

## Short Article

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## Important Record of Long-Billed Plover from Porbandar Coast, Saurashtra, India

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**Abstract:** This study documents an important record of the Long-billed Plover (*Charadrius placidus*) from the Porbandar coast, Saurashtra, Gujarat, India. Observed on 19 December 2007, the species was identified through distinct morphological characteristics differentiating it from similar plovers. Although known from parts of the Himalayas and neighboring regions, its occurrence along the western coast of India represents a rare vagrant record, contributing valuable data to regional avifaunal distribution and highlighting the ecological significance of coastal habitats.

**Keyword:** Long-billed Plover, *Charadrius placidus*, Porbandar coast, Gujarat, vagrant record, avifauna, coastal ecology

**Species authority:** - J. F. Grey, 1813

**Domain:** Eukaryote

**Genus:** - *Charadrius*

**Family:** - Charadriidae

**Order:** - Charadriiformes

**Class:** - Aves

**Phylum:** - Chordata

**Kingdom:** - Animalia

**Scientific name:** - *Charadrius placidus*

**Common name:** - Long-billed Plover

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## INTRODUCTION

Resident and breed – Tibet, North-East Asia, South-West China, West Arunachal, East, Central and North-West Afghanistan through Ladakh, Rupshu. During winter migration - Mekran coast (South-West Pakistan) to Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, Nepal, North Uttar to Assam (Assam valley), North, South-East Asia, Manipur, Lakshadweep, Maldives, Andaman and Nicobars, also recorded in, Delhi and other areas. Passage migrant through Nepal and North-West India.

At 8:15 AM, I was birding on 19-12-2007 at Porbandar coast, Saurashtra, India. I sighted and photographed small sized wader like resembling of Little ringed plover *C. Placidus* plover. It was large in size and differ in some plumage, has cylinder body, large black bill, blackish-brown crown, pale brown broad supercilium, yellow eye ring and iris, black pupil, white collar ring and throat, black band on collar, blackish-brown wing coverts, narrow white fringed dark grey tertial, white fringed long primary extend upto white tipped black tail, breast, lower breast, belly, vent, undertail white, pinkish yellow legs.



Bird has longer black bill, shorter in Common and Little plover, brownish ear coverts, black in Common and Little plover. Has black primary, brownish in Common and Little. Greyish tertial, lack in Common and Little, yellow eye ring, black in Common and Little. Diagnostic differences disconnect it and create a different and separate species, and recognise as a Long-billed plover. It accures in East Himalaya to West Himalaya. During winter migration, it is found in South-

West Pakistan, Makran coast, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal. Absent or not recorded in South-West, South-East India. Birds are still vagrant; it is first recorded from Western coast of Gujarat. Not a single record is available from Checklist of Birds of Gujarat 2004, 2014 and 2020.

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