



Falcated Duck

Why in News?

Recently, a rare bird species, the **Falcated Duck** was spotted by bird watchers and nature enthusiasts at [Sultanpur National Park](#) in Gurugram.



Key Points

- **Falcated Duck:**
 - **The Falcated Teal (*Mareca falcata*)**, also known as the Falcated Duck, is a dabbling duck.
 - **Distribution:**
 - Found from **eastern Siberia and Mongolia to northern Japan.**
 - Wintering grounds include **Southeast Asia and eastern India.**
 - **Rare sightings** have also been recorded in **America, Poland, and Thailand.**
 - **Habitat:**
 - Prefers **freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers, and marshes** surrounded by forests.
 - **Breeding:**
 - The breeding season lasts from **May to early July.**
 - Nests are built on the ground near water, typically in tall grass or brush.
 - **Diet:**
 - Primarily **herbivorous, feeding on vegetable matter, seeds, rice, and aquatic plants.**
 - Occasionally consumes small invertebrates and soft-shelled mollusks.
 - **Threats:**
 - **Hunting** is a major threat, driven by demand for their meat and feathers.
 - **Conservation Status:**
 - Listed as "**Near Threatened**" by [the International Union for Conservation of](#)

Sultanpur National Park

▪ About:

- Sultanpur National Park is a bird paradise for bird watchers. It is famous for its **migratory as well as resident birds**.
 - Migratory birds start arriving in the park in September. Birds use the park as a resting place till the following March-April.
 - During **summer and monsoon months** the park is inhabited by many local bird species.
- In April 1971, **the Sultanpur Jheel** inside the park (an area of 1.21 sq. Km.) was accorded **Sanctuary status** under section 8 of **the Punjab Wildlife Preservation Act, 1959**.
- The status of the park was upgraded to **National Park** under **the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** in July 1991.

▪ Location:

- It is situated in **Gurgaon district of Haryana**. The distance of the park is around 50 Km from Delhi and 15km from Gurgaon.

▪ Important Fauna at the Park:

- Mammals: **Blackbuck, Nilgai**, Hog deer, Sambar, **Leopard** etc.
- Birds: **Siberian Cranes, Greater Flamingo, Demoiselle Crane** etc.

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