Maharashtra’s forest areas lie mostly along its border with Madhya Pradesh (north and east) and in the west along the slopes of the Sahayadri Hills. Many of these areas have been made into wildlife reserves. The teak forests of Dhokna-Kolkaz in the north abound in a variety of wildlife – tigers, panthers, bison, the flying squirrel, and several species of antelope live in the Melghat Tiger Reserve. The Nagzira Wild Life Sanctuary in the east is home to the sloth bear, ‘chousingha’ (four-horned antelope), blue bull, barking deer, panthers and a wide variety of birds. Just a few km south in the verdant surroundings of a lake of that name is the Nawagaon National Park, one of the prettiest in the state. Equally picturesque is the Tadoba National Park, the winter home of migratory waterfowl and ducks. You could combine a visit to this park with your trip to Gandhiji’s Ashram at Sevagram (75 km). If you are a keen bird-watcher, the best place to head for is the Karnala Bird Sanctuary approximately 60 km southeast of Mumbai.