Research Communication

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A STUDY ON CERTAIN BEHAVIOURAL ASPECTS OF BLUE THROATED BARBET (*PSILOPOGON ASIATICUS*) DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN IN SELECTED HABITAT OF COOCHBEHAR, WEST BENGAL

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In India lockdown started on 23rd March, 2020 due to pandemic situation of COVID-19 for the outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 at first for 18 days and then extended in phases with the imposition of strong restrictions for movement. By then lockdown was already there in several countries of the World. In all over the world peoples encountered with the situation like a house arrest. All the social, official, commercial and institutional activities were restricted and regimented for the people. During our walk at the Bungalow premises we have observed 35 species of birds. We have attracted toward Blue-throated Barbets (Psilopogon asiaticus) during our walk and documented the roosting, nesting, foraging behaviour of the Blue-throated Barbets. We have found great camouflage adaptation of Blue-throated Barbets and several times only bird call/ song helped us to sight the bird. We have recorded bird calls/songs and all the data related to sighting and audio were submitted to eBird platform. Spectrograms of audios were analyzed to decipher the bird call/song. Lockdown helped us to learn fundamental lessons of ornithology.