



Little Bunting Bird

Why in News?

Recently, **birdwatchers spotted a [little bunting](#) in [Mount Abu](#)**, marking its first recorded appearance in Rajasthan.



Key Points

▪ Little Bunting Description and Habitat:

◦ About:

- Little bunting is a **small passerine bird** belonging to the bunting and sparrow family.
- Its breeding range spans the **[taiga](#) of far northeast Europe and northern Asia**.
- The bird **migrates to southern China and northeast India during winter** and typically inhabits agricultural areas, feeding on grains.

◦ Features:

- This is a **small bunting**, measuring only 12-14 cm (4.7-5.5 inch) in length.
- It has **white underparts** with **dark streaking** on the **breast and sides**.
- With its chestnut face and white malar stripe, it resembles a small female reed

bunting, but has black crown stripes, a white eye-ring, and a fine dark border to the rear of its chestnut cheeks.

- **IUCN Red List:** Least Concern

- **Possible Role of Climate Change:**

- Experts suggest **climate change** might have pushed the bird to Rajasthan, as it tends to avoid extremely cold conditions.

- **Sightings in Northern India:**

- Little buntings have **recently been spotted in regions like Gurugram, Chandigarh, and northern Punjab.**

- These birds are typically seen in the subtropics of northern India, southern China, and northern Southeast Asia.

- **Significance for Conservation:**

- The sighting emphasizes the importance of **preserving forest areas and wetlands** to support such migratory species.

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