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BIRDS OF CHIDIVATAPU BIOLOGICAL PARK, SOUTH ANDAMAN

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The Andaman and Nicobar ($6^{\circ}45'-13^{\circ}41'N$ & $92^{\circ}12'-93^{\circ}57'E$) is a major group of islands with a total coastal line of about 1962km. The entire islands group cover 8,249 km², and Andaman group has more than 325 islands (21 inhabited) which covers 6,408km² and Nicobar group with over 24 islands (13 inhabited) has an area of 1,841km². The Andaman and Nicobar Islands have a hot, humid, and uniform tropical coastal climate (Saldanha, 1989). They experience a long monsoon season, receiving heavy rainfall of about 3800mm during southwest and northeast monsoons. Temperature fluctuations are between 20°-32°C (Dagar *et al.*, 1991). A total of 284 species of birds have been recorded on these islands including 37% endemics (Ali & Ripley, 1987; Sankaran & Vijayan 1993; Vijayan *et al.*, 2000).

Chidiyatapu Biological Park is situated 25km away from Port Blair and located in the southern most tip of the main South Andaman island. This park is about 40ha in area and is composed of littoral forest, moist deciduous forest, and semi-evergreen forest. The major tree species recorded in the study area are *Eugenia jambulance* (Jamun), *Pometia pinnata* (Thitkandu), *Sageraea elliptica* (Chooi), *Bombax insigne* (Didu), *Dipterocarpus* spp. (Gurjan), *Terminalia baliata* (White Chuglum), *Tetrameles nudiflora* (Thitpok).

The birds observed in transects laid in Chidiyatapu Park during intensive survey of the Andaman Crake were catalogued. All identifications were based on Grimmet (2001) and Ali and Ripley (1987). The common names and scientific names are based on Manakadan and Pittie (2001).

A total of 77 bird species belonging to 23 families were recorded that include 11 endemics, 10 Near Threatened and one Data Deficient species. The Nicobar Pigeon (*Caloenas nicobarica*) and Andaman Wood Pigeon (*Columba palumboides*), relatively uncommon in the Andaman islands, were recorded in the park. The conservation status given in the checklist is based on Zafar-ul-Islam and Rahmani (2002).

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Table 1. Checklist of Birds in Chidiyatapu Biological Park, South Andaman.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status*	Common Name	Scientific Name	Status*
Accipitridae			Irenidae		
1 Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leophotes</i>		50 Asian Fairy Bluebird	<i>Irena puella andamanica</i>	
2 White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	E	Laniidae		
3 Andaman Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis elgini</i>	E, NT	51 Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus cristatus</i>	
4 Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus andamanensis</i>		Muscicapidae		
Rallidae			52 Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina andamanensis</i>	
5 Andaman Crake	<i>Rallina cinnamomea</i>	DD	53 Large-billed Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>	
6 White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus insularis</i>		54 Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher	<i>Rhinomyias brunneata</i>	
7 Baillon's Crake	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>		55 Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	
8 Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		56 Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	
Columbidae			57 Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>	
9 Andaman Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumboides</i>	E, NT	58 Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis andamanensis</i>	
10 Red-collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica humilis</i>		59 White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus albiventris</i>	
11 Andaman Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia rufipennis andamanica</i>	E, NT	60 Black-naped Blue Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea tytleri</i>	
12 Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica maxima</i>		Pachycephalinae		
13 Nicobar Pigeon	<i>Caloenas nicobarica</i>		61 Mangrove Whistler	<i>Pachycephala grisola</i>	
14 Pompadour Green Pigeon	<i>Treron pompadora chloroptera</i>		Dicaeidae		
15 Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea andamanica</i>		62 Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum concolor virescens</i>	
Psittacidae			Nectarinidae		
16 Indian Hanging-Parrot	<i>Loriculus vernalis vernalis</i>		63 Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis andamanica</i>	
17 Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria magnirostris</i>		Zosteriidae		
18 Red-Breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri abbotti</i>		64 Oriental White-Eye	<i>Zostropos palpebrosa nicobarica</i>	
19 Red-Cheeked Parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda tytleri</i>	NT	Estrildidae		
Cuculidae			65 White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata fumigata</i>	
20 Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus micropterus</i>		Sturnidae		
21 Oriental Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus saturatus saturatus</i>		66 Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Apelonis panayensis tytleri</i>	
22 Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea dolosa</i>		67 White-headed Starling	<i>Sturnus erythropygius andamanensis</i>	E
23 Andaman Coucal	<i>Centropus (sinensis) andamanensis</i>	E	68 Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis tristis</i>	
24 Asian Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx maculatus</i>		69 Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa andamanensis</i>	
25 Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchos</i>		Oriolidae		
Strigidae			70 Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	
26 Andaman Scops Owl	<i>Otus balli</i>	E, NT	71 Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis andamanensis</i>	
27 Brown Hawk-Owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>		72 Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	
28 Andaman Hawk-Owl	<i>Ninox affinis affinis</i>	NT	Dicruridae		
Apodidae			73 Crow-billed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus annectans</i>	
29 White-bellied Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta affinis</i>		74 Andaman Drongo	<i>Dicrurus andamanensis andamanensis</i>	E, NT
30 Brown-throated Needletail Swift	<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>		75 Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus otiosus</i>	
Alcedinidae			Corvidae		
31 Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting rufigastrae</i>		76 Andaman Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta bayleyi</i>	E, NT
32 Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis osmastoni</i>		77 Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos levaiantii</i>	
33 White-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis saturatior</i>				
34 Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>				
35 Ruddy Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon coromanda</i>				
36 Collared Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chloris davisoni</i>				
Meropidae					
37 Blue-tailed Bee-Eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>				
38 Chestnut-headed Bee-Eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti andamanensis</i>				
Picidae					
39 Andaman Black Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus hodgei</i>	E, NT			
40 Fulvous-breasted Pied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei andamanensis</i>				
Motacillidae					
41 Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>				
42 Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				
43 Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				
Campephagidae					
44 Large Cuckoo-Shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae andamana</i>				
45 Bar-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike	<i>Coracina striata dobsoni</i>				
46 Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus vividus</i>				
47 Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus andamanensis</i>				
Pycnonotidae					
48 Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps fuscoflavescens</i>				
49 Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus whistleri</i>				

* E - Endemic; DD - Data deficient; NT - Near Threatened

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