttering plaintive *swee-ee* and harsh *chur-r*.
6. It is conspicuous during breeding season when male sings lustily from favourite tree top or post, chiefly early mornings and late afternoons.
7. It's song punctuated by upward jerks of white-fringed tail and also very good mimic of other birds calls.
8. Breeding territories are jealously guarded and intruding males defied with puffing out strutting and much show of pugnacity.
9. It feeds on insects, chiefly picked off the ground and flower nectar as of *Salmalia sp.* and *Erythrina* species.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Laniidae
Common Name : Rufous-backed Shrike
Scientific Name : *Lanius schach*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Turdidae
Common Name : Oriental Magpie-Robin
Scientific Name : *Copsychus saularis*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Turdinae)
Common Name : Indian Robin
Scientific Name : *Saxicoloides julicatus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Turdinae)
Common Name : Pied Bushchat
Scientific Name : *Saxicola caprata*



113. Indian Robin

Saxicoloides fulicata (Linnaeus, 1776)

கருஞ்சிட்டு

1. It is a sprightly black bird with a white patch on wing which is more conspicuous in flight.
2. It has rusty red under the root of cocked tail.
3. Hen has ashy brown without the wing-patch.
4. They are pairs in dry open lightly wooded country.
5. It is familiar and confiding.
6. It frequents stony scrub country around towns and villages, commonly perching on thatched roofs of huts and entering verandas to pick up insects.
7. It hops along the ground, mounting a rock, termite mound or fencepost and tossing upward the jaunty cocked tail.
8. The male utters some cheery notes, but no song as such, chiefly during courtship display.
9. It feeds on insects and their eggs, spiders, etc.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

114. Pied Bushchat

Saxicola caprata (Linnaeus, 1766)

கருப்பு வெள்ளை புதர் சிட்டு

1. Male is black with white patches on rump, abdomen and wings, the last particularly conspicuous in flight.
2. Female is earth-brown with pale rusty coloured rump.
3. They are in pairs on bush tops in open country, etc.
4. It affects sparsely scrubbed country and hillside, commonly in the neighborhood of cultivation and villages.
5. It darts down to the ground from an exposed perch on a stake or bush top to pick up insect prey.
6. Sometimes springs up into the air or makes short sallies after winged insects.
7. It utters a harsh *chek, chek* ending in a subdued tweet.
8. It's song also uttered as threat to rival male with tail depressed and neck craned forward menacingly, white rump fluffed out and wings drooped, flaunting the white shoulder-patches.
9. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

115. Common Babbler
Turdoides caudatus (Dumont, 1823)
குனி, சிலம்பன்

1. It is a slim earthy brown babbler, with upper plumage streaked darker.
2. It has a long, graduated and loosely attached tail which is finely cross-rayed.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. Flocks of half a dozen or more on the ground or in low bushes.
5. It has a preference for dry open country and semi-desert with thorn scrub and shrubby vegetation, but it is not restricted to such.
6. It avoids humid forest.
7. The birds feed on the ground and scuttle along like rats through thorn scrub and thickets, and are loth to fly.
8. It's flight is feeble that is a few rapid flaps followed by a glide on outspread wings and tail.
9. It feeds on insects, berries, grain and flower nectar.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

116. Large Grey Babbler
Turdoides malcolmi (Sykes, 1832)
பெரிய சிலம்பன்

1. It is similar to the Jungle Babbler but pale grayish brown, with grey forehead.
2. It has a longer tail and more graduated with white outer feathers conspicuous in flight and when the tail is spread.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. Sisterhoods' of a dozen or so or larger flocks, rummaging on the ground in open cultivated plains country.
5. It is sociable with the same flight, food and general behavior as the Jungle and Common Babblers.
6. It's habitat includes cultivated plains, country dotted with babool, mango and neem trees.
7. It voids the better wooded jungly tracts and drier semi-desert facies.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Timaliinae)
Common Name : Common Babbler
Scientific Name : *Turdoides caudatus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Timaliinae)
Common Name : Large Grey Babbler
Scientific Name : *Turdoides malacra*

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Timaliinae)
Common Name : Jungle Babbler
Scientific Name : *Turdoides striatus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Timaliinae)
Common Name : White-headed Babbler
Scientific Name : *Turdoides affinis*



117. Jungle Babbler

Turdoides striatus (Dumont, 1823)

காட்டுச் சிலம்பன்

1. It is an earthy brown frowzled and untidy looking bird with a longish tail which gives the impression of being loosely stuck into body.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are invariably in flocks of half a dozen or more, hence it's popular names 'Seven Sisters'.
4. They inhabits in outlying jungle, well-wooded compounds, gardens and groves of trees about towns and villages.
5. The flocks or 'sisterhoods' hop about on the ground rummaging amongst the fallen leaves and mulch for moths and other insects.
6. They usually form the nucleus of the mixed hunting parties of birds in forest.
7. The flock keeps up a constant conversational chatter and squeaking which sometimes develops into loud discordant wrangling.
8. It is sociable even while paired off and nesting, feeding in flocks and banding together to ward off attack by predatory hawk or cat.
9. It eats spiders, cockroaches and other insects, and larvae, wild figs, berries, grain and nectar of flowers of Coral, Silk Cotton and other trees.
10. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

118. White-headed Babbler

Turdoides affinis (Jerdon, 1947)

தவிட்டுக்குருவி (அ) பன்றிக்குருவி

1. It has dingy cream coloured crown contrasting with the dark ear covers as well as it is sharper.
2. It makes more musical call notes distinguish this species from the jungle babbler and related species.
3. It is seen in dense scrub particularly *Lantana* sp. also orchards and urban gardens
4. It is gregarious.
5. It feeds on insects and vegetable matter, and occasionally other small animals.
6. This species is parasitized by the Pied Crested Cuckoo.
7. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam,.

119. Plain Prinia
Prinia inornata (Sykes, 1832)
கதிர்குருவி

1. It has rufous earthy brown above without terminal spots to tail.
2. It's winter plumage is more fulvous and longer-tailed.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs in open scrub and grass country.
5. It affects somewhat drier habitats.
6. It feeds on insects, caterpillars, ants, small beetles, etc.
7. Also eats flower nectar of *Salmalia* sp., *Erythrina* sp., etc.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

120. Paddyfield Warbler
Acrocephalus agricola (Jerdon, 1845)
வயல் கதிர்க்குருவி

1. It is rufous-brown above with a paler, brighter rump.
2. It has an indistinct pale supercilium.
3. It has whitish throat and rest of underparts is ochraceous buff.
4. It is found in rice, reedbeds, sugarcane and elephant grass in water or on wet ground.
5. They are found in singly in thick cover when flushed skims over the vegetation and dives into the cover, spreading it's tail when the rufous rump shows up prominently.
6. It feeds on insects.
7. It constantly uttered harsh chr... chuck sound is peculiar to their bird.
8. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at Thamaraiikulam and Sothuparai.





Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Sylviidae)
Common Name : Blyth's Reed-Warbler
Scientific Name : *Acrocephalus dumetorum*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Sylviidae)
Common Name : Common Tailorbird
Scientific Name : *Orthotomus sutorius*

121. Blyth's Reed -Warbler
Acrocephalus dumetorum (Blyth, 1849)
பிளித் நாணல் குருவி

1. It is a smaller replica of the Great Reed Warbler.
2. It has olive brown above with a pale supercilium.
3. It's throat is white and rest of underparts buff.
4. It is commonly seen on bushes often far from water.
5. It keeps singly hopping about and creeping through bushes.
6. It's presence only is betrayed by it's distinctive call, chuk is given for every few seconds while foraging.
7. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai and Melmangalam.

122. Common Tailorbird
Orthotomus sutorius (Pennant, 1769)
தையல் சிட்டு, பொன் சிட்டு

1. It is a small restless olive-green bird with whitish underparts and a rust coloured crown.
2. It has two elongated pinpointed feathers in the tail especially more developed in breeding male which is carried jauntily, stylish and cheerful cocked.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in singly or in pairs and found in shrubbery.
5. It is familiar and confiding.
6. They are found equally at home in outlying scrub jungle or in gardens and shrubbery within a bustling town.
7. It fearlessly enters verandas of occupied bungalows, hopping, amongst the trellised i.e. crossing bars used to support climbing plants creepers and potted plants within a few feet of the inmates.
8. It feeds on tiny insects, their eggs and grubs, flower nectar of *Salmalia* sp., *Erythrina* sp. and other trees.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

123. Greenish Leaf-Warbler

Phylloscopus trochiloides (Sundevall, 1837)

பச்சைக் கதிர்க்குருவி

1. It has a single faint wing bar and dull greenish above with a well-marked yellowish supercilium.
2. It has dark eye streak.
3. It's cheeks are mottled olive and yellowish, and sullied yellowish white below.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. In summer, it is found among willow, tamarisk and popular groves.
6. In winter, it frequents gardens, wooded compounds, *Acacia* groves, open deciduous and evergreen forests.
7. They are seen in singly and in the company of foraging parties of small insectivorous birds bustling energetically among leaves.
8. It eats insects including caterpillars.
9. It is a migrant spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

124. Striated Marsh-Warbler

Megalurus palustris (Horsfield, 1821)

1. It is a large striated warbler with a long, pointed and graduated tail.
2. It has fulvous brown with streaked head and black stripes on back and wings.
3. It has a pale supercilium.
4. It has fulvous tinged white below with fine brown streaks on flanks, breast and under tail-coverts.
5. In fresh plumage underparts are dull primrose yellow.
6. It is found in grass and reeds, swamps and ponds and grasslands on river islands, cultivation, etc.
7. It is seen in singly or in pairs.
8. It is more visible than the other grass warblers.
9. It is often seen perched on bushtops and reeds, occasionally feeds on the ground.
10. It feeds on insects.
11. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.



| | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Order | : Passeriformes |
| Family | : Muscicapidae (Sylviidae) |
| Common Name | : Striped Marsh Warbler |
| Scientific Name | : <i>Megohorus palustris</i> |

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Muscicapinae)
Common Name : Red-throated Flycatcher
Scientific Name : *Ficedula parva*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Muscicapinae)
Common Name : White-bellied Blue-Flycatcher
Scientific Name : *Cyornis pallipes*



125. Red-throated Flycatcher

Ficedula parva (Bechstein, 1792)

செந்தொண்டை ஈப்பிடிப்பான்

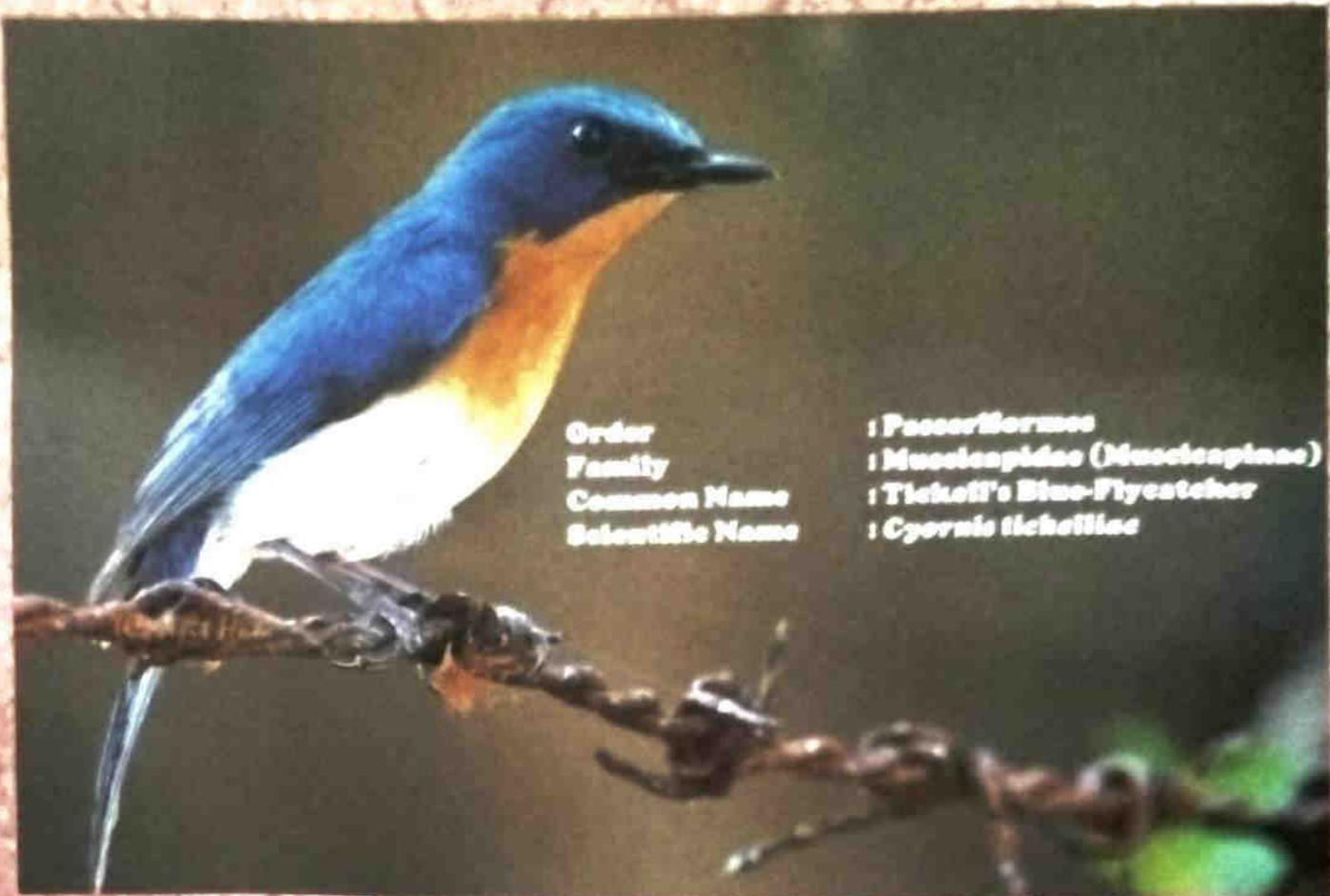
1. It is a plain brown flycatcher with partly cocked black and white tail and wings drooping on either side of it.
2. The adult male has bright orange-chestnut chin, throat, and breast.
3. Female and young male have ashy fulvous breast and white underparts.
4. The white patches in the basal half of the black tail is diagnostic in flight and when tail switched up.
5. It is found in singly in leafy trees on village outskirts, roadsides, bungalow compounds and forest plantations, etc.
6. It is a typical flycatcher.
7. It flits among branches of trees and launching short twisting sallies to capture winged insects.
8. It descends to the ground momentarily to pick up crawling prey and flits back into an overhanging branch. From time to time the cocked tail is twitched upright to the accompaniment of a sharp *click-click*.
9. It has a pretty song of leaf warbler quality but it is not heard in its winter quarters.
10. It is migratory bird spotted at Sothuparai.

126. White-bellied Blue-Flycatcher

Cyornis pallipes (Jerdon, 1840)

வெள்ளை வயிற்று நீல ஈப்பிடிப்பான்

1. Male is duller coloured, more indigo blue rather like Nilgiri Verditer but with white belly.
2. Female has above, pale brown with chestnut tail and below, throat and breast have orange-rufous with white belly.
3. It is distinguished by chestnut tail.
4. It is a typical flycatcher but comparatively sluggish and retiring, thus often escaping observation.
5. It keeps singly and frequently in association with the itinerant mixed hunting flocks.
6. It perches bolt upright, spreads tail and screws it from side to side.
7. It eats chiefly insects.
8. It is a resident bird found in Sothuparai.



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Muscicapinae)
Common Name : Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher
Scientific Name : *Cyornis tickelliae*

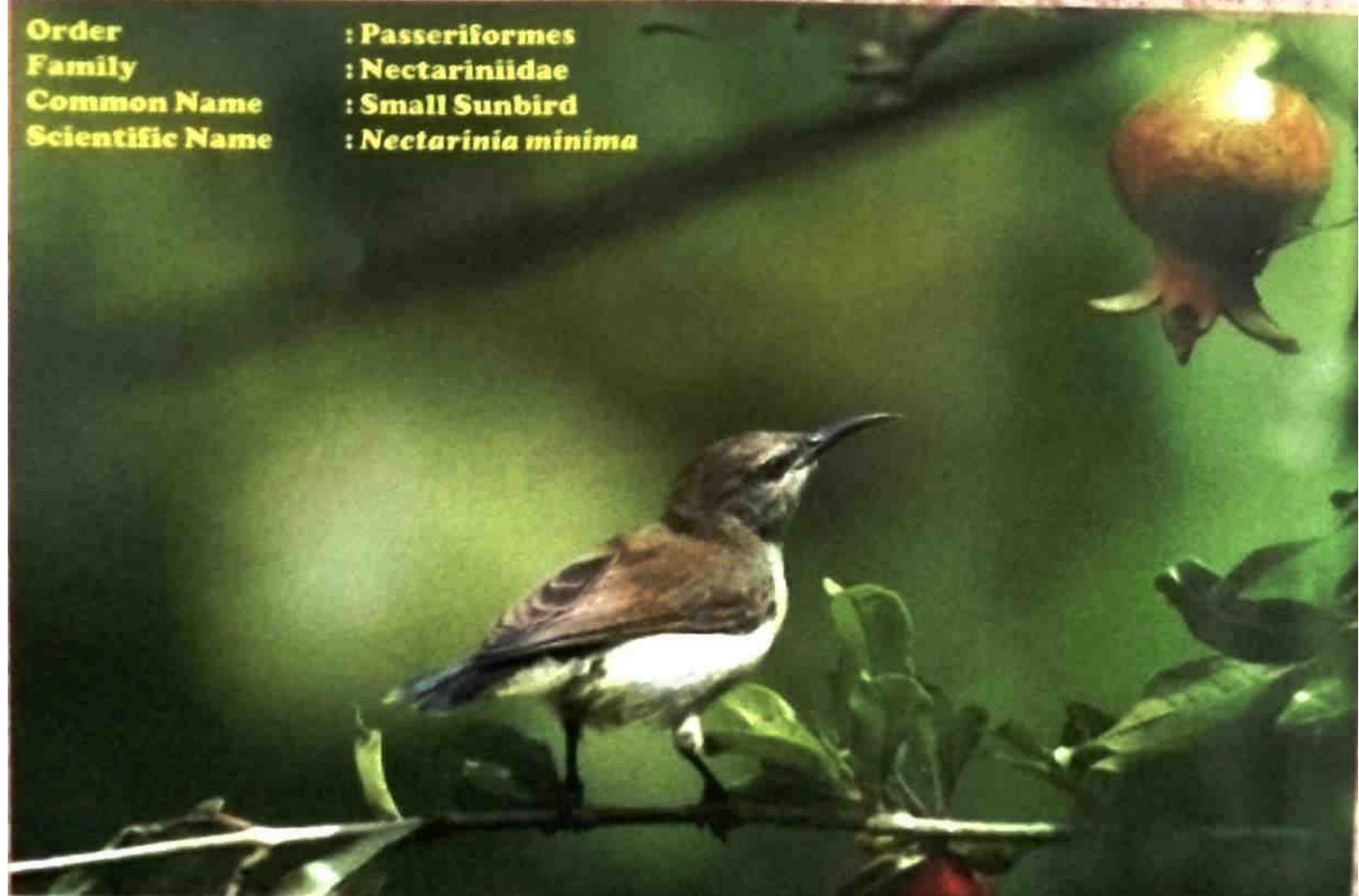


Order : Passeriformes
Family : Muscicapidae (Monarchinae)
Common Name : Asian Paradise-Flycatcher
Scientific Name : *Terpidophane paradisei*

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Nectariniidae
Common Name : Purple-rumped Sunbird
Scientific Name : *Nectarinia zeylonica*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Nectariniidae
Common Name : Small Sunbird
Scientific Name : *Nectarinia minima*



129. Purple-rumped Sunbird

Nectarinia zeylonica (Linnaeus, 1766)

ஊதாப்பிட்டு தேன்சிட்டு

1. It's upperparts and breast are with glistening metallic crimson, green, and purple colour.
2. It's lower parts are yellow and it's rump is metallic bluish purple.
3. It's breeding and non-breeding plumages are alike.
4. Female is very similar to that of Purple Sunbird but it's chin is grayish white and rest of lower parts are brighter yellow.
5. They are in pairs found in wooded country.
6. It is found in gardens, groves, cultivated and scrub country as well as light deciduous forest.
7. In quest of nectar it is responsible for cross-pollinating numerous species of flowers and one of the great economic harmfulness is being the pernicious tree-parasite *Dendrophthoe* species.
8. The male sings excitedly while pivoting on his perch from side and opening and closing his wings and tail: tityou, trr-r-rtit and so on.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

130. Small Sunbird

Nectarinia minima (Sykes, 1832)

சின்ன தேன்சிட்டு

1. Male is similar to Purple Sunbird but it's back has deep crimson brown and maroon and without metallic shoulder patch.
2. It has below collar broader covering the breast.
3. It's belly is yellow with bright lemon tufts.
4. It's flanks are grayish white.
5. In female's, above is olive and lower rump distinctively is deep crimson-brown.
6. It is a typical of Sunbird.
7. It hunts actively among flowers for insects and nectar.
8. It eats nectar, insects and spiders.
9. It affects evergreen biotope ranges between 300 and 2100m.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai reservoir.

131. Purple Sunbird

Nectarinia asiatica (Latham, 1790)

தேன்குடி, பூக்குடிச்சான், ஊதாத்தேன்சிட்டு

1. Breeding male is metallic dark blue and purple
2. It's pectoral tufts are bright yellow and scarlet.
3. At a distance the bird looks like black.
4. Male in non-breeding plumage looks like female brown to olive-brown above and pale dull yellow below but with darker wings and a broad black stripe running down middle of breast.
5. They are in pairs found in open lightly wooded country.
6. It lives in gardens, groves, cultivated and scrub country as well as light deciduous forest.
7. It feeds on insects and spiders, and very largely flower nectar.
8. It's slender curved bill and tubular tongue are admirably adapted for probing into flower tubes and sucking the nectar; in doing so the bird helps to cross-pollinate the blossoms.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

132. Loten's Sunbird

Nectarinia lotenia (Linnaeus, 1766)

லோடன் தேன் சிட்டு

1. Male has black above with metallic green and purple sheen.
2. It has below the throat metallic green.
3. Metallic purple is present on breast with a dark crimson or maroon band across breast and bright yellow tufts on sides of breast which are conspicuous even from the rear when erected while displaying.
4. The long, slender, deeply arched bill is distinctive.
5. Female is dull olive but tail has blue-black with white tips and dull yellow below.
6. It keeps singly or in pairs flitting from flower to flower in search of nectar.
7. Parasitic loranthus is particularly favoured.
8. It feeds on nectar, also spiders and insects.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Nectariniidae
Common Name : Purple Sunbird
Scientific Name : *Nectarinia asiatica*



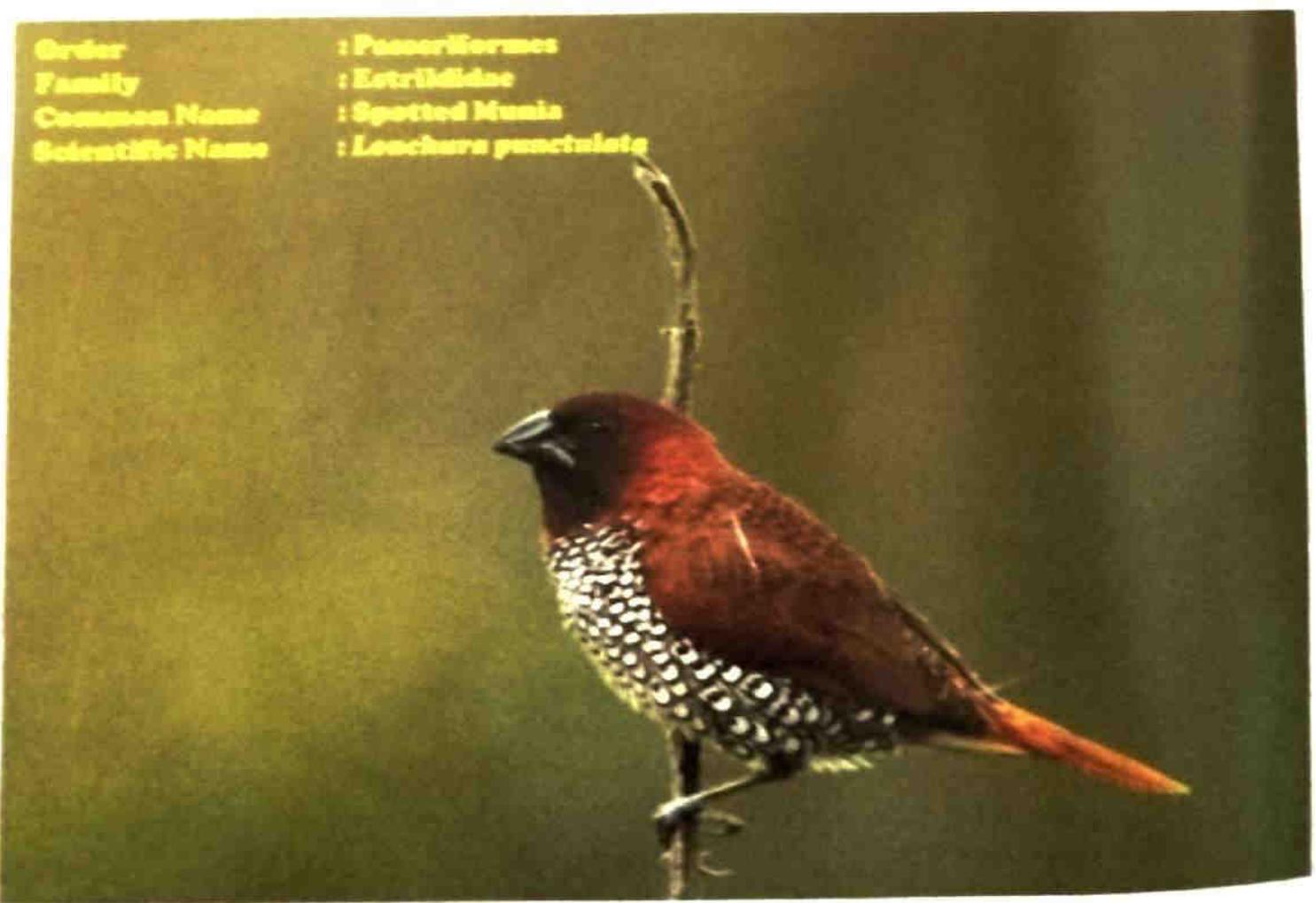
Order : Passeriformes
Family : Nectariniidae
Common Name : Loten's Sunbird
Scientific Name : *Nectarinia lotenia*





Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

Passeriformes
Nectarinidae
Crimson Sunbird
Aethopyga siparaja



Order
Family
Common Name
Scientific Name

: Passeriformes
: Estrildidae
: Spotted Munia
: *Lonchura punctulata*

133. Crimson Sunbird

Aethopyga siparaja (Raffles, 1822)

கருஞ்சிவப்பு தேன்சிட்டு

1. It is a brilliantly coloured glistening purple green and crimson sunbird with long, pointed, metallic green tail and a distinctive yellow rump.
2. Female is short tailed as in the Purple species but dusky olive green above and dull ashy green below.
3. They are in pairs found in well wooded country.
4. It flits about restlessly like a gem in the sunshine among blossoming shrubs and trees.
5. It is hanging upside down and in other acrobatic positions to probe into the flower tubes for nectar.
6. It also eats insects and spiders.
7. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

134. Spotted Munia

Lonchura punctulata (Linnaeus, 1766)

திண்ணைக் குரவி, புள்ளைச் சில்லை

1. In breeding plumage upper parts are chocolate-brown and lower parts are white, speckled with black.
2. In non-breeding and immature plumage it is more or less plain brown.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are seen in flocks and found in open cultivation.
5. It is a typical munia. They flock sometimes of up to 200 individuals or more and hop about gleaning grass seeds, etc.
6. The birds occasionally devour winged termites emerging from the ground.
7. When disturbed, they fly up into trees and bushes, uttering feeble chirrup.
8. They fly in the same disorderly close packed undulating rabbles as other muniyas.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

135. Black-headed Munia

Lonchura malacca (Linnaeus, 1766)

கருந்தலைத் திண்ணைக்குருவி, கருந்தலைச் சில்லை

1. It is a small chestnut, black and white munia with typical short, heavy, conical bill.
2. It's head, neck, upper breast, vent, thighs and under tail-coverts are black.
3. Abdomen is white.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. They found in flock on marshy tall grassland.
6. They are partial to swampy low-lying and ill-drained areas with feathery grass and reeds, and the vicinity of wet paddy cultivation in forest. Otherwise not different in habits, food or voice from the other munias described.
7. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus.

136. House Sparrow

Passer domesticus (Linnaeus, 1758)

ஊர் குருவி, அடைக்கலாங்குருவி, சிட்டுக்குருவி

1. It is a undoubtedly out most familiar bird.
2. *Male* has grey crown, black lores and around eye, behind eye, sides of neck and upper back chestnut. Back is rufous-chestnut, black streaked, and white shoulder patch on rufous wing.
3. Tail is dark brown.
4. *Female* has ashy grey-brown above, streaked with blackish and rufous, and with a pale fulvous supercilium; fulvous ashy white below.
5. They are inseparable from human habitations.
6. It is a confirmed hanger-on of man, in hills and plains alike, whether in a bustling noisy city or outlying forest hamlet.
7. It is omnivorous and eats grain, insects, fruit buds, flower nectar and kitchen scraps. Sometimes collects in enormous flocks and does damage to ripening crops and in market gardens.
8. Non-breeding birds have favorite community roosts in leafy trees, where large numbers foregather with much noise every evening.
9. It's chirping call notes too well known.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Estrildidae
Common Name : Black-headed Munia
Scientific Name : *Lonchura malacca*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Passeridae (Passerinae)
Common Name : House Sparrow
Scientific Name : *Passer domesticus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Passeridae (Ploceinae)
Common Name : Baya Weaver
Scientific Name : *Ploceus philippinus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Sturnidae
Common Name : Brahminy Starling
Scientific Name : *Sturnus pagodarum*

137. Baya Weaver

Ploceus philippinus (Linnaeus, 1766)

தூக்கணாங்குருவி

1. The non-breeding plumage of female and male is rather like the hen House Sparrow.
2. It has dark-streaked fulvous brown above and plain whitish fulvous below.
3. It has a stout conical bill with short square-cut tail.
4. Breeding male has bright yellow crown and upper parts dark brown streaked with yellow. Yellow breast, cream buff on underparts.
5. They are in flocks at open cultivation.
6. Sometimes they are found in considerable size, glean on paddy and other grain in harvested fields. Occasionally they damage ripening crops.
7. They roost in enormous numbers in reed-beds, bordering tanks, etc.
8. It's seasonal local movements are largely governed by paddy and cereal cultivation which provide both nesting material and food. It also eats insects.
9. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam.

138. Brahminy Starling

Sturnus pagodarum (Gmelin, 1789)

கருங்கொண்டை நாகணவாய் பட்சி

1. It is a typical myna.
2. It has grey above and reddish fawn below with glossy black crown and long recumbent crest, and black wing quills.
3. Tail is brown with white tip conspicuous when spread out in alighting.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. Young birds have crestless sooty brown head and dull general coloration.
6. They are in small flocks at thinly-wooded country.
7. It is less arboreal freely enters gardens, towns and villages.
8. It is partial to moist grassland and frequently in attendance on grazing cattle, capturing the insects disturbed.
9. It eats chiefly berries, wild figs and insects but it is largely omnivorous.
10. It produces a pleasing little song, in the nature of a soliloquy, uttered in the breeding season.
11. It is a resident bird spotted in Melmangalam and Sothuparai.

139. Rosy Starling

Sturnus roseus (Linnaeus, 1758)

குறை குருவி, சோளக் குருவி, சோளப்பட்சி

1. It is a rose-pink myna-like bird with glistening black head, neck, upper breast, wings, and tail.
2. It has a long, recumbent and pointed crest on crown and nape and sometimes it is erected.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. Young birds and adults have duller and browner winter plumage (non-breeding).
5. They are in flocks 'clouds' of up to 500 or more individuals and do considerable damage to ripening grain crops found in cultivation.
6. They destroy locusts on a large scale and to that extent are beneficial to agriculture.
7. They eat banyan and peepul figs, lantana, peeloo (*Salvadora*) and other berries and also nectar of simal flowers (*Salmalia*). Thus useful in cross-pollinating of those plants.
8. It is a migratory bird spotted at Sothuparai.

140. Common Myna

Acridotheres tristis (Linnaeus, 1766)

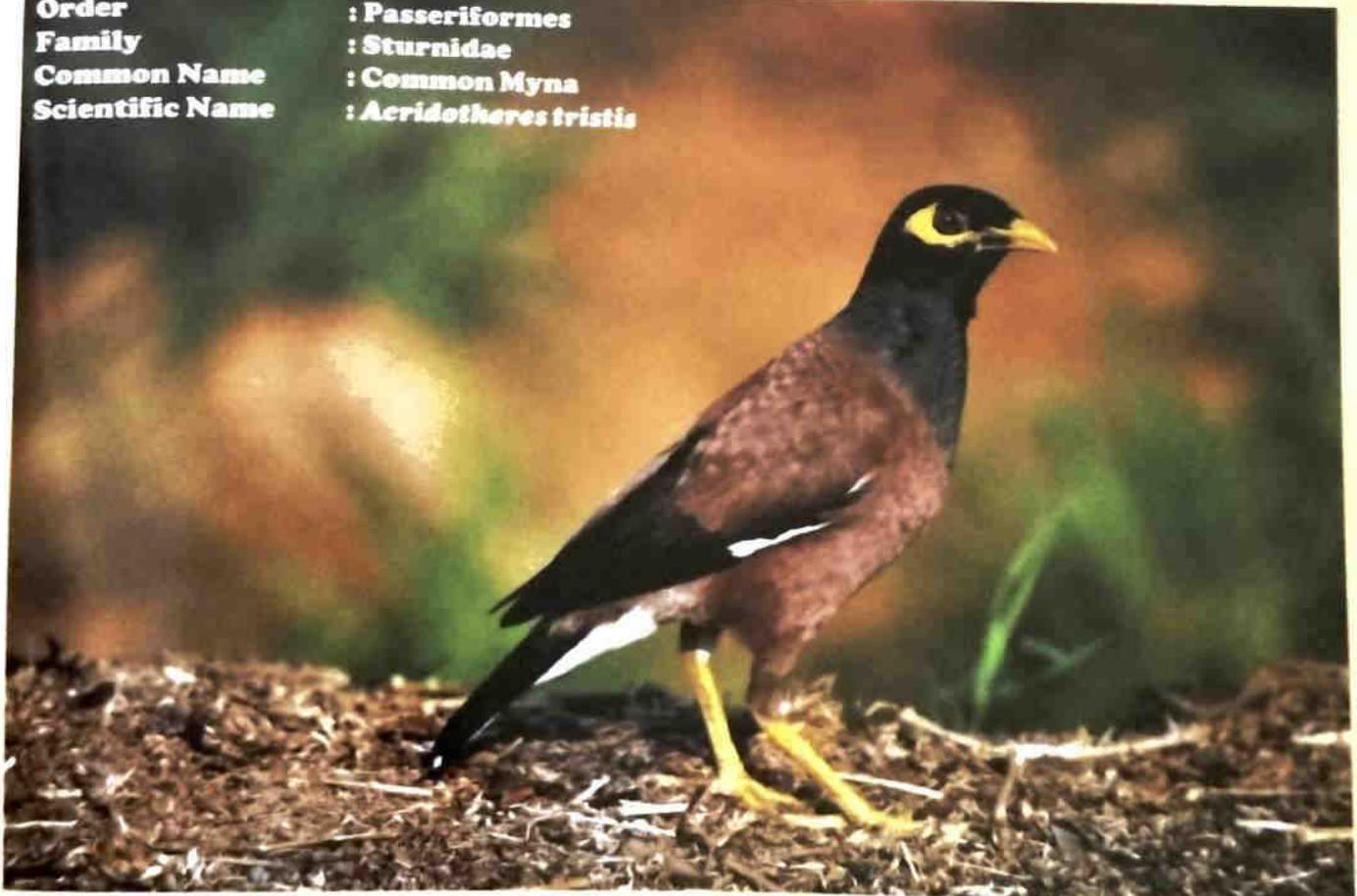
மைனா, நாகணவாய்

1. It is a familiar perky, well-groomed dark brown bird with bright yellow bill, legs, and bare skin round eyes.
2. It has a large white patch in wing conspicuous in flight.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in pairs or in parties found in human habitations and on country side.
5. It is a confirmed associate of man and following wherever he opens up new habitations.
6. It is omnivorous feeding on fruits, insects and kitchen scraps.
7. It follows the plough for earthworms, etc., and attends on grazing cattle for the grasshoppers disturbed, side-hopping jauntily and springing up in the air to capture them.
8. It has a variety of sharp calls and chatter with a loud, scolding *radio-radio-radio*, and *keek-keek-keek, kok-kok-kok, chur-chur, etc.*, uttered with the plumage frowzled and a ludicrous bobbing of the head.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus, Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

Order : Passeriformes
Family : Sturnidae
Common Name : Rosy Starling
Scientific Name : *Sturnus roseus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Sturnidae
Common Name : Common Myna
Scientific Name : *Acridotheres tristis*





| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Order | : Passeriformes |
| Family | : Oriolidae |
| Common Name | : European Golden Oriole |
| Scientific Name | : <i>Oriolus oriolus</i> |



| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Order | : Passeriformes |
| Family | : Oriolidae |
| Common Name | : Black-headed Oriole |
| Scientific Name | : <i>Oriolus nattervae</i> |

141. Eurasian Golden Oriole
Oriolus Oriolus (Linnaeus, 1758)
மாங்குயில்

1. It has bright golden yellow with black in wings and tail and a conspicuous black streak through the eye.
2. Female is duller and greener.
3. They are in singly or in pairs among leafy trees in wooded country.
4. It is arboreal and a dweller of open but-wooded country, partial to groves of large trees around villages and cultivation and in gardens and along roadsides even in noisy towns.
5. It has strong dipping flight.
6. It feeds on insects, banyan and peepul figs, and other fruits and berries, also flower nectar.
7. It is a resident migrant bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

142. Black-headed Oriole
Oriolus xanthornus (Linnaeus, 1758)
கருந்தலை மாங்குயில்

1. It is brilliant golden yellow with jet black head, throat and upper breast.
2. It has black in wings and tail.
3. It has bright pink bill and crimson eyes.
4. Both the sexes are alike but black of head is duller in female.
5. Young birds have yellow forehead and the black head streaked with yellowish.
6. They are in singly or in pairs among leafy trees in wooded country.
7. It is arboreal and not appreciably different from the golden orioles.
8. It feeds on insects, fruits, berries and flower nectar.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

143. Black Drongo

Dicrurus macrocercus (Vieillot, 1817)

கரிகருமன், கரிச்சான், கருவாட்டுவாலி, கருங்கரிச்சான்

1. It is a slim and agile black bird with long, deeply forked tail.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It is seen in singly on the open countryside and about cultivation.
4. It is a familiar bird of open country usually perched on telegraph wires or attending on grazing cattle.
5. From exposed look-outs it keeps vigilant watch for grasshoppers and other insects.
6. These are pounced upon and carried off, held under foot, torn to pieces and swallowed.
7. It rides on the backs of grazing cattle and takes the insects disturbed by the animals' movements through the grass.
8. Fired grass patches invariably attract number of drongos for the same reason.
9. It highly beneficial to agriculture by the vast quantities of injurious insect it destroys.
10. It feeds on insects, flower nectar and also occasionally small birds.
11. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

144. Ashy Drongo

Dicrurus leucophaeus (Vieillot, 1817)

இரட்டை வாலன் குருவி, கரிச்சான்

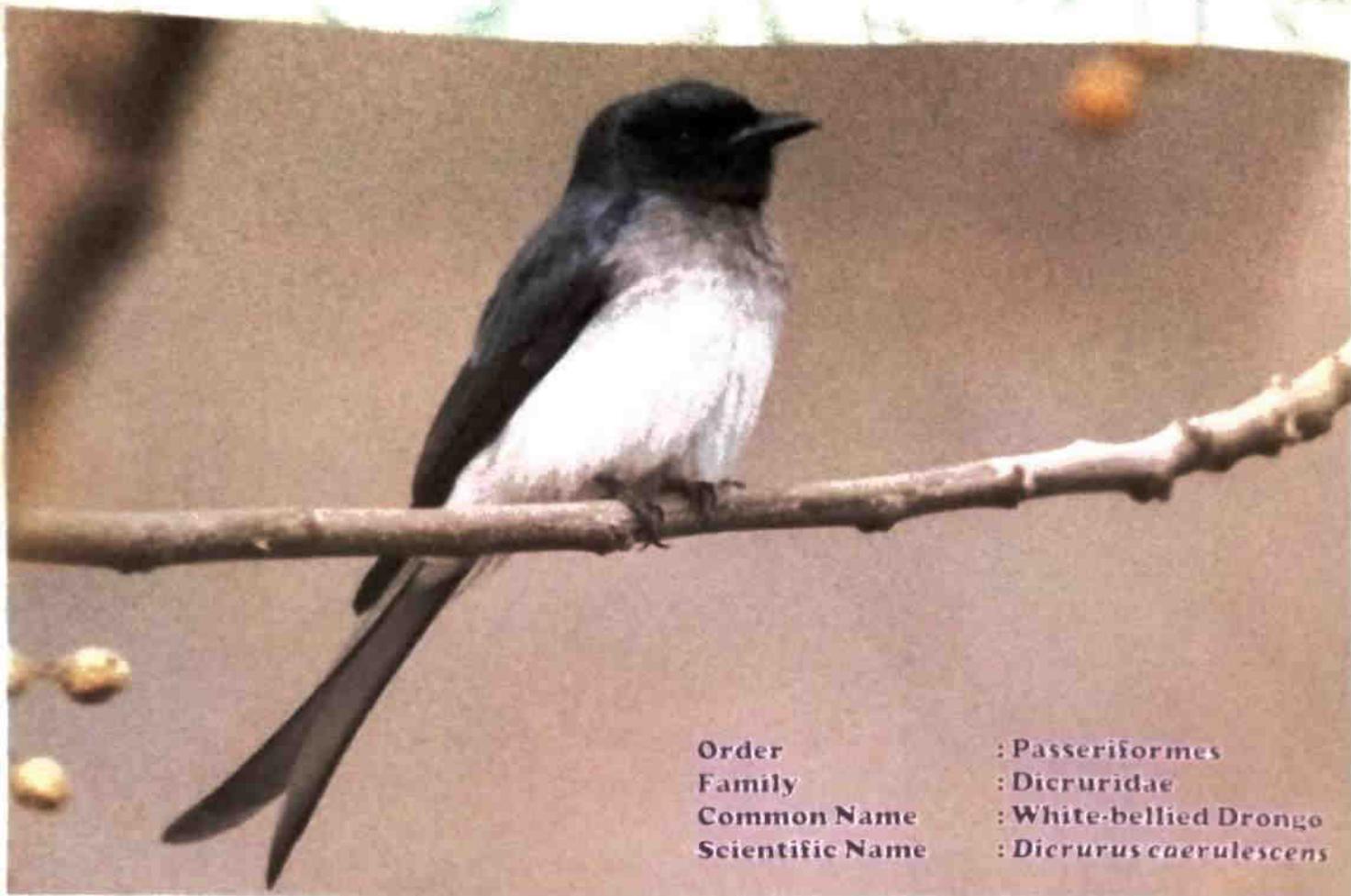
1. It is a slim glossy slate, black drongo with long deeply forked tail.
2. It's crimson eyes are diagnostic.
3. Dull grey is present in the belly.
4. It is similar to the Black Drongo but basically a forest species not found in cultivated open country. Otherwise largely similar in behavior to the Black Drongo.
5. It eats mainly insects, occasionally reptiles and small birds.
6. It also feeds on nectar when it is available.
7. It is a resident migrant bird spotted in Melmangalam and Sothuparai.



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Dicruridae
Common Name : Black Drongo
Scientific Name : *Dicrurus macrocerus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Dicruridae
Common Name : Ashy Drongo
Scientific Name : *Dicrurus leucophaea*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Dicruridae
Common Name : White-bellied Drongo
Scientific Name : *Dicrurus caeruleus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Dicruridae
Common Name : Greater Rack-tailed Drongo
Scientific Name : *Dicrurus adsimilis*

145. White-bellied Drongo

Dicrurus caerulescens (Linnaeus, 1758)

வெள்ளை வயிற்றுக் கரிச்சான்

1. It has glossy indigo above with white belly and under tail-coverts.
2. It has long, deeply forked tail.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. It is singly seen in lightly-wooded country.
5. It is found in well-wooded deciduous tracts, and avoids treeless country and humid forest.
6. It is partial to bamboo and thin tree jungle, and near shady paths and glades.
7. It makes graceful, agile swoops after winged insects, turning and twisting dexterously in the air and snapping up the quarry in it's stride.
8. It is often seen as a member of the mixed hunting parties of birds that rove the forest.
9. It eats chiefly insects, also nectar of *Butea*, *Salmalia* and *Erythrina* flowers.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai.

146. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus paradiseus (Linnaeus, 1766)

கொண்டை கரிச்சான், துடுப்பு வால் கரிச்சான்

1. It is a glossy black drongo with prominently tufted forehead and two long wire like spatula-tripped feathers or 'streamers' in the tail.
2. In flight, the broadened tips sometimes give the illusion of the bird being pursued by a pair of large bumble bees.
3. Both the sexes are alike.
4. They are in singly or in loose parties found in forest.
5. They inhabit in the forest, preferably moist-deciduous, plains and hills.
6. It is commonly seen in hunting parties associated with tree pies and jungle babblers.
7. It is very noisy and has a large repertoire of loud metallic calls and is a convincing mimic besides.
8. It makes an amusing pet and is much sought after by fanciers.
9. It eats moths, large insects and flower nectar.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai reservoir.

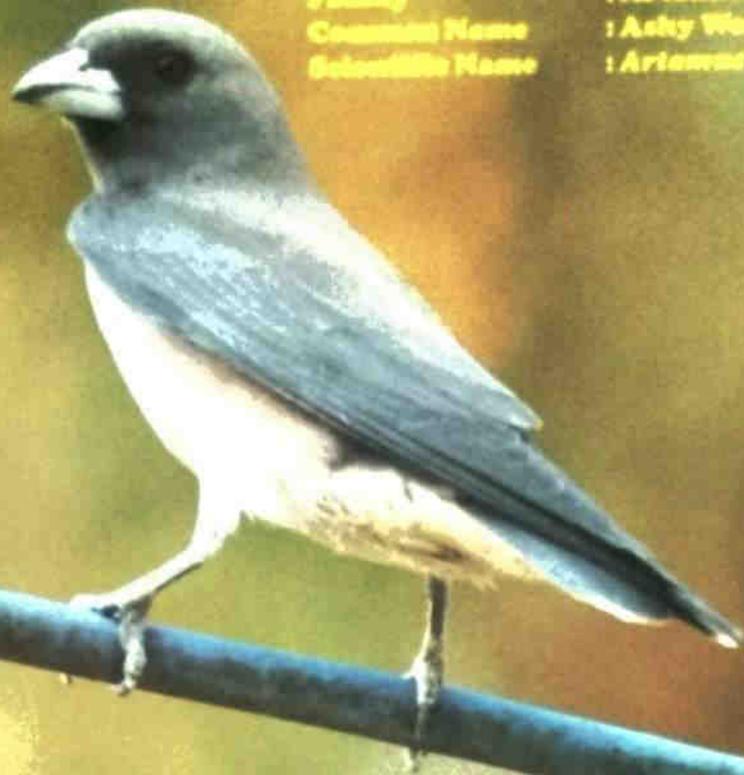
147. Ashy Woodswallow
***Artamus fuscus* (Vieillot, 1817)**
சாம்பல் தகைவிலான்

1. It is a rather dumpy but sleek slaty grey bird with paler underparts and a pale rump.
2. When perched, the closed wings reach the end of the tail.
3. It has heavy, bluish and sparrow-like bill.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. In flight, it is very like swallow or crag martin but it is heavier in build.
6. They are in parties and huddled together on bare branches or telegraph wires in open country, particularly where dotted with Palmyra Palms or tall dead trees to serve as look-out posts and foraging bases.
7. It's tail constantly moved up and down slowly and twisted sideways while perched.
8. It feeds on moths, butterflies and winged insects, hawked in the manner of bee-eaters.
9. They are sailing gracefully back to their perch after each capture and accelerated by intermittent series of rapid beats of the pointed wings.
10. It is a resident bird spotted at Sothuparai.

148. Indian Treepie
***Dendrocitta vagabunda* (Latham, 1790)**
வால் காக்கை

1. It is a long tailed, chestnut brown bird with sooty head and neck.
2. It has black tipped grey tail and greyish white wing patches conspicuous in flight.
3. It's flight is undulating; a swift noisy flapping followed by a short glide on outspread wings and tail.
4. Both the sexes are alike.
5. It inhabits in wooded country and scrub jungle.
6. It freely enters residential compounds and gardens.
7. It is usually noisy pairs or in family parties.
8. It has a large variety of calls, some loud, harsh and guttural others pleasing and melodious.
9. It is omnivorous like the crows and will take fruits, insects, lizards, frogs, centipedes and even carrion, in addition to the eggs and helpless young of birds and rodents.
10. Tree pies are regular members of the mixed hunting associations of birds.
11. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraikulam and Bangarukulam.

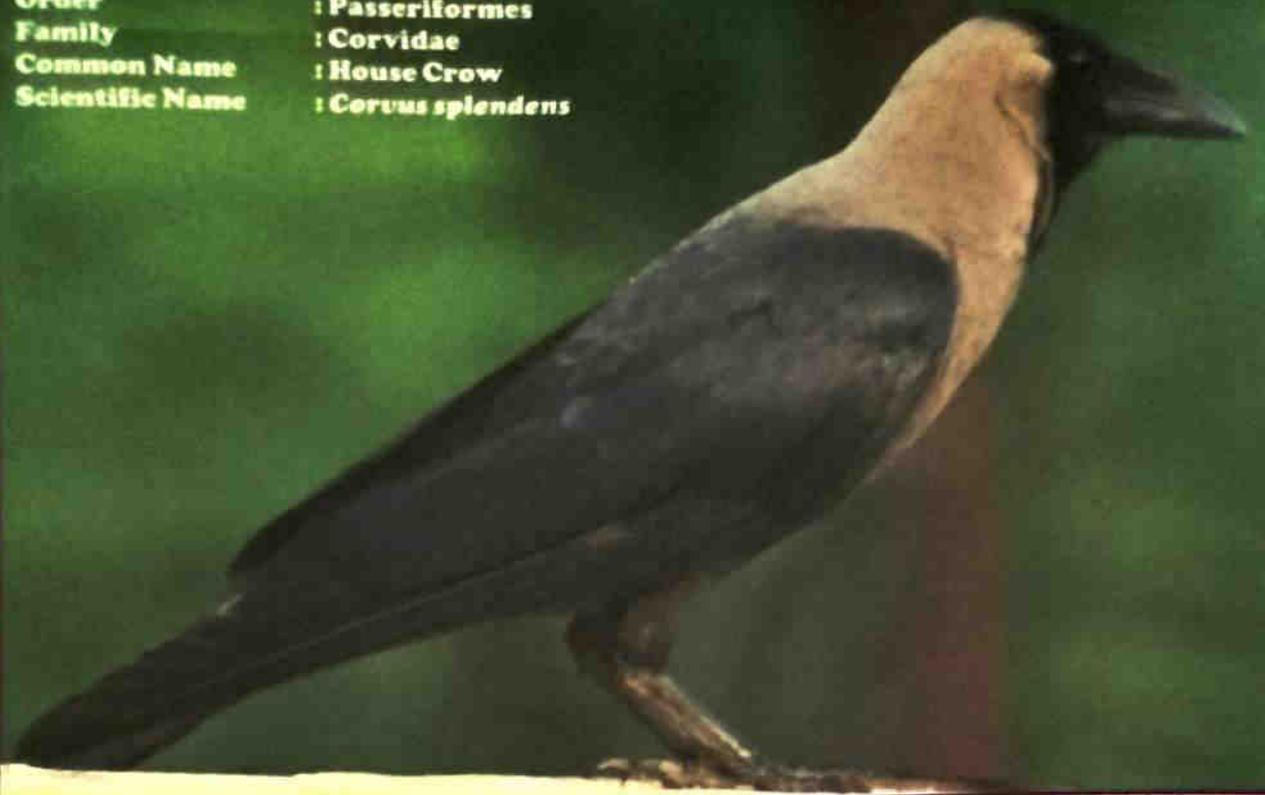
Order : Passeriformes
Family : Artamidae
Common Name : Ashy Woodswallow
Scientific Name : *Artamus leucorhynchus*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Corvidae
Common Name : Indian Treepie
Scientific Name : *Dendrocitta vagabunda*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Corvidae
Common Name : House Crow
Scientific Name : *Corvus splendens*



Order : Passeriformes
Family : Corvidae
Common Name : Jungle Crow
Scientific Name : *Corvus macrorhynchos*



149. House Crow

Corvus splendens (Vieillot, 1817)

நல்ல காக்கை, மணியன் காக்கை, காகம்

1. It's grey neck and smaller size is distinguished from the Jungle Crow.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. It perhaps the most familiar bird of Indian towns and villages. Lives in close association with man and obtains its livelihood from his works.
4. It is audacious, cunning and uncannily wary.
5. It has no particular food preferences.
6. It will eat almost anything such as dead sewer rat, offal, carrion, kitchen scraps and refuse, locusts, termites, fruit, grain, and eggs or fledgling birds pilfered from nests.
7. It is a useful scavenger but also a great bully and therefore a serious menace to defenseless ornamental bird species in urban areas.
8. It has community roosts in selected trees or groves where large numbers collect every day.
9. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

150. Jungle Crow

Corvus macrorhynchos (Wagler, 1827)

அண்டன் காக்கை, கருங்காக்கை

1. It is a glossy jet black Crow with a heavy bill and deep and hoarse 'caw'.
2. Both the sexes are alike.
3. They are found in singly or in pairs of loose parties.
4. It is chiefly a bird of the countryside but small numbers also in towns and villages.
5. It associates with vultures to feed on carrion.
6. It is quick to locate by its movements often lead to discovery of killed tiger or panther in the jungle.
7. Like House Crow it is omnivorous and highly destructive to eggs and chicks of other birds including domestic poultry and young of small mammals.
8. It is a resident bird spotted at JAC Campus and Sothuparai, Melmangalam, Thamaraiikulam and Bangarukulam.

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4. <https://google.com/search/images/>

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*"The world is a better place to thank people,
those who want to develop and lead others"*

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