

# Mass electrocution kills 140 flamingos in India

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File photo of a flock of Greater Flamingoes in India. Nearly 140 greater flamingos were killed in a wildlife sanctuary in western India when they were startled and flew into a string of high tension power lines, a forest official said Friday.

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Tens of thousands of [flamingos](#) turn the flat, warm marshes of the

Khadir region of Gujarat state into a sea of pink every year when they fly in from Siberia to breed.

This year, their numbers were unusually high, with around 500,000 [birds](#) making the migratory flight from Siberia, district chief conservator of forests D.K. Sharma told AFP.

Sharma said the mass electrocution took place some 12 days ago, when a large flock of flamingos was startled at night by the noise of a vehicle.

"The entire flock took off. Many of them flew straight into the electric wires and 139 were killed instantly," he said.

S.K. Nanda, a senior official in the Gujarat Forests and Environment Department, said a feasibility study had been ordered into the possibility of insulating the cables or having them moved underground.

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