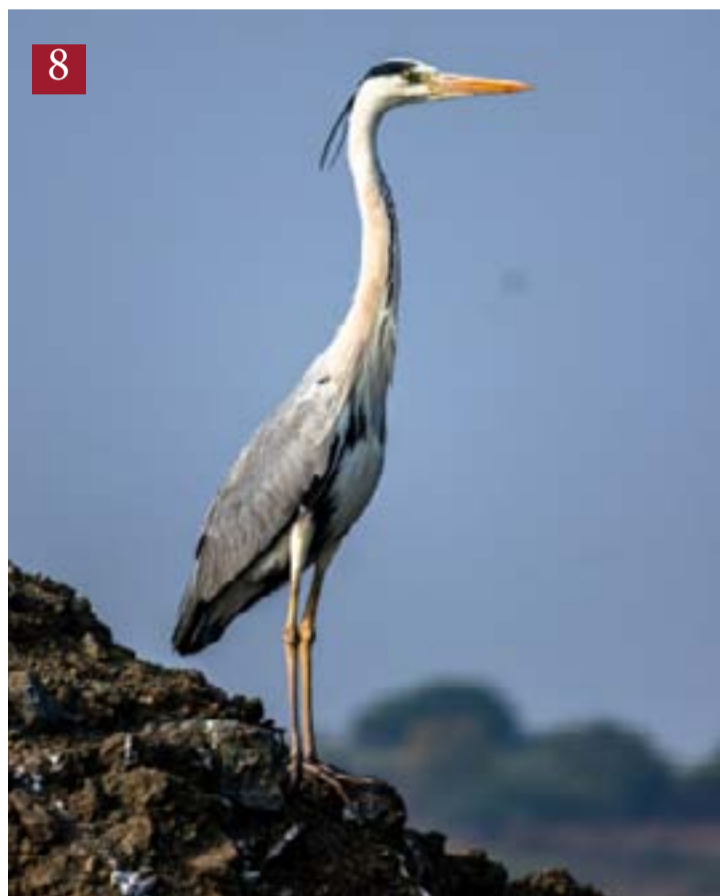
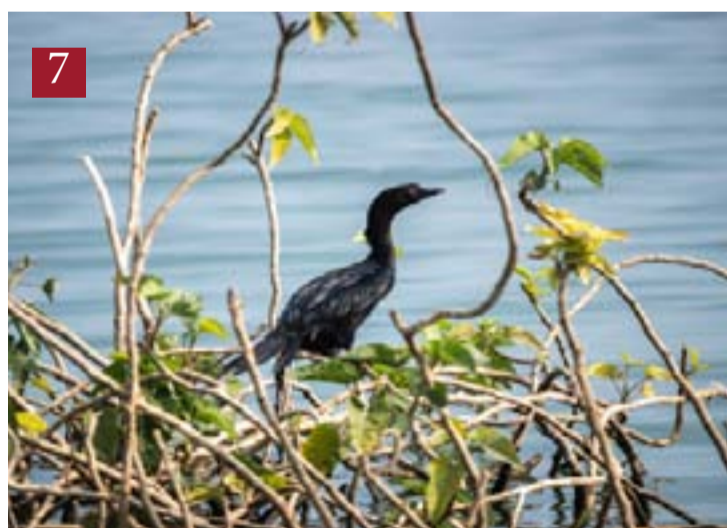


# The flamingos of Bhigwan



Apart from the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and the mud flats in Sewri in Mumbai, one of the few other places one can see migratory flamingos in India is Bhigwan, about a 100 kms from Pune. Situated near the backwaters of the Ujani dam, the village attracts bird-watchers and nature-lovers who take boat rides to spot the flamingos and ducks, herons, storks, egrets and other migratory water birds. Unfortunately, release of large volumes of water from the dam has inundated large marshy tracts in the backwaters and reduced the nesting grounds for these birds. The numbers of flamingos and other migratory birds arriving in Bhigwan is dwindling. **A PHOTO FEATURE BY APOORV MAHAJAN.**



1. Flamingos with bright pink stilted legs feed in the backwaters of the Ujani dam near Bhigwan.
2. Villagers ferry bird-watchers on boats to observe the flamingos.
3. A black-and-white Asian Openbill finds a clam to eat.
4. A Black Winged Stilt in shallow water.
5. An Indian Pond Heron finds a perch to hunt for food.
6. A lone seagull.
7. A Little Cormorant
8. A majestic looking Grey Heron

