

## **Campus Bird Count 2021**

### **12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February**

Mangalore University has been participating in the Campus bird count (CBC) a sub-event of 'Great Backyard Bird Count' (GBBC) organized by Bird Count India, for the past 6 years. This year, CBC was held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February of 2021 across various campuses in India.

As a part of this, four days event was successfully ended up with the sightings of 108 species of birds from various locations across the campus spread on 353 acres. Some of the birds recorded include, Black Drongo, Black Kite, Brahminy Kite, Common Iora, Green Wabler, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Red-whiskered Bulbul, White-cheeked Barbet, Jungle Babbler and Plum headed parakeets. The observation also included nest and nestlings of House Crow, prey catching by Shikra and Indian Nightjar (nocturnal bird) activity during the day time. Ashy Drongo, Booted Eagle, Grey Wagtail, Indian Pitta are the migratory birds. Grey-headed Bulbul (Near Threatened bird), Rufous Babbler and Flame-throated Bulbul are the endemic birds of the Western Ghats and Barn Owl, Spotted Owlet, Nightjars (Savanna, Indian and Jerdon's) and Sri Lanka Frogmouth, the nocturnal birds were recorded. The rare birds, Yellow-billed Babbler, Green Sandpiper and Grey-necked Bunting are the new additions to avian list of the campus.

CBC of Mangalore University recorded 77 species in the year 2016. Subsequently, 95 species in 2017, 110 species in 2018, 107 species in 2019 and 103 species of birds in 2020 were recorded. However, some of the species like Jerdon's Leafbird, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, Coppersmith Barbet, Stork-billed Kingfisher etc., sighted in the previous years were not seen in the present survey. With the addition of 3 species, the CBC of Mangalore University has so far recorded a total of 146 species in the campus.

This year event was coordinated by Mr. Vivek Hasyagar of Mangalore University and Maxim Rodrigues from Kasaragod. Survey trails were carried out by 54 participants including students, research scholars and faculty members from various departments of Mangalore University. Some of the bird enthusiast from St. Aloysius College, Mangalore, Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal and few local people have also participated in the CBC -2021 of Mangalore University.