

Not only have they hired labour to scare away migratory/ domestic birds, they were using diesel engines to maintain water level in fish ponds, thereby threatening endemic species of flora and fauna. The practice started when nine Panchayats owning the area leased out 220 acres to fish farmers for a meager Rs 1000 per acre per year. As rains have failed in the past some years, it has been easy for fish farmers to take over the wetland. It dries up in summers and it is easy to dig up ponds in the otherwise marshy area. Draining out of water of chhams has also caused considerable drop on the area's water table. Unfortunately,

due to reclaiming of land for farming and construction, siltation, grazing in the catchments of the wetland zones and due to weed growth, wetlands are continuously diminishing with less than 1% of the land remaining under them in the state of Punjab against a world average of 6%. This calls for urgent action and involvement of community to protect our natural heritage. Involvement of local community in the protection and management of wetland and creation of employment opportunities for them through wetland is a model which can be replicated else where as well.

Table1. List of birds reported at Keshopur wetland

Common Name	Zoological Name	Status
Family: Accipitridae		
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	IB
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans migrans</i>	RB
Black Winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	RB
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	IB
Crested Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus cirrhatus</i>	RB
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	WM
Great Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	WM
Hen Harrier / Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	WM
Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga hastate</i>	RB
Indian White Backed Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	RB
Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	WM
Osprey	<i>Pandion Haliaeetus</i>	RB
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	WM
Scavenger Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	RB
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	RB
Family: Alaudidae		
Pariash Kite/ Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>	RB
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	RB
Indian Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>	RB
Family: Alcedinidae		
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	RB
Himalayan Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	WM
Lesser Pied Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>	WM
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	RB
White-Breasted/ Throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	RB
Family: Anatidae		
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	WM
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas Penelope</i>	WM
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	WM
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	WM
Garganey	<i>Anasquer quedula</i>	WM
Indian Spot-billed Duck /Dabbling duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	RB
Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	RB
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	WM
Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	WM
Redcrested Pochard	<i>Netta rufinna</i>	WM
Ruddy Shelduck /Brahminy Duck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	WM
Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	WM
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	WM
Family: Apodidae		
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	WM
Barheaded Geese/Nanjai	<i>Anser indicus</i>	WM
Family: Ardeidae		
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	RB
Cinnamon Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	RB

Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	RB
Large Egret /Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	RB
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	RB
Night Heron /Black Crown	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	RB
Pond Heron /Paddy Bird	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	RB
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	RB
Family: Bucerotidae		
Common Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>	RB
Family: Campephagidae		
Bay Backed Shrike	<i>Lanius viltatus</i>	RB
Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	RB
Long Tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	RB
Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	RB
Family: Capitonidae		
Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	IB
Large Green Barbet	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>	RB
Family: Caruidae		
Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	WM
Sarus Crane (see plate 1)	<i>Grus antigone</i>	RB
Family: Charadriidae		
Black-Tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limo</i>	WM
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>	WM
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	WM
Common Sandpiper	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	WM
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	WM
Curlew (Eurasian)	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	WM
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	WM
Green Shank (Common)	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	WM
Jack Snipe	<i>Gallinago minima</i>	WM
Little Ring Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	WM
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	WM
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	WM
Red-Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanallus indicus</i>	RB
Ruff and Reave	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	WM
Spotted/Dusky Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	WM
White Tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	WM
Family: Ciconida		
Painted Stork	<i>My cteria leucocephala</i>	RB
Wooly Necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	WM
Family: Columbidae		
Blue Rock Pigeon/Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	RB
Indian Ring Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	RB
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	WM
Red Turtle Dove (Red Collared)	<i>Sterptopelia tranquebarica</i>	RB
Rufous Turtule Dove (Oriental)	<i>Streptopelia orientali</i>	RB
Spotted Dove	<i>Sterptopelia chinensis</i>	RB
Yellow Fotted Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>	RB
Family: Corvidae		
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens splendens</i>	RB

Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	RB
Family: Cuculidae		
Koel-Cuckoo(Asian)	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	RB
Large Couca/Great Crow Pheasant	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	RB
Family: Dicruridae		
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	RB
Family: Falconida		
Laggar Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus jugger</i>	WM
Family: Hirundinidae		
Red-Rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	RB
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	WM
Family: Laridae		
Black Headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	WM
Brown Headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>	WM
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	RB
Indian River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>	RB
Pallas Gull	<i>Ichthyætes ichthyætes</i>	WM
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	WM
Family: Meropidae		
Green Bee-Eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	RB
Family: Motacillidae		
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	WM
Pied Wagtail /White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	WM
White Browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla madaraspatensis</i>	RB
Yellow Headed /Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	WM
Yellow Wagtail(Western)	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	WM
Family: Muscipinae		
Blue Throated Fly Catcher	<i>Muscicapa rubeculoides</i>	IB
Red Breasted Fly Catcher	<i>Ficedula strophinata parya</i>	WM
Family: Nectariniidae		
Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	RB
Family: Pachycephalinae		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	WM
Brown Leaf Warbler(Common Chiffchaff)	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	WM
Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	RB
Pied Bush Chat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	RB
Striated Marsh Warbler(Grass Bird)	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>	RB
Tailor Bird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	RB
Family: Phalacrocoracidae		
Dartar	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	RB
Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	IB
Large Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	RB
Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	RB
Family: Phasianida		
Black Partidge/Francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	RB
Common Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	RB
Grey Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	RB
Red Jungle Fowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	RB
Family: Picidae		
Golden Beaked Woodpecker	<i>Dinopium shorii</i>	RB
Lesser Golden Backed Woodpecker	<i>Dinopium bengalense</i>	RB
Family: Ploceidae		
Baya/Weaver Bird	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	RB
Black Breasted Weaver Bird	<i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>	RB
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	RB
Red Munia/Avadavat	<i>Estrilda amandava</i>	RB
Streaked Weaver Bird	<i>Ploceus manyar</i>	RB
Family: Podicipedidae		

Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	WM
Little Grebe	<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>	RB
Family: Psittacidae		
Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	RB
Rose Ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krami</i>	RB
Family: Pycnonotidae		
Grey/Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	RB
Red Vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	RB
Red Whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	RB
Family: Rallidae		
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	WM
Indian Moorhen	<i>Gerllinula chloropus</i>	RB
White Breasted Waterhen	<i>Amurornis phoenicurus</i>	RB
Family: Strigidae		
Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	RB
Family: Sturnidae		
Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	RB
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	RB
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	WM
Pied Myna/Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	RB
Family: Tadorna		
Common Shelduck (see plate 2)	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	WM
Family: Threskiornithidae		
Black Headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	WM
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodiu</i>	WM
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	WM
Family: Timalinae		
Jungle Babbler /Seven Sisters	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	RB
Family: Upupidae		
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	RB

RB= Resident breeders, WM= Winter migrant, IB=Indigenous Bird

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