



Black-Browed Babbler Rediscovered

Why in News

Recently, a **Black-Browed Babbler** (*Malacocincla perspicillata*) was **rediscovered** in southeastern Kalimantan, the part of **Borneo** that is administered by **Indonesia**.



Key Points

▪ History:

- In the **1840s**, a **mystery bird** was caught on an expedition to the East Indies. It was named as black-browed babbler.
- The species was never seen in the wild again, and a stuffed specimen featuring a bright yellow glass eye was the only proof of its existence.

- No Asian bird has been missing for as long as Indonesia's Black-browed Babbler. It has been **missing for the last 170 years**.
- This bird is often called '**the biggest enigma in Indonesian ornithology**'.

▪ About:



- It has a **strong bill, chocolate colouring and distinctive black eye-stripe**, its iris is of **striking maroon colour**.
- It has **brown wings** and a **black stripe** across its brow.
- **Significance:**
 - Discoveries like this give hope that it's possible to find other species that have been lost to science for decades or longer.
 - More than **150 species of birds around the world are considered "lost"** with no confirmed sightings in the past decade.
- **Protection Status:**
 - **IUCN Red List:** Data Deficient

[Source: IE](#)

PDF Referenece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/black-browed-babbler-rediscovered>