

Birds to look out for at the Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary



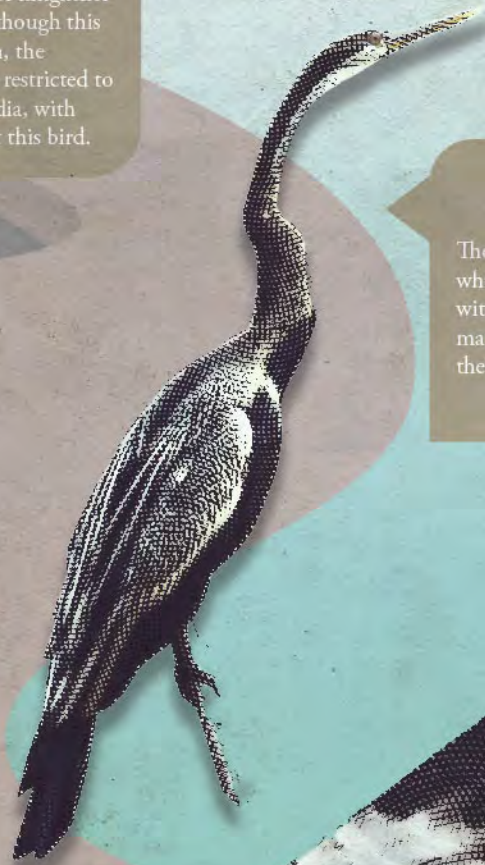
WHITE COLLARED KINGFISHER
(*Todiramphus chloris*)

This kingfisher is among the seven species of kingfisher that has been recorded at the sanctuary. Although this species has a widespread global distribution, the sub-species (*T. chloris vidali*) found here is restricted to the mangrove areas on the west coast of India, with Goa being a particularly good place to spot this bird.



LESSER ADJUTANT STORK
(*Leptoprius javanicus*)

The sanctuary is a good place to spot this large bird, easily recognized by its characteristic bald, featherless head and neck. It is often seen wading in the mudflats at low tide and feeds on a range of prey including fish, reptiles and large invertebrates. It is a globally threatened species and classified as Vulnerable by the IUCN Red List.



ORIENTAL DARTER
(*Anhinga melanogaster*)

The term "snakebird" refers to their long thin neck, which has a snake-like appearance when they swim with their bodies submerged. "Darter" alludes to their manner of procuring food, as they impale fishes with their thin, pointed beak.



SLATY BREASTED RAIL
(*Gallinallus striatus*)

The slaty-breasted rail is a small shy bird found in the sanctuary. It prefers the cover of mangrove vegetation, and is rarely ever seen. It occasionally ventures onto the muddy banks where it can be spotted.



OSPREY
(*Pandion haliaetus*)

The Osprey is a large fish eating bird of prey, renowned for its exceptional fish catching skills. It snatches fish straight out of the water and is able to close its nostrils while diving. It is a winter visitor, and can be seen in the sanctuary between October and March.



EURASIAN CURLEW
(*Numenius arquata*)

The Eurasian curlew is one of the most widespread of the curlews, breeding across temperate Europe and Asia. The familiar call is a loud curloo-oo. The Eurasian curlew feeds by probing soft mud for small invertebrates, but will also pick small crabs and earthworms off the surface if the opportunity arises.