



BIRDS OF SUVIDHA

Introduction

The traditional definition of a biological species is a group of animals that look alike and breed with one another. However, with closely related species, this distinction can become difficult to distinguish. According to a recent estimate based on the revised definition of species, the count of birds species worldwide is about 18000. The bird species identified in India is about 1350, and the species identified in Bengaluru is about 200. The bird species sighted, photographed and identified in SUVIDHA (as of May 2024) is 117.

This handbook is a collection of birds photographed and identified by Suvidha residents over the years. All photographs in this book, unless otherwise specified, are from Ashok Dey's photo archive.

Measurements specified under each bird refer to the approximate body length of the species. It is expressed as a range when there is a marked variation within a species.

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PERMANENT RESIDENTS

PUFF-THROATED BABBLER (Spotted Babbler)

Pellorneum ruficeps

15 cm

5



TAWNY-BELLIED (Rufous-bellied) BABBLER*Dumetia Hyperythra*

13 cm



YELLOW-BILLED (White-headed) BABBLER

Argya affinis

23 cm

7



COMMON BABBLER*Argya caudata*

23 cm



AVADAVAT (Red Munia) (♂)

Amandava amandava

10 cm

9



10

AVADAVAT (Red Munia) (♀)

Amandava amandava

10 cm



COPPERSMITH (Crimson-breasted) BARBET

Megalaima haemacephala

17 cm

11



WHITE-CHEEKED (Small Green) BARBET*Psilopogon viridis*

23 cm



SMALL GREEN BEE-EATER

Merops orientalis

16-18 cm

13



RED-VENTED BULBUL*Pycnonotus cafer*

20 cm



RED-WHISKERED BULBUL

Pycnonotus jocosus

20 cm

15



WHITE-BROWED BULBUL*Pycnonotus luteolus*

20 cm



PIED BUSHCHAT (♀)

Saxicola caprata

13 cm

17



PIED BUSHCHAT (♂)*Saxicola caprata*

13 cm



GREATER (Southern) COUCAL

Centropus sinensis

48 cm

19



INDIAN JUNGLE CROW

Corvus culminatus

48 cm



LAUGHING (Little Brown) DOVE

Spilopelia senegalensis

27 cm

21



SPOTTED DOVE*Spilopelia chinensis*

30 cm



BLACK DRONGO

Dicrurus macrocercus

28 cm

23



PALE-BILLED (Tickell's) FLOWERPECKER*Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*

8 cm



TICKELL'S BLUE FLYCATCHER (♂)

Cyornis tickelliae

14 cm

25



TICKELL'S BLUE FLYCATCHER (♀)*Cyornis tickelliae*

14 cm



WHITE-SPOTTED FANTAIL FLYCATCHER

Rhipidura albogularis

19 cm

27



WHITE-BROWED FANTAIL FLYCATCHER*Rhipidura aureola*

18 cm



SMALL BLUE (Common) KINGFISHER (♀)

Alcedo atthis

16cm

29



SMALL BLUE (Common) KINGFISHER (♂)*Alcedo atthis*

16cm



WHITE-BREASTED (White-throated) KINGFISHER

Halcyon smyrnensis

28 cm

31



RED-WATTLED LAPWING*Vanellus indicus*

32-35 cm

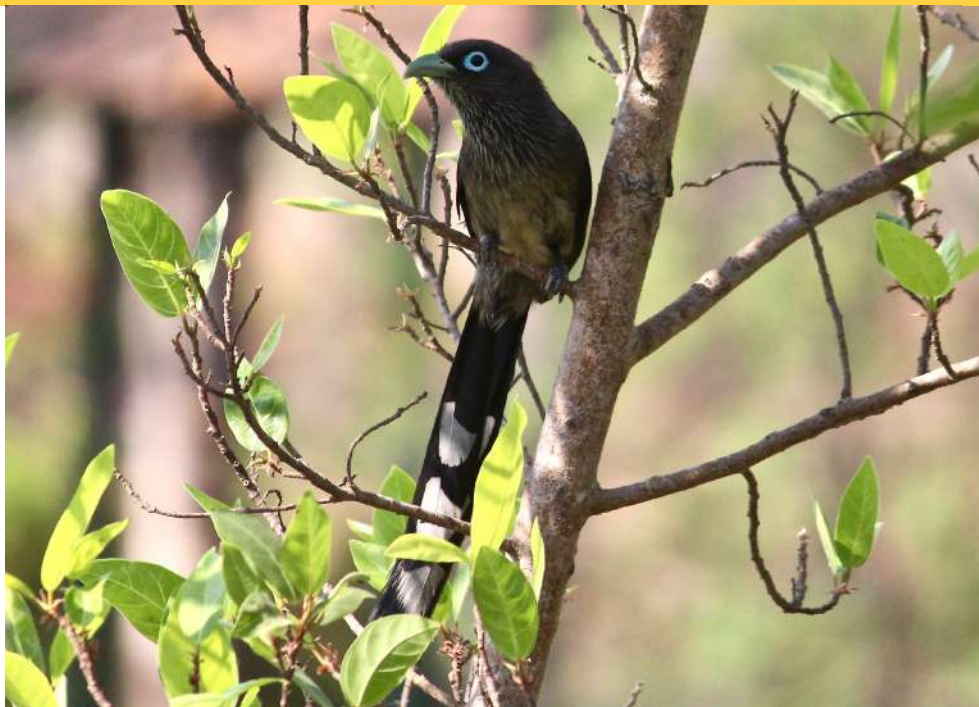


BLUE-FACED MALKOHA

Phaenicophaeus viridirostris

39 cm

33



SMALL MINIVET (♀)*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

16 cm



SMALL MINIVET (♂)

Pericrocotus cinnamomeus

16 cm

35



SPOTTED (Scaly-breasted) MUNIA*Lonchura punctulata*

10-12 cm



WHITE-RUMPED (White-backed) MUNIA

Lonchura striata

11 cm

37



BLACK-HEADED (Chestnut) MUNIA*Lonchura atricapilla*

11.5 cm



WHITE-THROATED MUNIA (Indian Silverbill)

Euodice malabarica

11 cm

39



COMMON (Indian) MYNA*Acridotheres tristis*

25 cm



SPOTTED OWLET

Athene brama

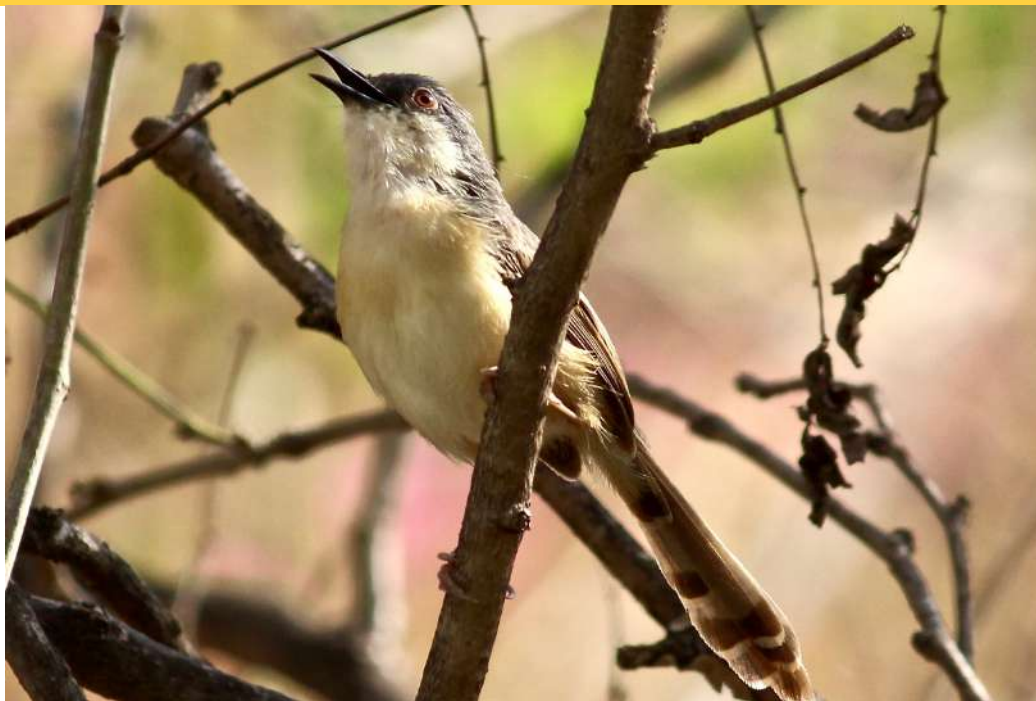
21 cm

41



ASHY PRINIA*Prinia socialis*

13 cm



PLAIN PRINIA

Prinia inornata

13 cm

43



HOUSE SPARROW*Passer domesticus*

15 cm



LOTEN'S SUNBIRD (♀)

Cinnyris lotenius

13 cm

45



LOTEN'S SUNBIRD (♂)*Cinnyris lotenius*

13 cm



PURPLE SUNBIRD (♀)

Cinnyris asiaticus

10 cm

47



PURPLE SUNBIRD (♂)*Cinnyris asiaticus*

10 cm



PURPLE SUNBIRD (Eclipse Plumage)

Cinnyris asiaticus

10 cm

49



PURPLE-RUMPED SUNBIRD (♂)*Leptocoma zeylonica*

10 cm



PURPLE-RUMPED SUNBIRD (♀)

Leptocoma zeylonica

10 cm

51



COMMON TAILORBIRD*Orthotomus sutorius*

13 cm



WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN

Amauornis phoenicurus

32 cm

53



COMMON PIGEON*Columba livia*

29-37 cm



RED SPURFOWL

Gallus spadicea

36 cm

55



REGULAR TEMPORARY RESIDENTS

LITTLE GREBE (Dabchick)

Tachybaptus ruficollis

25-29 cm

57



INDIAN SPOT-BILLED DUCK

Anas poecilorhyncha

58-63 cm



COMMON IORA (♀)

Aegithina tiphia

14 cm

59



COMMON IORA (♂)*Aegithina tiphia*

14 cm



MOTTLED WOOD OWL

Strix ocellata

48 cm

61



WHITE-BROWED (Large Pied) WAGTAIL*Motacilla maderaspatensis*

21 cm



BAYA WEAVER

Ploceus philippinus

15 cm

63



ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE*Zosterops palpebrosus*

10 cm



REGULAR VISITORS

INDIAN CORMORANT*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

63 cm



INDIAN CORMORANT (Breeding plumage)

Phalacrocorax fuscicollis

63 cm

67



GREAT CORMORANT

Phalacrocorax carbo

80-100 cm



GREAT CORMORANT (Breeding plumage)

Phalacrocorax carbo

80-100 cm

69



LITTLE CORMORANT*Microcarbo niger*

51 cm



LITTLE CORMORANT (Breeding plumage) (♂)

Microcarbo niger

51 cm

71



CATTLE EGRET (Breeding plumage)*Bubulcus ibis*

48-53 cm



INTERMEDIATE EGRET

Ardea intermedia

65-72 cm

73



GREAT EGRET*Ardea alba*

90-102 cm



LITTLE EGRET

Egretta garzetta

55-65 cm

75



BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON*Nycticorax nycticorax*

58-65 cm



GREY HERON

Ardea cinerea

90-98 cm

77



INDIAN POND HERON (Paddy Bird) (♂)*Ardeola grayii*

42-45 cm



PURPLE HERON

Ardea purpurea

78-90 cm

79



COMMON (Eurasian) HOOPOE*Upupa epops*

31 cm



ORIENTAL HONEY BUZZARD(♂)

Pernis ptilorhynchus
60 cm

81



ORIENTAL HONEY BUZZARD(♀)*Pernis ptilorhynchus*

60 cm



PIED KINGFISHER

Ceryle rudis

25 cm

83



BLACK KITE*Milvus migrans*

58-66 cm



BLACK-WINGED KITE

Elanus caeruleus

31-35 cm

85



BRAHMINI KITE*Haliastur indus*

48 cm



ASIAN KOEL (♀)

Eudynamys scolopaceus

43 cm

87



ASIAN KOEL (♂)*Eudynamys scolopaceus*

43cm



BLACK-HOODED (Black-headed) ORIOLE

Oriolus xanthornus

25 cm

89



INDIAN GOLDEN ORIOLE (♀)*Oriolus kundoo*

25 cm



INDIAN GOLDEN ORIOLE (♂)

Oriolus kundoo

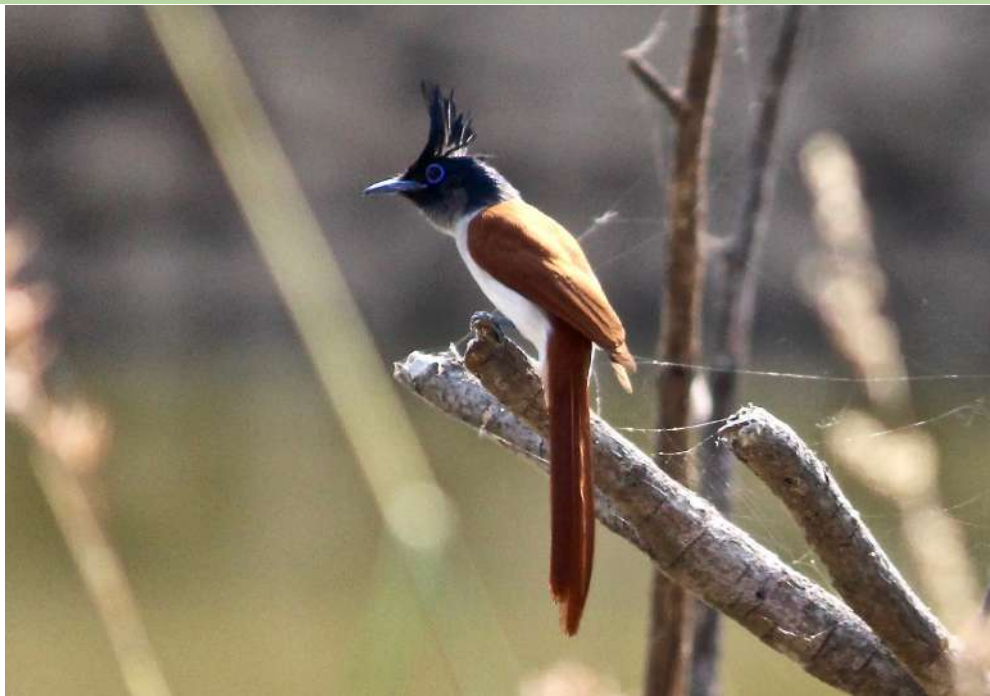
25 cm

91



ASIAN PARADISE (Rufous) FLYCATCHER (♀)*Terpsiphone paradisi*

20 cm



ASIAN PARADISE (Rufous) FLYCATCHER (♂)

Terpsiphone paradisi
20 cm

93



ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET*Psittacula krameri*

42 cm



INDIAN PEAFOWL (♀)

Pavo cristatus

90-100 cm

95



INDIAN PEAFOWL (♂)*Pavo cristatus*

90-100 cm



INDIAN ROBIN (♀)

Saxicoloides fulicatus

19 cm

97



INDIAN ROBIN (♂)*Saxicoloides fulicatus*

19 cm



ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN (♂)

Copsychus saularis

20 cm

99



ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN (♀)*Copsychus saularis*

20 cm



SHIKRA (♀)

Accipiter badius

30-36 cm

101



SHIKRA (♂)*Accipiter badius*

30-36 cm



CINEREOUS TIT

Parus cinereus

14 cm

103



INDIAN BUSHLARK*Mirafra erythroptera*

13-15 cm



WHITE-EYED BUZZARD (Juv.)

Butastur teesa

43 cm

105



JUNGLE BABBLER*Turdoides striata*

25 cm



SEASONAL VISITORS

ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER*Muscicapa latirostris*

13 cm



BESRA

Accipiter virgatus

29-36 cm

109



EURASIAN (Common) COOT*Fulica atra*

36-28 cm



ORIENTAL (Indian) DARTER (*aka Snakebird*)

Anhinga melanogaster

85-97 cm

111



BONELLI'S EAGLE*Aquila fasciata*

65-72 cm



BOOTED (Hawk) EAGLE

Hieraaetus pennatus

45-53 cm

113



GREY BUSHCHAT (Juv.)*Saxicola ferreus*

15 cm



CRESTED GOSHAWK

Accipiter trivirgatus

30-46 cm

115



NORTHERN GOSHAWK*Accipiter gentilis*

50-61 cm



INDIAN GREY HORNBILL

Ocyrceros birostris

50 cm

117



BLACK-HEADED IBIS*Threskiornis melanocephalus*

50 cm



GREY JUNGLEFOWL

Gallus sonneratii

70-80 cm

119



JUNGLE MYNA*Acridotheres fuscus*

23 cm



TREE PIPPIT

Anthus trivialis

15 cm

121



ASIAN PARADISE (White) FLYCATCHER*Terpsiphone paradisi*

20 cm



LITTLE RINGED PLOVER

Charadrius dubius

14-17 cm

123



JUNGLE BUSH QUAIL*Perdicula asiatica*

17 cm



COMMON SANDPIPER

Actitis hypoleucos

19-21 cm

125



LONG-TAILED (Rufous-backed) SHRIKE*Lanius schach*

25 cm



CHESTNUT-TAILED STARLING (Grey-headed Myna)

Sturnia malabarica

20 cm

127



ROSY STARLING (Rosy Pastor)*Pastor roseus*

21 cm



PAINTED STORK

Mycteria leucocephala

93-100 cm

129



WHITE-NECKED (Woolly-necked) STORK*Ciconia episcopus*

93-100 cm



COMMON (Barn) SWALLOW (Juv.)

Hirundo rustica

18 cm

131



RED-RUMPED SWALLOW*Cecropis daurica*

16-17 cm



WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW

Hirundo smithii

14 cm

133



RIVER TERN*Sterna aurantia*

38-46 cm



RUFOUS TREEPIE

Dendrocitta vagabunda

46-50 cm

135



GREY WAGTAIL (♂)*Motacilla cinerea*

19 cm



GREY WAGTAIL (♀)

Motacilla cinerea

19 cm

137



WHITE WAGTAIL(♂)

Motacilla alba

19 cm

138



139

WHITE WAGTAIL(♀)

Motacilla alba

19 cm



BLYTH'S REED WARBLER

Acrocephalus dumetorum

13 cm

140



LESSER GOLDENBACK WOODPECKER*Dinopium benghalense*

26-29 cm



WHITE-NAPED (Black-backed) WOODPECKER

Chrysocolaptes festivus

29 cm

142



ORANGE-HEADED (White-throated) THRUSH*Zoothera citrina cyanotus*

21 cm



BLUE-BEARDED BEE-EATER

Nyctyornis athertoni

31-35 cm

144



BLACK-HEADED CUCKOOSHRIKE (♀)*Coracina melaschistos*

20 cm



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