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Cover: Muger Crocodile basking on the banks of Savitri River at Mahad in Maharashtra, India. © Utkarsha M. Chavan.



First sighting record of the Orange-breasted Green-Pigeon *Treron bicinctus* (Aves: Columbiformes: Columbidae) from Chittaranjan, West Bengal, India

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The Orange-breasted Green-Pigeon *Treron bicinctus* is a non-migratory bird species from the family Columbidae. This species favours evergreen and moist deciduous forest types, and it is gregarious, arboreal, and frugivorous, like all other green pigeons (Dave 2014) that forages silently and slowly on trees, usually in pairs or small groups (Tanty et al. 2018). According to Ali & Ripley (1981), it is a resident bird in India with normal seasonal local movements. It is distributed in northern India from eastern Uttarakhand to Assam valley, the lower part of southern Assam hills, Himalayan foothills, and adjacent plains. In peninsular India, it ranges from West Bengal, and Chota Nagpur, southward along the Eastern Ghats, also inhabiting the Western Ghats and associated hill ranges from Kerala northward through Karnataka to Goa. The bird has its global distribution in India, Myanmar, Thailand, Malay Peninsula, and South Vietnam. Its conspecifics are also present in Sri Lanka, Java, and Hainan (Ali & Ripley 1981). However, according to Grimmett et al. (2016), the bird is a resident species of Himalaya, hills of India and Sri Lanka and had a former range in Bangladesh.

First sighting record from Chittaranjan, West Bengal: In this paper, we report the first sighting record of

the Orange-breasted Green-pigeon in Chittaranjan (23.85849N & 86.92587E), West Bengal, India, with photographic evidence (Image 1). The bird was sighted on 13 March 2021, at about 1610 h, near the NCC camp on River Road in Chittaranjan. A flock of Orange-breasted Green-pigeons was perching and preening themselves on the upper canopy of the Kassod Tree *Senna siamea*. The river road of Chittaranjan is surrounded by dense vegetation on both sides. At first sight, the flock appeared to be of the commonly found Yellow-footed Green Pigeons. With the help of the photographs successfully captured, we noticed the presence of pale blue-grey nape and yellowish-green crown, yellowish-green underparts and the red feet. The male had an orange breast bordered above by a lilac band, and a grey colour in the central feathers of the tail was also observed in both sexes, which differentiated it from Yellow-footed Green Pigeons. Based on the description in Grimmett et al. (2016), the flock was recognised as Orange-breasted Green Pigeons *Treron bicinctus*.

Records from other Indian regions: Other Indian Records are from Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal (Allen et al. 1996), North Tripura (Choudhury 2010), West Tripura (Bhattacharjee et al. 2013), Bhubaneswar,

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Image 1. Orange-breasted Green-Pigeon *Treron bicinctus*. © Shahbaz Ahmed Khan

Odisha (Tanty et al. 2018), Rajaji National Park, Uttarakhand (Kaushik 2013), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (George & Lawrence, 2015), Goa (Baidya & Bhagat 2018), Sharavathy landscape, Karnataka (Barve & Warriar 2013), Gir National Park, Gujarat (Dave 2014), Shinoli village, Maharashtra (Hiragond & Gavade 2012), Point Calimere and Sriharikota (David et al. 2015), and Kasaragod District, Kerala (Rodrigues 2020).

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