

merely occasional. If serious, the cause is evidently lack of game and can be remedied by capturing blue bulls which are considered to be vermin's and letting them loose in numbers. If this is done, cattle lifting will be reduced to a very great extent.

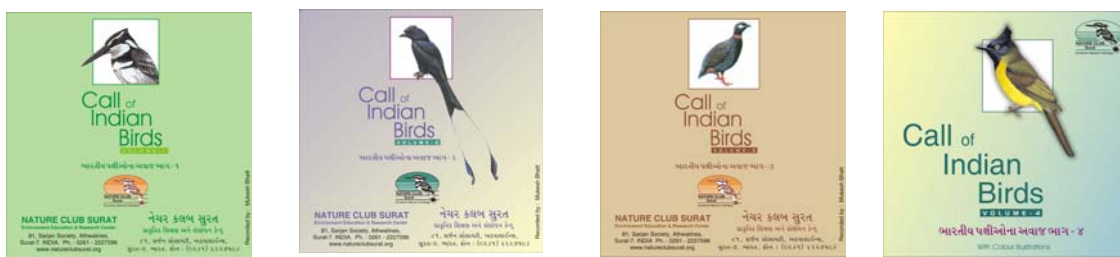
ITEM NO. 24. - Breeding lions in the Banaskantha Region. Tigers are not serious enemies of lions. In the area inhabited by tigers, lions have a chance of survival because they generally move about in groups whereas the tiger is an individualist. This experiment can be carried out in the beginning in areas like Hathidhara and Vijayanagar (Vireshwar) surroundings in the Banaskantha Region where there are very few tigers.

Page Number - 47

ITEM No. 48. - Indian Lions for Zoos. Quite a number of lions are required for the zoos in the country. It is for consideration whether it would not be preferable to breed the species in two or three zoos selected for the purpose and to supply the offspring to Zoological Gardens in India as and when required.

ITEM No. 49. - Sanctuary for lions in the South. It is for consideration whether a home for lions could not be made in suitable area set apart for the purpose around the newly constructed Tungabhadra Anicut (Bellary District). Some species of antelope could also be introduced here to provide prey for the lions.

Call of Indian Birds Vol. 1-4 --- Review by Suresh Kumar*



The reason birds have attracted so much interest in them other than for their beautiful coloration is because of their vocalizations. Indeed, even common people relate to bird calls for various reasons, and the primary reason being indicator of the season. The calls of geese and ducks and their appearance in an area relate to the onset or start of winter, while the call of cuckoos to the onset of spring, and that of Koel to the approaching rains, and many more. **Call of Indian Birds** brought out by Nature Club Surat appears to be targeted towards a local audience with each bird name also mentioned in Gujarati along with English. This is a good effort to introduce people with interest in birds or nature lovers as a whole to the different calls and songs of birds. The collection contains a total of 224 bird calls covering a wide range of species put together in a CD format and in four volumes (four bird calls missing; two each in volume 1 and 2). The calls of the birds are all however jumbled up, and I do not understand why the producers have adopted this. For example: Common Hawk Cuckoo is in Vol. 1 while Large Hawk Cuckoo is in Vol. 3. For a person to understand how the two species differ in their calls he or she has to change the CDs and this is not of any help. This is the case with most other groups in the collection. Few of the bird calls require further sound editing in order to remove noise. The Bombay Natural History Society had earlier brought out a collection of bird calls, and in recent years several bird enthusiasts have made such efforts. Also, bird images along with their calls have been used in recent years to make it more attractive and informative. Also, there is no introduction to the CDs or any other information on birds such as why birds call, different types of call and some other facts. The present form of Call of Indian Birds needs to be improved in order to make it a valuable collection and thereby have a better reach.

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*Sr. Research Fellow, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand