

# India - A Wildlife Cruise on the Brahmaputra River

Naturetrek Tour Report

8 - 19 February 2013



Indian Flying Fox



Collared Kingfisher



Purple-rumped Sunbird



Local Boat

Report compiled by Nick Acheson  
Images courtesy of Alf King



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour leader:	Sujan Chatterjee	Local Leader, naturalist & guide *
	Nick Acheson	Naturetrek, naturalist & guide
	Imran Ali	Local guide (Brahmaputra Cruise only)
	Babu Das	Local guide (Brahmaputra Cruise only)
	Nivaran Nongmaithem	Local cultural guide (Brahmaputra Cruise)

Participants:	Ian Denyer	
	Joan MacGregor	
	James Hawkins	
	Pam Hawkins	
	Ray Hinchcliffe	
	Kate Hinchcliffe	
	Bob Oades	
	Siggi Oades	
	George Turnbull	
	Irene Turnbull	
	David Atkins	*
	Rosemary Atkins	*
	Sally Dean	*
	Brenda Drew	*
	Alf King	*
	Jeannine King	*
	Tony Loader	*
	Mary Kane	*
	Clive Northeast	*
	Ali Northeast	*
Mike Reed	*	
Julie Reed	*	

- = Sunderbans Extension

## Day 1

Thursday 7th February

Travel from the UK

## Day 2

Friday 8th February

It's hard to look energetic and enthusiastic when you've spent the night on a plane, but you did a very commendable job of it at when I met you at the Hyatt Regency in Kolkata this morning. In fact you did a very commendable job of looking lively and interested all day: through the interminable crush of Kolkata's traffic, as we wandered around the city's attractive Botanic Gardens (Five-striped Palm-Squirrels, Green Bee-eaters, Spotted Owlets, Booted Eagles and Black-eared Kites, to name but a few), and as we made our way back again... through the interminable crush of Kolkata's traffic. Sujan and I decided from the start that you'd probably turn out ok!

## Day 3

Saturday 9th February

It was on Assam that our senses were trained and today we headed northeast to that blessed state along the Brahmaputra. At Dibrugarh airport we were met by our smiling local team – Imran, Niv and Babu – armed with chocolate, lest the short walk to the lunch-laden vehicles should prove too long for us.

The afternoon was spent driving through the beautiful countryside of the Brahmaputra's plain, past neatly kept farms, acres of rice-paddies, diminutive white goats and contented toffee-hued cows. Here and there were Red-wattled Lapwings, Indian Rollers and Black Drongos and all along the road silk cotton trees were ablaze with deep red flowers.

In the dusk we reached Neemati Ghat where our crew – always efficient, always helpful, always friendly – was ready to guide us to the country boat and from there to the comfort of Charaidew, our home on the river for the next week.

## Day 4

Sunday 10th February

It seems unjust, doesn't it? You've scarcely been 48 hours in a country, you travelled the whole of the previous day, you reached your destination in the dark, and your leaders want you up well before dawn to go looking for gibbons! It was worth it, wasn't it? Isn't the Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary beautiful? Isn't the Western Hoolock Gibbon a joy to see and hear: athletic, tastefully-coloured, slender and marvellously musical? Isn't the Capped Langur a thing of beauty? Isn't it hard to choose a favourite primate when you've seen these, plus a treetop family of Pig-tailed Macaques? Isn't it just a marvellous place?

There was more to see here, of course. There were flocks of dazzlingly-coloured Long-tailed and Scarlet Minivets; there was a Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, quivering his absurd tail; there were Sultan Tits and there were jewel-bright Ruby-cheeked Sunbirds. There was breakfast too, served in a coup de théâtre characteristic of Charaidew, in a forest clearing.

Drifting back to the river, our tummies full, we dallied awhile at a roadside marsh which verily throbbled with good birds. A Wryneck and a Brown Shrike shared a patch of ginger lilies; the foreground heaved with Purple Swamphens; and in the middle distance Purple Herons cast their slender necks into improbable geometries.

Leaving behind the Bronze-winged Jacanas, the Grey-headed Lapwings and the Lesser Adjutants, we returned to the ship for lunch and for a pleasant afternoon spent sailing west, past flocks of Ruddy Shelducks, Common Cranes and Gadwall and past the endless siltscares of the Brahmaputra's shore.

## Day 5

Monday 11th February

Majuli today: the largest river island in the world, or so we're told. The island is so huge that, while on it, you have no conception of being on an island at all. It is, however, shrinking through erosion and in recent years many of the Vaishnavite monasteries for which it is celebrated have been lost to the river. Many remain, though, and today we visited two of the best-loved: Auniati Satra and Uttar Kamalabari.

At the first we learned about monastic life, while watching Pin-tailed Snipe and Common Kingfisher on the ponds; Crimson Sunbird and Tickell's Leaf-Warbler in the trees; and Spotted Owlets in the rafters of the prayer hall. At the second we were amazed by the energetic dancing and drumming of the monks.

Prior to our visit to the monasteries we had stopped at a large wetland, surrounded by villages and fields, where the lives of the local people and the faces of the smiling children who gathered around us were every bit as enthralling as the many birds we saw: Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, Fulvous Whistling-Ducks, Ferruginous Ducks, Red-crested Pochards and Little Grebes among many others.

In the afternoon we sailed again, and were again treated to fine views over the landscape of the vast river and to hundreds of wintering waterfowl along the river's edge. In the evening we took a short walk near our mooring, in the fields belonging to the Mising Village we would visit the next day, and were delighted to find a Red-necked Falcon and a quick-winged flock of Pacific Golden Plover.

## Day 6

## Tuesday 12th February

A highlight of the Brahmaputra Cruise is always the morning where we lazily wander around a Mising tribal village. The Mising people live close to water; indeed they build their houses on stilts in order to cope with the monsoon's floods. We visited their gardens, their houses, their fields and their school. We admired their contented-looking pigs and smelled the coriander growing in their pig-proof allotments. In a large flock of Baya Weavers here Imran found a single Black-breasted Weaver, and on the river's shore as we arrived was a welcoming party of Ashy Woodswallows, while around the village were Rufous Treepies, Indian Rollers and Asian Palm Swifts.

In the afternoon we sailed again, along a river lined with ducks, egrets and cormorants, reaching our mooring at Dhanshiri Mukh in the early evening. This is the north-eastern corner of Kaziranga National Park and, as we strode across the siltbank outside the park in the evening, we were amazed and delighted by the volume of wild animal tracks in the silt; a mother Tiger and at least one cub, an unidentified small cat, a family of Smooth-coated Otters, wild Asian Water Buffalo and wild Asian Elephant. The other creatures we saw here were smaller and less ferocious than the foot-print leavers but equally fascinating nonetheless: Oriental Pied and Great Pied Hornbills, Little Ringed Plovers, Black-necked Storks and, as we took the country boat back to Charaidew, a flight of Great White Pelicans, glowing gold in the evening's light.

## Day 7

## Wednesday 13th February

Having reached Kaziranga National Park, today we began to explore this unrivalled Asian wilderness. Our first visit was to the beautiful Eastern Range, through its gate at Agaratoli. On the large wetland at the entrance to the park were hundreds of waterbirds: Spot-billed and Great White Pelicans, a selection of herons and egrets, Bar-headed Geese, Black-necked and Woolly-necked Storks and countless ducks. Here and there among them were Redshank, Spotted Redshank, Greenshank, Green and Wood Sandpipers, while overhead were Ospreys and Pallas' Fish Eagles. And that's without mentioning the mammals. Herds of Swamp and Hog Deer stood, helpfully, side by side, for ease of comparison, and near them were heavy Water Buffalo, bleached by the dried mud on their flanks.

A little further, in the long wetland running at the edge of the forest, we met our first One-horned Rhinoceroses. These animals have a remarkable way of looking lumpish and solid one minute and positively nimble the next. By the time we reached them this morning though the sun was up and our rhinos were looking lumpish, up to their bellies in the ooze, with Indian Pond-Herons, Oriental Darters and White-throated Kingfishers decking the dead trees around them. In the trees of the forest were big families of Rhesus Macaques, strong adults and skinny infants, and losing themselves with amazing ease among the trees' trunks a small number of Asian Elephants.

Minivets, warblers, babblers, mynas... so many things to mention in this wonderful park... but in the afternoon we left the Western Range and sailed for Silghat, our mooring for the next three nights and the finest place on the cruise for watching the Gangetic Dolphin.

## Day 8

## Thursday 14th February

We took a gentle morning today, drifting towards Diphlu River Lodge for lunch. When I say drifting of course really I mean stopping by the road to watch fantastic wildlife. There were One-horned Rhinos, naturally, moping through the mud by the side of the road, surrounded by flocks of Bar-headed Geese, posses of sulky-looking Open-billed Storks, and dirty Wild Boar. And there were primates: Western Hoolock Gibbons in the tall trees by the roadside and with them a family of the lovely Assamese Macaque, quite different from its brutish commoner cousin the Rhesus Macaque.

Before lunch we had a job to do. The lodge elephant at Diphlu River Lodge needed scrubbing after a morning's work and several Naturetrekkers stood up to the task, striding into the squelchy mud at the bottom of the river to scrape the giant beast's limbs and ears with bunches of coarse grass. The elephant washed, and the muddy Naturetrekkers washed in turn, we enjoyed a delicious lunch in the grounds of the lodge, with a Coppersmith Barbet chiming in the trees above us and Himalayan Griffon Vultures cruising effortlessly overhead.

The afternoon this Valentine's Day was spent in the beautiful Western Range of Kaziranga, otherwise known as rhino central. It's barely believable, even for those who visit regularly, to see so many One-horned Rhinos in one area of the park, including dozens from the watchtower at Dunga. From here we also saw frost-winged River Terns, a family of stilt-legged Black-necked Storks and a big group of Smooth-coated Otters disporting themselves with fish right in front of us. Also here, almost the whole group saw... a very distant Tiger, pottering through the scrub on the far horizon. Those few who didn't see the Tiger had a fleeting glimpse of a much harder-to-see animal: a highly nocturnal Hog Badger, only the second seen on all of our Brahmaputra Cruises, which bolted across the road in front of their jeep. Not such a bad day really!

## Day 9

## Friday 15th February

And it kept getting better! For in this morning's mist we rode elephants around the Central Range. Our great steeds swayed hypnotically across the grassy plain, allowing us to approach One-horned Rhinos and their young to within a few metres. All around us too were slender, elegant Swamp Deer and squat, round-backed Hog Deer. Swamp Francolins burst up from the elephants' feet and Eastern Stonechats seemed to be perched on every tall tussock of grass.

The elusive Bengal Francolin eluded us successfully but it was an experience without equal to spend an hour on these mighty animals, having a glimpse of the wild world as they see it.

After a filling breakfast at Jupuri Lodge, we took to the Central Range again, this time in jeeps. Wild Boar trotted through the wetlands, their tails raised, Long-tailed Shrikes dangled from springy stems of elephant grass and the Asian Elephants themselves, after whom the grass is named, gathered at the huge waterhole which is overlooked by a tower. What a magnificent place Kaziranga is for watching the large mammals of South Asia!

On our way back to Charaidew we stopped at Hathikuli to buy tea. This is a well-known tea estate and it catered beautifully to all of your tea-drinking and present-buying needs.

## Day 10

Saturday 16 February

In times gone by we spent only three days in Kaziranga and spent a morning visiting Orang National Park. Two years ago, however, the fickle Brahmaputra shifted its course so dramatically that it's no longer possible for us to visit Orang from the river. Instead we now visit a fourth range in Kaziranga, the very beautiful and wildlife-filled Burapahar Range, in the extreme northwest of the park. Before we'd even made it into the park we were watching Common Green Magpie (not at all common!), Blue-throated and Blue-eared Barbets and a Stork-billed Kingfisher. Inside this beautiful range, with mixed forest and grassland, the birding was just as good. Wreathed, Great Pied and Oriental Pied Hornbills were seen, as were Dollarbird, Green-billed Malkoha and Blue-bearded Bee-eater.

Out in the grassland a few distant One-horned Rhinos brought the total seen on the tour to over ninety individuals and one of them put on a very fine display of rhino-skipping across the floor of a dried-out lake. Green and Blue-tailed Bee-eaters sallied between scrubby bushes, Lesser Whistling-Ducks crowded the lakes and pools and we were very happy to have visited this little-known corner of a beautiful park.

This afternoon, past Gangetic Dolphins and lines of Gadwall, we sailed for Tejpur, our start point for an adventure in Nameri the following day.

## Day 11

Sunday 17th February

It rained today...and we were on rubber dinghies rafting down a Himalayan foothill stream. Lucky for us, we had warned you it was going to rain and briefed you on how cold and wet you would be. Dutiful Naturetrekkers that you are, you had clad yourselves in waterproofs, and, what's more, our friendly, helpful boatmen and brought a stash of umbrellas with them, one per person on the rafts. While a few of you wisely chose a warmer and more relaxed morning, most took to the waters. Things began well, with cloud, the odd spot of rain and some very good birds. In fact we had seen Ibisbill, Himalayan Swiftlet, Common Merganser and Barred Cuckoo-Dove before we'd even left the shore and once afloat we were afforded even better views of the much-sought Ibisbill. The rain began tentatively at first and still there were birds – here a Plumeous Water-Redstart fanning its tail on a streamside rock, there a Crested Kingfisher perching on a pile of stones in the middle of the river – but soon it settled into a full-on deluge. Whenever our dinghy floated into an eddy beside one of yours, I was greeted with big smiles. Despite the rain you were clearly enjoying yourselves!

There were Great Thick-knees, there were hordes of low-flying martins and swallows, there were Pied Kingfishers, there were Ruddy Shelduck and there was rain! Emerging, soaked, from the dinghies at the bottom of the stretch we rafted (or rather were rafted by the expert paddles of local fishermen) you were full of laughter and good humour and full of stories of the things you'd seen along the river. Warmed by coffee and tea at Nameri Eco-Lodge, and – for some of you – by a quick visit to the Pygmy Hog breeding facility here, we turned back to Charaidew, had hot showers and, setting sail for the sandbanks off Orang, enjoyed another delicious lunch onboard the boat.

In the evening, wrapped up in our warmest, we were entertained magnificently by the crew of Charaidew at a beautiful barbecue on the remote wastes of the Brahmaputra's shore.

## Day 12

## Monday 18th February

Today's was the longest sailing of the trip, starting with the dawn and lasting into the afternoon when we reached the capital city of Guwahati. There were the usual ducks, of course, along the river; but there were also Black (Black-eared) Kites over the sandbanks (especially near human habitation), there were Steppe Eagles over distant hillsides, there were Ospreys on posts and piles, and there were Oriental Skylarks babbling over fields on the riverbank.

Reaching Guwahati, in the afternoon, we visited the Umananda Temple on Peacock Island. In addition to the small family of released (and thoroughly dingy) Golden Langurs here, we encountered Blue-throated Barbet, Jungle Babbler (last seen in the Botanic Garden of Kolkata) and Purple Sunbird. In the evening we moored at Pandu Ghat, in the city's docks.

## Day 13

## Tuesday 19th February

Our first visit this morning was to Kamakyha, the goddess temple on the Nilanchal Hill above Guwahati. This is a striking place on every visit, as pilgrims come here, from all over India, to make a sacrifice – a goat, a pigeon, a buffalo – to the goddess. At the gates of the temple hereditary priests wait to make the grisly offerings. All along the street leading uphill to the temple are stalls selling every object of Hindu devotion and everywhere are families leading goat kids to their sacred end. The walls of the temple are covered with pink-dyed pigeons, offered to the goddess, and the temple precinct is loud with the ringing of bells, the smashing of coconuts against statues and the chatter of the pilgrims.

Our visit to this extraordinary place done, we returned to Charaidew to finish packing and say our goodbyes to the crew and staff who had taken such exemplary care of us for the past ten days. From here we drove to the airport, via two fascinating stops. The first was Gorchuk, the city rubbish dump. Rubbish dumps may not sound like the stuff of nature holidays but, as every naturalist knows, they routinely attract rare wildlife. In this case our target was the Greater Adjutant Stork. It didn't take much effort to find it. On the pungent mounds of rubbish perched uncountable dozens of these magnificently ugly birds. In the skies above them were hundreds of Black-eared Kites and with them a sprinkling of Steppe Eagles. Also here, picking incongruously over the rubbish, were Citrine Wagtails in immaculate breeding plumage.

Next we visited a more salubrious site: a large wetland on the outskirts of the town, close to the airport. A great flock of Pintails fed on the far side of the lake, while close by in floating vegetation were the only Cotton Pygmy Geese of the tour. Naturally, this being an Assamese wetland, here there were also Little Cormorants, Little and Intermediate Egrets, Indian Pond-Herons, White-throated Kingfishers and all the many waterside birds which had been our friends over ten days along the Brahmaputra.

But it was time to leave them, to fly to Kolkata, to split the group into two – those going home and those going on to the Sunderbans – and say goodbyes. It had been a marvellous tour, had it not?

## Day 14

Wednesday 20th February

Travel to the UK

## Thanks

Our thanks, for the success of this complex and wonderful tour, are due to many people. First among them are the crew and staff of Charaidew who met our every need with grace, efficiency and a smile. Thanks are also due to our drivers, both in minibuses and the jeeps on Majuli Island, and to our mahouts and their placid elephants. Our warmest thanks go to our delightful hosts, Pratik, captain of Charaidew, Imran and Babu, our tireless, helpful, friendly naturalists, and Niv, our hugely-informed and very entertaining cultural guide. We are immensely grateful to you all.

Final thanks are due to twenty-two Naturetrekkers who threw themselves into a demanding tour with gusto, enthusiasm, humour and panache.

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## Species Lists (Main Tour 8<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> , then the Sunderbans extension)

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

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

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>			✓			✓		✓	H				✓				
30	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	✓		✓	✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
31	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>							✓		✓	✓	✓		H				H
32	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>							H		✓								
33	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	✓			H		H	H	H	✓								
34	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
35	Wreathed Hornbill	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>									✓								
36	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
37	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓	✓				✓					✓		✓		
38	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
39	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>									✓								
40	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon amauropterus</i>													H	✓		✓	
42	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>	H			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓								
43	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
45	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todirhampus chloris</i>													✓	✓			✓
46	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>										✓							
47	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		
48	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>			H				✓	✓	✓								
49	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>									✓								
51	Common Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>	✓								✓								
52	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	✓									H	H		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>							✓	✓	✓								
54	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>				H		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	
55	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>									✓								
56	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	H		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓								
57	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
58	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
59	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>										✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	February																	
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
60	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
61	House Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓																	
62	Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>						✓	✓											
63	Tawny Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa flavipes</i>								✓										
64	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓									
65	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓			✓				✓							✓		✓	
66	Jungle Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>														✓				
67	Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>														✓		✓	✓	
68	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>						✓	✓	✓										
69	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓												
71	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
72	Barred Cuckoo Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>										✓								
73	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>			✓						✓									
74	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓						✓			
75	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>						✓	✓		✓									
76	Slaty-breasted Rail	<i>Gallirallus striatus</i>																✓		
77	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>				✓				✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
78	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>		✓	✓	✓														
79	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	✓					✓						✓			
80	Common Coot	<i>Fulicata atra</i>				✓			✓											
81	Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>				✓				✓										
82	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>								✓	✓									
83	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>				✓	✓											✓	✓	
84	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>																✓	✓	✓
85	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓									
86	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		
87	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			
88	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				✓		✓		✓										
89	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓									
90	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>																✓	✓	
91	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
92	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				✓					✓								
93	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>				✓													
94	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓								
95	Great Thick-knee	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>						✓			✓								
96	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>									✓								
97	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>				✓		✓						H				✓	
98	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓						
99	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>															✓	✓	
100	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
101	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	
102	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓								
103	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>				✓	✓				✓	✓	✓						
104	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>			✓		✓	✓											
105	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>			✓			✓										✓	
106	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>			✓														
107	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>						✓	✓			✓							
108	Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>										✓							
109	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>																	✓
110	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
111	Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓									
112	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓					
113	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
114	Pallas's Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
115	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
116	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>						✓											
117	Slenderbilled Vulture	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>		✓				✓											
118	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>			✓			✓	✓		✓								
119	Eurasian Griffon	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>							✓										
120	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>									✓								
121	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>							✓	✓	✓					✓			
122	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
123	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓									
124	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>							✓										
125	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>							✓	✓					✓				
126	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓	
127	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>											✓						
128	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓	✓	✓						✓						
129	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>						✓	✓										
130	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>								✓		✓	✓						
131	Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>							✓										
132	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓																
133	Changeable Hawk Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>						✓		✓	✓							✓	
134	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓						
135	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>				✓													
136	Oriental Hobby	<i>Falco severus</i>							✓										
137	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						✓	✓	✓			✓				✓		
138	Little Grebe	<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>				✓								✓					
139	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓						
140	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓			
141	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
142	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
143	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
144	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
145	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓								
146	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
147	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
148	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
149	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
150	Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>			✓	✓	✓					✓							
151	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>			✓				✓	✓	✓							✓	
152	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					✓	✓											
153	Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>					✓	✓	✓										
154	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
155	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			✓		✓	✓		✓		✓							
156	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓								
157	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓			✓						
158	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	
159	Greater Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>							✓					✓					
160	Blue-naped Pitta	<i>Pitta nipalensis</i>			H														
161	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>								✓									
162	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>								✓		✓	✓						
163	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓									
164	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach tricolor</i>				✓				✓	✓	✓				✓			
165	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓						
166	Common Green Magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>									✓								
167	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
168	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓					
169	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
170	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>				✓	✓			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
171	Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>														✓			
172	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓	✓	✓
173	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>			H														
174	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>							✓	✓		✓				✓			
175	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>			✓														
176	Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melanoptera</i>																✓	
177	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>													✓	✓	✓		
178	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>			✓						✓	✓							
179	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>							✓										
180	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			✓				✓										
181	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
182	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>			✓				✓							✓	✓	✓	✓
183	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>									✓								
184	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>							✓		✓								
185	Greater Racket Tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>			✓														

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
186	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>			✓														
187	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>			H		✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
188	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>			✓														
189	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>							✓										
190	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>			✓				✓										
191	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>			✓				✓										
192	Black-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus dissimilis</i>								✓									
193	Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	H		✓		✓		✓	✓				✓		✓		✓	
194	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>							✓	✓									
195	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>										✓							✓
196	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>			✓	H		✓		✓	✓		✓						
197	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
198	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>			✓														
199	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>			✓														
200	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>										✓							
201	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		
202	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>				✓	✓			✓									
203	Spot-winged Starling	<i>Saroglossa spiloptera</i>							✓										
204	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
205	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
206	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
207	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
208	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>			✓			✓	✓		✓								
209	Northern Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>						✓	✓	✓									
210	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
211	Sultan Tit	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>			✓														
212	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
213	Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>										✓							
214	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
215	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>							✓										✓
216	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>							✓	✓									
217	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓								✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
218	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
219	White-throated Bulbul	<i>Alphoixus flaveolus</i>			✓														
220	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>								✓	✓		✓						
221	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>				✓	✓												
222	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>				✓				H					✓	✓	✓		
223	Grey-bellied Tesia	<i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>			✓														
224	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>				H													
225	Thick-billed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>																✓	
226	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>			✓	H	✓			H	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
227	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>			✓														
228	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>													✓				
229	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>			H	✓			H	H				✓		✓	✓		
230	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓								
231	Lemon-rumped Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>								✓									
232	Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>			✓						✓								
233	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>			H						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
234	Western Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus occipitalis</i>			✓														
235	Blyth's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>			✓						✓								
236	Yellow-bellied Warbler	<i>Abroscopus supercilii</i>					✓												
237	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
238	Abbott's Babbler	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>						✓											
239	Striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>			H										H				
240	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>								✓									
241	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
242	White-bellied Yuhina	<i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>			✓														
243	Rufous-winged Bushlark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓								
244	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>			✓	✓	✓												
245	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>											✓						
246	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>				✓			✓		✓	✓							
247	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>			✓														
248	Loten's Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia lotenia</i>													✓		✓		



	Common name	Scientific name	February																
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
249	Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
250	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
251	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>			✓	✓													
252	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>			✓														
253	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
254	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>							✓										
255	Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer rutilans</i>				✓													
256	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
257	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓		
258	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓				✓		✓
259	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>													✓				
260	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>				✓				✓			✓						
261	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			✓														
262	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>				✓											✓		
263	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>								✓									
264	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>								✓	✓								
265	Black-breasted Weaver	<i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>					✓												
266	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>					✓			✓									
267	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>															✓		

## Mammals

1	Hoolock Gibbon	<i>Bunopithecus hoolock</i>			✓				✓		H								
2	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Assam Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>							✓										
4	Pig-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca leonina</i>			✓														
5	Golden Langur	<i>Trachypithecus geei</i>											✓						
6	Capped Langur	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>			✓				✓		✓	✓							
7	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>							✓	✓									
8	Swamp deer	<i>Cervus duvaucelii</i>						✓	✓	✓									
9	Hog Deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓								
10	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February																	
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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	Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>									✓									
16	Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>								✓										
18	Smooth-coated Otter	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>								✓										
19	Oriental Small-Clawed Otter	<i>Amblonyx cinereus</i>														✓				
20	Hog Badger	<i>Arctonyx collaris</i>								✓										
21	Malayan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>			✓															
22	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓																	
23	Himalayan striped Squirrel	<i>Tamias maccllellandi</i>									✓									
24	Hoary-bellied Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓								
25	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>		✓		✓														
26	Gangetic River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						