

India - Brahmaputra Cruise

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 - 21 February 2010



Greater One-horned Rhino by Tony Warrilow

Report compiled by Sujan Chatterjee



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Day 0

Tuesday 2nd February

Travel from the UK

Day 1

Wednesday 3rd February

The team arrived by flight to Kolkata. We found our way to our hotel Hyatt Regency through the ever busy roads of Kolkata. In the afternoon we drove around, taking in the sights and sounds of the 300 year old city. In the afternoon we went to the 150 year old Indian Botanic Gardens in Howrah, Kolkata's sister town on the other side of Hooghly. The Garden has recently been renamed as 'Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose Botanic Gardens'. The Great Banyan Tree was fruiting and was full of Asian Koels, Blue-throated Barbets and Yellow-footed Green Pigeons. From here we strolled through the park and saw some of the common city birds like the Common Hawk Cuckoo, Jungle Babbler, Black-hooded Oriole, Fulvous-breasted Woodpeckers, Black-rumped Flamebacks, Rufous Treepies, ever so noisy Rose-ringed Parakeets, and Red-breasted Parakeets. On the way out we came to a tree following the calls of Spotted Owlets and spotted a pair sitting quietly on a branch.

Finally near the exit a eucalyptus tree was full of Green Bee-eaters coming to roost. They kept flying in and out as they were harried by a Shikra or Little Banded Goshawk looking for a last meal of the day. We returned to Hyatt on sundown for a well deserved rest.

Day 2

Thursday 4th February

After a sumptuous breakfast we were ready for our flight to Jorhat. After a stop at Guwahati we reached Jorhat and were received by the ever-smiling Imran who was to be our local guide and ground organiser, and Udit our ever so funny cultural guide. We got a welcome in traditional Assamese style with the beautiful 'Gamcha' or scarf. We then drove to the Neemati Ghat (jetty) and on arrival we boarded the country boat and sailed to the grand 'Sukapha' with a large flock of Bar-headed Geese sitting on a nearby sand bank. We were warmly welcomed on board by Kunal and his crew.

After lunch and sorting our bags we went out for an hour's walk on the sandy beach while the crew played a volleyball match. A White-tailed Stonechat, a Paddyfield Pipit; a few ducks flying by, grasshoppers, and antlions, all kept us occupied until sundown. As the sun went down we heard the calls of the Common Crane and in the distant fading light 50+ cranes made a slow landing on a sandbank. Before dinner we were given an introduction to the boat and the crew by Kunal.

Day 3

Friday 5th February

We had an early start today, a 4:30am wakeup and we were off. We boarded the country boat for a 20 minute ride to the shore and got into our waiting vehicles for an hour's drive to a Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary. We drove through Jorhat town and various tea gardens and arrived at the sanctuary at 7.15am. The gibbons were right there, as if waiting to greet us! A beautiful black male and his pretty fawn coloured wife and infant sat up in the canopy sunning themselves! We also saw Malayan Giant Squirrels by the parking area. We hit the trail after a while but no more gibbons were seen. We found our way back to the base where two gibbons awaited our arrival and standing on dry ground we all had good views of the agile man & his wife doing acrobatics for us.

After some breakfast spread out on the table by the Sukapha crew, we again hit the trail. We strolled through the main forest trail looking at the magnificent butterflies, birds and the trees. We suddenly found a solitary Capped Langur which scampered off into the canopy before all of us got to see it well. Then our local guide Hasaan, the forest guard, heard some thrashing in the canopy inside the forest. We followed him through the undergrowth to see a whole troop of Capped Langurs feeding in the canopy of the trees. After a lot of 'oohs' and 'aahs', we retraced our steps onto the main track where another adventure awaited us...a screeching call caught Hasaan's attention. He softly said "Stump-tailed Macaques" – we were about to see one of the rarest primates in India! After a few steps we came across the first macaque walking on the ground. It's bright red face, no tail, a rusty coat and a red bottom were the ID markers for the creature. This primate is not very arboreal in nature, unlike the other macaques. The troop mainly stayed close to the ground even though some did climb up the tree trunks to get a glimpse of us! After we had all seen the animals we came out of the forest and onto the main track. We missed out on seeing Pig-tailed Macaques on this particular trip, but hey! ...we did get Naturetrek's first sighting in India of Stump-tailed Macaques!

At 11:30 we drove back from the sanctuary and stopped at two wetlands on the way to the jetty. We spotted some Purple Swamphen, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and a pair of White-vented Myna. We then stopped at the second wetland and were greeted by even larger large flocks of Purple Swamphen, several Glossy Ibis, White-vented Myna, Asian Openbill, Grey-headed & Northern Lapwing, Purple & Grey Herons and some Spot-billed Ducks. We also saw a female Hen Harrier as we reached the landing area.

After returning to Sukapha we sailed for couple hours and anchored on the banks of the world's largest river island Majuli. We took a short impromptu walk in the evening through a small field, and spotted a few birds like Bee-eaters, Rufous Treepies and a few Greater Painted Snipe. We came back on board at sundown.

Day 4

Saturday 6th February

Today was the day of more birding and culture. After a ten minute ride on the country boat we landed at the Kamalabari Ghat in Majuli Island. Apurba our guide for the Majuli Island greeted us at the ghat and we boarded the waiting vehicles and drove through the dusty village tracks to the large Sakuli Bheel. It was filled with waders, Wagtails, Bluethroats, some Pochards, Storks and Cormorants. We saw several Grey-headed Lapwings, the beautiful Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, Rufous-winged Bushlark and a beautiful Bluethroat.

We then drove on to visit first the monastery, the Auniati Monastery. We walked around the monastery, and watched the monks performing their daily prayers. Finally we visited a museum. After this, we drove to the second monastery, Uttar Kamalabari Monastery. Here we were treated to two spectacular dance performances. We sat cross-legged and mesmerised watching the superb Sattriya Dance Drama performed by the young monks, and putting on a superb show of their dance and yoga skills.

We left this monastery and came back aboard Sukapha and sailed further westward. As we sailed hundreds of Greylags, Bar-headed Geese and Ruddy Shelducks filled our view. Other treats in the afternoon were Peregrine Falcons, Kestrel, Long-legged Buzzards, Pacific Golden Plovers and finally our first Gangetic Dolphins. Excitement reached its peak when Alyson's flipflops mysteriously went for a swim. We turned back to retrieve the 75p M&S slippers from the river and stop Naturetrek from polluting the mighty Brahmaputra!! We finally anchored on the edge of a village 'Bokaduar' in the evening with a large welcoming committee waiting on the river bank.

Day 5

Sunday 7th February

A lie in for all today with a late wake up call...after breakfast we took the country boat to get off at a suitable spot to visit the village of Bokaduar. The boat men showed excellent skills negotiating the rapids and bends in the river. We ambled up the slope to reach the open fields and slowly headed towards the village led by Babajaan. This village is the home of an oriental tribe called the 'Mishing'. After a brief introduction by Udit, we came across a girl weaving a shawl sitting under a hut using a rudimentary weaving machine. We all crowded around her to see how it worked. Meanwhile other local ladies started showing off their handicrafts too and at least half a dozen shawls have made their way back to the UK!

We sailed a little after lunch and we all got a chance to sit on deck while we sailed. Peregrine Falcons, masses of ducks and geese kept us occupied until we reached the fringes of Kaziranga National Park.

I decided to go up to the roof of the boat and got a glimpse of some elephants. In a moment an elephant was seen lumbering through the forest fringe, its massive head and trunk told us that it was a bull. In the late afternoon we anchored along the sandbank opposite the eastern range of the park. Some of us promptly went for a stroll and came across some pugmarks of a small cat, large prints of Adjutant Storks, and some Sand Larks.

Day 6

Monday 8th February

A very early start today; we boarded the country boat for the shore and it was difficult for the boatmen to negotiate the shallow channel in thick fog and they had to use a bamboo pole to push us out of the silt. Finally we reached the sand banks and headed for the waiting safari vehicles. A short drive took us to the range headquarters. After completing some paper work we were ready to move into the park. We divided our team in two while Nick and Imran took charge of three vehicles and went clockwise; Babajaan and I took an anti-clockwise route. We travelled through the grassland and forests in this beautiful park, seeing grazing rhinos, trumpeting elephants, Swamp Deer, buffaloes, otters, Red Junglefowl, Storks, Hornbills, etc.... One group on the way out came across a herd of elephants which had a tiny baby with them. All 6 jeeps regrouped at the gate to return to the boat. We were a little late in arriving at the boat so we were afraid that we would not make it to Silghat (our next stop). We travelled on and some Wild Buffaloes, Hog Deer, rhinos and elephants were seen from the boat, but as darkness approached we finally had to anchor in the middle of the river as we did not quite make it to Silghat, as anticipated.

Day 7

Tuesday 9th February

We started sailing early to reach the shore as we had anchored an hour's distance away. We got onto the waiting vehicle and had several stops on the way, and Imran spotted a pair of distant Great Hornbills. We stopped again for two Capped Langurs foraging in an open field. We finally got to the gates of the Western Range or 'Baguri' and started our ride. As before we split up into two groups, while one group came up close to otters, rhinos and buffaloes, the other group came face to face with a pair of majestic bull elephants.

After the ride we met up and headed to Diphlu River Lodge for our lunch. The superb outdoor lunch was organised by Jayshree the lady boss of the lodge. But before we could even look at lunch we saw the magnificent elephant Manjula and his Mahout waiting for us on the bank of the canal nearby. He needed to be scrubbed and washed, so Jean & Rosemarie quickly waded into the thigh-high water with some tufts of grass to use as scrubs. They went about scrubbing as if they have done it many times before! After a while Barbara came scurrying down the slope and almost dived into water to join in! Ears, toes, foot pads and trunk were all scrubbed with earnest, until we thought Manjula would never have enough of this, and we retreated to dry ground! After a great lunch, a cup of tea, and missed Pied Falconet, we left for Sukapha. A great show was put up by the dolphins for our late afternoon entertainment.

Day 8

Wednesday 10th February

Today we had another early start and a hike in near darkness to reach the waiting vehicles. Today was our third and final visit to Kaziranga. We reached the gates after an hour's ride where ten strong elephants were ready to take us for a ride in the park and started looking for rhinos. One after the other rhinos started to come into view. At one time we saw up to eight rhinos!

We then came to this pair of rhinos who were snorting and jostling with each other in the burnt grass. They turned out to be an amorous male and female who were head butting, biting, jostling and chasing each other through the grass. We returned to base and then drove off to a nearby lodge for some breakfast.

We set off once again for the ride in the park. Some of us saw a herd of forty elephants while others saw Great Hornbills, Blue-bearded Bee-eaters, Red-headed Vultures and Dusky Eagle Owls. We all came back dusty but happy. A tea-buying session delayed us and we reached the ship at 3:00 in the afternoon. We then set sail further downstream for Tezpur. We sailed beneath the 4km long Koliabor Bridge which connects the north and south banks of the river, and anchored close to the town of Tezpur.

Day 9

Thursday 11th February

Something different today – rafting! We left the boat to drive for about an hour to the Nameri eco camp, from a smooth highway to narrow road and finally onto dirt track. The camp site was flushed with birds; Oriental Hobbies were on top of very tall trees; the rare migrant Black-breasted Thrush was busy picking caterpillars; while the Hill Mynas filled the air with their beautiful voices. A quick visit to the Pygmy Hog sanctuary followed, but they were fast asleep! We were then off after breakfast and drove to a sand bank where we got onto the rubber dinghies with our own ‘Bodo’ paddlers, two on each boat, and sailed smoothly downstream keeping our eyes peeled for the one bird we missed last time, the Ibisbills. Many Mergansers (fish-eating ducks) came and went but no Ibisbills for a while, until a boat man frantically pointed to the right bank. A lone Ibisbill was seen by the whole group as we managed to moor all the boats to get a good look at the bird. Wreathed Hornbill was the next dazzler from the boat, as it sat quietly for a long time so that all of us got great views of this majestic bird. After a smooth sail we headed back to the eco camp to drop off the paddles and the dinghies. In the evening Udit’s description of complicated Indian mythology and Lord Shiva’s dance kept everybody entertained, until it was time for dinner.

Day 10

Friday 12th February

Our final safari and it was a great one too! We entered the Orang National Park up a sandy bank and through the recently burnt down grassland to reach our awaiting jeeps. First we saw a flock of garrulous Striated Babblers which responded to our calls and came up really close. We then split our group for the safari, while one team flushed a pair of glorious Bengal Floricans, others saw rhinos and Hog Deer. The forest had come alive because of the flowering Bombax trees, there was red and orange everywhere, with masses of birds. Highlights included Crested Serpent, Indian Spotted and Greater Spotted Eagles, and Long-legged and Honey Buzzards, but the migration of twenty-two Short toed Eagles was the real clincher! We returned to our boat and bid goodbye to the jeep drivers and also to Imraan. We sailed on with villages on our right, all of which had little children running up to the banks to wave at us. With another glorious sunset behind us we moored along a sandbank near Ganesh Pahar.

Day 11

Saturday 13th February

We had breakfast and then took a very short ride on the country boat and a stroll through a little sleepy hamlet named Sonoka in Ganesh Pahar. We walked through the village full of tiny goats and smiling kids, and finished up in a small hut where a lady gave us demo of some old fashioned textile weaving.

As we returned we unfortunately got caught in an oncoming sand storm. On board Sukapha, we went up to the top deck but had to quickly retreat into the lounge due to the strong winds laden with sand. With Straus playing in the background, we negotiated the shallow but choppy waters to reach Peacock Island. We got onto the country boat and with water splashing from the bow we reached the island. Udit led us to the Umananda Temple, where cake-eating Golden Langurs were sitting high up in the trees. We then sailed downstream for the final mooring of Sukapha at Pandu Ghat in Guwahati. After lunch we made a journey to the city dump at Gorchuk where we saw a large flock of Greater Adjutant Storks; and hundreds of Black Kites milling around in the sky and diving at the rubbish. No persuasion was needed for the ladies to go shopping later! The evening ended with the crew showing off their elegant dress and a farewell dinner.

Day 12

Sunday 14th February

A lazy start today was followed by a visit to the most famous temple of Assam, the Kamaksya Temple. Udit went about explaining the history of the temple as we walked on the stone floors amongst a large crowd of devotees. After an hour's stroll around the temple premises we came back to Sukapha and after lunch we said goodbye to 'Team Sukapha'. We then flew to Kolkata; bid good bye to Peter and Evelyn who were received by their host in Kolkata; and headed to the Hyatt in preparation for the next leg of the journey – either the Sunderbans extension...or Heathrow!

Day 13

Monday 15th February

While many of the clients headed to the airport, others headed for their Sunderbans extension tour. Our large bus drove through the narrow and winding roads through vegetable gardens, leather tanneries, brick kilns, fish & shrimp ponds. We reached the jetty after three hours and our boat 'Sundari' (the beautiful girl) was waiting for us at the Godkhali Ghat. After an hour's sailing we reached our pretty little Jungle Camp, and after lunch we sailed north for Sajnekhali. While our guide Prasanta went about clearing the red tape for permits we climbed a watchtower for some birdwatching, seeing Small Minivets, Ioras, Bronze Drongos, and Warblers, and some playful Rhesus Macaques kept us busy and entertained until it was time to return to camp.

Day 14

Tuesday 16th February

We had decided to have an early start today. The shock came when we stepped out of our rooms! Thick fog had come down all around us. But we braved the conditions and with 10 metres visibility we set sail through the thick pea soup! We even saw the very rare Brown-winged Kingfisher through the thick fog. By 9am the fog lifted and some sunshine warmed us up. Very soon we came across a pod of Irrawaddy Dolphins. At the appropriate time our boat engine sucked in a floating leaf and stalled. Ironically this improved our chances of seeing these rare and elusive dolphins! They stuck around and kept fishing until another boat came and shoed them off. We sailed south to Dobanki Camp and took a walk on the raised walkway. A herd of Chital Deer and Wild Boar were grazing around the waterhole as we arrived. A beautiful Brahminy Kite sunned itself on a dead branch until a Jungle Crow shoed it off its perch. We made a quick retreat as we realised that several boats loaded with tourists were arriving all at once. After a quick lunch at camp we headed for Sudhanyakhali creeks(also referred to as Kingfisher Alley). A very toothy saltwater crocodile was spotted basking in the sun on the mud bank. We went up close to it, and its silly grin and yellow slit eyes impressed all of us. We sailed out from Enpur and returned to camp.

Day 15

Wednesday 17th February

We had planned a full day of cruising today. We had decided to reach the southern-most watchtower the Netidhopani. We made the best of the low-tide in the morning until 10am. A Brahminy Kite came up close to our boat and dived for a fish from the floating leaves. Green Bee-eaters put up a good show for all as we cruised through the channels. They flitted around catching insects and were at times dust-bathing on the slopes of a freshwater pond. A beautiful young Brahminy Kite arrived to have a drink, but its cautious approach attracted a pair of Jungle Crows who mobbed the kite and it had to fly away thirsty. As we left the tower we saw caught sight of a White-bellied Sea Eagle with its landing gears stretched right out in front!

We then decided to start sailing northwards as the tide was going out and exposing the mudbanks. The sky was losing colour due to some dark clouds. As we turned left a mad scramble in the master's cabin caught our attention. His eyes were fixed on something on the muddy banks - a tiger! We too were transfixed for the next few minutes as it sat on the edge of the muddy ledge with its paws outstretched and perfectly poised, looking down at us. As we tried to stop the boat and turn it against the tide, it got up and vanished into the thick Phoenix Palm forest. After a few minutes loud growls from inside sent shivers down our spine. We waited a few more minutes and then slowly sailed away taking in the magic that had just happened. We reached camp and were to be entertained by the local theatre group doing the play 'Dukhe Yatra' which moved our hearts that evening.

Day 16

Thursday 18th February

We hit the Sudhanyakhali watch tower first thing in the morning. Rhesus Macaques, deer and Wild Boar were there first trying to quench their thirsts. Pretty Purple-rumped Sunbirds and Ioras flitted in and out of view, as we stood on the watch tower. We sailed on and came across a large flock of Lesser Whistling Ducks gathered on the mud bank.

Day 17

Friday 19th February

A walk in the village was on the cards today. We strolled along the village path on the embankment. We visited the little kids' school and homes and photographed little smiling babies and taught rhymes to some. We finally ended up in the market square. It was along walk back so we brought out two of our best hummers (i.e. three wheel cycle vans running on a generator!!). After an early lunch we bid goodbye to the camp and sailed to the jetty and took a bus for our drive back home.

Day 18

Saturday 20th February

The day was spent getting out early to visit the Ghats of the Hoogly River and the flower market which was a riot of colour. We took in the sights of Kolkata where in some places life hasn't changed at all in the past 100 years. Next was a visit to the very peaceful and artistic Jain Temple hidden away from all noises of the old Kolkata streets, and lastly we visited the iconic Victoria Memorials. Lunch at a hotel hopefully kept all happy until it was eventually time to board their flights home.

Day 19

Sunday 21st February

Arrival in the UK

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Species Lists

Birds (h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	February															
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19
1	Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>					h	✓		✓		✓						
2	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>						✓	✓	✓					✓	h	✓	
3	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>			✓					✓								
4	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>		✓			✓											
5	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>			✓								✓	✓	✓			✓
6	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
7	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
8	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
9	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
10	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>						✓	✓		✓			✓				
11	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
12	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
13	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>							✓	✓								
14	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
15	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
16	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Rhodonessa rufina</i>				✓						✓						
17	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>						✓				✓	✓					
18	Ferruginous Pochard	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				✓				✓								
19	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>						✓						✓				
20	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>									✓							
21	Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>								✓								
22	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>	✓															✓
23	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>									✓							
24	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>						✓										
25	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	✓														h	
26	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>			h	✓		✓	✓	h								
27	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	h					
28	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	✓								✓	h						
29	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	h						✓				✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	
30	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>							✓	✓	✓								
31	Wreathed Hornbill	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>										✓							
32	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>									✓	✓							
33	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>							✓		✓								
34	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
35	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
36	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>							✓										
37	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
38	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>										✓							
39	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓		
40	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon amauroptera</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓		
42	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
43	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓		✓		✓		✓							✓	✓	✓	
44	Common Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>	✓																
45	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	✓																
46	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>							✓	✓	✓								
47	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	✓		h	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	
48	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>								✓			✓						
49	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓		✓						
50	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
51	Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>							✓										
52	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓							
53	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>											✓						
54	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					
55	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>																✓	
56	Dusky Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo coromandus</i>									✓		✓						
57	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>							✓										
58	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>			h				✓		✓	✓	✓						
59	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓						✓			✓		h	✓				
60	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓		✓	✓													
61	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>							✓			✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	February															
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19
62	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
63	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>				✓		✓	✓									
64	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>										✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
65	Barred Cuckoo Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>									✓							
66	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>			✓													
67	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓						
68	Pin-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron apicauda</i>						✓										
69	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>						h	✓	✓	✓							
70	Bengal Florican	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>										✓						
71	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>			✓					✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓								
73	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓								
74	Common Coot	<i>Fulicata atra</i>				✓												
75	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				✓			✓									
76	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	
77	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>													✓	✓	✓	
78	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>		✓					✓									
79	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				✓		✓							✓	✓	✓	
80	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>							✓									
81	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		h		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
82	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓							
83	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓									
84	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
85	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				✓			✓		✓							
86	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>			✓	✓												
87	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓						
88	Great Thick-knee	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>						✓			✓							
89	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>									✓							
90	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>							✓									
91	Greater Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>			✓													
92	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>				✓								✓	✓			
93	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				✓			✓									

	Common name	Scientific name	February															
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19
94	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓							
95	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>									✓		✓					
96	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓								
97	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
98	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>					✓	✓			✓	✓						
99	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
100	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>							✓	✓								
101	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>							✓		✓							
102	Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>						✓										
103	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
104	Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>			✓				✓			✓						✓
105	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>										✓						
106	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓				
107	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliaeetus indus</i>													✓	✓	✓	
108	Pallas's Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
109	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>															✓	
110	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓						
111	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>																✓
112	Slenderbilled Vulture	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓						
113	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>						✓	✓		✓	✓						
114	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>								✓								
115	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>										✓						
116	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			
117	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		✓														
118	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
119	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>										✓						
120	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>										✓						
121	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	✓			✓			✓			✓						✓
122	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>					✓											
123	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓					
124	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>										✓						
125	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>						✓	✓			✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	
126	Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Pomarina hastata</i>										✓							
127	Changeable Hawk Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓							
128	Pied Falconet	<i>Microhierax melanoleucus</i>							✓										
129	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>				✓	✓					✓							
130	Oriental Hobby	<i>Falco severus</i>										✓							
131	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>				✓		✓				✓							
132	Little Grebe	<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>				✓													
133	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓						
134	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
135	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
136	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
137	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
138	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
139	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓									
140	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
141	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓									
142	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
143	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
144	Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>						✓		✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	
145	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓													
146	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>			✓														
147	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓														
148	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>						✓	✓	✓									
149	Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓		✓							
150	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
151	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓		✓				✓							
152	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
153	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓							
154	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
155	Greater Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>						✓					✓						
156	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>			✓														
157	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>							h		✓								

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	
158	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>			✓				✓										
159	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach tricolor</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓							
160	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓							
161	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						
162	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓		✓							✓	✓					
163	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		
164	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>			✓							✓				✓			
165	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	✓		✓			h	✓	✓		✓							
166	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>			✓														
167	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>						✓				✓							
168	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>												✓	✓	✓			
169	Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>			✓							✓							
170	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>					✓		✓										
171	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓									
172	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
173	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>							✓			✓							
174	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
175	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>			✓				c	✓		✓							
176	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>							✓			✓							
177	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>							✓	✓	h								
178	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>								✓		✓		✓				✓	
179	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>							✓			✓							
180	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>							✓										
181	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>									✓								
182	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>							✓										
183	Black-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus dissimilis</i>									✓								
184	Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	h					✓	✓		h	✓		✓					
185	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>							✓										
186	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>						✓	✓			✓							
187	Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>							✓										
188	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>			✓	✓		h		✓		✓							
189	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>				✓													

	Common name	Scientific name	February															
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19
190	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
191	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>							✓	✓	✓							
192	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>				✓					✓							
193	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>									✓							
194	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
195	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>		✓							✓							
196	Spot-winged Starling	<i>Saroglossa spiloptera</i>								✓		✓						
197	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
198	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
199	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
200	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>										✓						
201	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
202	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓								
203	Northern Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>						✓			✓							
204	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>						✓										
205	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>						✓										
206	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	h			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓			✓			
207	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>					✓											
208	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓							
209	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
210	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>						✓		✓								
211	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>								✓								
212	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>				✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓		
213	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
214	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
215	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		h														
216	Bright-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>										✓						
217	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>										✓						
218	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>							✓		✓							
219	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>			✓							✓		✓			✓	
220	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>			h		✓			h	h		✓	✓			h	
221	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>			✓													

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	
222	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>				✓				✓	h								
223	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>				✓	✓												
224	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>												✓	✓				
225	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>			✓							✓							
226	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>								✓			✓						
227	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>				h				✓	✓		h						
228	Striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>													h	h			
229	Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>		h								✓							
230	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>										✓							
231	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓									h	✓	✓					
232	Rufous-winged Bushlark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓									
233	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>		✓			✓												
234	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>									✓								
235	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>			✓														
236	Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	✓												✓		✓		
237	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>																✓	
238	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
239	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>						✓											
240	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
241	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			h		h					
242	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				✓	✓	✓								✓			
243	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>		✓	✓			✓											
244	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>						✓	✓										
245	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>						✓		✓									
246	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>					✓												
247	Streaked Weaver	<i>Ploceus manyar</i>				✓													
248	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>										✓							
249	Black-headed Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>										✓							

Mammals

1	Hoolock Gibbon	<i>Bunopithecus hoolock</i>			✓													
2	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	15	16	17	18	19	
3	Stump-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca arctoides</i>			✓														
4	Golden Langur	<i>Trachypithecus geei</i>											✓						
5	Capped Langur	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>			✓					✓	✓	✓							
6	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>									✓								
7	Swamp deer	<i>Cervus duvaucelii</i>							✓	✓	✓								
8	Indian Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>								✓	✓								
9	Hog Deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓						
10	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓		
11	Asiatic Wild Buffalo	<i>Bubalus arnee</i>							✓	✓	✓								
12	Wild Pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>							✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
13	Asian Elephant	<i>Elephus maximus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓									
14	Greater One-horned Rhinoceros	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
15	Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>															✓		
16	Smooth-coated Otter	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>						✓	✓										
17	Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>			✓							✓							
18	Indian Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>								✓									
19	Malayan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>			✓														
20	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓																
21	Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
22	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>							✓				✓						
23	Gangetic River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
24	Irrawaddy Dolphin	<i>Orcacella brevirostris</i>													✓				

Reptiles

Assam Roof Turtle

Assam Brown Turtle

Bengal Eyed Turtle

Northern House Gecko

Salt Water Crocodile

Butterflies

Leopard Lacewing

Grey Count

Common Sailor

Blue Tiger

Great Eggfly

Common Jezebel

Indian Cabbage White

Plain Tiger

Striped Tiger

Peacock Pansy

Grey Pansy

Yellow Pansy

Common Leopard

Psyche

Common Pierrot

Red-based Jezebel

Lemon Pansy