Brown-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa muttui*: a new record for Gujarat

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On 24 October 2007 Hans and Magda Sigg (Swiss birders), and the first author spotted a Brown-breasted Flycatcher in the groves of Pingleshwar temple (23°5′N 68°48′E), located on the southern coast of Kachchh, Gujarat (India).

The flycatcher had a white throat, brown breast-band, flesh-coloured legs, and yellow lower mandible, as described in Kazmierczak (2000). Photographs of the bird were sent to Bill Harvey, Uffe Sørensen, and Krys Kazmierczak, who confirmed the identification (pers. comm., November 2007). There appears to be no record of this species from Gujarat (Rasmussen 2005).

Maulik Varu later reported (24 October 2008) this species from Chaduva reserved forest in Kachchh, Gujarat, which is c. 60 km from Pingleshwar; participants of Bombay Natural History Society’s nature camp at Chaduva also spotted one on 19 December 2009. These records from Kachchh, besides being an addition to the avifauna of Gujarat state, greatly extend westward the known distribution of the Brown-breasted Flycatcher. In the absence of more and regular sightings, it would be prudent to suggest that the above sightings are of vagrant birds. However, birdwatchers need to be alert to the possibility of these birds occurring towards the west of their known migratory route in peninsular India.

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**References**

