

ARE INDIAN BUSTARDS MIGRATING TO PAKISTAN?

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As Rajasthan shares the international border with Pakistan's Sindh and Punjab provinces, it is suspected that the GIBs might have flown across to the neighbouring country's desert amid fears that they could become easy prey for the poachers there.

DNP Deputy Conservator of Forests Ashish Vyas told *The Hindu* that several GIBs had been tagged for behavioural studies and monitoring of their movements. "They forage in the Thar desert area, which is their natural habitat, and no GIB from the Indian side has migrated to Pakistan," he said. Tourism & Wildlife Society of India (TWSI) secretary Harsh Vardhan said the GIBs reaching Cholistan was a possibility if one considers the likelihood of their stoppage at several places to consume feed and replenish their energy lost in flying.

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