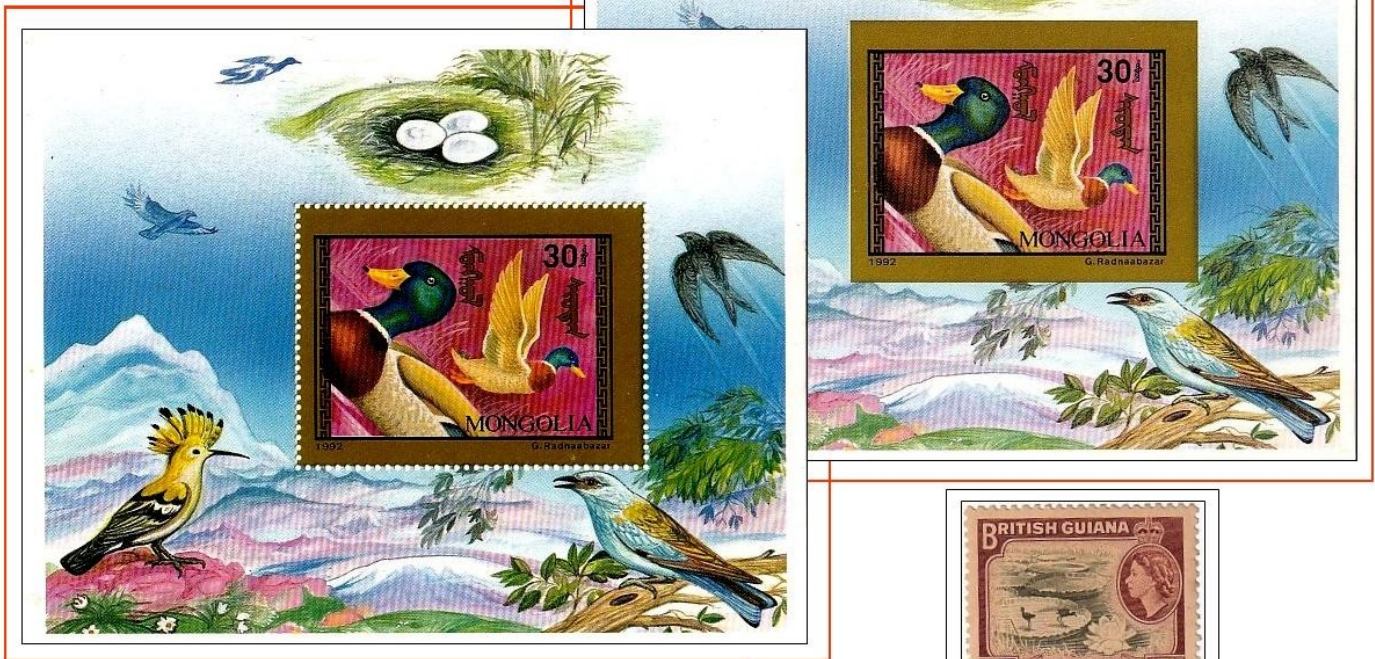


## 1.4 Bird Migration and its types - contd.

### Moult Migration

Some wildfowl migrate for a very different reason: like other birds they need to moult and grow new feathers at a regular intervals, usually once a year. While most birds moult gradually, many ducks, mallards, geese and some pelicans lose all their flight feathers at the same time, so they cant fly. Before moulting, some species go on a special moult migration to an area which is safe from predators and where there is plentiful supply of food.

1992. Mongolia. **Mallard** (*Anas platyrhynchos*)  
Perforate and Imperforate MS



Jacanas are weak fliers and usually only fly for short distances. Some species, such as the African jacana, moult all their wing feathers at the same time and are unable to fly until new feathers grow in.

Generally yes, most birds can still fly during moulting, but it may be more of a challenge for them. Most birds don't lose all their flight feathers at once. They will lose flight feathers from each wing and the tail sequentially, and in the same place on each side. So flying is still possible if more challenging.



**GABON** (1983)  
**Pink-backed Pelican** (*Pelecanus rufescens*)  
Deluxe sheet. 4vSet  
With an imperforate pair.