

॥ ज्ञाने इति धर्मपदेष्ट ॥



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Birds Survey Report

Adichunchanagiri University

Fostering Biodiversity Assessment for Sustainability



A Symphony of Nature

Bird Survey at Adichunchanagiri University Unveils Biodiversity and Supports Sustainability Efforts

Nestled amidst the picturesque landscape of Javarana Hally in Karnataka, India, lies Adichunchanagiri University (ACU), a haven not just for knowledge seekers but also for a vibrant avian community. A recent bird survey conducted on Jun 14, 2024 by a **dedicated team of ornithologists and birding enthusiasts** comprising **Sri Harish N, Dr. Ashwatha K N, Sri Sunil Reddy, and Sri Puttegowda S V** has shed light on the remarkable biodiversity gracing the university campus.



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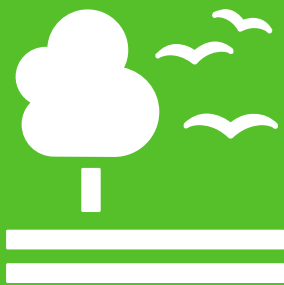


A Tapestry of Geography and Natural Beauty

ACU's location is a tapestry of geographical wonder. Rolling hills and serene water bodies paint a breathtaking backdrop for the university buildings. This unique ecosystem provides a perfect habitat for a diverse range of bird species. The presence of trees with varying heights and foliage densities creates microclimates that cater to the specific needs of different bird species.

Supporting Climate Change and SDGs

15 LIFE
ON LAND



Conducting bird surveys like the one undertaken at ACU is crucial for understanding the health of an ecosystem. Birds act as biological indicators, their presence or absence reflecting the overall environmental quality. By documenting the bird species on campus, researchers can assess the health of the local ecosystem and identify areas that might require conservation efforts. This survey contributes significantly to the fight against climate change and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Birds play a vital role in seed dispersal and pollination, both essential for maintaining healthy plant communities. Healthy plant communities, in turn, act as carbon sinks, absorbing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and mitigating climate change. By understanding the bird diversity at ACU, researchers can develop strategies to conserve bird populations, thereby promoting a healthy ecosystem that combats climate change.



In a recent bird survey conducted by a dedicated team of ornithologists and birding enthusiasts, a diverse array of 36 bird species were observed.

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (ಕೆಂಪು-ಕೊರಳಿನ ನೊಣಹಿಡುಕ)

Scientific Name: *Cyornis tickelliae*

Pale-billed Flowerpecker

Scientific Name: *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*

Spotted Dove

Scientific Name: *Spilopelia chinensis*

Laughing Dove (Little Brown Dove)

Scientific Name: *Spilopelia senegalensis*

Spot-breasted Fantail (White-spotted Fantail)

Scientific Name: *Rhipidura albogularis*

Little Swift (Indian House Swift) (ಸಣ್ಣ ಬಾನಾಡಿ)

Scientific Name: *Apus nipalensis*

Red-whiskered Bulbul

Scientific Name: *Pycnonotus jocosus*

Red-vented Bulbul (ಕೆಂಪು ಕಿಬ್ಬೊಟಿಯ ಪಿಕಳಾರ)

Scientific Name: *Pycnonotus cafer*

Jungle Myna

Scientific Name: *Acridotheres fuscus*

Common Myna (ಗೊರವಂಕ)

Scientific Name: *Acridotheres tristis*

Indian White-eye (Oriental White-eye) (ಬೆಳ್ಳಣ್ಣ)

Scientific Name: *Zosterops palpebrosus*

Indian Peafowl

Scientific Name: *Pavo cristatus*

Asian Koel (ಗಂಡು ಕೋಗಿಲೆ)

Scientific Name: *Eudynamis scolopaceus*

White-cheeked Barbet (ಸಣ್ಣ ಕುಟ್ಟ)

Scientific Name: *Psilopogon viridis*

Coppersmith Barbet

Scientific Name: *Psilopogon haemacephalus*

Greater Coucal (ಕೆಂಬೂತ, ರತ್ನ ಪಕ್ಷಿ)

Scientific Name: *Centropus sinensis*

Ashy Prinia

Scientific Name: *Prinia socialis*

Common Tailorbird (ಸಿಂಪಿಗ, ದರ್ಜಿ ಹಕ್ಕಿ)

Scientific Name: *Orthotomus sutorius*

Small Minivet (ಸಣ್ಣ ಚಿತ್ರಪಕ್ಷಿ)

Scientific Name: *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

Scaly-breasted Munia

Scientific Name: *Lonchura punctulata*

Cinereous Tit (Great Tit)

Scientific Name: *Parus cinereus*

Jerdon's Leafbird (ನೀಲಿ-ರೆಕ್ಕಿಯ ಎಲೆಹಕ್ಕಿ)

Scientific Name: *Chloropsis jerdoni*

Rose-ringed Parakeet

Scientific Name: *Psittacula krameri*

Asian Green Bee-eater (ಕಳ್ಳಿ ಪೀರ)

Scientific Name: *Merops orientalis*

White-browed Wagtail (ಬಿಳಿ ಹುಬ್ಬಿನ ಸಿಪಿಲೆ)

Scientific Name: *Motacilla maderaspatensis*

Black Kite

Scientific Name: *Milvus migrans*

Brahminy Kite (ಗರುಡ)

Scientific Name: *Haliastur indus*

Shikra

Scientific Name: *Accipiter badius*

Indian Pond-Heron (ಕೊಳದ ಬಕ)

Scientific Name: *Ardeola grayii*

Rock Pigeon (ಪಾರಿವಾಳ)

Scientific Name: *Columba livia*

White-throated Kingfisher (ಗದ್ದೆ ಮಿಂಚುಳ್ಳಿ)

Scientific Name: *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Common Kingfisher (Small Blue Kingfisher) (ನೀಲಿ ಮಿಂಚುಳ್ಳಿ)

Scientific Name: *Alcedo atthis*

Indian Grey Hornbill (Indian Grey Hornbill)

Scientific Name: *Ocyroceros birostris*

Large-billed Crow

Scientific Name: *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Yellow-billed Babbler (ಹಳದಿ ಕೊಕ್ಕಿನ ಹರಟೆಮಲ್ಲ)

Scientific Name: *Turdoides affinis*

Purple-rumped Sunbird (ಖಗರತ್ನ)

Scientific Name: *Leptocoma zeylonica*



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Yellow-billed Babbler

ಹಳದಿ ಕೊಕ್ಕಿನ ಹರಟೆಮಲ್ಲ



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White-browed Wagtail
ಬಿಳಿ ಹುಬ್ಬಿನ ಸಿಪಿಲೆ



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Rock Pigeon

ಪಾರಿವಾಳ



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Red-vented Bulbul
ಕೆಂಪು ಕಿಬ್ಬೊಟೆಯ ಪಿಕ್ಕಳಾರ



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Indian Pond-Heron

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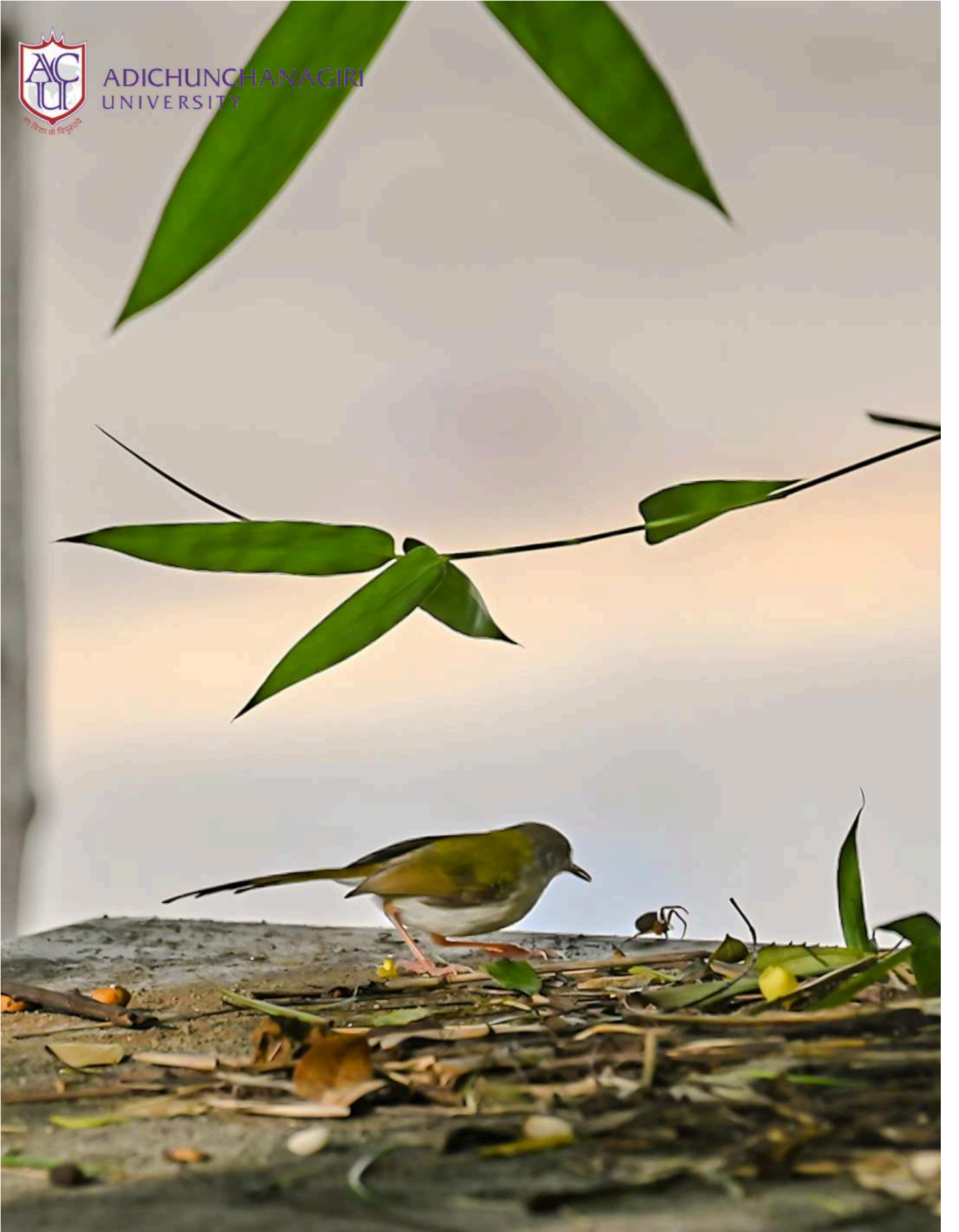


Little Swift (Indian House Swift)

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Common Tailorbird

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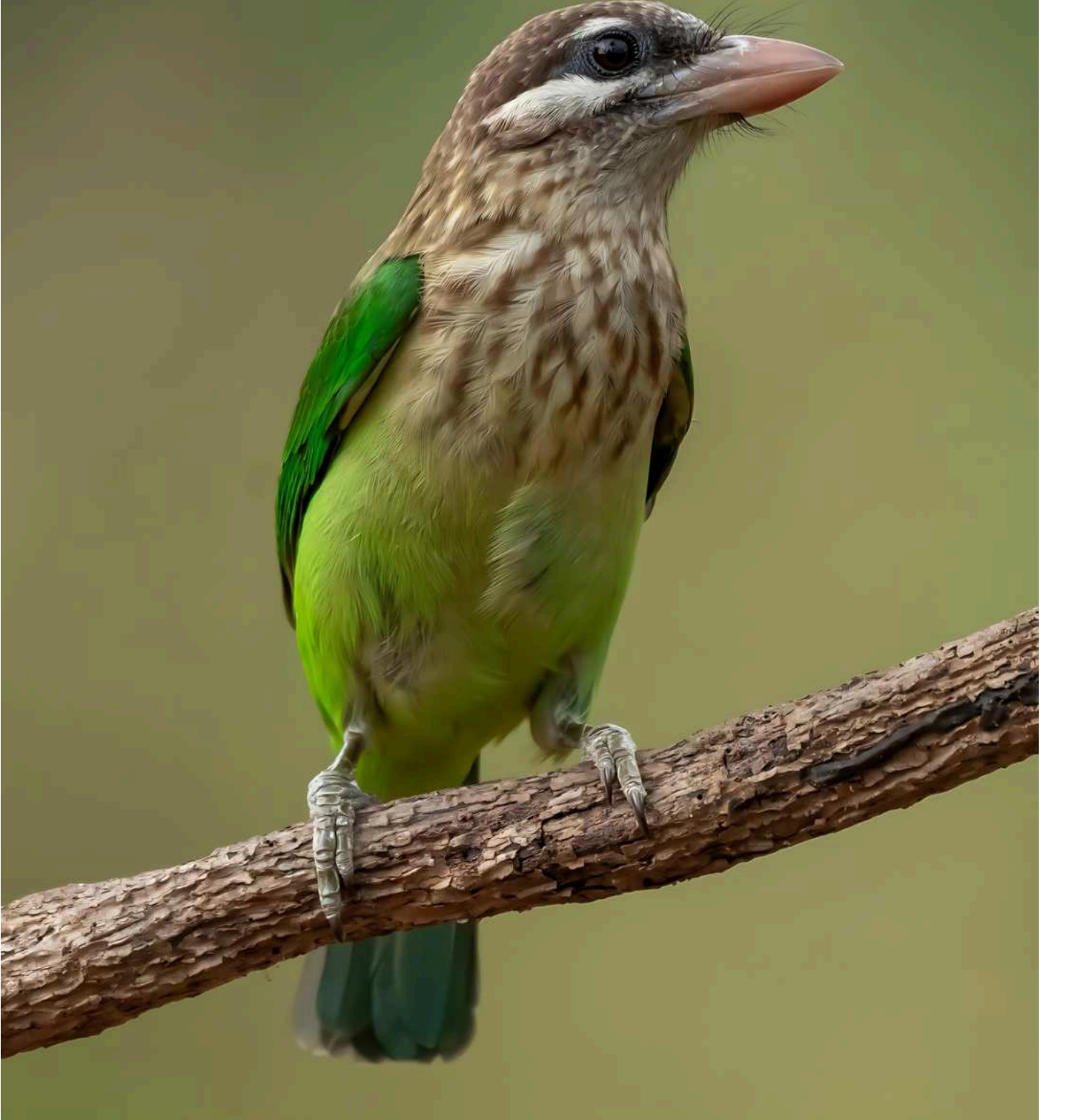


Common Myna

ಗೊರವಂಕ



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White-cheeked Barbet

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White-cheeked Barbet

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Brahminy Kite
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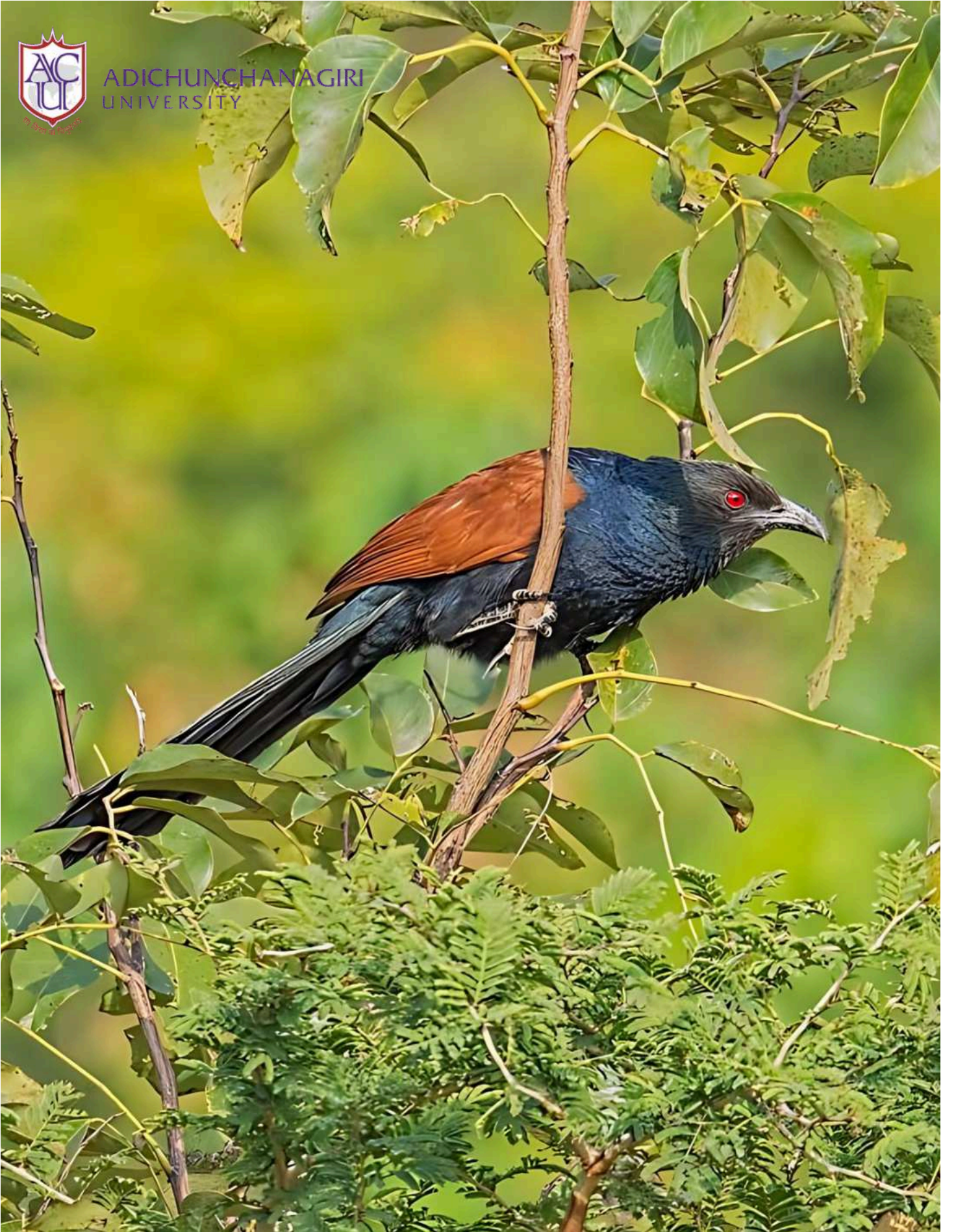
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Common Kingfisher
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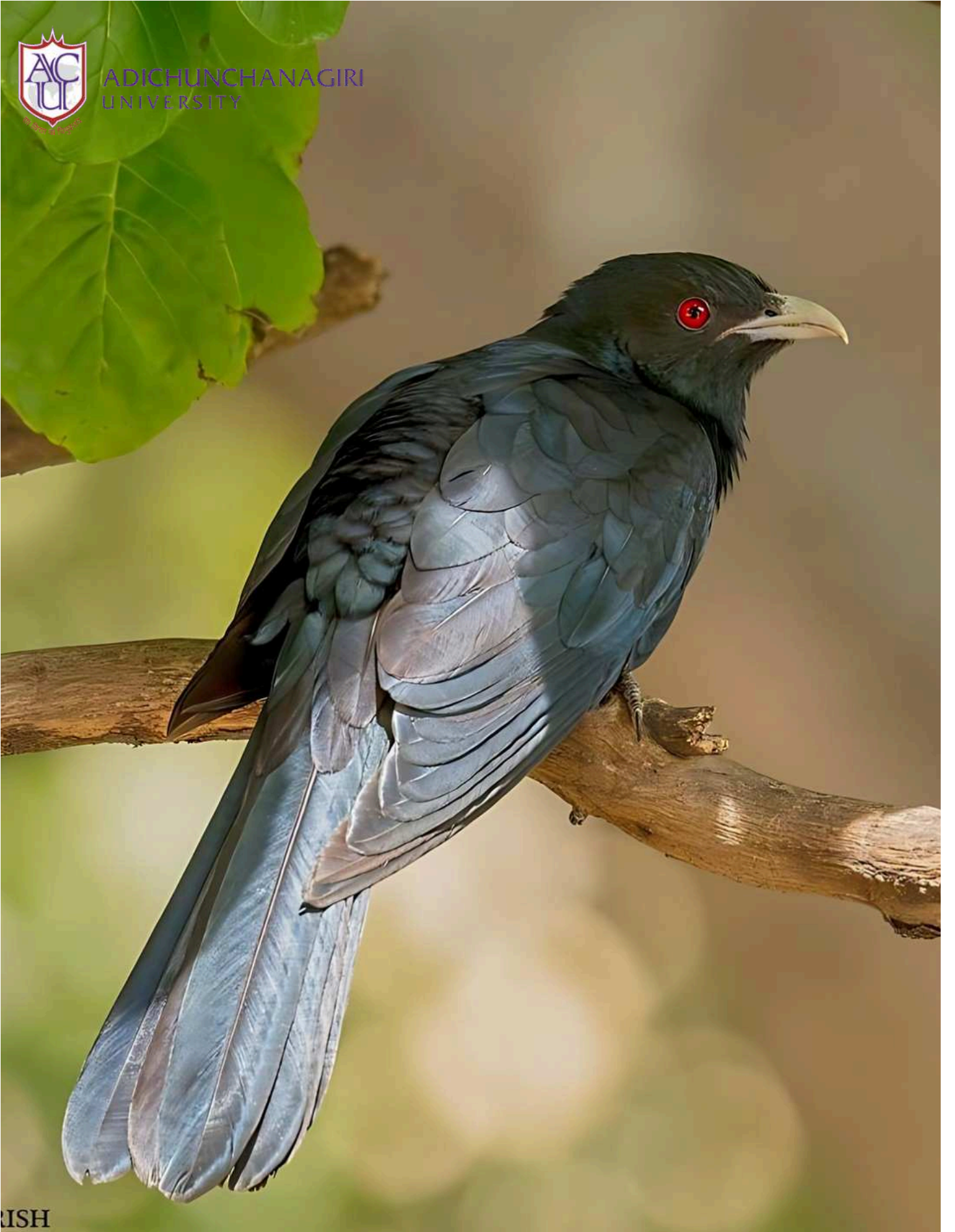
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Greater Coucal
ಕೆಂಬೂತ, ರತ್ನ ಪಕ್ಷಿ



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Asain Koel - Male

ಗಂಡು ಕೋಗಿಲೆ



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Asian Green Bee-eater

ಕಳ್ಳಿ ಪೀರ



Special Birds

Indian White-eye (Oriental White-eye), *Zosterops palpebrosus*

A small species of passerine bird in the white-eye family. They forage in small groups, feeding on nectar and small insects. They are easily identified by their distinctive white eye-ring and overall yellowish upperparts. Highly arboreal, they rarely descend to the ground. They pollinate flowers while visiting them for nectar and insects. The campus, with its thick tree cover and flowering plants, provides an ideal habitat for the species, supporting both the birds and the plants through pollination and insect control.

Small Minivet, *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

The smallest of the minivets, the male is more colorful than the female. This minivet catches insects in trees by flycatching or while perched. It forms small flocks and its call is a high, thin "swee swee." Often seen in small groups, they frequently utter their high-pitched call as they move around feeding on insects, sometimes catching them mid-air like flycatchers.

Jerdon's Leafbird, *Chloropsis jerdoni*

A species of leafbird found in forests and woodlands in India and Sri Lanka. Its name honors Thomas C. Jerdon. This species eats insects, fruit, and nectar. The call of Jerdon's leafbird is a rich mixture of imitations of the calls of various other bird species. They are very shy of water, only coming down to drink for short periods and quickly fleeing. Difficult to spot due to their green plumage blending into the canopy.

Purple-rumped Sunbird, *Leptocoma zeylonica*

A sunbird endemic to the Indian Subcontinent. Like other sunbirds, they are small in size, feeding mainly on nectar but sometimes taking insects, particularly when feeding young. They can hover for short durations but usually perch to lap nectar from flowers. Males are brightly colored while females are olive above and yellow to buff below. They pollinate the flowers of many plant species and may engage in dew-bathing or sliding over raindrops collected on large leaves.

White-throated Kingfisher, *Halcyon smyrnensis*

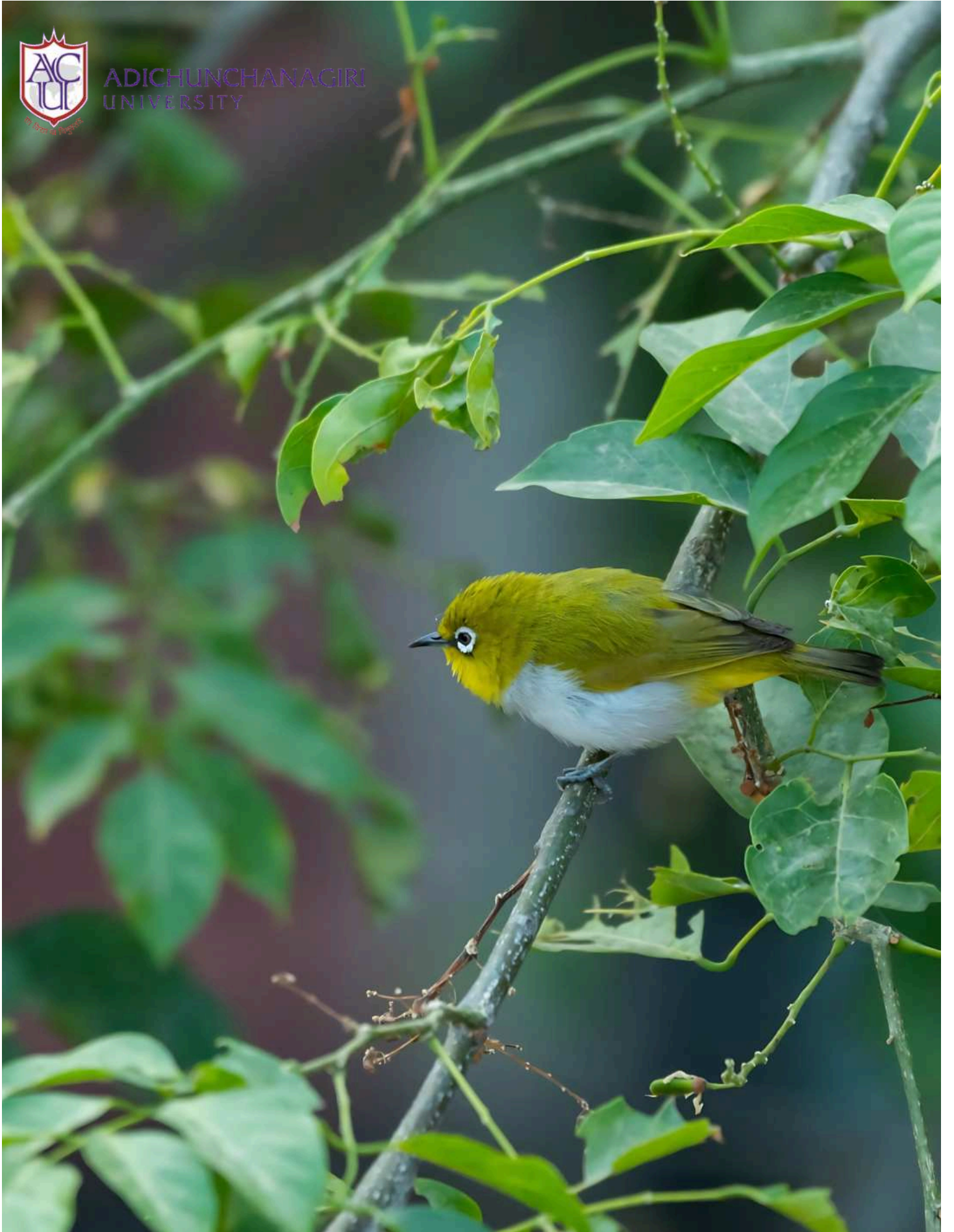
A tree kingfisher widely distributed in Asia, often found far from water. It feeds on a wide range of prey including insects, small reptiles, amphibians, crabs, small rodents, lizards, snakes, fish, and even birds. During the breeding season, they call loudly in the mornings from prominent perches, including the tops of buildings in urban areas or on wires.

Indian Gray Hornbill, *Ocyroceros birostris*

A common hornbill found on the Indian subcontinent, mostly arboreal and often sighted in pairs. It has grey feathers with a light grey or dull white belly. The horn is black or dark grey with a casque extending to the point of curvature. One of the few hornbill species found in urban areas, they utilize large trees in avenues. Although they are almost completely arboreal, they rarely descend to the ground to pick up fallen fruits, dust bathe, or gather mud pellets to seal the nest cavity during the nesting period.



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Indian White-eye (Oriental White-eye)

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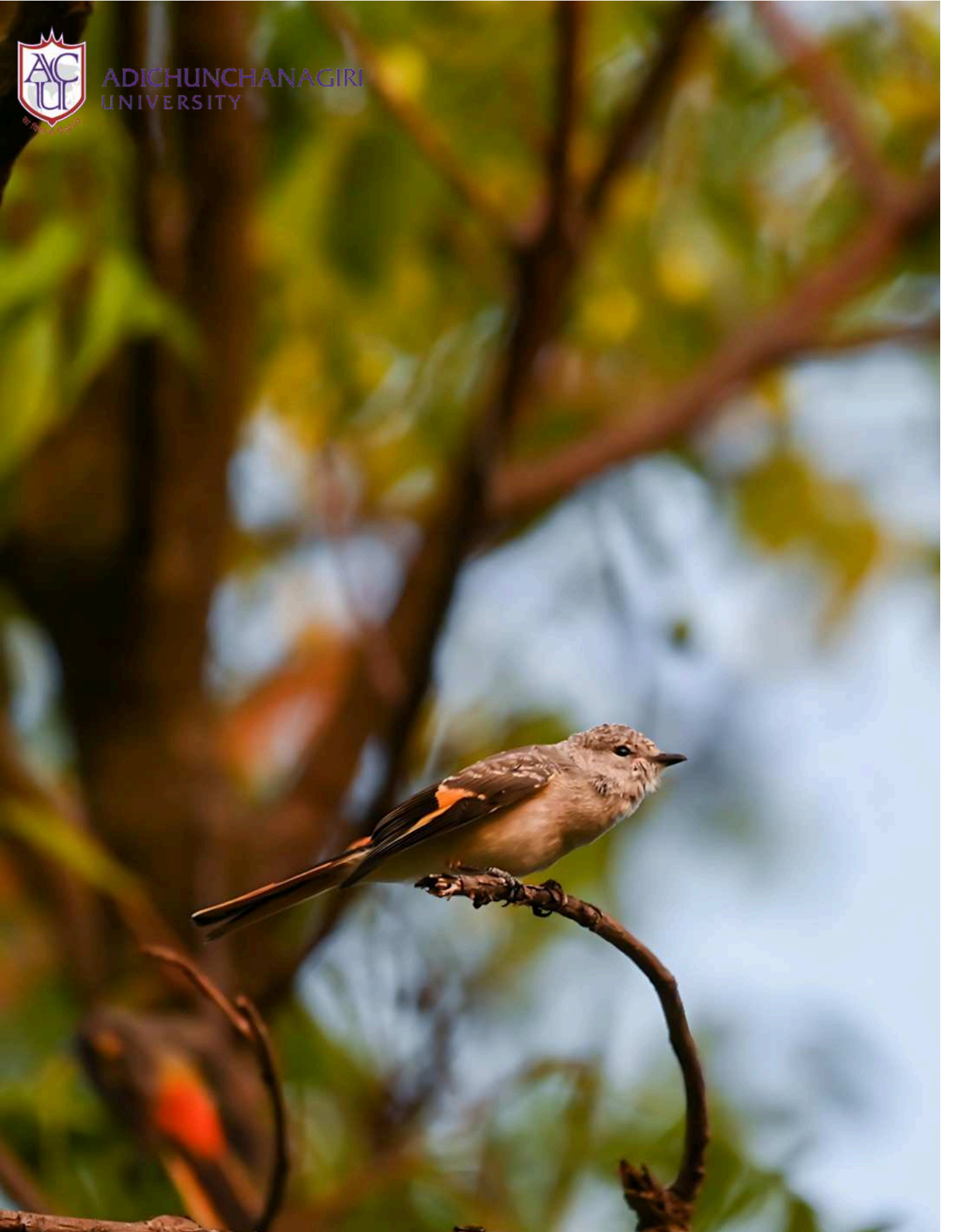


Small Minivet

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Small Minivet Juvenile

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White-throated Kingfisher
ಗದ್ದೆ ಮಿಂಚುಳ್ಳಿ



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Tickell's blue Flycatcher
ಕೆಂಪು-ಕೊರಳಿನ ನೊಣಹಿಡುಕ



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Tickell's blue Flycatcher
ಕೆಂಪು-ಕೊರಳಿನ ನೊಣಹಿಡುಕ



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Purple-rumped Sunbird

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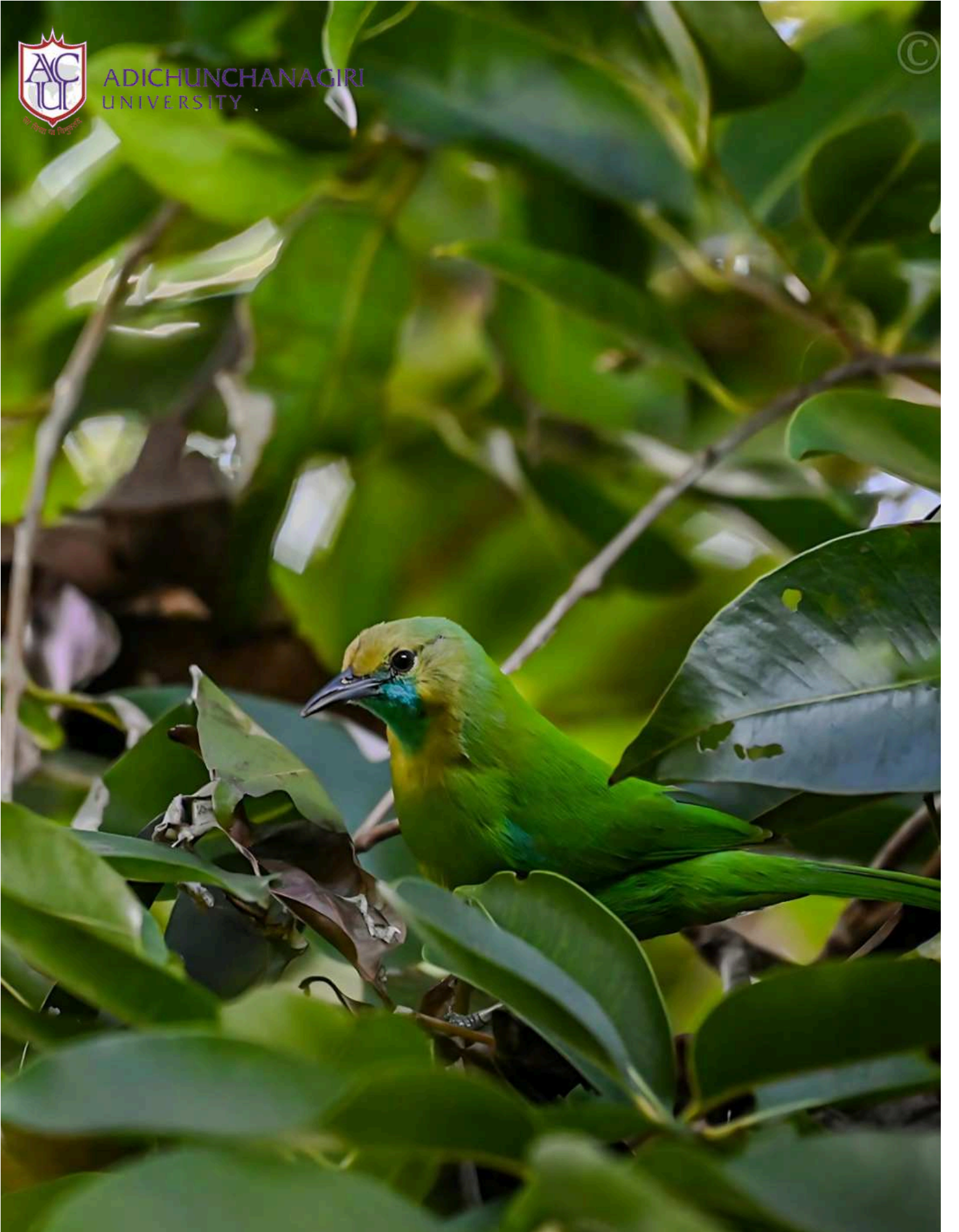


Purple-rumped Sunbird

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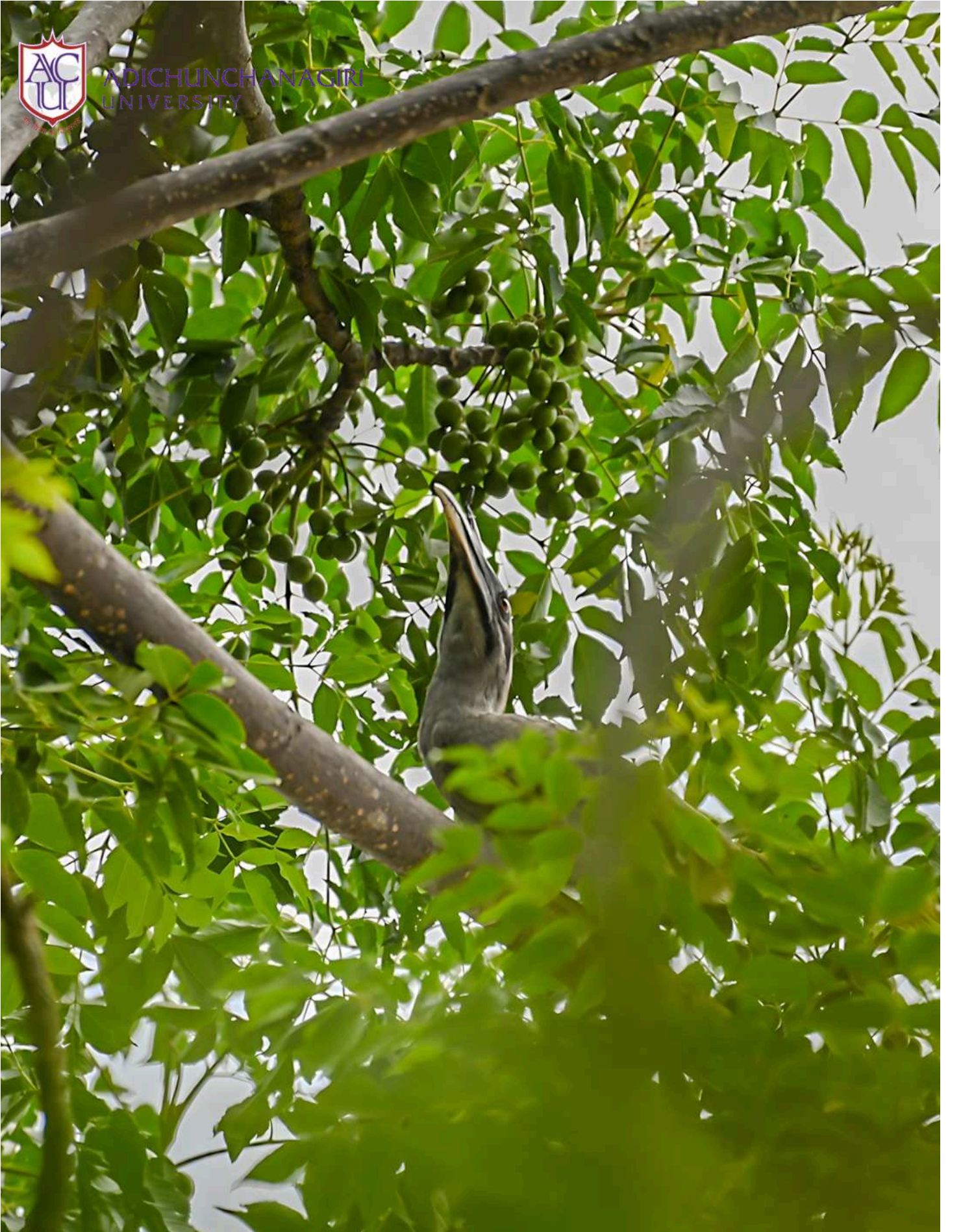
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Jerdon's Leafbird
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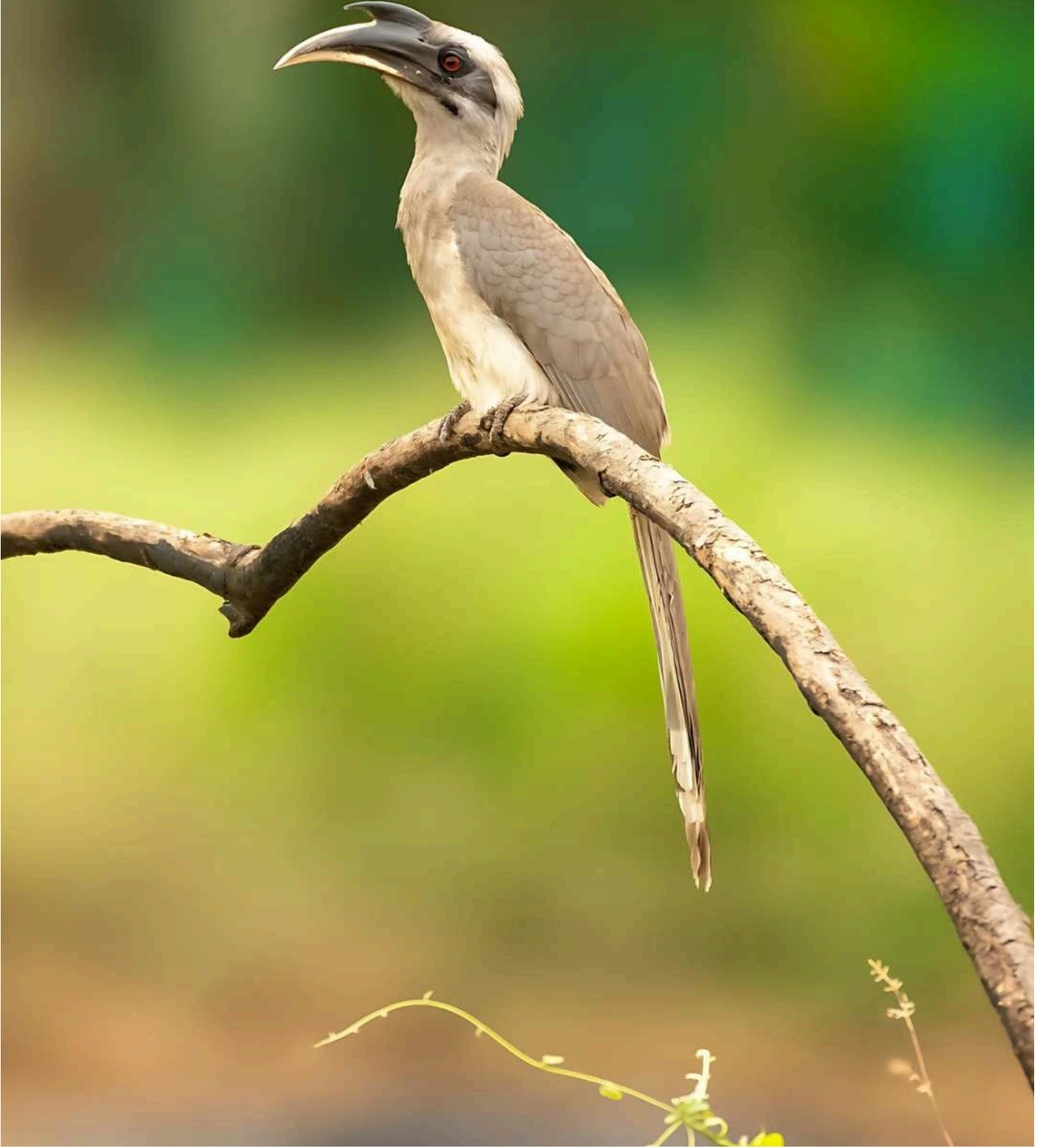
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Indian Grey Hornbill
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Indian Grey Hornbill
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“The 65-acre campus lies in a dry deciduous area, yet is very close to the Western Ghats of Karnataka. The campus features a diverse array of trees carefully chosen to support both flora and fauna, including various fig trees, flowering plants and trees, grass, vines, bamboo, and its own nursery, creating a layered and well-covered canopy and ground.

As a result, the diversity of bird species is thriving on the campus, from the early morning raga to the chirping and feeding flocks. Water pots placed under the trees across the campus cater to birds' afternoon bathing and thirst. The evening feeding frenzy and late evening roosting calls enhance the joy of birdwatching.

Fig trees attract birds like the Indian Grey Hornbill, White-cheeked Barbet, Coppersmith Barbet, and Asian Koel. Flowering trees and plants attract birds such as the Purple-rumped Sunbird, Indian White-eye, and Jerdon's Leafbird. Bamboo, bushes, and shrubs attract the Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Spot-breasted Fantail, and Common Tailorbird. Cherry, berries, and guava plants attract the Red-whiskered and Red-vented Bulbuls. The comprehensive tree cover attracts noisy birds like Yellow-billed Babblers and both Common and Jungle Mynas. Marshy and water areas attract Kingfishers, Pond Herons, and Black and Brahminy Kites. Predatory birds like the Shikra are also drawn to the campus, keeping the bird populations balanced.

This campus is a great place for any nature lover to spend time peacefully, listening to and watching the birds, bees, and insects.....”

Experts Testimony



Photo Courtesy:
Sri Harish N, Dr. Ashwatha K N, Sri Sunil Reddy,
and Sri Puttegowda S V