



IndianOil

Our

Winged

Neighbours

Paradip Refinery

...The Energy Gateway to Eastern India





Our Winged Neighbours

Preface

Welcome to 'Our Winged Neighbours,' a captivating coffee table book that unveils the enchanting world of avian birds, flora, and other fauna thriving amidst the technological wonders of Paradip Refinery. This book celebrates human resilience and its harmonious coexistence with nature.

Dedicated to the Nation on 7th Feb'16 by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi Ji, Paradip Refinery, of 15 MMTPA capacity, is the largest refinery on the eastern coast of India and stands as 'The Energy Gateway to Eastern India'. Once a barren land and now a sprawling 3344 acres of technological marvel, the Refinery has transformed the skyline of Paradip, Odisha.

Intertwined with this technology is a bursting natural habitat. 'Our Winged Neighbours' is an attempt at capturing the breath-taking flora and fauna through the lenses of passionate nature lovers and amateur wildlife photographers from within the Paradip Refinery family. These dedicated individuals have not only preserved the precious biodiversity surrounding us but have also infused this book with their unwavering affection for the natural world. We extend our special thanks to Mr. Deepankar Das for his significant contributions in making this coffee table book a reality.

It is our sincere hope that nature lovers and enthusiasts will accept and relish this book, recognizing the arduous work and profound commitment that went into creating it. The editorial team has taken utmost care in presenting accurate information within these pages. However, if any inadvertent errors are discovered, we welcome your feedback for future improvements.

This book is a humble endeavour to raise awareness and inspire the conservation of the natural green spaces encompassing Paradip Refinery. We extend our deep appreciation to all who directly or indirectly contributed to the realization of this publication.

Om Prakash
General Manager - I/c (HR)





PARADIP REFINERY

.....The Energy Gateway to Eastern India



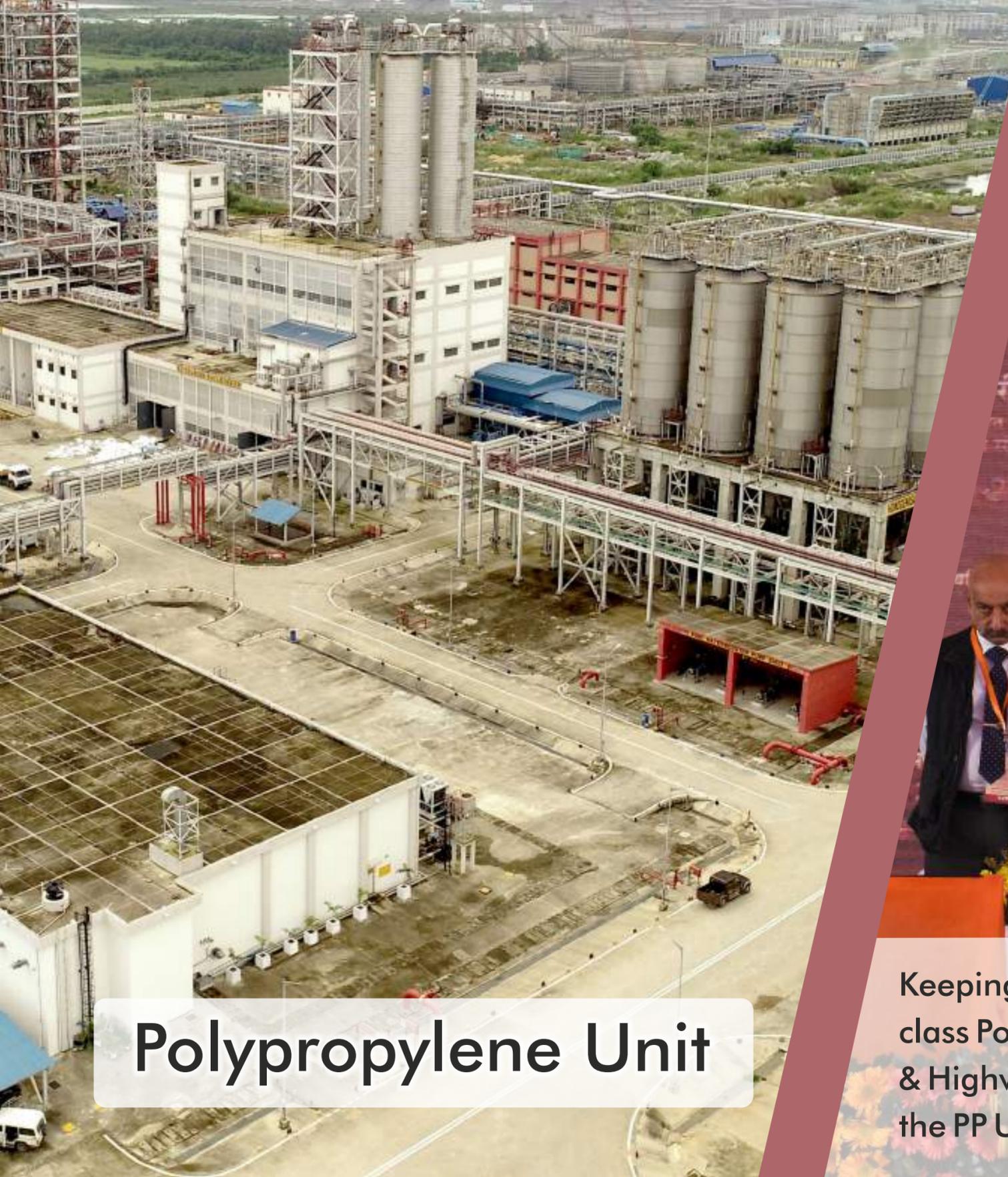


Foundation Stone of
Paradip Refinery
was laid by the
then Prime Minister,
Bharat Ratna
Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji
in the year 2000.



Paradip Refinery
- Dedicated to the Nation
on 7th February, 2016
by Honourable Prime Minister
Shri Narendra Modi Ji





Polypropylene Unit



Keeping in view the growing demand and projected growth in Petrochemical products, a world class Polypropylene Unit was commissioned. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Shipping & Water Resources River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation inaugurated the PP Unit on 6th February 2019.

Product Application and Development Center (PADDC)



Meeting the specific needs of customers, a state-of-the-art Product Application and Development Center set up at Paradip Refinery for formulation of new product grades of polymers as per market demand.



THE JOURNEY OF PARADIP REFINERY & PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX



2009
Dredging & Land Filling



2011
Piling Operation



2013
Construction Activities at Full Swing



2015
Refinery in Commissioning Phase



2016
Dedicated to Nation



2019
PP Unit- Foray into Petrochemicals



2023
MEG Unit – Expanding Petrochemical Footprint



Paradip Refinery & Petrochemical Complex

MAJOR PROCESSING UNITS OF PARADIP REFINERY



Atmospheric Vacuum Unit (AVU)



INDMAX Unit



Delayed Coker Unit (DCU)



Vacuum Gas Oil (VGO) Unit



Diesel Hydrotreater Unit (DHDT)



Hydrogen Generation Unit (HGU)



Alkylation Unit



NHT-CCR Unit



Sulphur Recovery Unit (SRU)

Petro Products despatch through Sea Route - South Oil Jetty (SOJ)



State-of-the-art South Oil Jetty at Paradip Port handles cargo parcel of all kind of petro products.



Hon'ble MoS(I/C), P&NG Flagging-off the first
dispatch of consignment of products from
Paradip Refinery



Avian Fauna





WHITE-THROATED KINGFISHER

Gracefully perched upon branches, the white-throated kingfisher, also known as the white-breasted kingfisher, presents a regal spectacle. Its elegant brown head and under parts complement its vibrant red bill, while its upper body and throat shimmer with a splendid turquoise blue hue. Surprisingly, this tree kingfisher thrives far away from water, where it hunts an extensive array of prey, including small reptiles, amphibians, crabs, and even small rodents.

Size in Length: Around 28 cm

Weight: 66–81 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

RED-VENTED BULBUL

Amidst lush foliage, the red-vented bulbul unveils its scaly brown plumage, adorned with a modest black crest atop its crown. A delicate white rump accentuates its charm, while its breast showcases intricate scaling or streaks of brown. The remaining under parts gleam with a pristine white, contrasting the vibrant vent. Nestled within bushes, these beautiful birds craft their homes, nurturing two or three precious eggs in a typical clutch.

Size in Length: 20 cm

Weight: 26-45 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

BLACK-HOODED ORIOLE

Radiating an aura of vibrant yellow, the black-hooded oriole bewitches all who gaze upon it. A folk tale from Bengal has it that an unfortunate girl of a merchant family was tortured by her mother-in-law. Troubled by various incidents she smeared herself with turmeric paste and covered herself with a sooty earthen pot and killed herself. A goddess resurrected her as a black hooded oriole and a Bengali name for the bird is “benebou” or merchant's wife while another name is “haldi pakhi” or turmeric bird.

Size in Length: 25 cm

Weight: 24-56 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

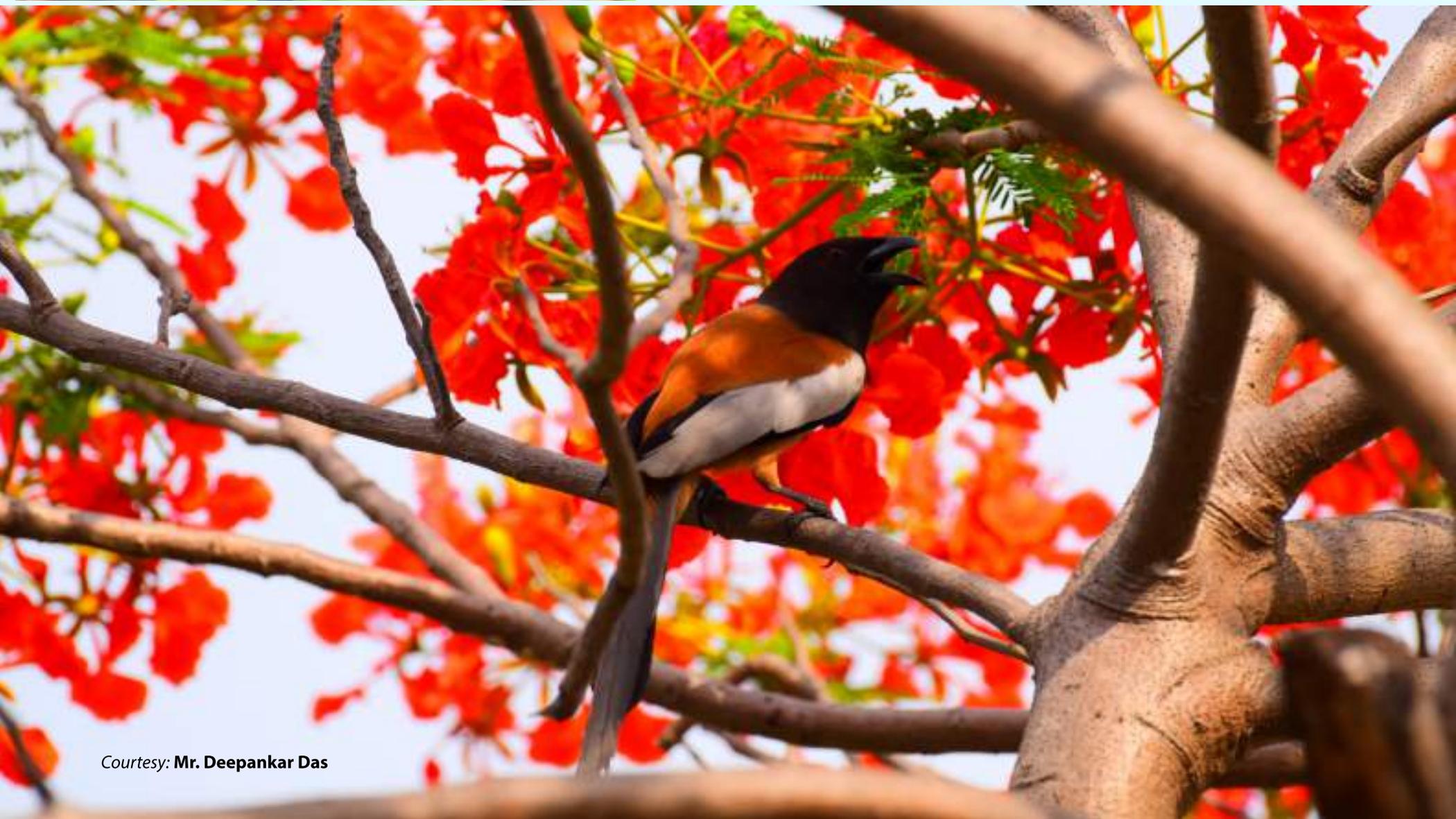
INDIAN OR RUFOUS TREEPIE

In the enchanting realm of the Indian Subcontinent and its neighboring parts in Southeast Asia, the rufous treepie reigns as a native marvel. A graceful member of the crow family, this agile scavenger commands attention with its striking black head and a neck and breast adorned in a deep slate-grey hue. Its long, mesmerizing tail adds an element of elegance to its charismatic presence. They are known to be a cleaning symbiont of deer, feeding on ectoparasites of sambar which permit them to perch and position themselves to invite the birds to examine specific parts. Sometimes found foraging with drongos and babblers.

Size in Length: 46 cm

Weight: 90 - 140 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



WESTERN SWAMPHEN

Known as the sultana bird, the Western Swamphen (Purple Swamphen) is a colorful bird with a dazzling plumage of green, blue and purple. The bill is red and extends to a shield on the forehead.

Size in Length: 45-50 cm

Weight: 770-850 g

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park



SPOTTED DOVE

Amongst the open forests, fields, and parks of Asia, the spotted dove graces the landscape with its presence. A common visitor to gardens, this endearing bird delights in its approachable and amiable nature. Brown overall with a rosy breast and a unique white-spotted black nape patch. Plumage shows slight regional variation: western birds have dark centers to wing feathers, lacking in eastern birds. Turtle-doves are larger, have black centers to wing feathers and stripes rather than spots on the neck. Coos loudly and often: "coo-a-roooo".

Size in Length: 28 – 32 cm

Weight: 162 - 200g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery



Courtesy: **Mr. Deepankar Das**



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



ORIENTAL MAGPIE (ROBIN)

In the realm of black and white splendor, the Oriental Magpie-Robin exudes an air of distinction. With its striking plumage, this charismatic bird effortlessly captivates all who behold it. Its elongated tail stands tall, proudly displayed as it forages on the ground or perches conspicuously. Its songs are very melodious and apart from their song, they use a range of calls including territorial calls, emergence and roosting calls, threat calls, submissive calls, begging calls and distress calls etc.

Size in Length: 23 cm

Weight: 36 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

INDIAN PIED MYNA

This sharply attired black-and-white starling has a pointed yellowish bill with an orange base. Mainly black upperparts with white belly and white rump noticeable in flight. Note the bare, deep orange patch around its eye that contrasts with its white cheek. Easternmost birds have a white, streaked forehead. Seen in loose flocks close to human habitation feeding on human refuse. Garbage dumps, damp grazing lands, and well-watered parks are its favoured haunts. Noisy with a variety of calls that includes mimicked sounds of other birds.

Size in Length: 21 – 23 cm

Weight: 72-82g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



YELLOW WAGTAIL

Gracefully adorned in shades of yellow and green, the Yellow Wagtail embodies elegance in its petite form. With a medium-length tail and slender black legs, this delightful bird spends much of its time gracefully walking or running on the ground. As its name implies, it wags its tail from time to time. The breeding adult male is basically olive upper-part and yellow under-part. In other plumages, the yellow gets diluted gradually to white. The heads of breeding males come in a variety of colours and patterns depending on the range it inhabits globally.

Size in Length: 15 – 17 cm

Weight: 17 - 24g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

BLACK DRONGO

Dressed in glossy black attire, the Black Drongo commands attention with its distinctive forked tail. Adults usually have a small white spot at the base of the gape. The iris is dark brown. The species is known for its aggressive behaviour towards much larger birds, such as crows, never hesitating to dive-bomb any bird of prey that invades its territory. This behavior earns it the informal name of king crow. Smaller birds often nest in the well-guarded vicinity of a nesting black drongo.

Size in Length: 28 cm

Weight: 14 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

BLACK-RUMPED FLAMEBACK

Resplendent in its typical woodpecker form, the black-rumped flameback captivates with its golden yellow wing coverts, casting a mesmerizing glow. Distinguished by its black rump, which sets it apart from the greater flameback, this avian beauty showcases white underparts embellished with dark chevron markings. The black throat finely marked with white immediately separates it from other golden backed woodpeckers in the Indian region. The head is whitish with a black nape and throat, and there is a greyish eye patch.

Size in Length: 26-29 cm

Weight: 86-133 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das





Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

MASKED FINFOOT

Within the pages of our coffee table book, the enchanting Masked Finfoot emerges as a highly endangered aquatic bird, once gracing the fresh and brackish wetlands of the eastern Indian subcontinent, Indochina, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Its presence was a symbol of harmony in these delicate ecosystems, but now it serves as a reminder of the urgent need for conservation efforts to protect its dwindling population.

Size in Length: 52-54.5 cm

Weight: 1.6-12.5 kg

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park



EURASIAN HOOPOE

Across Afro-Eurasia, the vibrant Eurasian Hoopoe captures hearts with its colorful plumage, while its distinctive "crown" of feathers sets it apart. These remarkable birds have been spotted braving high altitudes during their migratory journeys across the Himalayas. It is a solitary forager which typically feeds on the ground. While their pair bonds may endure for a single season, their territorial nature remains constant. Notably, the hoopoe holds the esteemed position of being the national bird of the State of Israel.

Size in Length: 31 cm

Weight: 46 - 89 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



INDIAN CORMORANT

With striking blue eyes and a small head crowned by a sloping forehead, the Indian Cormorant radiates a distinct allure. Its long narrow bill, culminating in a hooked tip, adds to its captivating features. They breed very locally in mixed species breeding colonies.

Size in Length: 51 cm

Weight: 2.6–3.7 kg

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

LITTLE GREBE

Dainty and agile, the Little Grebe, affectionately known as the dabchick, is a captivating member of the grebe family. As the smallest of water birds, it dons a pigmented pale brown body, beautifully contrasting with its pristine white posterior. It is an excellent swimmer and diver, and pursues fish and aquatic invertebrate prey underwater. It uses the vegetation skilfully as a hiding place. It nests at the edge of the water, since its legs are set very far back and it cannot walk properly.

Size in Length: 23-29 cm

Weight: 170 g

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park

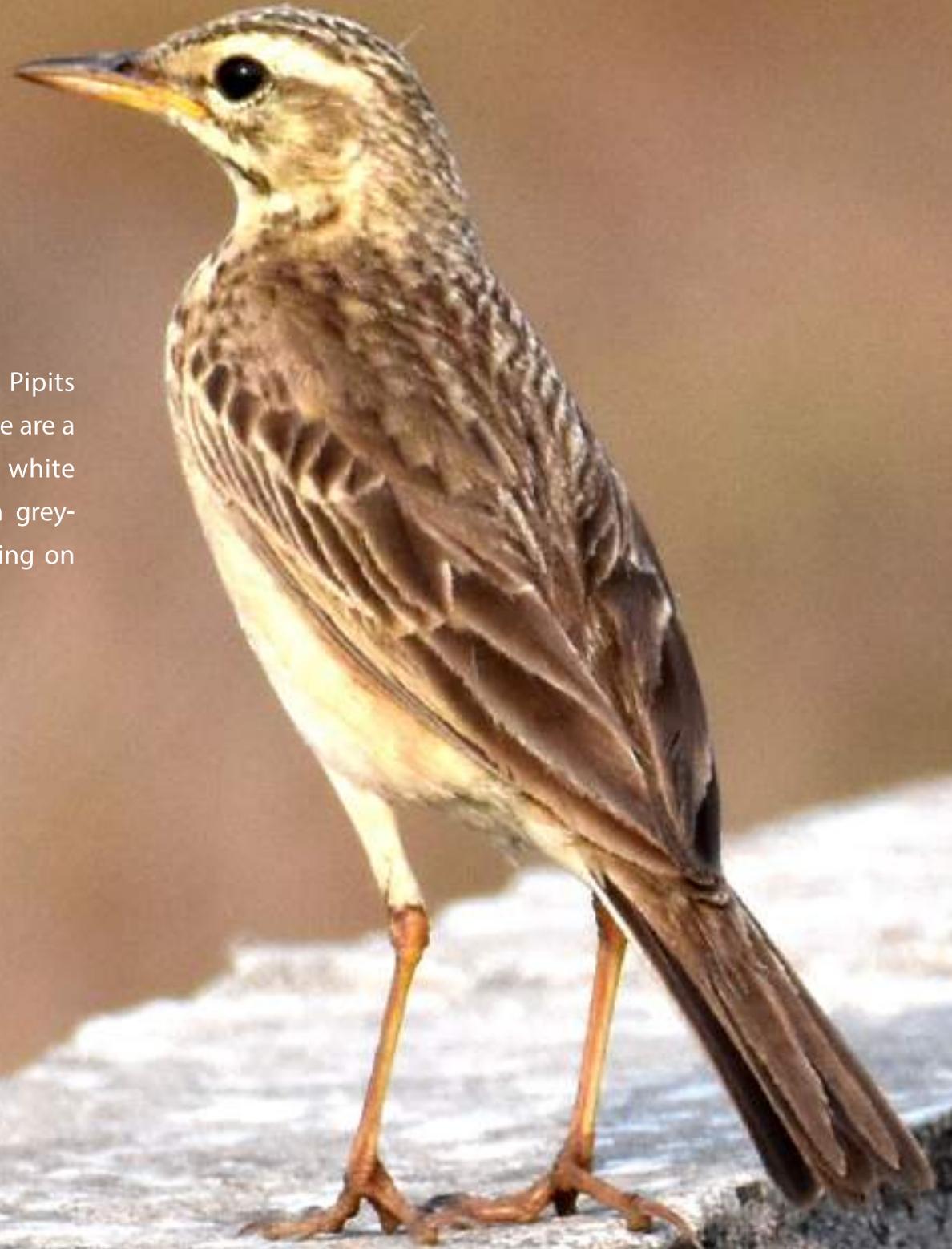
PIPIT

Monogamous and fiercely territorial, Pipits embody devotion and resilience. These are a small bird with slender bill long tail and white feathers on outlines. Body is streaked with grey-brown feathers on top side and pale streaking on breast. It is long legged with a long tail.

Size in Length: 15 cm

Weight: 15-40 g

Clicked at: Near Paradip Plastic Park





Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

YELLOW-WATTLED LAPWING

In the dry stony landscapes and open grasslands, the Yellow-wattled Lapwing stands out as a striking and unmistakable presence. Medium-sized and adorned in pale brown plumage, these waders exhibit a striking black crown that is neatly separated from the brown on the neck by a slender white band. Their distinct yellow facial wattles capture attention, while the black chin and throat harmonize with the narrow blackish line demarcating the brown neck and upper breast from the white belly. A subterminal black band graces their tail, while a white wingbar adorns the inner half of their wings. Notably, their yellow-based bill and tiny yellow carpal spurs add a touch of brilliance. While mostly sedentary, these remarkable lapwings embark on extensive seasonal journeys in response to the monsoons.

Size in Length: 26-28 cm

Weight: 100-200 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

GREAT EGRET

With its majestic presence, the Great Egret, known by various names such as the Common Egret, Large Egret, or Great White Egret, graces our coffee table book. This widely distributed egret captures attention with its impressive stature. Found across different regions, including Asia, Africa, the Americas, and southern Europe, this magnificent bird is gradually extending its reach into more northern areas of Europe.

Size in Length: 80 – 100 cm

Weight: 0.7 – 1.5 kg

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Khagen Kagyung



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

DOMESTIC GOOSE

Captivating in the appearance, domestic geese are kept by human for their meat, eggs, or down feathers. They have been derived through selective breeding from the wild greylag goose and swan goose.

Size in Length: 62 – 76 cm

Weight: 3.3 kg

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





JUNGLE BABBLER

In the enchanting forests and cultivated lands, generally Jungle Babbler are found. This species, like most babblers, is non-migratory, and has short rounded wings and a weak flight. These birds are gregarious and very social. They breed throughout the year, with peak breeding in northern India being noted between March–April and July–September.

Size in Length: Around 25 cm

Weight: 59–72 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

EURASIAN COOT

Also known as the common coot, or Australian coot, the Eurasian coot, is a member of the rail and crane bird family, the Rallidae. It is found in Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and parts of North Africa. It has a slaty-black body, a glossy black head and a white bill with a white frontal shield.

Size in Length: 36–38 cm

Weight: 720 g

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

ASIAN OPENBILL

In the stork family Ciconiidae, the Asian openbill or Asian openbill stork is a large wading bird. This distinctive stork is found mainly in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia.

Size in Length: 81 cm

Weight: 1.3–8.9 kg

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park



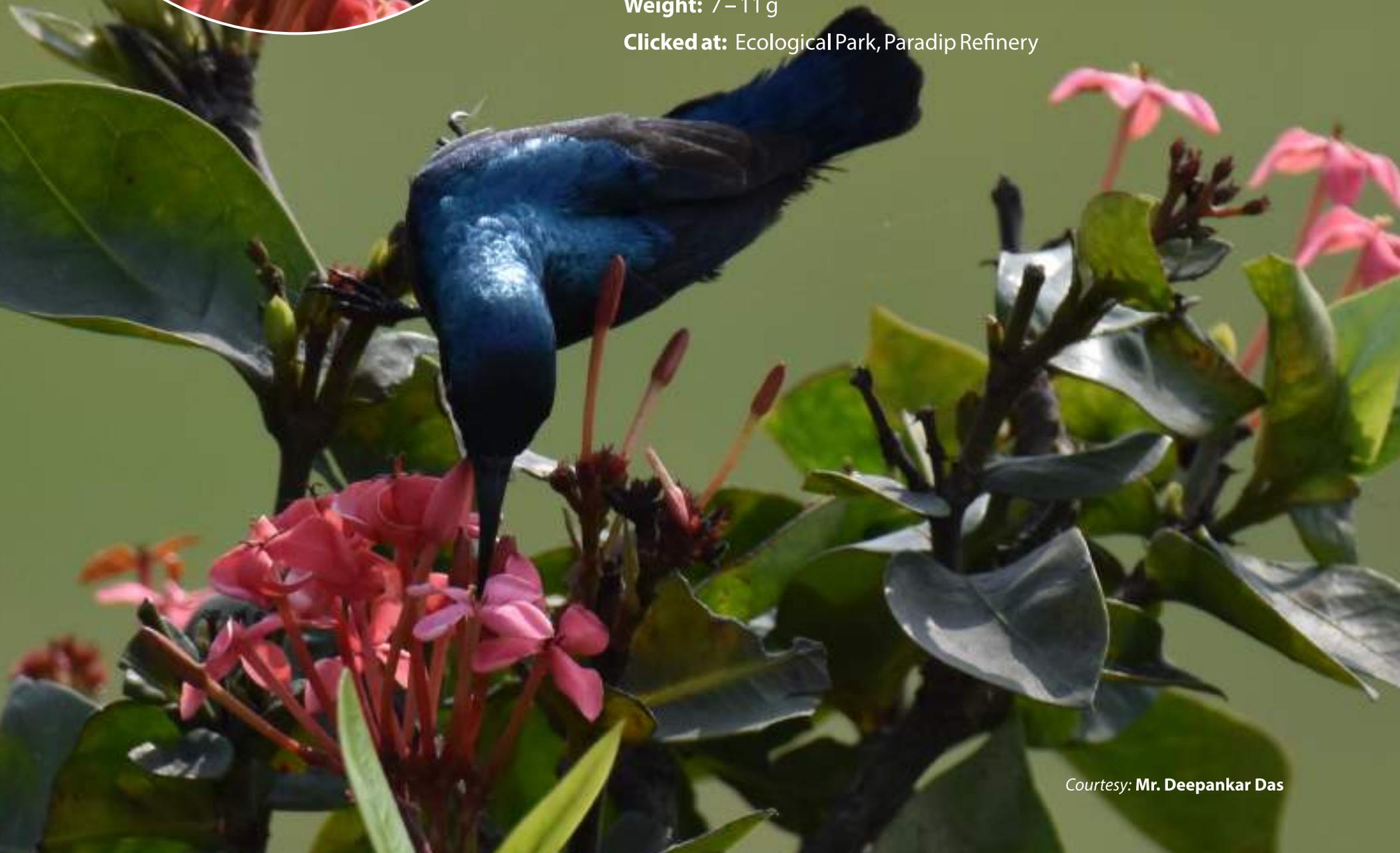
PURPLE SUNBIRD

With its vibrant plumage and demeanor, the Purple Sunbird takes flight within the pages of our coffee table book. The breeding male is a metallic blue and purple overall with maroon feathers on the breast. The female is olive above and yellow below. The nonbreeding male of this species is primarily olive-brown with blackish upperparts and yellow underparts with blue-black band running down the throat and chest. Females can be distinguished from female Purple-rumped Sunbirds by its yellow (not grayish) throat. Seen in pairs, feeding chiefly on nectar, but they also take insects. Breeding males display by fluttering their wings in front of females while singing. They are found in gardens, cultivated areas, and forests.

Size in Length: 10 cm

Weight: 7–11 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





RED-WATTLED LAPWING

Belonging to the family Charadriidae, the red-wattled lapwing is an Asian lapwing or large plover. Like other lapwings they are ground birds that are incapable of perching.

Size in Length: 30 - 35 cm

Weight: 175 - 185 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

RAINBOW BEE-EATER

A striking, colourful bird, the Rainbow Bee-eater is medium sized, with a long slim curved bill and a long tail with distinctive tail-streamers. It has a golden crown and a red eye set in a wide black stripe from the base of the bill to the ears, which is edged with a thin blue line. The throat is orange-yellow, with a broad black band separating it from a green breast. The Rainbow Bee-eater is most often found in open forests, woodlands and shrublands, and cleared areas, usually near water.

Size in Length: 23 – 28 cm

Weight: 20-23 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





ZITTING CISTICOLA

Distributed widely across southern Europe, Africa, and southern Asia to northern Australia, this Old World warbler delights with its melodic calls and graceful presence. The zitting cisticola is also known as streaked fantail warbler.

Size in Length: 10-12 cm

Weight: 6.8g

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park

LITTLE CORMORANT

Resembling an all-black duck, the Little Cormorant has a distinctive flattish head and a bill that is sharply hooked at the tip. Like all cormorants, frequently seen swimming with its body low in the water, head and neck pointing upward, and suddenly disappearing underwater to catch fish. Often perches upright on a rock, drying itself with outstretched wings. The little cormorant is found across India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan and lowland Nepal.

Size in Length: 50–55 cm

Weight: 360-520 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery



PUNA IBIS

Adorned with reddish-brown heads, necks, and upper breasts, Puna Ibis boast a black body with iridescent black-greenish feather. The rest of the body is black with iridescent black-greenish feathers. Juvenile birds are dull black with white specks in the head and neck. They favor the muddy edges of bodies of water and wet grasslands. The Puna Ibis also occur in selected coastal wetlands where it can be seasonally common.

Size in Length: 51–61 cm

Weight: 608–734 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery



BRONZE-WINGED JACANA

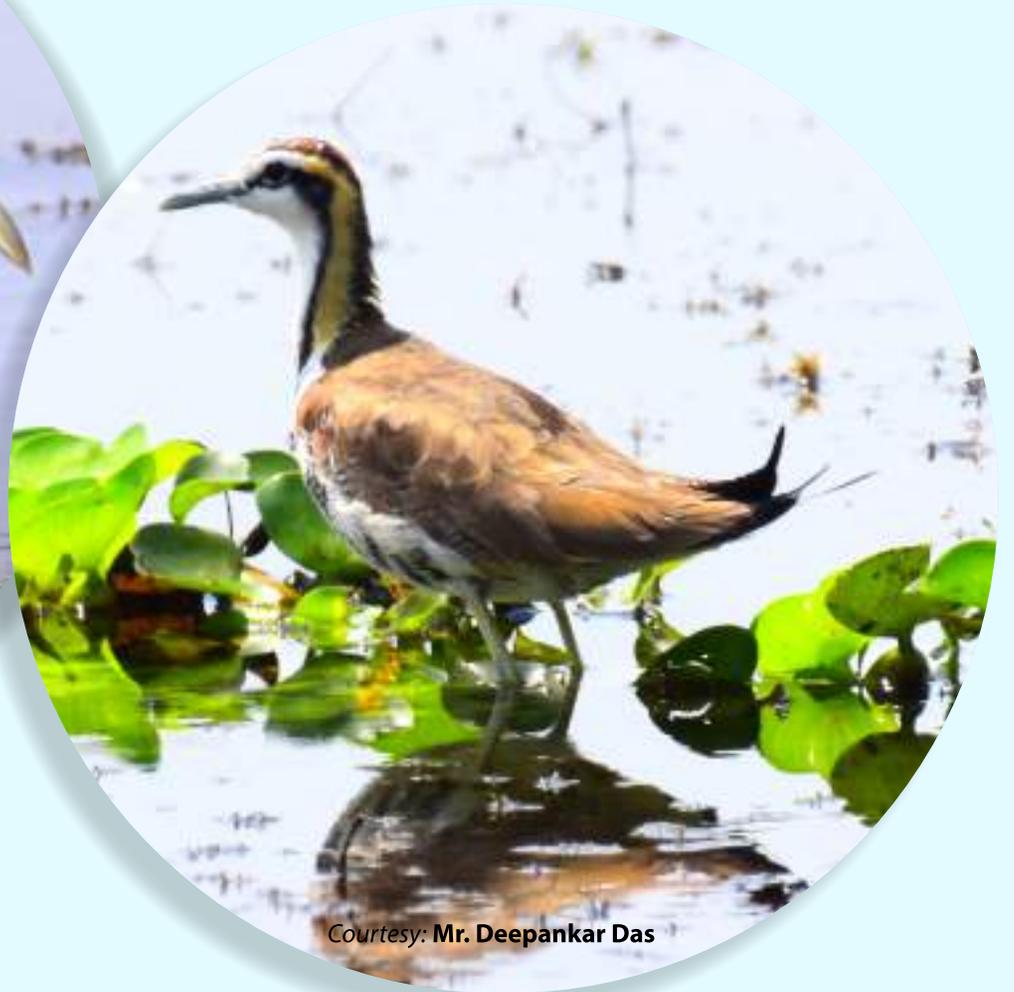
A majestic large wader hailing from the realms of Southeast Asia, the bronze-winged jacana, find their haven in lowland wetlands, gracefully navigating their way through aquatic realms. With an elegant demeanor, they engage in the art of foraging, delicately stepping upon the floating aquatic vegetation in search of sustenance. Intriguingly, the Bronze-winged Jacana defies conventional norms, swapping the roles of traditional avian parenting. Here, it's the females who take the lead in the realm of mating, while the males embrace the noble responsibility of nurturing the young. Amidst these wetland landscapes, their calls resonate as a melodic wheezy piping, a serene symphony that echoes the tranquil beauty of their surroundings.

Size in Length: 28 cm - 31 cm

Weight: 202–354 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





PHEASANT-TAILED JACANA

Belonging to the monotypic genus *Hydrophasianus*, the pheasant-tailed jacana captivates with its elongated toes and nails, enabling it to gracefully walk on floating vegetation in shallow lakes.

Size in Length: 39-58 cm

Weight: 120-231 g

Clicked at: Wetland near Paradip Plastic Park

PIED KINGFISHER

A remarkable water-dwelling species that holds sway over both African and Asian landscapes, the Pied Kingfisher, dressed in a timeless attire of black and white. This avian gem captures attention with its striking plumage and a charismatic crest that adorns its head. Its unique hunting strategy involves hovering majestically over pristine lakes and meandering rivers before plunging into the water like an arrow, emerging triumphant with its aquatic prey. The allure of the pied kingfisher is further painted with a touch of distinction between the sexes. Males proudly display a double band across their breast, a badge of honor that speaks of their prowess. On the other hand, females flaunt a singular gorget, often embellished with an intriguing break in its middle.

Size in Length: 25 – 29 cm

Weight: 70 – 100 g

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery



Glimpses of
**Other
Fauna**





Ecological Park – A Haven for Flora & Fauna



INDIAN PALM SQUIRREL

The three-striped palm squirrel also known as Indian palm squirrel, is a species of rodent in the family Sciuridae found naturally in India and Sri Lanka. In the late 19th century, the palm squirrel was introduced to Madagascar, Réunion, Mayotte, Comoro Islands, Mauritius, and Seychelles

Size in Length: 15 – 19 cm

Weight: 100 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Khagen Kagyung

Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



RABBIT

Commonly known as bunnies or bunny rabbits, these are small mammals in the family Leporidae. A male rabbit is called a buck; a female is called a doe. A group of rabbits is known as a colony or nest.

Size in Length: 20-50 cm

Weight: 1-2.5 kg

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





Courtesy: Mr. Manasa Ranjan Nayak

PLAIN TIGER BUTTERFLY

A medium-sized butterfly widespread in Asia, Australia and Africa, Plain tiger butterfly is also known as *Danaus chrysippus*, African queen, or African monarch. It belongs to the Danainae subfamily of the brush-footed butterfly family Nymphalid.

Size in Length: 12-23 mm

Weight: 50 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Prakash Chandra Sahoo



Courtesy: Mr. Ashish Kumar Singh

DRAGONFLY

With approximately 3,000 species, these aerial predators can be found near freshwater habitats across the globe. Dragonfly is also called darner, devil's arrow, or devil's darning needle. These are characterized by long bodies with two narrow pairs of intricately veined, membranous wings that, while generally transparent, may have coloured markings.

Size in Length: 5–12 cm

Weight: 0.6-1g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Prakash Chandra Sahoo



Courtesy: Mr. Manasa Ranjan Nayak



Courtesy: Mr. Khagen Kagyung

ORIENTAL GARDEN LIZARD

This agamid lizard, also referred to as the eastern garden lizard, Indian garden lizard, common garden lizard, bloodsucker, or changeable lizard, is widely distributed in Indo-Malaya. It has also been introduced to various parts of the world, showcasing its adaptability.

Size in Length: 10–37 cm

Weight: 100 g

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Prakash Chandra Sahoo

Glimpses of

Flora







CHINESE IXORA

A tropical evergreen shrub that originates from China, hence its name, Chinese Ixora. Known for its clusters of bright flowers and red berries that bloom almost year-round, Chinese Ixora is a popular choice for ornamental purposes. It consists of tropical evergreen trees and shrubs and holds around 544 species.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



BRAZILIAN JASMINE

A tropical vine, Brazilian Jasmine are commonly grown as a houseplant in temperate regions. It prefers moist, well-drained soil and appreciates afternoon shade in hot humid climates. Brazilian jasmine plants are prized for their trumpet-shaped blooms, which may be white, pink, or red, depending on the cultivar.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township





HIBISCUS

Immerse yourself in the enchanting world of Hibiscus, an herbaceous plant known for its trumpet-shaped flowers. This annual or perennial tropical tree thrives in full sun or partial shade and thrives best in moist, well-drained soil. With over 200 species and many more cultivars in the genus, hibiscus flowers can reach nearly 10 inches in diameter at maturity and come in a wide range of colors from white to red, pink, yellow, and orange.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township





SURFINIA

Adorned with hundreds of small bell-shaped flowers, Surfinia is a popular choice for cascading displays, gracefully hanging from balconies and embellishing deck fences. Its vibrant colors and abundant blooms add a touch of beauty to any outdoor setting. It is a special variety of hanging petunia.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

PLUMERIA (FRANGIPANI)

Also known as Frangipani or Lei flowers, Plumeria are small trees, native to tropical regions and are cherished for their highly fragrant blossoms. Blooming profusely from spring to fall, Plumeria showcases a range of colours, including white, yellow, pink, and red. Its exquisite flowers contrast beautifully against the large-leaved foliage, which can be evergreen or deciduous, depending on the specific type. These plants are known locally as Champa.

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





DAHLIA

Experience the splendor of Dahlias, perennial plants with tuberous roots. While they are grown as annuals in regions with cold winters, Dahlias are a delightful addition to any garden. Known for their long flowering period and lush foliage, Dahlias come in an array of colors, shapes, and sizes. They are versatile and can be grown in gardens or large pots, bringing vibrant hues and beauty to your outdoor spaces. From planting to flowering, Dahlias take approximately eight weeks, rewarding you with captivating blooms.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township



ZINNIA

One of the easiest annuals to grow, zinnia flowers bring an explosion of colour wherever they go. The show lasts from late spring until the first frost in fall. Butterflies and hummingbirds are attracted to the cheery flowers that bloom in nearly every bright colour imaginable. They grow quickly and reliably, making them a great choice for first-time flower growers. The most popular zinnia species is *Zinnia elegans*, which has been bred to produce a great number of unique varieties. In addition to these forms, zinnia flowers come in a number of shapes, including "beehive," "button," and "cactus." The plants themselves also come in different heights: taller varieties are best for the background of a garden bed, while shorter varieties work well along a border.

Clicked at: Ecological Park, Paradip Refinery





GIANT MARIGOLD

Also known as African Marigold, Giant Marigold, look stunning in the garden and they're great for attracting bees, butterflies and other beneficial insects to garden. They have large dense flower heads that can reach up to 5 inches (12 cm) across. Many vegetable gardeners plant marigolds in and around their veggie garden to help reduce nematodes, aphids and other plant pests. Marigolds are good companion plants for tomatoes, basil, squash, cucumbers, eggplants and potatoes.

Clicked at: Admin Building, Paradip Refinery



A close-up photograph of a flowering branch, likely a Lagerstroemia speciosa (Pride of India). The image shows several clusters of vibrant purple flowers with prominent yellow stamens. Interspersed among the open flowers are numerous green, unopened buds. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting. The lighting is bright, highlighting the delicate texture of the petals and the sharp contrast between the purple, yellow, and green.

PRIDE OF INDIA

A small to medium-sized tree, Pride of India (*Lagerstroemia speciosa*), can grow upto 20 m tall with smooth, flaky bark. Pride of India is native to tropical southern Asia. This species is also known as the giant crepe-myrtle, Queen's crepe-myrtle, and the banabá plant.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township

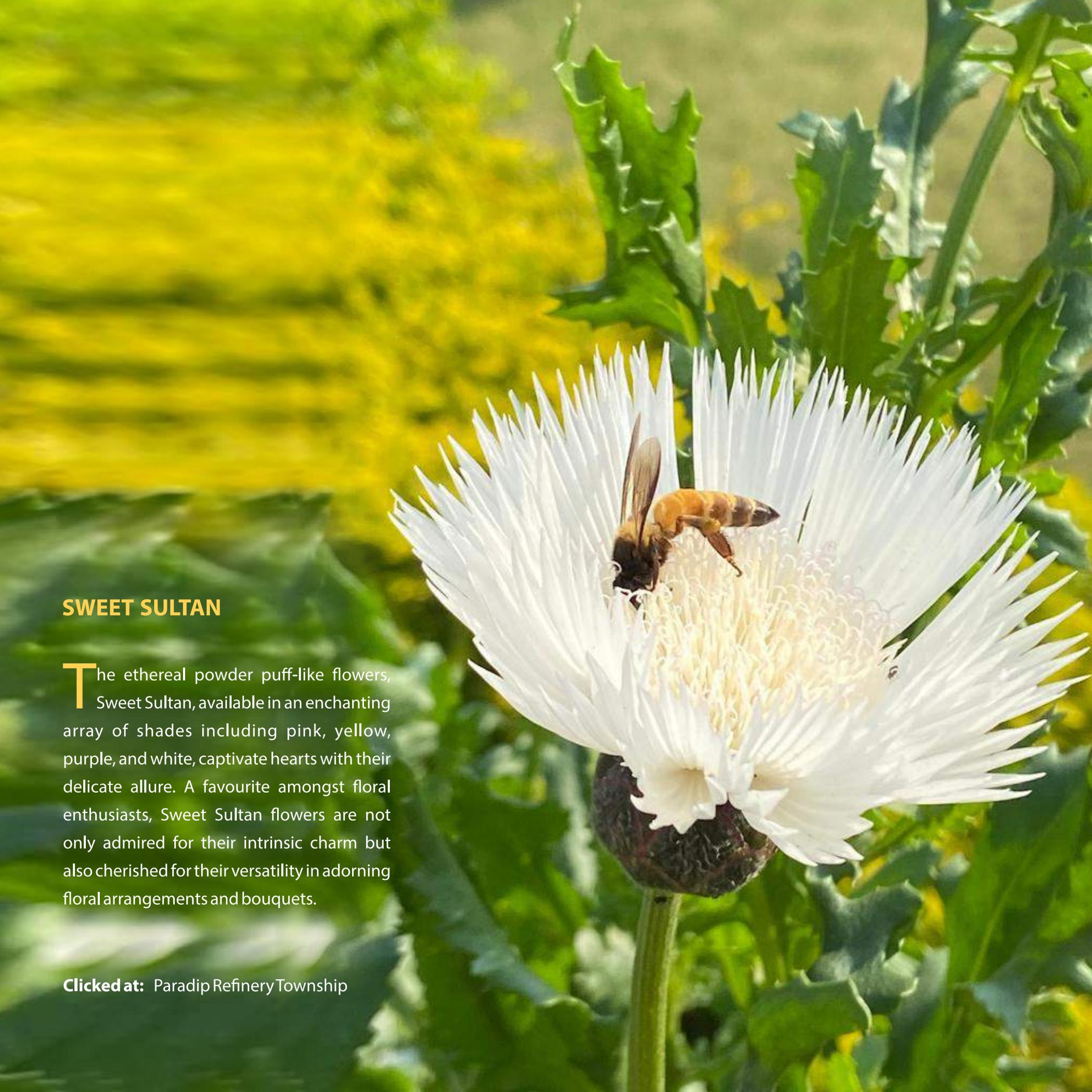
Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das

PHLOX DRUMMONDII (ANNUAL PHLOX)

Thriving in sandy, well-drained soils, Annual Phlox establishes itself remarkably well in a variety of well-drained soil types, thriving under the caress of full sun to partial shade. These 1-inch flowers showcase hues of white, red, and varying shades of pink or lavender, often crowned by a contrasting center eye that beckons admiration. With a graceful stature of 6-12 inches in both height and width, this perennial charmer has a penchant for self-reseeding under favorable conditions.

Clicked at: Paradip Refinery Township





SWEET SULTAN

The ethereal powder puff-like flowers, Sweet Sultan, available in an enchanting array of shades including pink, yellow, purple, and white, captivate hearts with their delicate allure. A favourite amongst floral enthusiasts, Sweet Sultan flowers are not only admired for their intrinsic charm but also cherished for their versatility in adorning floral arrangements and bouquets.

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WATER LILY

A freshwater flowering plant, Water lily, is native to the temperate and tropical parts of the world. Many varieties have been developed for ornamental use in garden pools and conservatories. Most species of water lilies have rounded and variously notched waxy-coated leaves on long stalks that contain many air spaces and float in quiet freshwater habitats.

Clicked at: Wetland in front of Paradip Refinery Township



Courtesy: Mr. Deepankar Das



IndianOil

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