

The State of Manipur is very rich and colourful in terms of Avifauna diversity. Over 666 of the 1300 species of India Sub-Continent's birdlife are recorded in this small State of India having only 0.68% of the country's land area. Loktak Lake and its surrounding wetlands, being the combination of aquatic, terrestrial and wetland ecosystems provide shelters to various bird species. Every year, thousands of migratory waterbirds from far away places/countries visited the region during winter months.

Habitat loss due to rapid environmental degradation, climate change, rampant poaching and various unwanted human activities has tremendous impact on the avian fauna of the State. As a result, the existence of many significant and spectacular birds both migratory and endemic which are intricately associated with local mythology, literature, folklores, legends, etc. is seriously threatened. This is a grave challenge not only to the biological diversity but also to our cultural life.

As per the report of the BirdLife International Red Data Book, 55 bird species out of 666 identified species so far recorded in Manipur are of conservation concern. Out of 55 species:






- **4 are listed as Critically Endangered.**
- **8 are listed as Endangered.**
- **15 are listed as Vulnerable.**
- **The remaining 28 Near Threatened species are closed to qualifying as Threatened.**

Water bird Census 2018 reported 52 different bird species from 50 different spots including Toubul, Uchiwa, Tangjeng, kumbi Pat etc. Lesser whistling duck (partly resident bird) has been recorded as the highest number followed by Common Coot.

Every year there is a change in the population of birds found in and around the lakes of Manipur due to various reasons such as


- **Fshing using LED lights.**
- **Illegal hunting**
- **Poisoning and pollution**
- **Destruction and degradation of habitats etc.**

Winter migratory birds

Sl. no	Common name	Scientific name	Local Name	IUCN status	Distribution in Manipur	Images
1	Lesser whistling duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	Lam wa-tok, Lam i-tok, Tingi	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Jiribam, Imphal east and Imphal west	
2	Common coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Po-rom	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, and Imphal west.	
3	Greylag goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Ka-nga khong-wao	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal	
4	Wood sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Che-gai-bi na-rak-ta	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east and Imphal west	
5	Grey headed lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>	Sa-lang kak kokwao, Mang-khai-ral-veng (Mizo)	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, and Imphal west and Tamenglong.	

6	Northern pin tail	Anas acuta	Mei-tu-nga / lei-tunga	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east and Imphal west	
7	Common teal	Anas crecca	Su-rit / Lei-ngangcha-bi	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east and Imphal west	
8	Gadwall	Anas strepera	Thoi-ding-nam	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	
9	Eurasian wigeon	Anas Penelope	Thang-gong maan	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	
10	Northern shoveller	Anas clypeata	Nga-nu kha-ra	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	

11	Garganey	Anas querquedula	Su-rit a-ngou-bi	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	
12	Ruddy shelduck/ brahminy shelduck	Tadorna ferruginea	Nga-nu than-gong a-ngang-bi	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal East and Imphal west.	
13	White eye pochard/ ferruginous duck	Aythya nyroca	Ee-rup-pi mit-ngou	Near Threatened	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	
14	Northern lapwing	Vanellus vanellus	Sa-lang-kak sangda, Sa-lang-kak kok-tum	Near Threatened	Bishnupur, Thoubal and Imphal west.	
15	Common snipe	Gallinago gallinago	Chet phrang	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east and Imphal west	
16	Bar headed goose	Anser indicus	Kang-sel	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east and Imphal west	

17	Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucoc</i>	Che-gai-bi nai-tom-ta	Least concern	Bishnupur, Thoubal, Imphal east, Imphal west and Tamenglong	
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