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A Note on the Common Birds in Saidpur Cantonment of Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

Cantonment area is a protective area, so birds can easily complete their reproductive phase successfully. Year-wise observation on the basis of their breeding status helped to complete this write-up. Out of seven common birds of cantonment area were divided on their breeding season with March to September (Indian pied myna (*Sturnus contra*), black drongo (*Dicrurus adsimilis*), magpie robin (*Copsychus saularis*), house crow (*Corvus splendens*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) and all the year (Eurasian collared dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), spotted dove (*Spilopelia chinensis*). Insect larvae, grain, and seeds were available in this area. Observed nests were maximum twig nest. Incubation and fledging days were depended on the species. This study was carried out from January 2024 to June 2025.

Keywords: Birds, Saidpur Cantonment, breeding, Bangladesh.

INTRODUCTION

Saidpur Cantonment of Bangladesh is one of the significant cantonments with other facilities (Figure 1). It has adequate space with huge long and ornamental trees that allows many birds. In wildlife, especially birds are more sensitive to human. They do not show their proper breeding performance with the presence of people. In this sense, as cantonment area is protected, so some common birds can pass their breeding cycle smoothly. Sometimes, urbanization and industrialization could make a hazard of these birds for destroying trees [1]. Our ultimate knowledge helps to understand the fluctuations of population in nature [2-8]. Additionally, this area is now planting more trees for the conservation of biodiversity, so the number of birds will be increased more in future. The objective of this study is to ensure the breeding cycle of some common resident birds in the Saidpur Cantonment area.

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Figure 1. Sketch map of Saidpur Cantonment [9].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In order to observe the breeding activities of targeted birds, high-quality binoculars (10x-70x × 70mm, Comet) was used. The classification of birds was completed according to Ali and Ripley [10]. The coordinates of this area were 25°45'50″N and 88°54'45″E [11].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Aquatic resources, bushes, and trees are the source for avian shelter. Coconut and mahagoni trees are suitable for making nests of birds. Mixed type of trees is available in this area. Many ornamental plants are available here. Due to abundance of fruit trees (mango, papaw, jackfruit, banana, litchi, etc.) and forest trees (mahagoni), the number of common birds is significant at all. Most of the birds are making twig nests with the branches of trees. Indian pied myna is very active to continue their breeding cycle. The nests of many birds are also found inside the flowering plants especially spotted dove (Plate 7). Kabir A. [12] described 14 species of breeding birds in Saidpur Cantonment area. As cantonment is protected and the common public activity are less, so all birds are complete their breeding biology easily (Table 1). Most of the birds were found in the order Passeriformes in this area (Plates 1-5). Collared dove and spotted doves were included in the Columbiformes order (Plates 6-7). Many old-aged banyan trees in this area were the most significant place for their sheltering and breeding.

Table 1. Reproductive performance of the following birds

Birds	Breeding Season	Nest Types	Clutch Size	Color/Pattern of Eggs	Incubation (days)	Fledging (days)
Indian pied myna, *Sturnus contra*	March-September	Twig nest	4-5	Bluish	14-15	22-24
Magpie robin, *Copsychus saularis*	April-July	Hole nest	3-5	Blotched and mottled	14-16	14-15
House crow, *Corvus splendens*	April-June	Twig nest	4-6	Light blue	18-21	52-57
Black drongo, *Dicrurus adsimilis*	April-August	Cup nest	3-5	White	15-18	14-16
House sparrow, *Passer domesticus*	All the year	Hole nest	3-5	Stippled and blotched	14	11-23
Eurasian collared dove, *Streptopelia decaocto*	All the year	Twig nest	1-2	White	14-18	15-19
Spotted dove, *Spilopelia chinensis*	All the year	Twig nest	1-2	White	12-16	12-13

Plate 1. House crow.

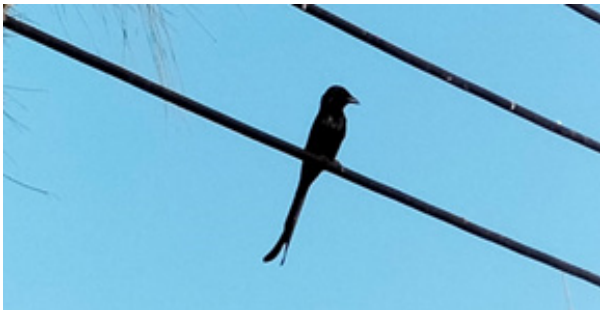

Plate 2. Black drongo.

Plate 3. Pied myna.

Plate 4. House sparrow.

Plate 5. Magpie robin.

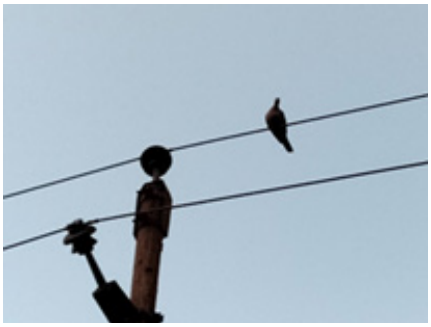

Plate 6. Collared dove.

Plate 7. Spotted dove.

CONCLUSIONS

Saidpur town is famous in many aspects, especially its cantonment area with green environment. Awareness of people has increased to protect wildlife. Many environmental programs are still going on to save the overall biodiversity. The Biology Department of Saidpur Cantonment Public School and College is doing excellent to protect wildlife especially birds through surveys. The authority of the cantonment area is well-known about this issue.

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None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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