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Anonymous bird Asian Open bill stork of Chhattisgarh, India

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Abstract

Chhattisgarh is a very beautiful and rich place for migratory and resident birds because of suitable climatic condition and availability of food and water. During few years Open bill storks are coming here in large number during pre-monsoon for breeding and post-monsoon most of the flock of open bill migrates and somewhere they move to hither and thither where enough food material is available and never go back from chhattisgarh. We have recorded the open bill even in winter and summer season. This study calls the habit and habitat of Asian Open bill stork in different district of Chhattisgarh. The total number of demarcated sites are 24 with GPS location where open bills are coming in every rainy season. The study was conducted during Jan 2014 to January 2015. Due to large population of Open bill in Chhattisgarh I can say that in future there number will surely increase and for this increment people of chhattisgarh are really thankful for better conservation in their locality and they also protect the area where every year Open bills are coming. Favorable climatic condition and availability of enough feeding material chhattisgarh is nor became a residential habitat for Open bill stork. Due to this reason people of chhattisgarh is curious about birds and they take care of unhealthy birds and they play a vital role increasing the number of open bill in chhattisgarh.

Keywords: Open Bill •Habitat •Migration• Habit • Conservation

1. Introduction

Open billed Stork is a common stork and is found all over the subcontinent. It is found mostly near marshes and wetlands. Adults are white with black wing flight feathers, red legs and dull yellow grey bill. Young ones have brown tinge to the feathers. It feeds on Mollusks, frogs, crabs and large insects. They fly by their nests soaring on thermals then glide to their destination. They are highly social and form large nesting colonies in trees of mostly *A. nilotica*, *A. catechu*, & Tamarind, with other storks and water birds such as herons. Which is Colonial nesting is strategic in that large groups of storks effectively defend the colony against predators. Such territorial behavior is also seen among mating pairs within the same species. Members of a pair often defend from intraspecific attack.

Asian open bills are carnivores. Their diet primarily consists of small aquatic invertebrates such as mollusks, crabs, and worms. Frogs, lizards and snakes, insects, and fish also make up a large part of their diet. It breeds near inland wetland and builds stick nest in trees laying 2-4 eggs at a time. Asian open bills are largely unthreatened, however several threats exist which can potentially cause their populations to decline. Asian open bills are largely monogamous. Monogamous pairs typically occupy nesting sites in trees early on during breeding season. Male storks, which arrive at these trees after they are fully occupied, are compelled to share nesting sites, hence engage in intraspecific attack. In doing so, they attract several single male storks to join the fight. In the end, a male stork joins the monogamous pair or replaces the male which the female originally mated with. Males in polygynous pairs exhibit displays in the same manner as do those of monogamous pairs.

2. Study site

The attempt had been made in area of Chhattisgarh for survey and study. Chhattisgarh is a state in Central India it is lies between latitude $17^{\circ} 47'$ and $24^{\circ} 06'$ and longitude $80^{\circ} 15'$ to $84^{\circ} 24'$. Forests occupy 41.33% of the total area. The climate of Chhattisgarh is tropical hot and humid because of its proximity to the Tropic of Cancer and its dependence on the monsoons. In summer season Chhattisgarh temperatures may reach 45°C (113°F). The monsoon season is arrive late June to post September and is a welcome respite from the heat. Chhattisgarh receives an average rainfall of 1,292 millimetres (50.9 in).

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Fig 1: India Map

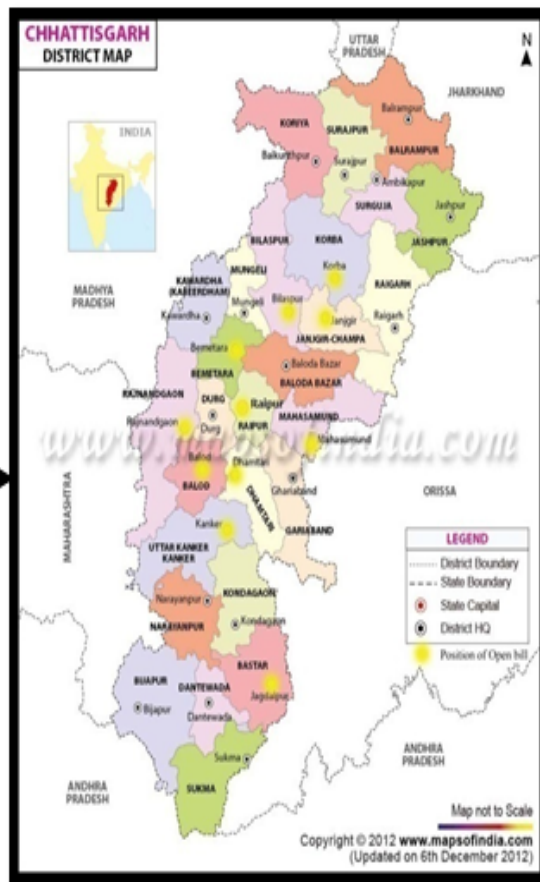


Fig 2: Chhattisgarh Map yellow dot showing position of Open bill

3. Material and Methods

Recording has been carried out for a period of one year January 2014 to January 2015 and observation were made with the aid of binocular. Regular surveys were done by systematically walking on fixed routes through the study area. Open bill was mostly observed during the most active season, i.e., Monsoon from 6:00 to 9:00 hr and from 16:00 to 18:00 hr. However, observations were also made during

other timings according to convenience. Observations were carried out with the aid of Canon EOS 550D camera with 75-300mm lens. I have also taken the GPS location of the particular site and mention on my paper. Identification of birds was done using field guides (Ali and Ripley, 1987; Grimmet *et al.*, 1999) and. According to the status birds were categorized as Resident (R), Seasonal Local Migrant (LM) and Winter Migrant (WM) (Ali Salim 2001) [3].

Table 1: Recorded sites of Asian Open bill stork in different district of Chhattisgarh.

S.N.	Site Name	District	GPS Locations
1.	Lachkerra	Mahasamund	N-20°22'06.4" E-81°25'04.8"
2.	Chhura	Mahasamund	N-20°52'16.8" E-81°30'04.5"
3.	Kanki	Korba	N-22°13'46.8" E-82°39'39.7"
4.	Rampur	Korba	N-22°11'41.3" E-82°59'30.6"
5.	Sati Dai Mandir Pond, Aurai	Janjgir-champa	N-22°04'26.5" E-82°32'59.4"
6.	Crocodile Park, Kotmi Sonar	Janjgir-champa	N-22°01'48.7" E-82°21'10.0"
7.	Pendri, Shivrinarayan	Janjgir-champa	N-21°43'48.1" E-82°52'47.9"
8.	Sanjay Gandhi Dam, Khutaghaat,	Bilaspur	N-22°17'15.4" E-82°13'14.4"
9.	Saddu	BalodaBazar	N-21°09.6" E-82°10'41.4"
10.	Khandwa Pond, Naya Raipur	Raipur	N-21°06'14.6" E-81°46'34.3"
11.	Gidhwa Pond,Nandghat	Bemetara	N-21°50'28.6" E-81°46'29.9"
12.	Gidhwa Dam,Nandghat	Bemetar	N-21°15'04.0" E-81°47'07.8"
13.	Parsad Dam,Nandghat	Bemetara	N-21°51'10.9" E-81°49'23.2"
14.	Jherkapur Pond, Palari	Baloda Bazar	N-21°35'05.3" E-82°12'20.4"
15.	Bandwa Pond, Palari	Baloda Bazar	N-21°34'55.9" E-82°11'46.0"
16.	Mission pond, Kosomkhutta, Mahasamund Road	Raipur	N-21°14'10.8" E-81°44'39.8"
17.	S.F.R.T.I. Campus Pond, Baronda,	Raipur	N-21°32'09.6" E-82°10'41.4"
18.	Matia motional Dam	Rajnandgaon	N-20°53'12.1" E-81°56'03.2"
19.	Kharkhara Dam	Rajnandgaon	N-20°48'52.2" E-80°57'02.9"
20.	Borsara village (Sakri)	Bilaspur	N-21°17'26.2" E-81°43'36.2"
21.	Ghongha dam, Kota	Bilaspur	N-22°18'41.4" E-81°59'37.7"
22.	Shahwada village, Charama	Kanker	N-21°17'27.9" E-81°43'37.2"
23.	Bus stand, Charama	Kanker	NA
24.	Dalpat Sagar	Bastar	N-21°17'27.9" E-81°43'37.2"

4. Results and Discussion

After the whole study I got result that from few years Open bills are coming in chhattisgarh and as present condition their number is increasing frequently in different location of chhattisgarh and some of the area is reserved for them means they came in same place and after breeding within 5 month they go back their native place. People also helpful for them and made nest and other things like ban for hunting and poaching and they get punish the people who disturb them. In the above mention sites Asian open bills are safe in midstream of people and do not afraid by them. Open bill freely move anywhere with some distance of peoples.

5. Threats and Conservation

Invasive weed species can choke wetlands, resulting in reduced water flow and drying of wetland habitat. Large animals such as buffaloes tend to destroy wetland habitats and consume many of their resources. Fishing further reduces food sources for Asian open bills. Pesticides used by farmers in agricultural wetlands can increase mortality among members of this species. In addition, farmers use rockets, polythene bags and other harmful devices to scare away storks. Asian openbills are often victims of poaching, which can have detrimental impacts on population size. Reclamation of wetlands by the government for developmental purposes also poses a major threat.



Fig 3: Asian open bill in Dalpat Sagar Jagdalpur



Fig 4: open bill in Gidhwa village



Fig 5: Largest flock of Open bill in Akaltara, Bilaspur

6. Acknowledgement

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