

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEWED

Not much is known on the behavioural aspects of Little Cormorants and Night Herons, Mukherjee's (1975) works on Water-birds including Little Cormorant and Night Heron, Gross (1923), Noble, Wurm and Schmidt(1938), Maxwell and Putnam's (1968 ) work on Black-crowned Night Heron are noteworthy. Most other works on these species and its kins are rather patchy and stray observations. Report of this kind, however, are not few in number and despite lack of details their contribution in the present study is very important.

Information on Little Cormorants past and present distribution in India was gathered from the works of Baker (1929), Ali (1953), Ali and Ripley (1969), Naik *et al.* (1991), Ragunatha (1993), Subramanya (1996), Lahkar (1999).

Similarly information about Night Herons past and present distribution in India was gathered from the works of Baker (1935), Wolford *et al.* (1971), Ali and Ripley (1987), Raghunatha (1993), Subramanya (1996). Different aspects of morphology of Little Cormorant and Night Heron have been discussed by Baker (1929), Gill (1940), Ali and Ripley (1968), Ganguli (1975), Davis (1993), Mukherjee (1995).

Data on feeding of Little Cormorant are available from the studies of Lack (1945), Mukherjee (1975, 1995), Ali and Ripley (1987). Some information on feeding of Night Herons are available from the studies of Wetmore (1920), Gross (1923), Baker (1929), Ali and Ripley (1968), Mukherjee (1975), Hancock and Elliott (1978), Parasharya (1982), Davis (1993).

Only few components of breeding of Little Cormorant was discussed by Baker (1928), Ali and Ripley (1968). Kortlandt's (1995) works on breeding of large cormorant are, however, noteworthy. Breeding of Black-crowned Night Heron was discussed by Bailey (1915), Gross (1923), Baker (1929),

Noble Wurm and Schmidt (1938), Noble and Wurm (1942), Ali and Ripley (1968), Custer *et al.* (1983), Soni (1992), Davis (1993), Schjorring *et al.* (2000). Particulars of nesting habitat and different aspects of nesting of Little Cormorant have been discussed by Baker (1929), Ali and Ripley (1968), Ali (2002). Some aspects of Nesting habitat and different aspects of nesting of Night Herons have been discussed by Gross (1923), Baker (1929), Gill(1940), Ali and Ripley (1968), Ganguli (1975), Custer *et al.* (1983), Soni (1992), Davis (1993), Mukherjee (1995), Ali (2002) . Different aspects of egg, clutch and incubation of Little Cormorant and its kins are available from the works of Baker (1929), Ali and Ripley (1968), Barrett (1986).

Some aspects of egg, clutch and incubation of Night Heron and its kin are available from the works of Gross (1923), Baker (1929), Gill (1940), Ali and Ripley (1968), Ganguli (1975), Braithwaite and Clayton (1976), Custer *et al.* (1983), Davis (1993), Ali (2002). Parental care and growth of young of Little Cormorant was discussed by Ali and Ripley (1968).

Aspects of parental care and growth of youngs of Night Heron has been discussed by Gross (1923 ), Ali and Ripley (1968), Parson and Burger (1981), Ali (2002). Other studies on Little Cormorant and Night Heron on different aspects of foraging and breeding of various Cormorant and Night Heron species of the world were made by Snow (1960), Custer *et al.* (1978), Watts (1988).

Some aspects of mating was also discussed for some other species of Cormorants by Potts *et al.* 1980 ; Boekelhelde and Ainley 1989 ; Kortlandt 1995 ; Bregnballe 1996 ; Schjorring *et al.*, 1999,2000 and on Night Herons by Braithwaite and Clayton, 1976 ; Hancock and Elliot, 1978, Chuan-Chiung ,2000.