



Rare Steppe Eagle Spotted in Andhra Pradesh

Why in News

A **Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*)** has been sighted in Andhra Pradesh during [Asian Bird Census](#).

- This is the **second time** a Steppe Eagle has been sighted in Andhra Pradesh in the past two decades.
- The sighting of this rare species highlights the need for exploration of the diversity of avian life in the State.

Steppe Eagle



- The Steppe Eagle is a **migratory raptor** which has undergone extremely rapid population declines within all its range.
 - Steppe Eagles may make migratory movements of many thousands of kilometres crossing numerous national jurisdictional boundaries.
 - The bird has moved from **'Least Concern' to 'Endangered'** under **IUCN Red List**.
- It breeds in Russia, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia during the winter season.
- Steppe eagle is the **second-largest migratory eagle species** to India.
- The threats to the Steppe Eagle include habitat loss/degradation, electrocution on/ collision with energy infrastructure, poisoning through herbicides/ pesticides/ veterinary drugs in food sources, etc.

[Source:TH](#)

