

Uttarakhand) and cast nets, ban destructive methods of fishing in Nandhour, Ladhiya and Sharada rivers to enable Mahseer to stage a come back.

■ Secure the support of Government of India, which has the responsibility to save the tiger through its National Tiger Conservation Authority, to establish Conservation Reserve and the National Park, which eventually, with some reintroduction, can support 30-50 tigers. As seen from the studies in the western part of Uttarakhand, in a similar habitat, the potential of this habitat to support high densities of wild ungulate prey is enormous (Harihar *et al.* 2008).

■ Long term plan for this promising landscape should include re-establishment of viable connectivity with Corbett TR and Suklaphanta Reserve.

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## 6. LARGE-TAILED NIGHTJAR *CAPRIMULGUS MACRURUS* IN PHULWARI-KI-NAAL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, UDAIPUR DISTRICT, RAJASTHAN

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While we were birding in Asawara area of Mamer in Phulwari-ki-Naal Wildlife Sanctuary, Udaipur district, Rajasthan on March 29, 2004, a Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* started calling *chaun... chaunk...chaunk...* at 18:44 hrs soon after sunset. Being familiar with the distinct knocking and resonant call of the species we had no difficulty in identifying the species.

Soon after we heard another bird calling some distance away from the first one; the birds stopped calling when we tried to find them. Possibly they were disturbed by the noise created by trampling of dry leaves lying on the ground. Later in the evening one bird was briefly heard at 20:30 hrs and another flying close to the forest rest house at Mamer.

With an average annual precipitation of c. 650 mm, Phulwari-ki-Naal harbours dry deciduous forest and some patches of moist deciduous biotopes. There is preponderance of stunted Teak *Tectona grandis* and Mahua *Madhuca indica* trees in some parts of the Sanctuary. When we visited the area the trees had shed their leaves and ground was covered with a thick carpet of dry leaves. The habitat at Asawara

seemed suitable for the species to breed as the species is known to breed from March to June “among dry leaves, often in rather open conditions” (Rasmussen and Anderton 2005).

Although apparently resident or a local migrant in much of its range, it is “only a summer visitor in some areas such as the Punjab Salt range (Rattray 1899: 342)” (Ali and Ripley 1983; Holyoak 2001).

The movements and distribution of the species “on western side south of sub-Himalayan Punjab (N. Maharashtra etc.)” are uncertainly known (Ali and Ripley 1983). It is sedentary and partially migratory, perhaps subject to some local movements (Cleere 1998). The species is known to be a summer breeding visitor in dry subtropical deciduous forest, but is confined to the Murree Hills eastwards to Kahuta (Grimmett *et al.* 2008).

Although it is difficult to comment about the status of the species in Phulwari-ki-Naal, it is certainly a new record for the area. We are not aware of any other sighting in Rajasthan except at Bharatpur (Kazmierczak and van Perlo 2000). Two new records of the species are from the



neighbouring Gujarat state, not very far from Phulwari-ki-Naal. The species was recorded on March 03 and 17, 2000, from Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary. However, no visual

observations were made (Trivedi and Soni 2006). Another record is from Phot Mahadev, Kachchh, Gujarat where eight individuals were photographed (Mishra and Singh 2010).

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## 7. ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION RECORDS OF ASSAM ROOFED TURTLE *PANGSHURA SYLHETENSIS* (JERDON 1870) FROM DIFFERENT LOCALITIES OF WESTERN ASSAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

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The Chelonian fauna of north-eastern states of India comprises of at least 21 species, belonging to 3 families. Much of the existing knowledge on the distribution of the group in the region is based on collections that are decades old, scattered in several museums. Literature concerning the region's turtles and tortoises is scanty (Das 1990). The present note describes some additional distributional record of the *Pangshura sylhetensis* from different localities of Western Assam and Arunachal Pradesh of the Indian territory.

*Pangshura sylhetensis* was previously recorded from Manas Tiger Reserve, and Kolathua village of Sivasagar district (Das 1990), Cachar districts of Assam and Cherrapunji (Khasi hills) and Garo hills of Meghalaya. It is also recorded from Sylhet district of Bangladesh (Moll 1987). Recently, it was recorded from Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park, Nameri National Park, Narayanpur Tea Estate, Sivasagar district, Sonapur, Cachar district, Lakhimpur district, North Cachar districts of Assam (Sarma 2007). We had a direct sighting record of the species from the Samukha river near Ultapani forest village and also a secondary record confirmed by village fishermen from the Zamduwar area of Chirang-Ripu reserve forest (26° 40' N; 89° 53' E), Bodoland Territorial Council, Assam. This extends the distribution of the species

up to 90 km west from Manas Tiger Reserve.

There is scanty distributional record of the species in the bordering areas of Assam. We also recorded the species from Tenga valley (27° 12' 25.81" N; 92° 30' 49.17" E) of West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh at an elevation of 1,205 m. This specimen was rescued from a local fisherman who caught it from a local hill stream. This record also extends the northern distribution of the species up to Tenga valley, at least 150 km from Manas National Park and 70 km from Nameri National Park. Probably, this is the highest elevation record of the species.

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