

A Glimpse of Ecological and Historical Components of Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Baran (Rajasthan)

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Abstract A visit to Shergarh is enough to transport you back in time. Stuck in some ancient time the town of Shergarh is an interesting collection of ruins, temples, havelis and a fort. The old stone inscriptions confirm the antiquity of the place. Situated on the banks of river Parban, the Sanctuary is famous for its panthers, crocodiles and mighty mahseer fishes.

Keywords Shergarh wildlife sanctuary, Historical value, Floristic components, Faunal diversity.

Introduction

Forests provide economic benefits, in terms of timber, climate control, pollution abatement and wildlife maintenance. The economic importance of nontimber forest products is also incredible. The thick humus

layer, loose soil and soil-retaining powers of the trees long roots, forests are vitally important for watershade. Forest provides shelter for wildlife, recreation and aesthetic renewal for people and irreplaceable supplies of oxygen and soil nutrients. Shergarh wildlife sanctuary is ecologically important as it forms a part of the largest viable forest tract among the fragmented forest belt of Rajasthan. The sanctuary possesses a true wilderness. The rugged terrain is stunningly picturesque in monsoon with soothing greenery. This sanctuary has also been incorporated in the proposed Rajeev Gandhi Biosphere Reserve and it has been identified as potential habitat for tiger coming from Ranthambhore National Park.

Study area

Baran is carved out of Kota city is situated further into the Hadoti region of Rajasthan. There are wooded hills and valleys that provide shelter to a large variety of wildlife of Rajasthan. District Baran contains 6955 km² geographical area ; 2239.32 km² forest area, 32.20 w.r.t. geo. Area % forest area and 0.22 ha. per capita forest area. Shergarh wildlife sanctuary with its head quarter at Badora, Tehsil Atru in district Baran of Rajasthan state lies between 24^o35' to 24^o45' North altitude and 70^o27' to 70^o35' east longitude. Area of the sanctuary is 98.80 sq km.

Materials and Methods

To demonstrate the historical background and study the floral and faunal diversity of Shergarh wildlife

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Table 1. Main floral species of Shergarh WLS.

| Sl. No. | Botanical name | Sl. No. | Sl. No. | Sl. No. |
|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | TREES | 20. <i>F. religiosa</i> | 43. <i>Wrightia tomentosa</i> | 62. <i>Asparagus racemosus</i> |
| 1. | <i>Acacia catechu</i> | 21. <i>F. racemosa</i> | 44. <i>Zyziphus mauritiana</i> | 63. <i>Clitoria tematea</i> |
| 2. | <i>A. leucophloea</i> | 22. <i>Grewia hirsuta</i> | | |
| 3. | <i>A. Senegal</i> | 23. <i>Holoptelia integrifolia</i> | SHRUB | 64. <i>Coccinia indica</i> |
| 4. | <i>Adina cordifolia</i> | 24. <i>Kydia calvcina</i> | 45. <i>Adhatods vasica</i> | 65. <i>Cocculus hirsuta</i> |
| 5. | <i>Aegle marmelos</i> | 25. <i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> | 46. <i>Agave americana</i> | 66. <i>Cucumis callosus</i> |
| 6. | <i>Albizia lebbeck</i> | 26. <i>Madhuca indica</i> | 47. <i>Calotropis</i> sp. | 67. <i>Cuscuta reflexa</i> |
| 7. | <i>Annona squamosa</i> | 27. <i>Mangifera indica</i> | 48. <i>Capparis</i> sp. | 68. <i>Discorea</i> sp. |
| 8. | <i>Anogeissus pendula</i> | 28. <i>Melia azadirachta</i> | 49. <i>Carissa conjesta</i> | 69. <i>Ipomea</i> sp. |
| 9. | <i>Anthocephalus</i> | 29. <i>Mitragyna parviflora</i> | 50. <i>Cassia occidentalis</i> | 70. <i>Luffa echinata</i> |
| 10. | <i>Bauhenia racemosa</i> | 30. <i>Moringa oleifera</i> | 51. <i>Dendrocalamus</i> sp. | 71. <i>Momordica</i> sp. |
| 11. | <i>Bombax ceiba</i> | 31. <i>Phoenix sylvestris</i> | 52. <i>Euphorbia nerifolia</i> | 72. <i>Mucuna</i> sp. |
| 12. | <i>Boswellia serrata</i> | 32. <i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> | 53. <i>Helicteres isora</i> | 73. <i>Passiflora edulis</i> |
| 13. | <i>Butea monosperma</i> | 33. <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> | 54. <i>Jatropha</i> sp. | 74. <i>Rhynchosia</i> sp. |
| 14. | <i>Cassia fistula</i> | 34. <i>Prosopis juliflora</i> | 55. <i>Leptadenia pyrotech</i> | 75. <i>Tinospora</i> sp. |
| 15. | <i>Cordia mixa</i> | 35. <i>Sterculia urens</i> | 56. <i>Nyctanthes</i> sp. | 76. <i>Trichosanthes</i> sp. |
| 16. | <i>Dalbergia sisso</i> | 36. <i>Syzygium cumini</i> | 57. <i>Ricinus communis</i> | |
| 17. | <i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> | 37. <i>Tamarindus indica</i> | 58. <i>Vitex nigundo</i> | HERBS |
| 18. | <i>Emblica officinalis</i> | 38. <i>Tecomella undulata</i> | 59. <i>Woodfordia</i> sp. | 77. <i>Abelmoschus</i> sp. |
| 19. | <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> | 39. <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> | 60. <i>Zyziphus numularia</i> | 78. <i>Abutilon indicum</i> |
| 82. | <i>Ammania baccifera</i> | 40. <i>T. bellarica</i> | | 79. <i>Acalypha</i> sp. |
| 83. | <i>Argemone mexicana</i> | 41. <i>T. bellarica</i> | CLIMERS | 80. <i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> |
| 84. | <i>Baccopa bipinnata</i> | 42. <i>T. bellarica</i> | 61. <i>Abrus precatorius</i> | 81. <i>Aloe vera</i> |
| 85. | <i>Borreria stricta</i> | 92. <i>Commelina</i> sp. | 102. <i>Indigofera</i> sp. | 112. <i>Seasamum</i> sp. |
| 86. | <i>Brassica nigra</i> | 93. <i>Corchorus</i> sp. | 103. <i>Justica repens</i> | 113. <i>Sida cordifolia</i> |
| 87. | <i>Cannabis sativa</i> | 94. <i>Crotolaria</i> sp. | 104. <i>Leucas</i> sp. | 114. <i>Solanum nigrum</i> |
| 88. | <i>Cassia</i> sp. | 95. <i>Cyperus</i> sp. | 105. <i>Lindenbergia indica</i> | 115. <i>Sphaeranthus indicus</i> |
| 89. | <i>Centella asiatica</i> | 96. <i>Desmodium</i> sp. | 106. <i>Ocimum canum</i> | 116. <i>Tephrosia</i> sp. |
| 90. | <i>Chenopodium album</i> | 97. <i>Echinopa echinatus</i> | 107. <i>Pyllanthus niruri</i> | 117. <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> |
| 91. | <i>Cleome viscosa</i> | 98. <i>Eclipta alba</i> | 108. <i>Physalis</i> sp. | 118. <i>Tridax procumbens</i> |
| | | 99. <i>Euphorbia</i> sp. | 109. <i>Portulacea</i> sp. | 119. <i>Urginea indica</i> |
| | | 100. <i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i> | 110. <i>Ruingia parviflora</i> | 120. <i>Xanthium strumarium</i> |
| | | 101. <i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> | 111. <i>Ruelia tuberosa</i> | |

sanctuary following methodology have been used [1].

Documentation of historical background

Intensive literature survey was conducted to report the chronological milieu. During field visits verbal conversation was done with local people for the dissemination of their traditional knowledge [2, 3].

Documentation of floral diversity

Identification of plants was done mostly with the help of Rajasthan Flora, relevant literature and by proper concerning of professional plant taxonomists [4, 5].

Documentation of mammalian fauna

Identification was done mostly with live specimens in the field itself but when it was not found possible then relevant field guide was used [6].

Documentation of avian fauna

Birds were identified using field guides [7].

Documentation of reptilian fauna

Snake species were explored in the field through pictures taken from high resolution cameras [8].

Table 2. Main faunal species of Shergarh WLS.

| Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name | Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mammalian fauna | | | | | |
| Herbivore fauna | | | | | |
| 1. | Spotted Deer | <i>Axix axis</i> | 8. | Indian Hedge Hog | <i>Hemiechinus auritus</i> |
| 2. | Sambar Deer | <i>Rusa unicolor</i> | 9. | Rhesus Macaque | <i>Maceaea mulatta</i> |
| 3. | Blue Bull | <i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i> | 10. | Hanuman Langoor | <i>Semnopithecus entellus</i> |
| 4. | Black Buck | <i>Antilope cervicapra</i> | 11. | Indian Mongoose | <i>Herpestes javanicus</i> |
| 5. | Chinkara | <i>Gazella bennettii</i> | 12. | Ruddy Mongoose | <i>Herpestes smithii</i> |
| 6. | Wild Boar | <i>Sus scrofa</i> | 13. | Five Stripped Squirrel | <i>Funambulus pennant</i> |
| 7. | Indian Hare | <i>Lepus nigricollis</i> | | | |
| Carnivore fauna | | | | | |
| 14. | Panther | <i>Panthera pardus</i> | 19. | Jungle Cat | <i>Felis chaus</i> |
| 15. | Indian Gerbil | <i>Tatera indica</i> | 20. | Small Indian Civet | <i>Viverricula indica</i> |
| 16. | Hyena | <i>Hyaena hyaena</i> | 21. | Asian Palm Civet | <i>Paradoxurus hermaphrodites</i> |
| 17. | Jackal | <i>Canis aureus indicus</i> | 22. | Honey Badger | <i>Mellivora capensis</i> |
| 18. | Indian Fox | <i>Vulpes bengalensis</i> | 23. | Indian Porcupine | <i>Hystrix indica</i> |
| Avian fauna | | | | | |
| 1. | Alexandrian Parakeet | <i>Psittacula eupatria</i> | 5. | Asian Koel | <i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i> |
| 2. | Ashy-Crowned Sparrow-Lark | <i>Eremopterix grisea</i> | 6. | Asian Palm Swift | <i>Cypsiurus balasinensis</i> |
| 3. | Asian Open Billed Stork | <i>Anastomus oscitanus</i> | 7. | Asian Pied Starling | <i>Sturnus contra</i> |
| 4. | Ashty Prinia | <i>Prinia socialis</i> | 8. | Bank Myna | <i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i> |
| 9. | Bar-Headed Goose | <i>Anser indicus</i> | 31. | Black-Shouldered Kite | <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> |
| 10. | Bay-Backed Shrike | <i>Lanius vittatus</i> | 32. | Black-Winged Stilt | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> |
| 11. | Black Headed/ White Ibis | <i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i> | 33. | Blue-Cheeked Bee-Eater | <i>Merops persicus</i> |
| 12. | Black Redstart | <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> | 34. | Brahminy Starling | <i>Sturnus pagodarum</i> |
| 13. | Black-Necked Stork | <i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i> | 35. | Bronze-winged Jacana | <i>Metopidius indicus</i> |
| 14. | Black-Tailed Godwit | <i>Limosa limosa</i> | 36. | Brown-Headed Gull | <i>Larus brunnecephalus</i> |
| 15. | Rock Pigeon | <i>Columba livia</i> | 37. | Citrine Wagtail | <i>Motacilla citreola</i> |
| 16. | Blue-Throat | <i>Luscinia svecica</i> | 38. | Common Babbler | <i>Turdoides caudatus</i> |
| 17. | Ruddy Shelduck | <i>Tadorna ferruginea</i> | 39. | Common Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> |
| 18. | Brown Shrike | <i>Lanius cristatus</i> | 40. | Common Hoopoe | <i>Upupa epops</i> |
| 19. | Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | 41. | Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> |
| 20. | Comb Duck | <i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i> | 42. | Common Pochard | <i>Aythya farina</i> |
| 21. | Common Chiffchaff | <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> | 43. | Common Redshank | <i>Tringa tetanus</i> |
| 22. | Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | 44. | Common Shelduck | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> |
| 23. | Common Kestrel | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> | 45. | Common Starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> |
| 24. | Common Myna | <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | 46. | Common Teal | <i>Anas crecca</i> |
| 25. | Asian Stonechat/ Siberian Stonechat | <i>Saxicola maurus</i> | 47. | Cotton Teal | <i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i> |
| 26. | Bar Tailed Godwit | <i>Limosa lapponica</i> | 48. | Darter or Snake Bird | <i>Anhinga melanogaster</i> |
| 27. | Baya Weaver | <i>Ploceus phillippinus</i> | 49. | Egyptian Vulture | <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> |
| 28. | Black Drongo | <i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i> | 50. | Eurasian Curlew | <i>Numenius arquata</i> |
| 29. | Black Kite | <i>Milvus Migrans</i> | 51. | Eurasian Wigeon | <i>Anas penelope</i> |
| 30. | Niglu Heron | <i>Nycticorax sp.</i> | 52. | Forest wagtail | <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i> |
| 53. | Garganey | <i>Anas querquedula</i> | 74. | Greater Coucal | <i>Centropus sinensis</i> |
| 54. | Great Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | 75. | Green Sandpiper | <i>Tringa ochropus</i> |

Table 2. Continued.

| Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name | Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name |
|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 55. | Great White/Rosy Pelican | <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> | 76. | Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> |
| 56. | Greater Flamingo | <i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> | 77. | Grey-Leg Goose | <i>Anser anser</i> |
| 57. | Grey Francolin | <i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i> | 78. | House/Little Swift | <i>Apus affinis</i> |
| 58. | Grey Shrike | <i>Lanius meridionalis</i> | 79. | Indian Grey Hornbill | <i>Ocyrceros birostris</i> |
| 59. | House Sparrow | <i>Paser domesticus</i> | 80. | Indian Pitta | <i>Pitta brachyura</i> |
| 60. | Red-nape Ibis | <i>Pseudibis papillosa</i> | 81. | Indian Pond-Heron | <i>Ardeola grayii</i> |
| 61. | Indian Peafowl | <i>Pavo cristatus</i> | 82. | Indian Rock Chat | <i>Cercomela fusca</i> |
| 62. | Common Sandpiper | <i>Tringa hypoleucos</i> | 83. | Indian silver bill | <i>Lonchura malabarica</i> |
| 63. | Common Snipe | <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> | 84. | Jungle Babbler | <i>Turdoides striatus</i> |
| 64. | Common Stone Chat | <i>Saxicola rubicola</i> | 85. | Lesser Golden-Backed Woodpecker | <i>Dinopium benghalens</i> |
| 65. | Copper Smith Barbet | <i>Megalamia haemacephala</i> | 86. | Lesser Whitethroat | <i>Sylvia curruca</i> |
| 66. | Crested Lark | <i>Galerida cristata</i> | 87. | Little Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax niger</i> |
| 67. | Desert Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe deserti</i> | 88. | Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> |
| 68. | Eurasian Collared Dove | <i>Streptopelia decaoctao</i> | 89. | Little Stint | <i>Calidris minuta</i> |
| 69. | Eurasian Spoonbill | <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> | 90. | Long-tailed Shrike | <i>Lanius schach</i> |
| 70. | Northern Wryneck | <i>Jynx torquilla</i> | 91. | Median Egret | <i>Mesophox intermedia</i> |
| 71. | Gadwall | <i>Anas strepera</i> | 92. | Northern Shoveler | <i>Anas clypeata</i> |
| 72. | Glossy Ibis | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> | 93. | Oriental Magpie-Robin | <i>Copsychus saularis</i> |
| 73. | Great Thick-Knee | <i>Esacus recurvirostris</i> | 94. | Painted Stork | <i>Mycteria leucocephala</i> |
| 95. | Pied Bush Chat | <i>Saxicola caprata</i> | 116. | Purple Sunbird | <i>Nectarinia asiatica</i> |
| 96. | Pied Tit | <i>Parus nuchalis</i> | 117. | Red-Crested Pochard | <i>Rhodonessa rufina</i> |
| 97. | Plain Prinia | <i>Prinia inornata</i> | 118. | Red-Wattled Lapwing | <i>Vanellus indicus</i> |
| 98. | Purple Heron | <i>Ardea pupurea</i> | 119. | Rose-Ringed Parakeet | <i>Psittacula krameri</i> |
| 99. | Indian Robin | <i>Sexicoloides fulicata</i> | 120. | Ruff | <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> |
| 100. | Indian Roller | <i>Coracias</i> | 121. | Sarus Crane | <i>Grus antigone</i> |
| 101. | Rufous Treepie | <i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i> | 122. | Small Bee-Eater | <i>Merops orientalis</i> |
| 102. | Large Egret | <i>Casmerodius albus</i> | 123. | Small Minivet | <i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i> |
| 103. | Lesser Whistling Duck | <i>Dendrocygna javanica</i> | 124. | Spotted Dove | <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> |
| 104. | Laughing Dove | <i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i> | 125. | Spotted Redshank | <i>Tringa erythropus</i> |
| 105. | Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | 126. | StreakThroated Swallow | <i>Hirundo fluvicola</i> |
| 106. | Little Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius dubius</i> | 127. | Temminck's Stint | <i>Calidris temminckii</i> |
| 107. | Indian Vulture | <i>Gyps indicus</i> | 128. | Marsh Harrier | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> |
| 108. | Marsh Sandpiper | <i>Tringa stagnatalis</i> | 129. | White Eared Bulbul | <i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i> |
| 109. | Northern Pintail | <i>Anas acuta</i> | 130. | White Wagtail | <i>Motacilla alba</i> |
| 110. | Oriental Honey-Buzzard | <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i> | 131. | White-Breasted | <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i> |
| 111. | Paddyfield Pipit | <i>Anthus rufiulus</i> | 132. | White-Browed Fantail Flycatcher | <i>Rhipidura aureola</i> |
| 112. | Pheasant-tailed Jacana | <i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i> | 133. | Wood Sandpiper | <i>Tringa glareola</i> |
| 113. | Pied Kingfisher | <i>Ceryle rudis</i> | 134. | Yellow-Legged Green-Pigeon | <i>Treron phoenicopterus</i> |
| 114. | Pied Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i> | 135. | Red Turtle Dove | <i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i> |
| 115. | Plum-Headed Parakeet | <i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i> | 136. | Red-Vented Bulbul | <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i> |
| 137. | River Tern | <i>Sterna aurantia</i> | 151. | Wire-Tailed Swallow | <i>Hirundo smithii</i> |
| 138. | Rosy Starling | <i>Sturnus roseus</i> | 152. | Yellow Bittern | <i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i> |
| 139. | Rufous-tailed Lark | <i>Ammomanes phoenicura</i> | 153. | Yellow-Throated Sparrow | <i>Petronia xanthocollis</i> |
| 140. | Shikra | <i>Accipiter Badius</i> | 154. | Yellow-Wattled Lapwing | <i>Vanellus malabaricus</i> |
| 141. | Common Kingfisher | <i>Alcedo atthis</i> | 155. | Spot billed Pelican | <i>Pelecanus philippensis</i> |
| 142. | Spot-Billed Duck | <i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i> | 156. | Black eared Kite | <i>Milvus migrans</i> |
| 143. | Spotted Owllet | <i>Athene brama</i> | 157. | Stork billed Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon capensis</i> |
| 144. | Steppe Eagle | <i>Aquila nipalensis</i> | 158. | Common tailorbird | <i>Orthotomus sutorius</i> |

Table 2. Continued.

| Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name | Sl. No. | Common name | Zoological name |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 145. | Striated Heron | <i>Butorides striatus</i> | 159. | Black headed bunting | <i>Emberiza melanocephala</i> |
| 146. | Tufted Pochard/Duck | <i>Aythya fuligula</i> | 160. | Sand Plover | <i>Charadrius mongolus</i> |
| 147. | Whiskered Tern | <i>Chlidonias hybridus</i> | 161. | Blue Rock Thrush | <i>Monticola solitarius</i> |
| 148. | White-Necked Stork | <i>Ciconia episcopus</i> | 162. | Grey headed canary flycatcher | <i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i> |
| 149. | White-Bellied Drongo | <i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i> | 163. | Black headed gull | <i>Larus ridibundus</i> |
| 150. | White-Breasted Water Hen | <i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i> | 164. | Purple Moorhen | <i>Porphyrio porphyria</i> |
| Reptilian fauna | | | | | |
| 1. | Common Krait | <i>Bungarus caeruleus</i> | 7. | Red Sand Boa | <i>Eryx johnii</i> |
| 2. | Cobra | <i>Naja naja</i> | 8. | Common Sand Boa | <i>Eryx conicus</i> |
| 3. | Rat Snake | <i>Ptyas mucosus</i> | 9. | Desert Monitor Lizard | <i>Varanus</i> sp. |
| 4. | Russell's Viper | <i>Daboia russelii</i> | 10. | Indian Garden Lizard | <i>Calotes</i> sp. |
| 5. | Saw-Scaled Viper | <i>Echis carinatus</i> | 11. | Indian Marsh Crocodile | <i>Crocodylus palustris</i> |
| 6. | Chequered Keel Back | <i>Xenochrophis piscator</i> | | | |

Results and Discussion

Historical attractions of Shergarh

The Shergarh fort

Shergarh is supposed to have been named after its capture by Shergarh of the Sur dynasty in course of his Malwa campaign. The ancient name of this town was Kosavardhana, the increaser of treasury. The Shergarh fort provides a unique combination of religious historical and wildlife sites within the close proximity.

Chandkheri Jain Temple (Khanpur)

In the close proximity of Shergarh sanctuary there is famous Chandkheri Temple which is revered by the Jain community all over the world. Historically following are as are very important in the study area.

Soorpa Khal

Deep gorge called Soorpa Khal spread around is a vast expanse of wilderness-undulating highland. The panorama comprises dense forest to scrubs-composition changing from place to place. It supports many wildlife species and is the abode of panther.

An earthen dam (Ancholy Dam)

Constructed near Badora village on the fringe of the sanctuary and it holds water round the year, which attracts innumerable bird species specially in winters.

Parvan river

Serene water of the Parvan river which bisects the sanctuary into unequal parts.

Parvan pick up weir

The ancient pick up weir constructed across the Parvan river near Shergarh village provides for an excellent boating facility in its back waters.

Floral diversity of shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary

The forest of the sanctuary is a mixed dry deciduous and dense. The canopy density being 0.4 to 0.8 [3] (Table 1).

Faunal diversity of Shergarh Wildlife Sanctuary

Principal species of various herbivores serves as prey base for carnivore fauna in the forest. After extinction of tiger in early eighties from this area this area has

the potential of hosting the panther which was reported here few years back (Table 2). Three categories of birds namely terrestrial, arboreal and aquatic are present in this sanctuary (Table 2). Various species of venomous and non-venomous snakes are commonly found in the forest. It also includes lizards and marsh crocodiles as members of Lacertilia (Table 2).

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