



Eurasian Whimbrel | Chhattisgarh | 31 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, a long-distance migratory bird, the **Eurasian or common whimbrel**, tagged with a [Global Positioning System \(GPS\)](#) transmitter was captured on camera in the state of **Chhattisgarh**.

Key Points

- According to the [Ornithologists](#) and state forest officials, the [migratory bird](#) was flying mammoth distances and stopped over in Chhattisgarh, owing to the presence of [wetlands in the Berla area of Bemetara district](#), about 70 km from Raipur.
- It is the first time in India such a GPS-tagged bird is being spotted and photographed.
- There is a greater need to **restore such aquatic biodiversity habitat and wetlands** facing loss of vegetation and encroachment.

Eurasian Whimbrel



- It is a wading bird in the large family Scolopacidae.
- **Scientific Name:** *Numenius phaeopus*
- **Distribution:**
 - They **have an extensive range that spans across five continents:** North America, South America, Asia, Africa, and Europe.
 - They **breed in the subarctic regions of Siberia and Alaska during the summer months** before **migrating south to wintering grounds** in southern USA, Central America, South America, Africa, and South Asia, including Nepal.
- **Habitat:** **Winters** mainly along the **coastline, coastal wetlands, mangroves, marshes, and larger rivers.**

▪ **Features:**

- A fairly **large greyish-brown bird** with a long, decurved bill with a kink.
- It has a distinct **head pattern with dark eye-stripes and crown-sides.**
- It is **mottled dark brown above, pale below**, with much brown streaking on the throat and breast.
- Whimbrels are known for their **high-pitched call consisting of a repetitive series of seven notes.**

▪ **Conservation Status:**

- [IUCN Red List](#): *Least Concern*

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