The breeding-bird census and Christmas counts were made each year to assess the breeding and winter population densities in Union Territory Chandigarh and in quadrats of Punjab.

Surveys in the Union Territory Chandigarh and the quadrats of Punjab showed that the breeding season of Bubulcus ibis coromandus starts in the first week of May and terminates in mid-September. During the month of July the formation of new nests stops. The census of heronries/breeding-bird census was made in the mid-July onwards. Method of census was adapted from Kendeigh (1944). During the census of heronries, surveys were made on bicycle, scooter or on taxi. Active nests of B.i.coromandus were counted and were entered in the field book along with the species of the nesting trees and type of heronries. Heronries were classified following a system described in Part I: Chapter 7.

For Christmas counts, the roosts were located by following the roostward flights of egrets. Counting was made on the roosts where incoming egrets were counted. Two areas were selected for this study. One was the Union Territory Chandigarh. The other was Panjab state from which four quadrats of 10 x 10 sq. kms. were selected.

The egrets were observed with 12 x 50° binoculars and a compass was used to follow the roostward flights of egrets in order to locate roosts.