

## BIRDS OF PERIYAR TIGER RESERVE, KERALA, SOUTH INDIA

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### Introduction

Periyar Tiger Reserve is situated on the Western Ghats in the Idukky District of Kerala. A lake with its diverticula like extensions forms the nucleus of the reserve.

Some studies were done on the wildlife of the reserve (Kurup, 1971; Nair *et al.*, 1985). But very little information is available on its bird fauna. Salim Ali's survey in 1935 confined to the nearby Kumily village, Peermade and the surroundings of the lake and hence did not adequately cover Periyar Sanctuary as a whole. Jackson (1971) has listed a few birds from reserve while the KFRI study (1985) recorded 181 species of birds here. Nichols (1943-45) has given an account of the interesting avifauna in the nearby Madurai District of Tamil Nadu.

The purpose of this paper is to present a check list of the birds of Periyar Tiger Reserve with their status. It may help in assessing and comparing the status of the avifauna.

Since September, 1991, wildlife monitoring has been carried out through fixed transects in different areas of Periyar Reserve, once every month. Observations

were made of birds species met within the area. Special attention was given to species which were not recorded before.

### Study area

Periyar Tiger Reserve lies between 9° 16' and 9° 40' N Lat. and between 76° 55' and 77° 25' E Long. and has an area of 777 km<sup>2</sup>. It is bordered by Kottayam and Pathanamthitta Districts in the West and South, Peermade Taluk of the Idukky District in the North and Madurai District of Tamil Nadu in the East. The height of the reserve ranges between 900 m and 2019 m. Several peaks rise above 1600 m, highest being Vellimala (2019 m). The terrain is undulating.

The climate in Periyar is humid. Temperature varies from 15°-31°C. Average rainfall is 2500 mm. South-west monsoon from June to September brings 3/4 of the annual rainfall. July is the month of heavy rainfall. November to January are cooler months while March and April are hot months.

Vegetation of the Reserve could be classified into tropical evergreen (275 km<sup>2</sup>) and moist deciduous forests (99 km<sup>2</sup>), grasslands (12 km<sup>2</sup>) and plantations (55 km<sup>2</sup>). Grasslands in some areas are Savannah type.

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Bird species were recorded once every month in selected areas of the reserve. Observations were conducted from 7.00 A.M. to 3.00 P.M. The number of birds and their habitats were noted. Species recorded more than 50% of total observations from a particular habitat were treated as species of that habitat.

Those having a wider distribution in all types of habitats in more or less same numbers were not assigned to any specific habitat. Birds species recorded were grouped into 3 categories.

1. Common : Observed throughout the study in fairly good numbers or abundant in a particular locality.
2. Uncommon : Found more than 50% of the surveys in small numbers.
3. Rare : Occurring in 1 or 2 areas only less than 10 birds for the whole survey.

### Results

Altogether 249 species of birds are recorded in Periyar Tiger Reserve (Appendix I). Forty four species were confined to evergreen/semi-evergreen biotopes, 31 to moist deciduous biotopes and 15 to grasslands. One hundred and thirty two species are passerines and 117 non-passerines. Of the non-passerines 40 are wetland species (Cormorants, Darters, Herons, Egrets, Storks, Teals, Rails, Plovers and Kingfishers), 34 are raptors (Kites, Eagles, Harriers, Vultures, Owls and Owlets) and 6 ground birds (Spur fowl, Jungle fowl, Quails). The Blackcapped Kingfisher which was mostly recorded from mangrove

swamps, tidal creeks and seashore and rarely met within rivers considerably inland (Ali, 1969; Zacharias, 1988) are observed in Periyar river.

Though the average height of the reserve is 900 m, species such as the Black and Orange Flycatcher, the white breasted Laughing Thrush and the Nilgiri Pipit were found above 1200 m. The Malabar Whistling Thrush is common at this elevation.

### Winter visitors

Fortythree species seem to be winter visitors to the Reserve. The winter visitors start coming by the beginning of September and leave by February/March. Some of them remain till April. The Osprey, a winter visitor to South India was observed over-wintering here, in the surroundings of the lake from June to September 1991.

### Endemic Species

Birds such as the Nilgiri Woodpigeon, Bluewinged Parakeet, Southern Tree Pie, the Rufous Babbler, Black and Orange Flycatcher, Whitebellied Blue Flycatcher, Nilgiri Pipit, Small Sunbird etc. which are found only in the Western Ghats (Ali, 1969) were observed here. The Blackcrested Baza, the Rufousbellied Hawk Eagle, Bourdillons Greateared Nightjar, Malabar Trogon, Great Indian Hornbill, Woodpeckers of the genus *Dinopium* Sp., Laughing Thrushes, Fairy Bluebird, Rufousbellied Munia etc. which enjoy a disjunct distribution in South Western Ghats, Srilanka and Eastern Himalayas, also occur here. Except the Rufousbellied Hawk Eagle, all the above species occur in fairly good numbers in the reserve.

**New sight records for Kerala**

Three species were recorded for the first time in Kerala. They are :

1. The Whitetailed Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*.
2. The Large Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*.
3. The Large Whiterumped Swift *Apus pacificus*.

The Whitetailed Sea Eagle a migrant species is the first record for South India.

There was an observation on the Forest Eagle Owl feeding on a freshly killed Nilgiri Langur. This seems to be the first record of the Eagle Owl preying on Nilgiri Langur, though it was reported to kill Jackals, hares and fawns of barking deer (Ali and Ripley, 1983).

On three occasions we have observed the Little Egrets catching fish in flocks of 12-18 birds. These Egrets were preying on fish chased by cormorants.

**Appendix - I***Birds of Periyar*

	Occurrence	Habitat
<i>Family : Podicipitidae</i>		
1. Indian Little Grebe, <i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>	R	WE
<i>Family : Phalacrocoracidae</i>		
2. Large Cormorant, <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	C	WE
3. Little Cormorant, <i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	UC	WE
4. Indian Shag, <i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	R	WE
5. Indian Darter, <i>Anhinga rufa</i>	C	WE
<i>Family : Ardeidae</i>		
6. Eastern Grey Heron, <i>Ardea cinerea</i>	UC	WE
7. Little Green Heron, <i>Butorides striatus</i>	R	WE
8. Indian Pond Heron, <i>Ardeola grayi</i>	UC	WE
9. Cattle Egret, <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	UC	WE
10. Large Egret, <i>Egretta alba</i>	R	WE
11. Little Egret, <i>Egretta garzetta</i>	C	WE
12. Intermediate Egret, <i>Egretta intermedia</i>	UC	WE
13. Night Heron, <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	UC	WE
14. Malay Bittern, <i>Gorsachius melan-olophus</i>	R	WE
15. Chestnut Bittern, <i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	R	WE

(Contd...)

	Occurrence	Habitat
16. Yellow Bittern, <i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i> (KFRI, 1985)	-	-
17. Black Bittern, <i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	R	WE
<i>Family : Ciconiidae</i>		
18. Whitenecked Stork, <i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	UC	WE
19. Black Stork, <i>C. nigra</i> (Deepakumar, 1991)	R	-
<i>Family : Anatidae</i>		
20. Garganey or Blue-winged Teal, <i>Anas guerguedula</i>	R	WE
21. Lesser, or Common Whistling Teal, <i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	-	WE
<i>Family : Accipitridae</i>		
22. Blackwinged Kite, <i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	R	
23. Indian Blackcrested Baza, <i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>	UC	
24. Crested Honey Buzzard, <i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>	UC	
25. Pariah Kite, <i>Milvus migrans</i>	UC	
26. Brahmini Kite, <i>Haliastur indus</i>	UC	
27. Ceylon Shikra, <i>Accipiter badius</i>	R	
28. Crested Goshawk, <i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	R	
29. Besra Sparrow-Hawk, <i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	R	
30. Bonellis Hawk-Eagle, <i>Heiraaetus fasciatus</i>	R	
31. Crested Hawk-Eagle, <i>Spizeetus cirrhatus</i>	UC	
32. Booted Hawk-Eagle, <i>Heiraaetus pennatus</i>	R	
33. Rufousbellied Hawk-Eagle, <i>Lopho-triorchis kienerii</i>	R	
34. Black Eagle, <i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	UC	
35. Whitebellied Sea Eagle, <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	UC	
36. Greyheaded Fishing Eagle, <i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	C	WE
37. Whitetailed Sea Eagle, <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	R	WE
38. Black or King Vulture, <i>Torgos calvus</i>	UC	
39. Pied Harrier, <i>Circus melanoleucos</i>	R	
40. Marsh Harrier, <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	R	WE
41. Shorttoed Eagle, <i>Circaetus gallicus</i> (KFRI, 1985)	R	
42. Crested Serpent Eagle, <i>Spilornis cheela</i>	UC	
43. Osprey or Fish Hawk, <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	UC	WE
44. Shahn Falcon, <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	R	
<i>Family : Falconidae</i>		
45. Indian Kestrel, <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	UC	
46. European Kestrel, <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	R	

(Contd...)

	Occurrence	Habitat
<i>Family : Phasianidae</i>		
47. Grey Quail, <i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	R	G
48. Bluebreasted Quail, <i>Coturnix chinensis</i>	R	G
49. Jungle Bush Quail, <i>Perdica asiatica</i>	C	G
50. Painted Bush Quail, <i>Perdica erythrorhynca</i>	C	G
51. Red Spurfowl, <i>Gallus sonneratii</i>	C	-
52. Gray Jungle Fowl, <i>Gallus sonneratii</i>	C	-
<i>Family : Turnicidae</i>		
53. Yellowlegged, or Indian Button Quail, <i>Turnix tanki</i>	UC	-
<i>Family : Rallidae</i>		
54. Whitebreasted Waterhen, <i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	UC	WE
55. Ruddy Crane, <i>Amaurornis fuscus</i>		WE
<i>Family : Charadriidae</i>		
56. Redwattled Lapwing, <i>Vanellus indicus</i>	UC	WE
57. Little Ring Plover, <i>Charadrius dabius</i>	R	WE
58. Green Sandpiper, <i>Tringa ochropus</i>	UC	
59. Wood or Spotted Sandpiper, <i>Tringa glareola</i>	UC	WE
60. Common Sandpiper, <i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	UC	WE
61. Common or Fantail Snips, <i>Capella gallinago</i>	UC	WE
<i>Family : Rostraulidae</i>		
62. Painted Snipe, <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	UC	WE
<i>Family : Laridae</i>		
63. Tern, <i>Sterna</i> sp.	UC	WE
<i>Family : Columbidae</i>		
64. Southern Green Pigeon, <i>Treron phoenicoptera</i> (KFRI)	UC	
65. Greyfronted Green Pigeon, <i>Treron pompadora</i>	C	E/MD
66. Ceylon Green Imperial Pigeon, <i>Ducula aenea</i>	C	SE
67. Jerdons Imperial Pigeon, <i>Ducula badia</i>	C	SE
68. Nilgiri Woodpigeon, <i>Columba elphinstonii</i>	C	E/SE
69. Indian Ring Dove, <i>Streptopelia decacto</i>	UC	MD
70. Indian Spotted Dove, <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	UC	
71. Indian Emerald Dove, <i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	C	MD

(Contd...)

	Occurrence	Habitat
<i>Family : Psittacidae</i>		
72. Roseringed Parakeet, <i>Psittacula krameri</i> (KFRI, 1985)	UC	MD
73. Blossomheaded Parakeet, <i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	C	-
74. Bluewinged Parakeet, <i>Psittacula colombooides</i>	C	-
75. Malabar Lorikeet, <i>Loriculus vernalis</i>	C	-
<i>Family : Cuculide</i>		
76. Redwinged Crested Cuckoo, <i>Clamator coromandus</i> (Bird Quest, 1989)	R	-
77. Pied Crested Cuckoo, <i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	R	MD
78. Common Hawk-Cuckoo, <i>Cuculus varius</i>	C	-
79. Indian Cuckoo, <i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	UC	-
80. Large Hawk Cuckoo, <i>Cuculus sparvirides</i>	R	E
81. Bay Banded Cuckoo, <i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	UC	-
82. Indian Drongo-Cuckoo, <i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	R	SE
83. Indian Koel, <i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	UC	-
84. Small Greenbilled Malkoha, <i>Rhopodytes viridirostris</i>	UC	MD
85. Southern Crow-pheasant, <i>Centropus sinensis</i>	C	-
86. Lesser Coucal, <i>Cetropus toulou</i>	UC	G
<i>Family : Strigidae</i>		
87. Collared Scops Owl, <i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	C	-
88. Indian Scops Owl, <i>Otus scops</i>	C	SE
89. Indian Great Horned Owl, <i>Bubo bubo</i>	UC	-
90. Forest Eagle Owl, <i>Bubo nipalensis</i>	UC	E
91. Brown Fish Owl, <i>Bubo zeylonensis</i>	UC	SE
92. Malabar Jungle Owlet, <i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	C	-
93. South Indian Hawk-Owl, <i>Ninox scutulata</i>	UC	SE
94. Southern Spotted Owlet, <i>Athene brama</i>	UC	-
95. Mottled Wood Owl, <i>Strix ocellata</i>	UC	-
<i>Family : Caprimulgidae</i>		
96. Bourdillons Greateared Night Jar, <i>Eurostopdus macrotis</i>	C	SE
97. Indian Jungle Night Jar, <i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>	UC	-
98. Franklins Night Jar, <i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	C	SE
<i>Family : Podargidae</i>		
99. Ceylon Frogmouth, <i>Batrachostomus moniliger</i> (KFRI, 1985)		-
<i>Family : Apodidae</i>		
100. Indian Edible-nest Swiftlet, <i>Collocalia unicolor</i>	C	-

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	Occurrence	Habitat
101. Brown-throated spineyail Swift, <i>Chaetura gigantea</i>	UC	E
102. Whiterumped Spinetail Swift, <i>Chaetura sylvatica</i>	C	SE
103. Indian Alpine Swift, <i>Micropus melba</i>	C	SE
104. House Swift, <i>Apus affinis</i>	UC	-
105. Palm Swift, <i>Cypsiurns parvus</i>	UC	-
106. Crested Tree Swift, <i>Hemiprocns longipennis</i>	UC	MD
107. Large Whiterumped Swift, <i>Apus pacificus</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Trogonidae</i>		
108. Malabar Tragon, <i>Harpactes fasciatus</i>	UC	-
<i>Family : Alcedinidae</i>		
109. Travancore Pied Kingfisher, <i>Ceryle rudis</i>	C	WE
110. Common Kingfisher, <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	C	WE
111. Blueeared Kingfisher, <i>Alcedo meninting</i>	R	WE
112. Brownheaded Storkbilled Kingfisher, <i>Palargopsis capensis</i>	UC	WE
113. Whitebreasted Kingfisher, <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	C	WE
114. Blackcapped Kingfisher, <i>Halcyon pileata</i>	UC	WE
<i>Family : Meropidae</i>		
115. Chestnutheaded Bee-eater, <i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	C	
116. Small Green Bee-eater, <i>Merops orientalis</i>	C	
<i>Family : Coraciidae</i>		
117. Southern Indian Roller, <i>Coracias banghalensis</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Upupidae</i>		
118. Ceylon Hoppoe, <i>Upupa epops</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Bucetotidae</i>		
119. Malabar Grey Hornbill, <i>Tockus griseus</i>	C	
120. Great Indian Hornbill, <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	C	
<i>Family : Capitonidae</i>		
121. Small Green Barbet, <i>Megalaima viridis</i>	C	SE/MD
122. Crimsonthroated Barbet, <i>Megalaima rubricapilla</i>	C	E/SE
<i>Family : Picidae</i>		
123. Nilgiri Speckled Piculet, <i>Picummus innominatus</i>	UC	-

(Contd...)

	Occurrence	Habitat
124. Southern Rofous Woodpecker, <i>Micropterus brachyurus</i>	US	SE
125. Scalybellied Green Woodpecker, <i>Picus myrmecophoneus</i>	C	MD
126. Small Yellownaped Woodpecker, <i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	UC	MD
127. Malabar Goldenbacked Woodpecker, <i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	C	SE
128. Malabar Goldenbacked Threetoed Woodpecker, <i>Dinopium javanese</i>	C	F
129. Malabar Great Black Woodpecker, <i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	R	E
130. Yellowfronted Pied Woodpecker, <i>Dendrocopus mahrattensis</i>	UC	MD
131. Malabar Pigmy Woodpecker, <i>Dendrocopus nanus</i>	UC	MD
132. Heartspotted Woodpecker, <i>Hemicircus canente</i>	C	MD
133. Malherbas Goldenbacked Woodpecker, <i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	R	E/SE
<i>Family : Pittidae</i>		
134. Indian Pitta, <i>Pitta brachyura</i>	UC	SE
<i>Family : Alaudidae</i>		
135. Ceylon Bush-Lark, <i>Mirafra assamica</i>	UC	G
136. Malabar Crested Lark, <i>Galerida malabarica</i>	UC	G
137. Small Nilgiri Skylark, <i>Alauda gulgula</i>	C	G
<i>Family : Hirundinidae</i>		
138. Dusky Crag Martin, <i>Hirundo concolor</i>	C	-
139. Eastern Swallow, <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	UC	-
140. Redrumped Swallow, <i>Hirundo daurica</i>	C	-
141. Nilgiri House Swallow, <i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	UC	-
<i>Family : Laniidae</i>		
142. Rufousbacked Shrike, <i>Lanius schach</i>	UC	MD
143. Brown shrike, <i>Lanius cristatus</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Oriolidae</i>		
144. Indian Oriole, <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	UC	-
145. Blacknaped Oriole, <i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	R	-
146. Blackheaded Oriole, <i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Dicruridae</i>		
147. Black Drongo, <i>Dicrurus adsimillis</i>	UC	MD
148. Grey Drongo, <i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	UC	-
149. Bronzed Drongo, <i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>	C	SE
150. Haircrested Drongo, <i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	UC	E

(Contd...)



	Occurrence	Habitat
151. Large Rackettailed Drongo, <i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Artamidae</i>		
152. Ashy Swallo Shrike, <i>Artamus fuscus</i>	UC	-
<i>Family : Sturnidae</i>		
153. Greyheaded Myna, <i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>	C	-
154. Blyths Myna, <i>S. malabaricus blythii</i>	C	-
155. Rosy Pastor, <i>S. roseus</i>	R	-
156. Common Myna, <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	C	-
157. Jungle Myna, <i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	C	SE/MD
158. Hill Myna, <i>Gracula religiosa</i>	C	E/MD
<i>Family : Corvidae</i>		
159. Tree Pie, <i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	UC	MD
160. Southern Tree Pie, <i>D. leucogastra</i>	UC	E/S
161. Ceylon House Crow, <i>Corvus splendens</i>	C	
162. Indian Jungle Crow, <i>C. macrorhyncos</i>	C	
<i>Family : Campephagidae</i>		
163. Blackbacked Pied Flycatcher Shrike, <i>Hamipus picatus</i>	UC	E
164. Malabar Woodshrike, <i>Tephrodornis virgatus</i>	C	SE
165. Common Woodshrike, <i>T. pondi-cerianus</i> (KFRI, 1985)	-	-
166. Large Cuckoo Shrike, <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	UC	MD
167. Blackheaded Cuckoo Shrike, <i>C. melanoptero</i>	UC	-
168. Orange Minivet, <i>Paricrocotus flammeus</i>	C	E/MD
169. Small Minivet, <i>P. cinnamomeus</i>	UC	MD
<i>Family : Irenidae</i>		
170. Ceylon Iora, <i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	C	-
171. Goldfronted Chloropsis, <i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	C	-
172. Jerdons Chloropsis, <i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>	C	-
173. Fairy Blue Bird, <i>Irena puella</i>	C	E/S
<i>Family : Pycnonotidae</i>		
174. Greyheaded Bulbul, <i>Pycnonotus priocephalus</i>	R	E
175. Ruby-throated Bulbul, <i>P. schisticeps</i>	UC	E/S
176. Redwhiskered Bulbul, <i>P. jocosus</i>	C	ME
177. Redvented Bulbul, <i>P. cafer</i>	C	MD
178. Yellowbrowed Bulbul, <i>Hypsipetes indicus</i>	C	MD
179. Black Bulbul, <i>H. madaga scariensis</i>	C	SE

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	Occurrence	Habitat
<i>Family : Muscicapidae</i>		
180. Spotted Babbler, <i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	UC	SE
181. Scimitar Babbler, <i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>	C	MD
182. White-throated Babbler, <i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>	UC	MD
183. Blackheaded Babbler, <i>Rhopocichla atriceps</i>	C	MD
184. Rufous Babbler, <i>Turdoides subrufus</i>	C	SE/MD
185. Jungle Babbler, <i>T. striatus</i>	C	MD
186. Wynaed Laughing Thrush, <i>Garrulax delesserti</i>	C	SE/MD
187. Whitebreasted Laughing Thrush, <i>G. jerdoni</i>	C	E
188. Quaker Babbler, <i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>	C	E/MD
189. Brown Flycatcher, <i>Muscicapa latirostris</i>	C	-
190. Brownbreasted Flycatcher, <i>M. mutti</i>	R	E/SE
191. Rufoustailed Flycatcher, <i>M. ruficauda</i>	R	SE
192. Redbreasted Flycatcher, <i>M. parva</i>	R	SE
193. Black and Orange Flycatcher, <i>M. nigrorufa</i>	UC	SE
194. White-bellied Blue Flycatcher, <i>M. pallipes</i>	UC	SE
195. Blue-throated Flycatcher, <i>M. rubeculoides</i>	R	SE
196. Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, <i>M. tickelliae</i>	UC	MD
197. Nilgiri Verditer Flycatcher, <i>M. albicaudata</i>	UC	E
198. Greyheaded Flycatcher, <i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	UC	SE/MD
199. Whitebrowed Fantail Flycatcher, <i>Rhipidure albogularis</i> (KFRI) -	-	-
200. Paradise Flycatcher, <i>Tersiphone paradisi</i>	UC	-
201. Coorg Longtailed Wrenwarbler, <i>Prinia hodgsoni</i>	C	-
202. Blacknaped Blue Flycatcher, <i>Monarcha azurea</i>	C	E/MD
203. Streaked Fantail Warbler, <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	C	G
204. Nilgiri Longtailed Wrenwarbler, <i>P. subflava</i>	C	-
205. Ashy Longtailed Wrenwarbler, <i>P. socialis</i>	UC	-
206. Tailor Bird, <i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	C	-
207. Broadtailed Grass Warbler, <i>Schoenicola platyura</i>	UC	G
208. Indian Great Reed Warbler, <i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i> (KFRI, 1985) -	-	-
209. Blyths Reed Warbler, <i>A. dumetorum</i>	C	-
210. Tickells Leaf Warbler, <i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	R	E
211. Largebilled Leaf Warbler, <i>P. magnirostris</i>	UC	E
212. Greenish Leaf Warbler, <i>P. trochiloides</i>	C	SE/MD
213. Large Crowned Leaf Warbler, <i>P. occipitalis</i>	UC	E
214. Indian Blue Chat, <i>Erithacus brunneus</i>	R	E
215. Magpie-Robin, <i>Copsychus saularis</i>	UC	-
216. Pied Bushchat, <i>Saxicola caprata</i>	UC	G
217. South Indian Blackbacked Robin, <i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i> (KFRI, 1985) -	-	-
218. Blueheaded Rock Thrush, <i>Monticola cinchlorhynous</i>	UC	SE
219. Indian Blue Rock Thrush, <i>M. solitarius</i>	UC	-
220. Malabar Whistling Thrush, <i>Myiophonus horsfieldii</i>	C	R
221. White-throated Ground Thrush, <i>Zoothera citrina</i>	UC	MD
222. Blackbird, <i>Turdus merula</i>	UC	F

(Contd...)

	Occurrence	Habitat
<i>Family : Paridae</i>		
223. Indian Grey Tit, <i>Parus major</i>	C	MD
224. Yellowcheeked Tit, <i>P. xanthogenys</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Sittidae</i>		
225. Velvetfronted Nuthatch, <i>Sitta frontalis</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Motacillidae</i>		
226. Richards Pipit, <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	C	C
227. Brown Rock Pipit, <i>A. similis</i>	UC	G
228. Nilgiri Pipit, <i>A. nilghiriensis</i>	C	G
229. Paddy Field Pipit, <i>A. novaeseelandiae</i>	UC	G
230. Forest Wagtail, <i>Motacilla indica</i>	C	SE/MD
231. Grey Wagtail, <i>M. caspica</i>	C	
232. Large Pied Wagtail, <i>M. maderaspatensis</i>	C	
233. Yellow Wagtail, <i>M. flava</i>	R	
<i>Family : Dicaeidae</i>		
234. Thickbilled Flower Pecker, <i>Dicaeum agile</i>	C	E/MD
235. Tickells Flower Pecker, <i>D. erythrorhyncos</i>	C	MD
236. Nilgiri Flower Pecker, <i>D. concolor</i>	C	E/MD
<i>Family : Nectariniidae</i>		
237. Purplerumped Sunbird, <i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>	C	MD
238. Snall Sunbird, <i>N. minima</i>	UC	E
239. Loten's Sunbird, <i>N. lotentia</i>	C	MD
240. Purple Sunbird, <i>N. asiatica</i>	C	MD
241. Little Spider Hunder, <i>Arachnothera longirostris</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Zosteropidae</i>		
242. Nilgiri White Eye, <i>Zosteraps palpebrosa</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Ploceidae</i>		
243. House Sparrow, <i>Passer domesticus</i>	C	-
244. White-throated Munia, <i>Lonchura malabarica</i> (KFRI, 1985)	-	-
245. Rufousbellied Munia, <i>L. kalaarti</i>	C	E/SE
246. Spotted Munia, <i>L. punctulata</i>	UC	-
247. Blackheaded Munia, <i>L. malacca</i>	C	-
248. Whitebacked Munia, <i>L. striata</i>	C	SE/MD
<i>Family : Fringillidae</i>		
249. Hodgsons' Rosefinch, <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	UC	SE

Key : Occurrence C - Common; UC - Uncommon; R - Rare.  
Habitat : E - Evergreen; SE - Semievergreen.  
MD - Moist deciduous; G - Grasslands; WE - Wetland.

### SUMMARY

A checklist of birds of Periyar Tiger Reserve was prepared. Two hundred and forty-nine species of birds are recorded in the reserve. Sixty species are new records for Periyar while 3 are new records for Kerala. The lesser number of wetland birds may be due to the absence of marshes and shallow water areas in the Lake. Rarity of larger birds of prey may be due to their low population in nature or the agricultural practices in the surrounding areas. This study shows that Periyar has great potential for detailed ornithological research.

पेरियार बाघ संरक्षित क्षेत्र केरल, दक्षिण भारत के पक्षी  
के० के० श्रीवास्तव, वी० जे० जकरियास, ए० के० भरद्वज व पी० मुहम्मद जफर

### सारांश

पेरियार बाघ संरक्षित क्षेत्र के पक्षियों की पड़ताल सूची बनाई गई है। इस संरक्षित क्षेत्र में पक्षियों की 249 जातियां अभिलिखित हैं। 60 जातियाँ पेरियार में नवोल्लेख हैं तथा 3 केरल के लिए नवोल्लेख हैं। नम भूमि के पक्षियों की कम संख्या झील में दलदल और उथले जल क्षेत्रों के अभाव के कारण होगी। बड़े शिकारी पक्षियों की दुर्लभता प्रकृति में ही उनकी संख्या कम रहने अथवा पास-पड़ोस के क्षेत्रों में खेती की जाने के कारण हो सकती है। इस अध्ययन से पता चलता है कि पेरियार में पक्षी विज्ञान अनुसंधान करने की बहुत संभावनाएं हैं।

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