

GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

GIB Nanaj Wildlife Sanctuary (Revised) - 336.73 Sq.km.
New GIB Wildlife Sanctuary - 1.98 Sq.km.

Great Indian bustard
Ardeotis nigriceps



The Great Indian Bustard (Maldhok) is one of the rarest birds of Indian Sub-continent. The Bird is found only in some parts of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh States. The respective State Governments have declared the sanctuaries for the Great Indian Bustard. The Government of Maharashtra declared Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary in 1979 with the sole objective of conserving the rarest species of Great Indian Bustard which are endangered. The Sanctuary consists of the area of North Solapur, Madha, Mohol and Karmala Talukas of Solapur District and Karjat, Shrigonda, Newasa Talukas of Ahmednagar District covering a total area of 8496.44 sq.km. This bird has been included in the Schedule-1 of Wildlife Act 1972 and accordingly due protection has been given to this bird. The headquarters of the Sanctuary are Nannaj of Solapur District and Rehekuri of Ahmednagar District. The area of the Sanctuary is being reorganized in an effort to effectively protect the species. Studies using ringing GPS based telemetry are on process.



Capparis decidua





European Roller *Coracias garrulus*



Toad



Scorpion

Flora

The main species are *Acacia leucophloea* (Hewar), *Acacia nilotica* sp. (Babul), *Bauhinia racemosa* (Apta), *Azadirachta indica* (Nim), *Dalbergia sissoo* (Sisoo), *Capparis decidua* (Mapti), *Cassia auriculata* (Tarwad), *Rhus mysurensis* (Amoni), *Alternanthera sessilis* (Kanchari).

Fauna

The Great Indian Bustard *Ardeotis nigriceps* is one of the rarest birds of Indian subcontinent. It is a large ground dwelling bird with a long neck and long bare legs and somewhat similar to a young Ostrich. Its standing height is more than a meter; wing span is 2.5 meters and weighs about 18 kg. It is an inhabitant of the open country having thorny bushes and tall grass interspersed with cultivation. It is omnivorous in diet mainly relying on grass, small shrubs, insects, rats, chana, groundnut, bajri etc. depending on the season. The male is deep sandy buff coloured. The crown of the head is black and crested. In the female which is smaller than the male, the head and neck are not pure white and the breast band is either rudimentary or absent. The male is polygamous. The female lays only single egg once in a year. Since these birds do not live in nests, the eggs are at risk of destruction from other animals.



Blackbuck Antelope *cervicapra*

Indian Gray Wolf
Canis lupus pallipes



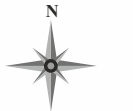
Montagu's Harrier
Circus pygargus



Lesser Florican *Sypheotides indicus*

How to reach :
By Air : Nearest airport Pune
By Rail : Solapur 25 kms.
By Road : 10 ksm. from offshoot on Solapur-Pune NH

GREAT INDIAN BUSTARD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Map not to the scale

