Birds of Ladakh - A Checklist

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This checklist is based on my observation and my experience in field of forestry and wildlife for a period of more than two decades and also reference of notes and literatures of different times. As a field forester I have been closely associated with this field, it was therefore possible for me to corelate variation in the population of endemic and migratory birds over the period of time. Status shown against each bird is based on my observation in the field over the period of last 20 years.

This checklist includes all the birds, which either breed in or visit regularly in Ladakh region in general and Changthang in particular. This is the largest and latest checklist on birds of Ladakh

Sighted in, English Name, Scientific Name, Status

Hanlay, Black-necked crane, *Grus nigricollis*, R
--------, Demoiselle crane, *Grus virgo*, R
--------, Siberian crane, *Grus leucogeranus*, R
Loma, Black stork, *Ciconia nigra*, C
Shey, Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta*, R
Dongti, Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea*, C
Rongo, Great Egret, *Casmerodius albus*, C
Phirri, Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*, C
-------, Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, O
-------, Indian Pond-Heron Ardeola grayii, O
Shey, Little Bittern, *Ixobrychus minutus*, R
-------, Great Bittern, *Botaurus stellaris*, R
Phirri, Great Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo*, R
-------, Glossy Ibis, *Plegadis falcinellus*, R
Choglam, Ibisbill, *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*, R
Trisholtso, Common Coot, *Fulica atra*, C
-------, Spotted Crake, *Porzana porzana*, R
-------, Corn Crake, *Crex crex*, R
-------, Baillon's Crake, *Porzana pusilla*, O
Shey, Common Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus*, O
Trisholtso, Water Rail, *Rallus aquaticus*, R
-------, Pin-tailed Snipe, *Gallinago stenura*, C
-------, Solitary Snipe, *Gallinago solitaria*, C
Burma, Common Snipe, *Gallinago gallinago* , C
Hanlay, Black-winged Stilt, *Himantopus himantopus*, C
-------, Pied Avocet, *Recurvirostra avosetta*, R
Tsokar, Pacific Golden-Plover, *Pluvialis fulva*, C
-------, Grey Plover, *Pluvialia squatarola*, R
Dongti, Northen Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*, R
Tsokar, Greater Sand Plover, *Charadrius leschenaultii*, C
Kvong Tso, Lesser Sand Plover, *Charadrius mongolus*, C
Tsomoriri, Kentish Plover, *Charadrius alexandrinus*, R
Kherapulu, Common Ringed Plover, *Charadrius hiaticula*, C
-------, Siberian Accentor, *Prunella montanella*, O
-------, Black-throated Accentor, *Prunella atrogularis*, O
Chushot, Eastern Great Rosefinch, *Carpodacus rubicilloides*, C
-------, White-browed Rosefinch, *Carpodacus thura*, R
Hanlay, Common Rosefinch, *Carpodacus erythrinus*, C
——, Red-mantled Rosefinch, *Carpodacus rhodochlamys*, R
-------, Eastern Great Rosefinch, *Carpodacus rubicilloides*
-------, Red-breasted Rosefinch, *Carpodacus puniceus*, R
-------, Mongolean Finch, *Bucanetes mongolicus*, O
Mahay, Brandt's Mountain-Finch, *Leucosticte brandti*, R
——, Hodgson's Mountain-Finch, *Leucosticte nemoricola*, R
-------, Eurasian Linnet, *Cardulis cannabina*, R

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Lah, European Goldfinch, *Carduelis carduelis*, R
Nyoma, European Goldfinch, *Carduelis carduelis*, R
Tangtise, Fire-fronted Serin, *Serinus pusillus*, C
Nidder, Serin, *Serinus serinus*, R
-------, Crimson-winged Finch, *Rhodopechys sanguinea*, O
Indus, Citrine Wagtail, *Motacilla citreola*, C
Indus, Grey Wagtail, *Motocilla cinerea*, R
Indus, White Wagtail, *Motocilla alba*, C
Indus, Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava*, C
-------, Forest Wagtail, *Dendronanthus indica*, R
-------, Red-throated Pipit, *Anthus cervinus*, R
Dongti, Water Pipit, *Anthus spinoletta*, C
-------, Olive-backed Pipit, *Anthus hodgsoni*, R
-------, Rosy Pipit, *Anthus roscatus*, R
-------, Tree Pipit, *Anthus trivialis*, R
Indus, Alpine Swift, *Tachymarptis melba*, C
Tangtse, Common Swift, *Apus apus*, C
-------, Fork-tailed Swift, *Apus pacificus*, C
-------, House Swift, *Apus affinis*, R
-------, Rosy Starling, *Sturnus roseus*, R
Nyoma, Common Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*, R
-------, Brahminy Starling, *Sturnus pagodarum*, O
-------, Spotless Starling, *Sturnus unicolor*, R
-------, Wallcreeper, *Tichodroma muraria*, C
Near Zingral, Plain Martin, *Riparia paludicola*, C
-------, Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*, R
-------, Eurasian Crag-Martin, *Hirundo rupestris*, R
-------, Sand Martin, *Riparia riparia*, R
-------, Wire-tailed Swallow, *Hirundo smithii*, R
-------, Red-rumped Swallow, *Hirundo daurica*, R
Choglam, Northern House-Martin, *Delichon urbica*, R
-------, Asian House-Martin, *Delichon dasypus*, R
Chushot, House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*, C
-------, Spainish Sparrow, *Passer hispaniolensis*, O
-------, White-rumped Snowfinch, *Pyrgilauda taczanewskii*, R
Changla, White-winged Snowfinch, *Montifringilla nivalis*, C
Tsoltak, Adam's Snowfinch, *Montifringilla adamsi*, C
Tsokar Thaksjay, Plain-backed Snowfinch, *Pyrgilauda blanfords*, R
-------, Blyth's Reed-Warbler, *Acrocephalus dumetorum*, R
——, Black-browed Reed Warbler, *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*, O
Lukung, Sedge Warbler, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, R

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Sighted In, English Name, Scientific Name, Status

Indus, Common Sandpiper, *Actitis hypoleucos*, C
Burma, Little Stint, *Calidris minuta*, R
-------, Ruddy Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*, R
Rongo, Temminck's Stint, *Calidris temminckii*, R
Tsokar, Curlew Sandpiper, *Calidris ferruginea*, C
-------, Red-necked Phalarope, *Phalaropus lobatus*, R
-------, Ruff, *Philomachus pugnax*, R
-------, Terek Sandpiper, *Xenus cinereus*, R
-------, Wood Sandpiper, *Tringa glareola*, R
Pugga, Green Sandpiper, *Tringa ochropus*, R
Shigul tso, Common Redshank, *Tringa totanus*, C
-------, Marsh Sandpiper, *Tringa stagnatilis*, C
-------, Spottd redshank, *Tringa erythropus*, R
-------, Black-tailed Godwit, *Limosa limosa*, R
-------, Whimbrel, *Numenius phaeopus*, R
-------, Eurasian Curlew, *Numenius arquata*, C
-------, Dunlin, *Calidris alpina*, R
Hanlay, Bar-Headed Goose, *Anser indicus*, R
Indus, Ruddy Shelduck, *Tadorna ferruginea*, C
Indus, Graylag Goose, *Anser anser*, O
Trishultso, Merganser, *Mergellus marganser*, C
Mahi Indus, Common Pochard, *Aythya ferina*, R
Indus, Redcrested Pochard, *Rhodonessa rufina*, C
Pholonglay, Gadwall, *Anas strepera*, C
Saepond, Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*, C
-------, Eurasian Wigeon, *Anas penelope*, R
Trishultso, Northern Shoveller, *Anas clypeata*, C
Indus, Northern Pintail, *Anas acuta*, R
Phologlay, Garganey, *Anas querquedula*, R
Pugga, Common Teal, *Anas crecca*, C
Nobra Tufted, Pochard, *Aythya fuligula*, C
Rongo, Brown-headed Gull, *Larus brunnicephalus*, C
Indus, Common Black-headed Gull, *Larus ridibundus*, C
Tsomoriri, Little Gull, *Larus minutus*, R
-------, Great Black-headed Gull, *Larus ichthyaetus*, R
-------, Heuglin's Gull, *Larus heuglini*, R
Tsokar, Arctic Tern, *Strena paradisaea*, R
Indus, Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*, C
Thoksjay, Whiskered Tern, *Childonias hybridus*, O
-------, White-winged Black Tern, *Childonias leucopterus*, O
Chibra , Great Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus*, C
Tsokar, Black-necked Grebe, *Podiceps nigricollis*, R
Tsomoriri, Little Grebe, *Tachybaptus ruficollis*, O
Liktsay Tokpo, White-throated Dipper, *Cinclus cinclus*, C
Tiri Phue, Brown Dipper, *Cinclus pallasii*, C
Taklangla, Bearded Vulture, *Gypaetus barbatus*, C
Gyaik Rong, Himalayan Griffon-Vulture, *Gyps himalayensis*, C
-------, Egyptian Vulture, *Neophron percnopterus*, O
-------, Golden Eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*, C
-------, Booted Eagle, *Hieraaetus pennatus*, O
-------, Steppe Eagle, *Aquila nipalensis*, O
Dungti, Long-legged Buzzard, *Buteo rufinus*, R
Akiki, Upland Buzzard, *Buteo hemilasius*, C
Thoksjay, Northern Goshawk, *Accpiter gentilis*, C
-------, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, *Accpiter nisus*, C
-------, Cinereous Vulture, *Aegypius monachus*, O
-------, Pallid Harrier, *Circus macrourus*, C
Sakti, Hen Harrier, *Circus cyaneus*, R
-------, Montagu's Harrier, *Circus pygargus*, R
-------, Eurasian Marsh Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus*, R

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Leh, Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus caeruleus*, O
-------, Black Kite, *Milvus migrans*, O
-------, Red Kite, *Milvus milvus*, R
-------, Oriental Honey-Buzzard, *Pernis ptilorhyncus*, O
-------, Short-toed Snake-Eagle, *Circaetus gallicus*, O
Dognti, Pallas's Fish-Eagle, *Haliaaetus leucoryphus*, O
-------, Greater Spotted Eagle, *Aquila clanga*, R
Tsoker, Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*, C
-------, Laggar Falcon, *Falco jugger*, R
-------, Saker Falcon, *Falco cherrug*, C
Thiksay, Northern Hobby, *Falco subbuteo*, C
-------, Common Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus*, R
Tuchik, Marlin, *Falco columbarius* , C
Indus valley, Black-billed Magpie, *Pica pica*, C
-------, Yellow-billed Magpie, *Urocissa flavirostris*, O
Khalsi, Black headed Jay, *Garrulus lanceolatus*, R
-------, Eurasian Jay, *Garrulus glandarius*, R
Chushot, House Crow, *Corvus splendens*, C
-------, Carrion Crow, *Corvus corone*, O
Tsokar, Eurasian Jackdaw, *Corvus monedula*, R
-------, Large-billed Crow, *Corvus mecrorhynchos*, O
Kuzay, Eurasian Jackdaw, *Corvus monedula*, R
-------, Indian Roller,*Coracias benghalensis*, R
-------, European Roller, *Coracias garrulus*, O
Chuchot, Oriental Turtle-Dove, *Streptopelia orientalis*, C
Likir, European, Turtle Dove, *Streptopelia turtur*, C
Koyul, Rock Pigeon, *Columba livia*, C
Chushot, Hill Pigeon, *Columba rupestris*, C
Upshi, Snow Pigeon, *Columba leuconota*, R
-------, Yellow-eyed Pegion, *Columba eversmanni*, O
-------, Laughing Dove, *Streptopelia senegalensis*, R
-------, Spotted Dove, *Streptopelia chinensis*, R
-------, Red-collard Dove, *Streptopelia tranquebarica*, R
Chushot, Eurasian Collared-Dove, *Streptopelia decaocto*
Hanlay, Long-eared Owl, *Asio otus*, R
Chushot, Short-eared Ow, *Asio flammeus*, R
-------, Little owl, *Athene noctua*, C
-------, Eurasian Eagle-Owl, *Bubo bubo*, R
Koyul,Tibetan Owl, C
-------, Pied Cuckoo, *Clamator jacobinus*, O
Chushot, Common Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus*, C
Tangtse, Tibetan Snowcock, *Tetraogallus tibetanus*, R
-------, Snow Partridge, *Lerwa lerwa*, O
Timisgam, Chuko Partridge, *Alectoris chukar*, C
-------, Common Quail, *Coturnix coturnix*, C
-------, Rain Quail, *Coturnix coromandelica*, C
Raldong, Tibetan Partridge, *Perdix hodgsoniae*, O
Mahi, Black Drongo, *Dicrurus macrocercus*, O
Rumbak, European Bee-eater, *Merops apiaster*, R
Nyoma, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, *Merops persicus*, R
Chuchot, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, *Merops leschenaulti*, O
Indus, Common Hoopoe, *Upupa epops*, C
Indus, Little Tern, *Sterna albifrons*, R
-------, River Tern, *Sterna aurantia*, R
-------, Gull-billed Tern, *Gelochelidon nilotica*, R
——, Pheasant -tailed Jacana, *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*, R
-------, Collared Pratincole, *Glareola pratincola*, R
-------, Parasitic Jaeger, Stercorarius parasiticus, R
Tiri, Common Kingfisher, *Alcedeo atthis*, C
Chushot, Eurasian Golden Oriole, *Oriolus oriolus*, C

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Tsoltak, Himalyan Snowcock, *Tetraogallus himalayensis*, C
-------, Hume's Groundpecker, *Pseudopodoces humilis*, R
Khardongla, Yellow billed Cough, *Pyrrnocorax graculus*, C
Chushot, Red billed Cough, *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*, C
Anley, Pallid Scops-Owl, *Otus brucei*, O
Youru Rong, Golden Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger chrysaeus*, R
Kungyam, Grandala?, *Grandala coelicolor?*, ?
-------, Asian Koel, *Eudynamys scolopacea*, R
Hanlay, Tibetan Sandgrouse, *Syrrhaptes tibetanus*, C
-------, Eurasian Nightjar, *Caprimulgus europaeus*, R
-------, Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, R
-------, Red-backed Shrike, *Lanius collurio*, R
Nyoma, Rufous-tailed Shrike, *Lanius isabellinus*, O
-------, Grey-backed Shrike,*Lanius tephronotus*, O
-------, Lesser Grey Shrike, *Lanius minor*, R
-------, Long-tailed Shrike, *Lanius schach*, R
-------, Great Grey Shrike, *Lanius excubitor*, O
Choglam, Song Thrush, *Turdus philomelos*, C
Tiri, Blue Whistling-Thrush, *Myiophonus caeruleus*, R
-------, Rufous-tailed, Rock-Thrush, *Monticola saxatilis*, R
Kerri, Blue Rock-Thrush, *Monticola solitarius*, C
-------, Tickell's Thrush, *Turdus unicolor*, R
Nyoma, Eurasian Blackbird, *Turdus merula*, C
-------, Dark-throated Thrush, *Turdus ruficollis*, R
-------, Dusky Thrush, *Turdus naumanni*, R
-------, Scally-bellied Woodpecker, *Picus squamatus*, R
-------, Eurasian Wryneck, *Jynx torquilla*, O
-------, Spotted Flycatcher, *Muscicapa striata*, R
-------, Asian Brown Flycatcher, *Muscicapa dauurica*, R
-------, Dark-sided Flycatcher, *Muscicapa sibirica*, O
-------, Rusty-tailed Flycatcher, *Muscicapa ruficauda*, O
-------, Red-throated Flycatcher, *Ficedula parva*, R
Nyoma, Asian Paradise-Flycatcher, *Terpsiphone paradisi*, O
-------, White-tailed Rubythroat, *Luscinia pectoralis*, R
Chuchot, Bluethroat, *Luscinia svecica*, C
——, Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin, *Cercotrichas galactotes*, R
-------, Orange-flanked Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger cyanurus*, R
Tsoltak, Guldenstadt's Redstart, *Phoenicurus erythrogaster*, C
Dongti, White-capped Redstart, *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*, R
-------, Hodgson's Redstart, *Hodgsonius phaenicuroides*, R
Indus, Common Redstart, *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*, C
Chushot, Black Redstart, *Phoenicurus ochruros*, R
-------, Blue-fronted Redstart, *Phoenicurus frontalis*, R
-------, Little Forktail, *Enicurus scouleri*, O
Nyoma, Siberian Rubythroat, *Luscinia calliope*, O
Tikur, Desert Wheatear, *Oenanthe deserti*, C
Lamayuru, Pied Wheatear, *Oenanthe pleschanka*, R
-------, Common Stonechat, *Saxicola torquata*, R
-------, Isabelline Wheatear, *Oenanthe isabellina*, R
-------, Variable Wheatear, *Oenanthe picata*, R
-------, Hume's Wheatear, *Oenanthe alboniger*, R
-------, Streaked Laughingthrush, *Garrulax lineatus*, R
-------, Variegated Laughingthrush, *Garrulax variegatus*, R
-------, Rufous-breasted Accentor, *Prunella strophiata*, R
Nyoma, Robin Accentor, *Prunella rubeculoides*, C
-------, Brown Accentor, *Prunella fulvescens*, C
-------, Alpine Accentor, *Prunella collaris*, R
-------, Altai Accentor, *Prunella himalayana*, O
-------, Long-billed Bush-Warbler, *Bradypterus major*, R

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-------, Great Reed-Warbler, *Acrocaphallus arundinaceus*, R
-------, Stoliczka's Tit-Warbler, *Leptopoecile sophiae*, O
-------, Mountain Chifchaf, *Phylloscopus sindianus*, R
Chushot, Common Chiffchaff, *Phylloscopus collybita*, C
-------, Plain Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus neglectus*, C
-------, Buff-barred Warbler, *Phylloscopus pulcher*, R
-------, Sulphur-bellied Warbler, *Phylloscopus griseolus*, O
-------, Tickell's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus affinis*, O
-------, Dusky Warbler, *Phylloscopus fuscatus*, R
——, Western Crowned Warbler, *Phylloscopus occipitalis*, O
-------, Yellow-browed Warbler, *Phylloscopus inornatus*, R
Shayok, Greenish Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochiloides*, C
-------, Hume's Warbler, *Phylloscopus humei*, O
-------, Large-billed Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus magnirostris*, R
-------, Tytler's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus tytleri*, R
-------, Paddyfield Warbler, *Acrocephalus agricola*, R
-------, Bar-tailed Tree-Creeper, *Certhia himalayana*, R
-------, Rufous-naped Tit, *Parus rufonuchalis*, R
-------, Great Tit, *Parus major*, C
-------, Yellow-browed Tit, *Sylviparus modestus*, R
-------, Common Goldcrest, *Regulus regulus*, R
-------, White-crowned Penduline-Tit, *Remiz coronatus*, R
-------, Fire-capped Tit, *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*, R
-------, Garden Warbler, *Sylvia borin*, C
-------, Greater Whitethroat, *Sylvia communis*, R
-------, Lesser Whitethroat, *Sylvia curruca*, R
-------, Barred Warbler, *Sylvia nisoria*, R
-------, Hume's Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella acutirostis*, R
——, Greater Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella brachydactyla*, R
Chushote, Tibetan Lark, *Melanocorypha maxima*, R
-------, Bimaculated Lark, *Melanocorypha bimaculata*, R
-------, Greater Hoopoe-Lark, *Alaemon alaudipes*, C
Timisgam, Eastern Skylark, *Alauda gulgula*, C
Nyoma, Horned Lark, *Eremophilla alpestris*, C
-------, Asian Short-toed Lark, *Calandrella cheleensis*, C
Chushote, Crested Lark, *Galerida cristata*, C
-------, Brambling, *Fringilla montifringilla*, O
Nidder, Rock Bunting, *Emberiza cia*, C
-------, Yellowhammer, *Emberiza citrinella*, R
-------, Pine Bunting, *Emberiza laucocephalus*, R
-------, Grey-necked Bunting, *Emberiza buchanani*, R
-------, Chestnut Bunting, *Emberiza rutila*, R
-------, Ortolan Bunting, *Emberiza hortulana*, R
-------, Little Bunting, *Emberiza pusilla*, R
-------, Red-headed Bunting, *Emberiza bruniceps*, R
-------, Reed Bunting, *Emberiza schoeniclus*, R

Note: Status restricted to Ladakh region only; R - Rare; C - Common; O - Occasional