

**SERVICES**

The Centre is of help to a variety of user groups interested in avian ecology like researchers, students, government officials and nature enthusiasts. The Centre also conducts occasional workshops to spread awareness regarding birds and their conservation.

The Centre solves queries of users in the following ways:

- By providing list of references on birds.
- By providing verbal information or written materials on avian ecology.
- By guiding students with their research projects.
- By providing basic information on birds to amateur birdwatchers.

**DATABASES AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRE**

- Bibliography on Indian birds
- Endemic birds of India
- Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
- Vernacular names of birds
- Migratory birds of India
- Abstracts
- Threatened birds of India
- State/UT-wise bird list
- Indian water birds checklist

**About BNHS**

Founded in 1883 for the study of natural history, the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) is now one of the premier research and conservation organisations in the country. The Society publishes the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society*, devoted to natural history and also has a popular publication, *Hornbill*, for the layman. It has also published a number of books on wildlife and nature. Its library has a large collection of books and scientific journals on wildlife and the environment. The Society's invaluable collection of bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian and insect specimens has been recognised as a National Heritage Collection. Membership of the Society is open to individuals and institutions within India and abroad. For more details, please visit [www.bnhs.org](http://www.bnhs.org) or contact (91-22) 22821811.

**Contact ENVIS Centre at:**

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Bombay Natural History Society  
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**Aichi Target No. 19**

Knowledge, the Science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.



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**ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (ENVIS)  
ENVIS Centre on Avian Ecology, BNHS**

Information on birds at your fingertips...



**What is ENVIS?**

ENVIS (Environmental Information System) is a network of subject specific centres located in various institutions throughout India. The focal point of the present 76 ENVIS centres in India is at the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.

The primary objective of all ENVIS centres is to collect, collate, store and disseminate environment related information to various user groups, including researchers, policy planners and decision makers.

**ENVIS Centre at BNHS**

In the fitness of things, the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) was selected as an ENVIS Centre by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India during the year of the Salim Ali Centenary celebrations in 1996. The choice of BNHS for such a Centre is understandable, as it has been related in one way or another with studies on ornithology, natural history and conservation.

**Objectives of the ENVIS Centre at BNHS**

- To create a bibliographic database of published literature related to avian ecology study.
- To publish and distribute BUCEROS newsletter on avian ecology to its members.
- To create and upload databases on avian ecology on ENVIS website.
- To reply to queries related to birds.



**ENVIS Website**

- Databases
- Journals and Websites
- Basic information on birds
- Bustard Forum
- Kids' Corner
- News

Website URL <http://www.bnhsenvis.nic.in>

The Centre's website has been functional since 2003. The information on the website is also available in regional languages, Hindi and Marathi, with the intention to broaden the Centre's reach among non English-speaking masses. **All the BUCEROS issues and the databases developed by ENVIS Centre are available on ENVIS website in downloadable format.** Other useful information available includes basic information on birds, powerpoint presentations, important bird projects of the BNHS, links to journals and websites dedicated to birds, latest national and international news on birds etc.

The Centre aims to start an online forum to provide a platform for researchers and serious birders to share their information on threatened birds.

**BUCEROS NEWSLETTER**

The Centre publishes a quarterly newsletter *BUCEROS* which is being distributed among institutes, organizations, researchers and interested individuals on request.

Right from the inaugural issue, *BUCEROS* gained popularity among the scientific community. Our most popular issues have been monographs covering various themes pertaining to Indian avian ecology. Now the newsletter publishes international and national news and one or two articles on birds.

To subscribe to your free copy of the newsletter, please send your contact address to [bnhs@envis.nic.in](mailto:bnhs@envis.nic.in).

Readers can also send their articles and observations on birds to be published in *BUCEROS* at our office address or to aforementioned email address.

**Some of our popular issues include:**

- Vernacular names of the birds of the Indian subcontinent - Volume 3(1), 1998
- The history of Indian ornithology - Volume 4(2), 1999
- Standardized common and scientific names of the birds of the Indian subcontinent - Volume 6(1), 2001
- Important Bird Areas (IBA) programme in India - Volume 6(2), 2001
- Threatened birds of India - Volume 7(1&2), 2002
- ABNHS review of the avifaunal list of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 - Volume 7(3), 2002
- Annotated checklist of the Birds of Western Maharashtra - Volume 8(2&3), 2003
- Report of the "International South Asian Vulture Recovery Plan Workshop" - Volume 9(1), 2004
- Endemic birds of India - Volume 11(2&3), 2006

