

ASSAM and ARUNACHAL PRADESH

North East India February 2008

Kathie and Mick Claydon

It was just a casual question. "How's your North East trip going, Jo, have you filled it yet?"

We first met Jo Thomas of *WILD ABOUT INDIA* in 2005 at the Rutland Bird Fair. After many years of frustrating independent travel in India we had given up on the subcontinent and had tried to forget about it's amazing wildlife. But Jo persuaded us that it didn't have to be like that, it was possible to have an enjoyable, virtually hassle-free trip and she arranged a tour for us with *ASIAN ADVENTURES* in 2006 to northern India (Dehra Dun-Mussoorie-Corbett-Ranikhet-Pangot). And she was right. The trip was an outstanding success, the combined expertise of *WILD ABOUT INDIA* and *ASIAN ADVENTURES* renewed our enthusiasm for the region.

But it was just conversational. I was being polite. I wasn't ready for another visit to India.....

Arunachal Pradesh. Not on our "must visit" list. Not well-known. Remote. High. Cold. Wet. Difficult to reach, even more difficult to get entry permits. So the reply to that casual question in November 2007, that just a couple of places were left, shouldn't have made any impression. But it did.

Over the next few days we read everything we could find on the area. Eaglenest forest, Lama Camp, Sangti Valley, Sela Pass, ***Bugun Liocichla***. Wow! An amazing density and variety of birds, superb forest, well-organised camping trips. Adding two sites in Assam, Nameri and Kaziranga, would round-off the trip very nicely.

Decision made!

As the departure date drew closer I must admit there were some qualms; it's going to be very cold, there will be heavy mist, it might rain a lot, how will we cope with the altitude, what about leeches in Nameri? I dealt with these and many more worries that were whizzing around my head by packing plenty of thermals, buying good-quality sleeping bags and taking professional advice on altitude sickness. We reproofed our rainwear, rediscovered our rainproof note books, bought leech-proof socks and waterproof rucksacks.

Jo organised the trip again using the services of *ASIAN ADVENTURES* in India. In Assam and Arunachal Pradesh our guide was Peter Lobo who has many years of experience in the area. There were seven in the group from the UK; the two of us, John van der Dol, Roger Hughes, Steve Lister, Sue Pollard as well as Jo. Mohit Aggarwal, Director of *ASIAN ADVENTURES* joined the tour in Delhi, so we were in very good hands throughout. Peter Lobo's team of drivers, cooks, camp-managers and all-round hard-working, good natured guys were without fault. They fed and watered us, set up camp, gave us hot water bottles, brought delicious hot meals to us in the forest, dug us out of the snow, waited patiently as we tried to identify yet another skulking bird, and laughed and smiled their way through the whole trip.

We had 371 bird sp. and the group total was around 398. Some of our plans had to change because of the weather and bird movement was undoubtedly affected too. Snow blocked Sela Pass so we missed the opportunity of higher altitude species and birding around Eaglenest was probably less productive than usual with so much snow around, but the variety and number of species was still mind-blowing, and some species were found at a lower altitude than normal. Wildlife projects on tigers and hoolock gibbons, combined with migration of large numbers of belligerent elephants into the area, restricted our travels around Kaziranga. We didn't really have enough time in Nameri and Kaziranga to fully appreciate these areas and a few days added to the trip would have been worthwhile. The number of days in Arunachal, at Dirang and Eaglenest, was, I believe, as long as the Restricted Area permits allow but again, more time here would be better if it's possible.

So was it worth it? Most definitely yes. Provided you are well prepared for almost any weather conditions and don't expect 4-Star comfort you'll have a great time. It did get very cold but we didn't get wet. The birds were amazing. The forests were stunning. The people were great. The organisation was excellent.

Thanks, Jo. You did it again.

ITINERARY

29 January	Arrived Delhi early afternoon. Late afternoon to Okhla
30 January	05.30 flight arriving Guwahati at 07.40. Drive to Nameri Late afternoon-dusk walking near Nameri Eco Camp
31 January	Early morning crossed Jia Bhareli river to walk in forest Early afternoon raft trip along Jia Bhareli river Late afternoon-dusk walking near Nameri Eco Camp
1 February	Early morning around Nameri Eco Camp before drive to Dirang Short visit to Sangti Valley before dusk
2 February	Morning walk in Sangti Valley . Afternoon birding drive towards Mandala
3 February	Day birding drive from Dirang towards Sela Pass reaching Baisakhi Army Camp at c.3,500m and returning to Dirang after dark
4 February	Morning birding drive to Lama Camp . Afternoon walk from camp
5 February	Morning walk downhill, afternoon walk uphill from Lama camp
6 February	Whole day crossing snow-bound Eaglenest Pass to Bompu camp
7 February	Drive above Bompu ; whole day walking back towards camp
8 February	Whole day walk downhill from Bompu to Sessni camp
9 February	Short walks only from Sessni camp due to fog Most of morning around camp. Afternoon walk uphill from camp
10 February	Early morning walk uphill from Sessni Departed Sessni c.10.00 for drive to Kaziranga Late afternoon around Jupuri Ghar lodge
11 February	Early morning elephant ride then jeep drive in central area of Kaziranga Midday Jupuri Ghar lodge area Afternoon-evening drive central-western area of Kaziranga
12 February	Morning drive in western area of Kaziranga Afternoon tea gardens and edge of Panbari forest Late afternoon tea gardens east of Kohora (Kaziranga)
13 February	Early drive to Guwahati . Short stops, including marshy area on edge of Guwahati Afternoon flight arriving Delhi c.18.30
14 February	Morning flight from Delhi to London

SITES MENTIONED IN THIS REPORT

AP	Arunachal Pradesh
Bhalukpong	Town on the border of Assam/Arunachal Pradesh. 213m
Bomdila	Main town of West Kameng District, between Bhalukpong and Tawang and north of Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary. 2,530m. AP
Bompu area	Refers to camp (1,950m) + areas we walked around Bompu (Eaglenest WLS) AP
Bompu to Sessni	Refers to the walk from Bompu Camp down to Sessni Camp (Eaglenest WLS) AP
Dirang	Town 45k northwest from Bomdila, near Sangti Valley. 1,500m AP
Dirang to Lama	Refers to the route from Dirang to Lama Camp, via Bomdila and Tenga. AP
Dirang-Mandala	The road from Dirang towards Mandala ridge, passing through good forest. AP
Dirang towards Sela Pass	Sela Pass is at 4,500m (2½ hour drive from Dirang without stops); we reached barely 3,500m at the Baisakhi Army Camp. AP
Eaglenest Pass	Between Lama and Bompu Camps (Eaglenest WLS). 2,900m. AP
Eaglenest *	In this report refers to area from Lama through Bompu to Sessni Camp. AP
Guwahati marsh	In this report refers to an area of wetland on outskirts of Guwahati where we stopped before reaching the airport. Assam

Guwahati rubbish tip	Site for Greater Adjutants (?more than one tip near city?). A conservation project was set up a few years ago and local people protect the nesting trees of these birds in exchange for free veterinary care for their animals. AP
Kaziranga to Guwahati	The drive westwards from Kaziranga via Nagaon (with stop at Guwahati marsh)
Khellong	Town south of Sessni, on the route down towards Kaziranga. AP
Kohora	The (growing) town around the main entrance to Kaziranga National Park and the Admin Centre. We stayed at Jupuri Ghar lodge, Kohora. Assam
Lama area	Refers to Lama Camp (2,350m; 15km from Tenga) + surrounding areas where we walked/drove (Eaglenest WLS) AP
Nameri Eco Camp	A privately-run camp just outside the Nameri National Park. Assam
Nameri National Park	200km ² park in Assam, adjoining Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal. The Bhareli river runs along the western and southern boundaries. 80-225m AP
Nameri to Dirang	The drive from Nameri in Assam to Dirang (and Sangti Valley) in Arunachal Pradesh via Bhalukpong and Bomdila.
Okhla	A stretch of the Yamuna river, 10 kms from Connaught Place, Delhi. Easy access.
Panbari Forest	A forest reserve adjoining Kaziranga National Park, edged by tea plantations
Sangti Valley	12 kms north of Dirang; known for the Black necked Cranes which stop off for a few weeks in winter to feed in fallow rice field around the valley. 1,600m. AP
Sessni area	Sessni Camp (1,250m) and surrounding areas
Sessni to Kaziranga	Drive from Sessni to Kaziranga via Khelong, Doimara, Kamengbari and Bhalukpong then across Brahmaputra river at Tezpur
Tea plantations	We visited two areas of tea plantation to the west of Kohora (Kaziranga), one on the edge of Panbari forest and another closer to Kohora
Tenga	South of Bomdila, 15kms from Lama Camp

* For detailed information on the Eaglenest area see www.ncra.tifr.res.in/~rathreya/Eaglenest/ebp1reportW.pdf
It's a huge document but well worth reading.

DIARY NOTES

29 January 2008

DELHI / OKHLA

First bird: a **ringtail Harrier** by the runway at Delhi. Arrived at Sunstar Hotel in Delhi early afternoon, had lunch then headed out to Okhla for a few hours. Plenty of birds along the way but it's so sad that there are no vultures to be seen these days (back in the 80s the Delhi sky was filled with White rumped and Indian vultures and even in the early 90s they were a common sight). This was our first visit to Okhla, never having stayed long enough in the city before to fit it in, and we were suitably impressed.

SPECIES in the DELHI area included (see also full Species List): *Little Grebe, Little and Greater Cormorants, Intermediate, Little and Cattle Egrets, Purple, Grey and Indian Pond Herons, Black headed Ibis, Greater Flamingo, Greylag Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Spot billed Duck, Pintail, Shoveler, Teal, Wigeon, Gadwall, Black shouldered Kite, Black Kite, Peregrine, Kestrel, Western Marsh Harrier, Grey Francolin, Purple Swamphen, Eurasian Coot, Moorhen, White tailed and Red wattled Lapwings, Black tailed Godwit, Wood Sandpiper, Stints, Black winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Caspian, Brown headed and Black headed Gulls, Laughing and Eurasian Collared Doves, Yellow footed Green Pigeon, Rose ringed Parakeet, Coucal, Little Swift, White fronted Kingfisher, Green Bee Eater, Barn Swallow, Plain Martin, Western Yellow Wagtail, Red vented Bulbul, Hume's Leaf Warbler, Chiffchaff, Hume's Whitethroat, Magpie Robin, Purple Sunbird, Long tailed Shrike, Black Drongo, House Crow, Common and Pied Starlings, Common and Bank Mynas, House Sparrow, Red Avadavat*

30 January 2008

DELHI-GUWAHATI-NAMERI

Very early flight from Delhi, arriving Guwahati at 07.40h and met by Peter Lobo. Quickly transferred into three vehicles and on our way to Nameri, but first there was a short detour to a rubbish tip in Guwahati - 95 **Greater** and 6 **Lesser Adjutants**, hundreds of **Black Kites** (mostly *lineatus*) and a couple of **Citrine Wagtails**. An excellent start. Next stop was for a breakfast of scrambled eggs and chapattis; it took ages to be served but at least this meant everything was freshly cooked and piping hot. We used the waiting time to watch **White eyes, Chestnut tailed Starling, Little Spiderhunter**, etc. Travelling on through varied habitat (villages and towns, sparsely wooded hillsides, rice fields, tea plantations.) we saw a reasonable amount of birdlife.

SPECIES from GUWAHATI to NAMERI included (see also full Species List): *Little Cormorant, Great, Intermediate and Cattle Egrets, Indian Pond Heron, Grey Heron, Greater and Lesser Adjutants, Asian Openbill Stork, Lesser Whistling Duck, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Black shouldered and Black Kites, Red necked Falcon, Spotted Dove, Asian Barred Owlet, Himalayan Swiftlet, House and Palm Swifts, White fronted and Common Kingfishers, Green Bee Eater, Indian Roller, Barn Swallow, Citrine Wagtail, Black Bulbul, Red breasted*

Flycatcher, Little Spiderhunter, Oriental White eye, Brown and Long tailed Shrikes, Black Drongo, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Chestnut tailed Starling, Common and Bank Mynas, Tree Sparrow, Scaly breasted Munia

NAMERI NATIONAL PARK

We arrived at **Nameri Eco Camp** at Potasali on the edge of Assam's **Nameri National Park** by mid-afternoon. The camp is nicely set up; accommodation is a mix of rustic chalets and large, permanently erected tents with adjoining shower and flush loo. Tasty Indian buffet-style food was served in the large dining area. Plenty of large trees provide habitat for a wide range of birds - a pair of **Oriental Hobbies, Blue Whistling Thrush, Red breasted Parakeets**. We spent the remaining couple of hours of daylight walking tracks beyond camp. It started to rain as night fell, becoming quite heavy for a while during the night.

31 January

NAMERI

A boat took us across the Bhareli river and we soon saw **5 Great and 2 Wreathed Hornbills** overhead. We spent the morning walking in the forest seeing a good range of species. Although we failed to find White winged Duck we were pleased with what we did find: **Green billed Malkoha, Fairy Bluebird, Wedge tailed Green Pigeon, Vernal Hanging Parrot** and much more. The afternoon raft trip down river was enjoyable but not as productive as we'd expected as the only stop was to watch two **Ibisbills** amongst some rocks; it would have been good to stop to check the shore line more often. Late afternoon to dusk walk along tracks around Eco Camp.



Us on the Bhareli River, Nameri © J Thomas

SPECIES in and around NAMERI included (see also full Species List): *Little and Greater Cormorants, Little Egret, Indian Pond Heron, Lesser Adjutant, Bar headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Mallard, Teal, Goosander, Osprey, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, Common Kestrel, Oriental Hobby, Little Ringed Plover, River and Red wattled Lapwings, Greenshank, Green and Common Sandpipers, Small Pratincole, River Tern, Green Imperial Pigeon, Wedge tailed Green Pigeon, Oriental Turtle and Spotted Doves, Red breasted Parakeet, Vernal hanging Parrot, Green billed Malkoha, Collared and Asian Barred Owlets, Himalayan Swiftlet, Palm Swift, White fronted, Crested, Pied and Common Kingfishers, Indian Roller, Wreathed and Great Pied Hornbills, Lineated and Blue throated Barbets, Grey capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Lesser Yellownape, Greater Flameback, Sand Lark, Plain Martin, Barn Swallow, White Wagtail, Olive backed Pipit, Long tailed Minivet, Black crested, Red whiskered, Red vented, White throated and Black Bulbuls, Golden fronted and Orange bellied Leafbirds, Common Iora, Blue Whistling Thrush, Black breasted Thrush, Striated Grassbird, Common Tailorbird, Thick billed, Yellow browed, Greenish and Yellow vented Warblers, Red breasted flycatcher, Large, Small and Rufous bellied Niltavas, Grey headed Canary Flycatcher, Siberian Rubythroat, Oriental Magpie Robin, White rumped Shama, Hodgson's Redstart, White capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts, Black backed Forktail, (Siberian) Stonechat, Yellow bellied Fantail, Black naped Monarch, Abbott's Babbler, Striped Tit babbler, Great Tit, White tailed and Velvet fronted Nuthatches, Little and Streaked Spiderhunters, Oriental White eye, Black hooded Oriole, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Long tailed and Grey backed Shrikes, Large Woodshrike, Lesser Racket tailed, Haircrested and Black Drongos, Ashy Woodswallow, House and Large billed/Jungle Crows, Spot winged, Asian Pied and Chestnut tailed Starlings, Jungle, Common and Common Hill Mynas, Tree Sparrow, Wild Boar, Indian Muntjac and Hog deer, Capped Langur monkey, Himalayan Hoary-bellied Squirrel.*

1 February

DEPART NAMERI

Early walk around Nameri Camp, leaving by 06.20h for Dirang. We hadn't done the park justice - a few more days could be spent exploring the area. Leaving Nameri there's the familiar extensive forest clearance and encroaching settlements. We stopped to watch a **Crested Serpent Eagle** and **2 Wreathed Hornbills** then headed for Bhalukpong, the check post on the border between the States of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

ROUTE NAMERI to DIRANG

Our Restricted Area Permits for entry into Arunachal had been pre-arranged by Peter Lobo and it was a surprisingly quick and painless procedure to get them issued/authorised. We just waited in the vehicles whilst Peter dealt with the formalities and soon we were on the road again, climbing steep, wooded hills with a few settlements at first, then the forest thickened and our bird list increased rapidly. Our first stop produced **Buff breasted Babbler**, then **Silver eared Mesias**. As we climbed, it got colder and soon we saw snow on the ground. We stopped in Bomdila for fuel (at 2,530m; quite a climb from Nameri at only 80m or so). As we arrived at "The Native Inn - Pure Vegetarian

Restaurant it started to snow so the steaming sweetcorn soup and vegetables with noodles (chow mein) was very welcome.

We passed many army camps. Buddhist prayer flags were on every hillside and around villages. It didn't feel at all like India up here, the people seemed to be a mix of Nepalis and Tibetans? It was late afternoon by the time we reached Dirang (Dirang Dzong) and headed for Sangti Valley for the **Black necked Cranes** - we found just one. After watching it chase off a pair of Ruddy Shelduck, we noticed an **Asian barred Owl** in the trees behind us.

Although we were lower than earlier in the day (Dirang is around 1,500m and Sangti Valley 1,600m) we were starting to feel the cold as we checked in at Hotel Pamelang. The place was clean and spacious, with very high ceilings, open doors and windows, and NO heating apart from one very old, inefficient fan heater shared between our 5 rooms! Apparently any more electrical appliances would blow the power throughout the hotel. The staff told us they had not known it so cold for 16 years or more. We all dined wearing outdoor clothing, coats, hats, scarves, the lot. The food was nice - soup, lightly spiced vegetable dishes and a mutton curry. The rooms were very cold but we were given hot water bottles which helped warm the beds a bit. In fact we slept very well - wearing thermals, balaclava and socks!

SPECIES from BHALUKPONG to DIRANG included (see also full Species List): *Crested Goshawk, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Mountain Hawk Eagle, Peregrine/Shaheen, Red Junglefowl, Spotted Dove, Collared Owllet, Red headed Trogon, Great Barbet, Eurasian Crag Martin, Olive backed Pipit, Red whiskered, Red vented and Black Bulbuls, Orange bellied Leafbird, Blue Whistling, Blue Rock and Plain backed Thrushes, Yellow bellied Warbler, Rufous breasted Bush Robin, Red flanked Bluetail, Hodgson's and Blue fronted Redstarts, White capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts, Striated Laughing Thrush, Buff breasted Babbler, Silver eared Mesia, Wallcreeper, Gould's Sunbird, Hair crested Drongo, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Tree Sparrow, Common Hill Myna*

2 February

DIRANG-SANGTI VALLEY-MANDALA ROAD

After breakfast (wearing coat, hat and gloves again) we made an early start to spend a few hours in Sangti Valley. Birding was good both around the rice fields on the valley floor (**Black tailed Crane, Long billed Plover, Black necked Crane, Nepal House Martin,**) and the sparsely wooded hillsides (**Red flanked Bluetail, Russet Sparrow, Little Bunting**). We also enjoyed talking to local people who seemed happy to see us. Was it a day of celebration? Pigs had been slaughtered in several places around the village. Back at the hotel we had half an hour birding outside whilst waiting for lunch to be served. The rest of the day was spent along the superb, thickly wooded road to Mandala, stopping to walk at many productive spots **Black Eagle, White collared Blackbird, Maroon backed Accentor, Minlas, Yuhinas...**)



In the evening we heard there was a lot of snow higher up and Sela Pass had been closed but that it might be reopened tomorrow. On that cheery note we retired to bed early for two reasons (a) if we want to try for Sela Pass we'll need an early start in the morning and (b) it was too cold to sit around in the lounge!!

SPECIES around DIRANG-SANGTI VALLEY-MANDALA ROAD included (see also full Species List): *Ruddy Shelduck, Black Eagle, Crested Goshawk, White eyed and Common Buzzard, Peregrine (Shaheen), Black necked Crane, Black tailed Crane, Long billed Plover, Northern and Red wattle Lapwing, Ibisbill, Oriental Turtle Dove, Collared and Asian Barred Owllet, Crested Kingfisher, Great Barbet, Nepal House Martin, White (alboides) and Grey Wagtails, Red vented and Black Bulbuls, Rufous breasted and Maroon backed Accentors, Blue Rock and Blue Whistling Thrushes, White collared Blackbird, Ashy throated, Lemon rumped, Buff barred, Grey hooded and White spectacled Warblers, Rufous gorgetted and Slaty blue Flycatchers, Red flanked Bluetail (Orange flanked Bush Robin), Golden Bush Robins, Hodgson's, Blue fronted and Black Redstarts, White capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts, Little Forktail, Siberian Stonechat, Yellow bellied Fantail, Chestnut crowned Laughing thrush, Streak breasted Scimitar babbler, Hoary throated Barwing, Chestnut tailed and Red tailed Minlas, Beautiful Sibia, Stripe throated and Rufous vented Yuhinas, Green backed, Great and Black throated Tits, Wallcreeper, Greentailed Sunbird, Fire breasted Flowerpecker, Oriental White eye, Long tailed Shrike, Black Drongo, Nutcracker, Russet and Tree Sparrows, Yellow breasted Greenfinch, Gold naped Finch, Little Bunting*

3 February

DIRANG towards SELA PASS (as far as Baisakhi Army Camp)

We set off along the valley towards Sela Pass just after 06.00h to see how far we could get. The snow-covered high peaks soon became visible, turning a rich gold as the sun rose. As we climbed higher the snow got deeper and the road

more icy. There were plenty of stops for some superb birds (**Laughing thrushes, Shrike Babblers, Fulvetas, Minlas, Accentors, Treecreepers**) and also to load rocks into the back of one vehicle which was particularly prone to sliding on the icy road! We passed numerous army camps and ammunition depots which meant “no cameras” - very disappointing to be unable to record the beautiful scenery and of course the best birds were close to the camps! The rear vehicle was struggling on the ice and a little below 3,500m it was considered unsafe to go any higher. More disappointment. Huge army trucks, complete with snow chains, were continuing upwards, as were a few lorries and public buses, but we decided to play it safe. We left the vehicles and walked on through the snow and a flock of **Snow Pigeons** flew by - fantastic! Then a **Yellow billed Blue Magpie**. Further on, in a small clearing by some army buildings, we encountered a bewildering collection of **Rosefinches**. We reached Baisakhi Army Camp (c.3,500m) and were delighted to find that not only could we buy cups of tea but bowls of hot noodles! Taking care not to slip (the snow was about 20cm deep but had drifted knee-deep in places and was now frozen almost solid) we stood outside enjoying the food and scenery. We were told the Pass was open but only a few vehicles were getting through at a time and it was very slow progress. We toyed with the idea of getting on one of the public buses but getting back again might be a problem. Although disappointed at missing the chance of Tragopans, Grandala and other high altitude species, we felt we’d probably made the right decision. We returned to the vehicles, taking the rest of the day to slowly descend to Dirang, stopping many times. At a large grass-covered hillside we came across 6 **White throated Redstarts** - no doubt down here to avoid the deep snow. It was dark by the time we reached the hotel and, although the species list was less than hoped-for, we were more than happy with the day.

SPECIES from DIRANG towards SELA PASS (BAISAKHI ARMY CAMP) included (see also full Species List):
Peregrine, Common Kestrel, Snow Pigeon, Alpine, Rufous breasted and Maroon backed Accentors, Winter Wren, Olive backed Pipit, Blue Rock, Blue Whistling and Plain backed Thrushes, Ashy throated and Grey hooded Warblers, Red flanked Bluetail, White browed and Rufous breasted Bush Robins, White throated, Hodgson’s and Blue fronted Redstarts, Spotted, Streaked and Chestnut crowned Laughing Thrushes, Streak breasted Scimitar babbler, Rufous capped Babbler, Green Shrike babbler, Chestnut tailed and Red tailed Minlas, Brown throated Fulvetta, Whiskered Yuhina, Grey crested, Green backed, Coal, Rufous vented and Yellow browed Tits, Wallcreeper, Rusty flanked and Bar tailed Treecreepers, Yellow billed Blue Magpie, Nutcracker, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Russet Sparrow, Dark breasted, Common, White browed and Blanford’s Rosefinches, Red headed and Grey headed Bullfinches, Gold naped Finch, Plain Mountain Finch, Himalayan Orange bellied Squirrel

4 February

DIRANG to LAMA CAMP via Bomdila and Tenga

A lie-in this morning! Breakfast at 06.00h (still wearing coats and hats) and left the hotel at 06.45h. The staff came out to say goodbye and draped silky yellow scarves around our neck - a very nice gesture. Then we were on our way towards “Eaglenest” but of course there were some stops - 14 **Great Barbets** feeding together in one fruiting tree, **Brown Dippers, Crested Kingfishers**. We refuelled at Bomdila and watched 2 **Long legged Buzzards**, then went food-shopping in Tenga - an amazing number of boxes, bags and cartons were loaded into the vehicles, the beers being particularly carefully packed! Most of the snow we’d seen a few days ago in Bomdila had gone but we found it again as we climbed to well over 2,000m during today’s journey.

Lama Camp (2,330m) is only 15kms from Tenga but it’s a slow uphill journey. The forest was very degraded at first, with a number of settlements. We saw Lama camp from some distance away, a snow-covered clearing on a hillside amongst better woodland. Camp was ready for us, tents in place, beds made, lunch served. And it started to snow. The dining hut was as cosy as a bamboo hut can be, with a tiny wood burning stove struggling to send out some warmth.

We walked out from camp and the road went through some decent forest as well as degraded parts. Bird of the day was undoubtedly the **Bugun Liocichla** which sadly Mick and I missed but we were more than happy with the **Sibias, Yuhinas, Bulbuls, Warblers** and so on.

One of the local hill-tribes, the Bugun community (after which the new species of Liocichla is named) is involved in conservation plans for the area and the camp has been set up to encourage wildlife tourism (read the report at www.ncra.tifr.res.in/~rathreya/Eaglenest/ebp1reportW.pdf for a huge amount of information on the Eaglenest area and the Bugun Welfare Society). We’re not sure if these plans and hopes for the area are working, judging by the amount of felled timber. Perhaps it is better than nothing but it seemed wrong that we didn’t see any local tribes people working around Lama camp - surely it’s they who should be trained to run the camp, not incomers from Nepal or Sikkim? If the local people don’t benefit, how will the forests be preserved?

Back at camp by 17.30h to be greeted with vegetable pokora to accompany tea and coffee (hot chocolate if you really want to indulge). Snowfall had turned to fine drizzle but by dark the temperature went well



below zero and we had to be careful moving around camp on the frozen snow.

SPECIES from DIRANG to LAMA CAMP included (see also full Species List): *Long legged Buzzard, Black Kite, Crested Kingfisher, Great Barbet, Olive backed Pipit, Mountain and Red vented Bulbuls, Brown Dipper, Blue Whistling Thrush, Brownish flanked Bush Warbler, White browed Bush Robin, Hodgson's Redstart, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Hoary throated Barwing, Whiskered Yuhina, Black throated Tit, Tree Sparrow, Yellow breasted Greenfinch*

5 February

LAMA AREA

A bucket of boiling hot water with our 05.00h wake-up call was most welcome as the 1cm layer of ice on the shower hut water was not to our liking! The temperature remained low through the morning and the ground was frozen hard as we walked downhill from camp but we were well wrapped up and didn't feel particularly cold as we found more and more birds (**Crimson Woodpecker, Blackfaced Warbler, Wren Babblers...**) Peter felt there were fewer birds around than usual (the weather?) but there was more than enough to keep us occupied.

Lunch was back at camp: soup, noodles, vegetables and *sausages*. In the afternoon we drove along the road above camp. Lots of snow lying up here, far more than Peter has seen in this area before, and the road started to get a bit dodgy. We walked slowly back down to camp through better forest, as the drivers went higher to check the condition of the road - that's where we're heading tomorrow! By late afternoon a heavy mist descended and we returned to camp around 16.00h. It was less cold but by dark the lying snow was very crunchy and any exposed mud was frozen solid. As we sat around the wood stove chatting about the day's experiences we were joined by the American couple we'd first met at Pameling Hotel in Dirang. They were following a couple of days behind our tour (another of Peter's team from Gurudongma Birding Tours was guiding them) but in view of the road conditions they will join us tomorrow for the journey across Eaglenest Pass, we'll travel in convoy. Hot water bottles again tonight - what luxury!

SPECIES in the LAMA area included (see also full Species List): *Mountain Hawk Eagle, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Collared Owlet, Crimson breasted and Bay Woodpeckers, Olive backed Pipit, Maroon backed Accentor, Plain backed Thrush, Black faced and Ashy throated Warblers, Red flanked Bluetail, White browed Bush Robins, Hodgson's and Blue fronted Redstarts, White capped Water Redstart (by a small settlement in a forest clearing!), Chestnut crowned and White throated(heard) Laughing Thrushes, Slender billed Scimitar Babbler, Scaly breasted and Rufous throated Wren Babblers, Rufous capped Babbler, Rusty fronted Barwing, Chestnut tailed and Red tailed Minlas, Beautiful Sibia, Stripe throated and Black chinned Yuhinas, Yellow browed Tit, Gould's Sunbird, Yellow billed Blue Magpie, Nutcracker, Longbilled/Jungle Crow, Dark breasted, Dark rumped and Blanford's Rosefinches, Red headed and Grey headed Bullfinches, Goldnaped Finch*



White browed Bush Robin ©J Thomas

6 February

LAMA CAMP to BOMPU CAMP across EAGLENEST PASS

Yesterday the drivers had found quite deep snow above Lama Camp. We were well-fed (beans on toast, porridge, fruit) in preparation for what turned out to be a memorable day. We started walking uphill as the team packed up the whole camp - tents, loos, the lot, all loaded onto a small pickup truck. A rather quiet morning, bird-wise, perhaps due to the very low temperature. Lots of **Beautiful Sibias** and **Stripe throated Yuhinas**, though. After a while the vehicles caught up with us and we began the journey towards Bompu Camp with the truck in the lead, then our three vehicles, followed by the Americans' vehicle. One of our vehicles was not performing well. Pretty soon it stalled - diesel freezing in the tank. The remedy was to light a fire underneath it then, as it thawed, suck on the fuel pipe! It worked, for a while. As Mohit Aggarwal would need to leave the tour tomorrow it was decided he'd be taken to Guwahati now in the dodgy vehicle rather than risk getting stuck up here. The snow was getting a bit deeper and very icy and we started to get stuck. It was difficult getting the pickup around the sharp, uphill bends. The whole crew were digging and pushing and eventually it was round the first bend. Then the next vehicle got stuck. And so the day went on. Digging, pushing, even pulling each vehicle with rope to get it past the next bend, then back to get another vehicle moved. The higher we went, the deeper the snow, the lower the temperature and the steeper the drop at the side of the road! Some of us worried we wouldn't make it but Peter had full confidence in his team, they *would* get us across the Pass, it would just take a long time. What if we don't make it before nightfall? "Not likely" was Peter's reply, "but we have the whole camp with us, no other vehicles will be on this track, we can set up camp *anywhere*." The team worked extremely hard but all the time they were laughing and joking, even finding energy to build a snowman!! No cooked

lunch today, but we had plenty of crisps, biscuits, fruit, Bombay mix and snack bars. By early afternoon we reached the highest point, 2,900m (and only 10kms from Lama Camp!) with snow 20cm deep. Now we were heading downhill - just as bad, really, and several land-slides to negotiate. We didn't fit in much birding today but the views were wonderful and the forest pretty amazing, with trees draped in hanging mosses and epiphytes.

As we got down to about 2,000m the snow had mostly disappeared. On the approach to Bompu there was a lot of damage to the bamboo and smaller trees. Some might have been done by elephants but was more likely was due to the weight of snow with possibly some wind damage. Peter had never seen anything like it here before. We reached Bompu Camp with 1½ hours of daylight left. Fantastic views here over densely wooded hills down to the distant, very hazy, Assam plains. Lots of bamboo (Bompu = bamboo). The guys who had worked so hard all day now had to set up camp, prepare dinner and light fires to deter elephants. And still they were laughing and joking. The tents were set up on what little remains of the road builders' camp. One building, just walls and a roof, was used as the kitchen and dining areas, a small generator providing light here. It was certainly less cold now so we got buckets of steaming hot water and braved a strip wash in the shower hut.

SPECIES from LAMA CAMP to BOMPU CAMP included (see also full Species List): *Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Rufous throated Partridge (heard), Collared Owlet (heard), Darjeeling Woodpecker, Olive backed Pipit, Plain backed Thrush, Black faced Warbler, Streak throated Barwing, Beautiful Sibia, Stripe throated and Black chinned Yuhinas, Gould's Sunbird, Nutcracker, Blanford's and Dark breasted Rosefinches, Red headed and Grey headed Bullfinches. Orange bellied and Striped Squirrels; tracks of Yellow throated Marten and a medium-sized cat*

7th February

BOMPU AREA

Coffee and biscuits at 05.30h. The American couple spent the day walking uphill from camp; we did it the easy way and jumped into the vehicles, back up the road we'd come down on yesterday - but only to the start of the snow! The vehicles then left us to walk back. Splendid birds: **Fire tailed Myzornis, Cutias, Rufous necked Hornbills, Bay Woodpecker, Long billed Wren Babbler.** We got a surprise at 08.00h - we rounded a bend and saw a table, complete with tablecloth, set for breakfast! We had not expected hot porridge and hot chappatis out in the forest! Same happened at lunchtime. We found many signs of elephant today - footprints, dung, stripped vegetation - but not very fresh. Back to camp around 16.40h, very tired but delighted with our day. After dark Jo called us to see a mongoose-like mammal running around the camp but we couldn't find it again. It rained heavily during the night.



SPECIES in BOMPU AREA included (see also full

Species List): *Rufous throated Hill Partridge (heard), Grey Peacock Pheasant (heard), Barred Cuckoo Dove, Collared Owlet, Rufous necked Hornbill, Blue throated Barbet, Darjeeling, Crimson breasted and Bay Woodpeckers, Olive backed Pipit, Striated and Mountain Bulbuls, Golden fronted Leafbird, Maroon backed Accentor, Long tailed and Plain backed Thrushes, Ashy throated, Buff barred, White spectacled, Broad billed and Black faced Warblers, Red flanked Bluetail, Grey sided, Black faced and Chestnut crowned Laughing Thrushes, Long billed Wren Babbler, Cutia, White browed Shrike Babbler, Streak throated barwing, Chestnut tailed Minla, Yellow throated Fulvetta, Beautiful Sibia, Stripe throated and Black chinned Yuhinas, Fire tailed Myzornis, Yellow cheeked Tit, White tailed Nuthatch, Gould's Sunbird, Yellow billed Blue Magpie, Nutcracker, Blanford's Rosefinch, Red headed and Grey headed Bullfinches, Orange bellied and Striped Squirrels*

8 February

BOMPU to SESSNI

The rain stopped before daybreak. We left camp at 06.00h to walk to Sessni camp, dropping nearly 700m, from about 1,940m at Bompu to 1,250m at Sessni, very steep in places but through very good forest. It seemed to go on for miles and miles, no vehicles, no people, an excellent, if tiring, day. Some really huge trees here, mostly evergreen broadleaf with some deciduous, lots of climbers and epiphytes. Birds rather hard to come by - long spells of nothing then large mixed- or single-species flocks; still adding new species (**Wren Babblers, Golden Babbler, Black eared Shrike Babbler, Parrotbills, Black throated Sunbird**). Lower down the vegetation was a little different, e.g. flowering shrubs and patches of giant stinging nettle ("sessni" is a local name for this plant); we found nymphalid-type caterpillars and a large red and brown hawk dragonfly. Signs of mammals were more obvious, too; deer, "cattle" and elephant droppings/tracks, and all along the road what was probably Yellow throated marten droppings (territory markers). We found areas of scuffed, disturbed ground and what looked very much like Porcupine footprints - a black and white quill supported this suggestion! It was rather dull and cloudy today, becoming much milder as we descended with a little light rain as we reached camp. The site overlooks a disturbed, regenerating area with thick forest beyond. As dusk fell fires were lit at each end of the camp, completely blocking the road, to deter elephants. It must have been milder

because a huge cream-and-brown moth with a 12-14cm wingspan and very long “tails” joined us at dinner, a very impressive insect. There were lots of other moths flying around, too, and a big dung beetle.

SPECIES from BOMPUP down to SESSNI CAMP included (see also full Species List): *Rufous throated Partridge (heard), Grey Peacock Pheasant (heard), Barred Cuckoo Dove, Collared Owllet, Red headed Trogon, Rufous necked Hornbill, Great barbet, Bay Woodpecker, Olive backed Pipit, Striated Bulbul, Golden fronted and Orange bellied Leafbirds, Maroon backed Accentor, Long tailed and Plain backed Thrushes, Ashy throated, Grey hooded, White spectacled, Chestnut crowned and Black faced Warblers, Red flanked Bluetail, Yellow bellied Fantail, Striated, Black faced and Chestnut crowned Laughing Thrushes, Coral billed Scimitar Babbler, Long billed and Wedge billed Wren Babblers, Golden Babbler, Black eared Shrike Babbler, Rusty fronted Barwing, Chestnut tailed and Red tailed Minlas, Yellow throated and Rufous winged Fulvettas, Beautiful and Long tailed Sibias, White naped, Whiskered and Black chinned Yuhinas, Black throated Parrotbill, Black throated, Yellow cheeked and Yellow browed Tits, Black throated Sunbird, Bronzed and Lesser Racket tailed Drongos*

9 February

SESSNI AREA

A “tawny” owl was calling just before dawn - maybe the Himalayan race of Wood Owl (*Strix nivicola*)?? Too foggy to birdwatch first thing and we had breakfast in the open, checking the trees whenever the fog cleared. We then tried walking down hill but visibility remained poor; we drove lower down but still no good. We persevered and saw some good species, e.g. three **Scarlet Finches**, a male **Rufous gorgetted Flycatcher** and a brief view of a **Long tailed Broadbill**. The mist eased in the afternoon and most of the group walked uphill but we stayed around camp and had **Maroon Oriole, Leafbirds, Sibias, Minivets** and a few raptors.

SPECIES around SESSNI included (see also full Species List): *Black Eagle, Rufous throated Partridge (heard), Grey Peacock Pheasant (heard), Wedge tailed Green Pigeon, Collared owllet (heard), Red headed Trogon, Rufous necked Hornbill, Great and Lineated Barbets, Long tailed Broadbill, Olive backed Pipit, Grey chinned and Scarlet Minivets, Striated Bulbul, Gold fronted and Orange bellied Leafbirds, Maroon backed Accentor, Long tailed and Plain backed Thrushes, Chestnut headed Tesia, Grey cheeked, Chestnut crowned and Black faced Warblers, Rufous gorgetted Flycatcher, Red flanked Bluetail, Spotted Forktail, White crested Laughing Thrush (heard only), Striated and Chestnut crowned Laughing Thrushes, Coral billed Scimitar Babbler, Golden Babbler, Cutia, Black eared Shrike Babbler, Rusty fronted Barwing, Blue winged and Red tailed Minlas, Nepal Fulvetta, Rufous backed, Beautiful and Long tailed Sibias, White naped, Whiskered, Rufous vented and Black chinned Yuhinas, Greater rufous headed Parrotbill, Black throated Sunbird, Maroon Oriole, Ashy and Greater Racket tailed Drongos, Green Magpie, Collared Treepie, Dark breasted Rosefinch, Scarlet finch*

10 February

SESSNI AREA

Early walk uphill (**Greater Rufous headed Parrotbill, Rufous backed Sibia, Cutia**), then back for breakfast as two **Rufous necked Hornbills** flew by. A **Large Scimitar Babbler** was heard, and responded to tape, but didn't show.

SESSNI to KAZIRANGA (via Khellong-Doimara-Bhalukpong-Tezpur)

We were all sorry to be leaving such wonderful forest, particularly as a **Red headed Trogon** was seen by camp, but we were looking forward to the very different habitats of Kaziranga. After only half an hour's driving down hill from camp the forest was more sparse and signs of human activity were everywhere. The lunch stop, before reaching “civilisation”, gave us **Black Eagle, Crested Bulbul, Green Imperial Pigeons** and **Barbets**. Later we saw two **Malayan Giant Squirrels**. Further on there wasn't much forest left and **Rollers, Shrikes** and **Kestrels** were taking advantage of the open habitat. Small settlements dotted amongst rice fields, villages with tiny shops selling fruit, vegetables, sweets and biscuits, then we reached towns. At 13.30h we crossed into Assam by a large sign announcing the boundary of Sonairupai Wildlife Sanctuary (now badly damaged by wood collectors). We reached Tezpur at 14.15h and crossed the vast expanse of the Brahmaputra river and before long were on the western fringes of Kaziranga - 3 **Rhinos**, several **Hog deer, Great Pied Hornbills, Woolly necked Storks, Bar headed Geese** and a **Black shouldered Kite**, all seen from the highway. We arrived at *Jupuri Ghar* lodge, Kohora at 16.00h so had a short while to look around the grounds, nearby rice fields and wooded hillside - the sight of 23 **Great Pied Hornbills** gathering to roost at dusk was spectacular.

SPECIES SESSNI to KAZIRANGA (see also full Species List):

Higher Areas, Sessni to ?Khellong: *Changeable Hawk and Black Eagles, Barred Cuckoo Dove, Red headed Trogon, Rufous necked Hornbill, Great, Lineated and Golden throated Barbets, Striated and Black Crested Bulbuls, Orange bellied Leafbird, Greenish, Greycheeked, Blackfaced and Broad billed Warblers, Rufous gorgetted Flycatcher, Red flanked Bluetail, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Yellow bellied Fantail, Striated Laughing Thrush, Coral billed Scimitar Babbler, Cutia, Rusty fronted Barwing, Blue winged Minla, Yellow throated Fulvetta, Rufous backed, Beautiful and Long tailed Sibias, Rufous vented and Blackchinned Yuhinas, Greater Rufous headed Parrotbill, Black throated Sunbird, Ashy and Bronzed Drongos, Green Magpie (heard)*

Lowlands: *Little, Intermediate and Cattle Egrets, Indian Pond Heron, Openbill, Woolly necked and Lesser Adjutant Storks, Bar headed Goose, Black shouldered and Black Kites, Crested Serpent Eagle, Kestrel, Spotted and Eurasian Collared Dove, Green and Mountain Imperial Pigeons, Rose ringed Parakeet, White throated Kingfisher, Green Bee Eater, Indian Roller, Great Pied Hornbill, Lineated and Blue throated Barbets, Barn*

Swallow, Red Whiskered and Red vented Bulbuls, White capped Water Redstart, Black hooded Oriole, Brown and Long tailed Shrikes, Black and Haircrested Drongos, House Crow, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Asian Pied Starling, Chestnut tailed Starling, Jungle and Common Mynas, House Sparrow

Jupuri Ghar Lodge, Kohora: *Asian Barred Owllet, unidentified Nightjar sp., Great Pied Hornbill, Coppersmith Barbet, White Wagtail (leucopsis and alboides), Small Niltava, Great Tit, Crimson Sunbird, Ashy Drongo, Chestnut tailed Starling, White vented Myna, Tree Sparrow*

11 February

KAZIRANGA

An early morning elephant ride across the grassland was a nice introduction to Kaziranga Park. No Florican (not expected!) but plenty of **deer**, a **rhino** with calf, **Black necked** and **Woolly necked Storks**, **Rosy Pipits** and a **wild bull elephant**. Back to the lodge for breakfast, then into the Park again for a jeep ride in the Central section (**Pallas's** and **Grey headed Fish Eagles**, **Black Stork**, **Oriental Pied Hornbill**, **Woodpeckers**, **water buffalo**, **smooth coated otter**). The permit system is crazy and the park is closed between 12.00 and 14.00h. We filled this time by checking the areas surrounding the lodge - **Pintail Snipe** in the rice fields. We were back in the Park as soon as possible, again in the central area but venturing a little to the west. Another successful day and everyone was happy.

SPECIES at KAZIRANGA included (see also full Species List): *Spot billed Pelican, Little and Greater Cormorant, Oriental Darter, Little, Intermediate, Great and Cattle Egrets, Grey, Purple and Indian Pond Herons, Openbill, Black, Woolly necked, Black necked, Greater and Lesser Adjutant Storks, Bar headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall, Wigeon, Mallard, Spot billed Duck, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Common Teal, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Brahminy Kite, Pallas's and Grey headed Fish Eagles, Slender billed Vulture, Crested Serpent and Changeable Hawk Eagle, Pied Harrier, Shikra, Osprey, Kestrel, Swamp Francolin, Red Junglefowl, White breasted Waterhen, Bronze winged Jacana, Little Ringed Plover, River, Northern and Red wattled Lapwings, Common Snipe (Pintail by Jupuri Ghar lodge), Spotted Redshank, Greenshank, Green, Wood and Common Sandpipers, Avocet, River Tern, Spotted, Oriental Turtle, Eurasian and Red Collared Doves, Yellow footed Green Pigeon, Alexandrine, Rose ringed and Red breasted Parakeets, Green billed Malkoha, Greater Coucal, Asian Barred and Spotted Owlets, Stork billed, White throated and Pied Kingfishers, Green Bee Eater, Indian Roller, Hoopoe, Oriental Pied and Great Pied Hornbills, Lineated Barbet, Streak throated and Greater Flameback Woodpeckers, Bengal Bushlark, Plain Martin, Barn Swallow, Citrine and White Wagtails (alboides and leucopsis), Rosy Pipit, Red whiskered, Red vented (outside Park) and Black Bulbuls, Blue Whistling Thrush (Jupuri Ghar Lodge), Black breasted Thrush, Zitting Cisticola, Common Tailorbird, Dusky Warbler, Tickell's Leaf Warbler, Striated Grassbird, Little Pied Flycatcher, Small Niltava, Oriental Magpie Robin, White rumped Shama, Siberian Stonechat, Black naped Monarch, Great Tit, Ruby cheeked Sunbird, Oriental White Eye, Black hooded Oriole, Long tailed and Grey backed Shrikes, Black Drongo, Rufous Treepie, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Common Hill Myna, Spot winged, Asian Pied and Chestnut tailed Starlings, Tree Sparrow, Baya and Finn's Weavers, Hog Deer, Swamp Deer, Indian Rhinoceros, Wild Elephant, Wild Water Buffalo, Smooth coated Otter, Orange bellied Squirrel*



Grey headed Fish Eagle ©J Thomas



Hog Deer ©K & M Claydon

12 February

KAZIRANGA - edge of Panbari Forest - Kohora Tea Plantations

Into the Western range in Kaziranga but a late start as they don't open the Park until 08.00h. Lots of tall grass as well as open short grassland, wooded sections and by the river a narrow strip of woodland. We spent a long time at a huge observation platform overlooking the river - plenty to see from up there: 17 rhinos, lots of deer and a good number of bird species. In the afternoon we went to Panbari but guards said we couldn't walk in the forest because of the many elephants which had migrated down from the northeast - we could hear them not too far away so heeded the warning and stayed on the edge of the forest and the tea plantation. **Capped langurs**, **Macaques** and **Striped Squirrels** were

here and, although we didn't see them, a group of **Hoolock Gibbons** called very close by. Not many birds but what we did see was good: **Blue bearded Bee Eater**, **Lesser and Greater necklaced Laughing thrushes**, **Verditer Flycatcher**. We moved to better tea plantations with some natural habitat (bamboo, trees and thickets) and tried hard to see **Blue naped Pitta** - one was calling *very* close but we failed to see it beneath the tea bushes. **Blue eared Barbet** called but flew off before we could see it. **Rufous necked Laughing thrushes** were much more obliging.

SPECIES at KAZIRANGA, PANBARI AREA and TEA PLANTATIONS included (see also full Species List):

Spot billed Pelican, Little and Greater Cormorant, Oriental Darter, Little, Intermediate, Great and Cattle Egrets, Grey, Purple and Indian Pond Herons, Asian Openbill, Woolly necked, Black necked and Lesser Adjutant Storks, Bar headed Goose, Ruddy and Common Shelducks, Gadwall, Wigeon, Mallard, Spot billed Duck, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Common Teal, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Pallas's and Grey headed Fish Eagles, Crested Serpent Eagle, Changeable Hawk Eagle, Shikra, Osprey, Kestrel, Red Jungle Fowl, Pacific Golden Plover, Grey headed, Red Wattled and Northern Lapwings, Common Snipe, Spotted and Common Redshanks, Greenshank, Marsh, Green and Wood Sandpipers, Temminck's Stint, Pied Avocet, River Tern, Spotted and Eurasian Collared Doves, Yellow footed Green Pigeon, Green Imperial Pigeon, Rose ringed and Red breasted Parakeets, Large Hawk Cuckoo, Green billed Malkoha, Greater Coucal, Asian Barred Owllet, Stork billed, White fronted and Pied Kingfishers, Blue bearded Bee Eater, Indian Roller, Oriental Pied Hornbill (heard), Lineated, Blue throated, Blue eared (heard) and Coppersmith (heard) Barbets, Grey capped, Grey headed, Greater yellownape and Black rumped Flameback Woodpeckers, Blue naped Pitta (heard), Plain Martin, Barn Swallow, White Wagtail (alboides and leucopsis), Long tailed and Scarlet Minivets, Red whiskered, Red vented and Black Bulbuls, Common Iora, Ashy and Plain Prinias, Dusky, Yellow browed (heard) and Greenish (heard) Warblers, Slaty backed, Red throated, Little Pied and Verditer Flycatchers, Oriental Magpie Robin, White rumped Shama, Siberian Stonechat, Lesser and Greater necklaced Laughing Thrushes, Rufous necked Laughing Thrush, Striated Babbler, Great Tit, Crimson Sunbird, Black hooded Oriole, Long tailed and Grey backed Shrikes, Large Woodshrike, Black, Bronzed, Hair crested and Greater Racket tailed Drongos, Green Magpie, Rufous Treepie, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Asian Pied and Chestnut tailed Starlings, White vented, Jungle and Common Mynas, Tree and House Sparrows, Baya Weaver, Capped langurs, Rhesus Macaques, Hoolock Gibbons (heard), Striped Squirrels



Capped Langur ©J Thomas

13 February

KAZIRANGA to GUWAHATI

Our flight from Guwahati was brought forward and we left the lodge by 07.00h. At least there was plenty to see along the road - first stop was for a huge colony of **fruit bats** roosting in a village tree, along with 4 **Darters**, a **Grey capped Pygmy Woodpecker**, **Chestnut tailed** and **Pied Starlings** and **Common Mynas**. We reached Guwahati in good time, so spent half an hour looking over a marshy area on the outskirts of town before going to the airport.

SPECIES along KAZIRANGA-GUWAHATI road included (see also full Species List): *Little Cormorant, Darter, Little, Intermediate and Cattle Egrets, Indian Pond Heron, Asian Openbill, Lesser Adjutant, Lesser Whistling Duck, Bar headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Black Kite, Osprey, Red wattled Lapwing, Red breasted parakeet, White throated and Pied Kingfishers, Indian Roller, Grey capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Rufous Treepie, House Crow, Large billed/Jungle Crow, Asian Pied and Chestnut tailed Starlings, Jungle Myna, Common Hill Myna*

14 February RETURN FLIGHT TO LONDON

SPECIES LIST

This report relates to those species **seen/heard by K & M Claydon only**. Additional species recorded by other members of the group are listed at the end of this report. Also "Highlights" of the trip, together with a species Checklist, are available from Jo Thomas: email jo@wildaboutindia.com. All of the reports will soon be posted on the *WILD ABOUT INDIA* website www.wildaboutindia.com

BIRDS Total 371

LITTLE GREBE

Okhla: 3-4

Tachybaptus ruficollis

SPOT BILLED PELICAN*Pelicanus philippensis*

Kaziranga: 20 in park on 11th and 3 on 12th

LITTLE CORMORANT*Phalacrocorax niger*

Okhla: >10

Guwahati-Nameri route: 4 singles

Nameri: 3

Kaziranga: 100+ in park on 11th and 10+ on 12th

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 5 singles along this route

Guwahati: 5 at Guwahati marsh on 13th

GREAT CORMORANT*Phalacrocorax carbo*

Okhla: 3+

Nameri: 50+

Kaziranga: 30+ on 11th and 2 on 12th

DARTER*Anhinga melanogaster*

Kaziranga: 10 in park 11th and 15 on 12th

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 4 perched on tall tree in village between Kaziranga and Nagaon on 13th

LITTLE EGRET*Egretta garzetta*

Nameri: 3

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 1 on approach to Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 10 on 11th

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 4 singles along Kaziranga-Guwahati route on 13th

GREAT EGRET*Casmerodius albus*

Guwahati-Nameri route: 3

Kaziranga: up to 6 around Kaziranga

INTERMEDIATE EGRET*Mesophoyx intermedia*

Okhla: 2

Guwahati-Nameri route: 5 singles

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 3 on approach to Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 2-3 in park

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 2 singles between Kaziranga and Nagaon on 13th

GREY HERON*Ardea cinerea*

Okhla: 4

Guwahati-Nameri route: 1 east of Guwahati

Kaziranga: 2 in park 11th and 3 on 12th

PURPLE HERON*Ardea purpurea*

Okhla: 2

Kaziranga: singles in park on 11th and 12th

CATTLE EGRET*Bubulcus ibis*

Delhi-Okhla: common around Okhla and outskirts of Delhi

Guwahati-Nameri route: frequent sightings of 2s-3s

Common in Assam lowlands / Kaziranga area with day counts of 50-60

INDIAN POND HERON*Ardeola grayii*

Okhla: 3

Guwahati-Nameri route: 3 singles

Nameri: 2 at Nameri

Common in Assam lowlands / Kaziranga area with day counts of 15+, 20 and 25+

ASIAN OPENBILL*Anastomus oscitans*

Guwahati-Nameri route: several flocks along this route, total 150+

Sessni - Kaziranga route: small groups frequent along route towards Kaziranga

Kaziranga: common, day counts of 20 to 50+

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 2 singles west of Kaziranga on 13th

Guwahati marshland: 30 at Guwahati marsh on 13th

BLACK STORK*Ciconia nigra*

Kaziranga: 4 in park on 11th

WOOLLY NECKED STORK*Ciconia episcopus*

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 2 west of Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 10 in Park on 11th and 4 on 12th

BLACK NECKED STORK*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

Kaziranga: 4 in park on 11th, 2 on 12th

LESSER ADJUTANT*Leptoptilus javanicus*

Guwahati: 6 at Guwahati rubbish dump with Greater *L.dubius* on 30th

Nameri: 5 singles around Nameri on 31st

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 2 west of Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 10 in Park on 11th, 4 on 12th

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: total 17 (5+6+5+1) along Kaziranga-Guwahati route on 13th

GREATER ADJUTANT*Leptoptilus dubius*

Guwahati: 95 at Guwahati rubbish dump on 30th

Kaziranga: 2 in Park on 11th

BLACK HEADED IBIS*Threskiornis melanocephalus*

Okhla: 2 Okhla

GREATER FLAMINGO*Phoenicopterus roseus*

Okhla: c.350 at Okhla

LESSER WHISTLING DUCK*Dendrocygna javanica*

Guwahati-Nameri route: Flock of c.120

Guwahati marshland: 50+ probably this sp. viewed from roadside on 13th

GREYLAG GOOSE*Anser anser*

Okhla: 500+

BAR HEADED GOOSE*Anser indicus*

Nameri: 2 over Jia Bhareli river

Kaziranga: large numbers around Kaziranga with day counts of 150 / 600 / 500

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: Two flocks (50 + 65) seen west of Kaziranga on 13th

RUDDY SHELDUCK*Tadorna ferruginea*

Okhla: c.10 at Okhla

Nameri: total c.30 (pairs/4s)

Sangti Valley: 2 in rice fields on 1st, two pairs there 2nd

Kaziranga: up to 4 seen each day

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 2 west of Kaziranga on 13th

COMMON SHELDUCK*Tadorna tadorna*

Kaziranga: 2 in Park on 12th

GADWALL*Anas strepera*

Okhla: only one identified but probably more in distant flocks

Kaziranga: c.6 both days

EURASIAN WIGEON <u>Okhla</u> : 10+ <u>Kaziranga</u> : 6 on 11th, c.40 on 12th	<i>Anas penelope</i>
MALLARD <u>Nameri</u> : 30+ on Jia Bhareli river <u>Kaziranga</u> : 20 on 11th, 6 on 12th	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
SPOT BILLED DUCK <u>Okhla</u> : 100+ <u>Kaziranga</u> : common, 100+ both days	<i>Anas posecilorhyncha</i>
NORTHERN SHOVELER <u>Okhla</u> : c.10,000 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 10 on 11th, 6-8 on 12th	<i>Anas chlypeata</i>
NORTHERN PINTAIL <u>Okhla</u> : c.500 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 170 on 11th, 100+ on 12th	<i>Anas acuta</i>
COMMON TEAL <u>Okhla</u> : c.500 <u>Nameri</u> : c.40 along Jia Bhareli river <u>Kaziranga</u> : 20+ on 11th, 10+ on 12th	<i>Anas crecca</i>
GOOSANDER (Common Merganser) <u>Nameri</u> : 15 (in 2s/3s) along Jia Bhareli river	<i>Mergus mergus</i>
ORIENTAL HONEY BUZZARD <u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 2 together <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 singles Kaziranga on 11th and 1 over Jupuri Ghar on 12th	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
BLACK SHOULDERED KITE <u>Delhi - Okhla</u> : 1 on outskirts of Delhi and 1 at Okhla <u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 2 singles <u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 on approach route to Kaziranga on 10th	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
BLACK KITE <u>Delhi</u> : hundreds (a few <i>lineatus</i> noted) <u>Guwahati</u> : hundreds around the well-known rubbish dump (mostly <i>lineatus</i> noted) <u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 1 <u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 well below Sessni on 10th <u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : total 11 seen along Kaziranga-Guwahati route on 13th	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
BRAHMINY KITE <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 immature	<i>Haliaster indus</i>
PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE <u>Nameri</u> : 1 near nest, and ?same bird in flight later <u>Kaziranga</u> : min.4 both days in Park	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>
GREY HEADED FISH EAGLE <u>Kaziranga</u> : min.4 (?6) seen both days in park	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>
SLENDER BILLED VULTURE <u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 perched birds (together) 11th	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>

CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 south of Sessni on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 sightings each day in park	
WESTERN MARSH HARRIER	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : Min.5	
PALLID HARRIER	<i>Circus macrourus</i>
<u>Delhi</u> : 1 ringtail probably this sp. by runway at Delhi airport on 29h	
PIED HARRIER	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 probable ♀/ringtail - brief, distant view	
SHIKRA	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 sightings on both days in park	
EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 singles on 5th and 1 probable on 6th	
CRESTED GOSHAWK	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1	
<u>Dirang</u> : 1	
WHITE EYED BUZZARD	<i>Butaster teesa</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 probable	
COMMON BUZZARD	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : Singles seen on 1st and 2nd	
LONG LEGGED BUZZARD	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 2 together near Bomdila town	
BLACK EAGLE	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 adult on 8th and 1 immature on 9th	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 3 singles south of Sessni on 10th	
CHANGEABLE HAWK EAGLE	<i>Spitzaetus cirrhatus</i>
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 probably this sp. south of Sessni on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 singles on 11th and 1 on 12th	
MOUNTAIN HAWK EAGLE	<i>Spitzaetus nipalensis</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1	
<u>Lama area</u> : 1 near Lama camp on 5th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 possibly this sp. on 9th	
OSPREY	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 near Nameri Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 sightings at Kaziranga on 11th, single on 12th	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 1 seen on 13th	
COMMON KESTREL	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 1	
<u>Nameri</u> : 1	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 3 singles	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 3	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 in park on 11th and 1 on 12th	

RED NECKED FALCON <u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 1	<i>Falco chiquera</i>
ORIENTAL HOBBY <u>Nameri</u> : pair at Nameri Eco camp seen two days	<i>Falco severus</i>
PEREGRINE <u>Okhla</u> : 1 juvenile <i>calidus</i> <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1 ("Shaheen" <i>peregrinator</i>) on 1st <u>Dirang</u> : 1 in Sangti Valley ("Shaheen" <i>peregrinator</i>) on 2nd <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 on 3rd	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
GREY FRANCOLIN <u>Okhla</u> : 2 seen and others heard	<i>Fracolinus pondicerianus</i>
SWAMP FRANCOLIN <u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 seen and frequently heard around Park	<i>Fracolinus gularis</i>
RED JUNGLE FOWL <u>Bhalukpong-Dirang route</u> : 1 ♂ seen <u>Kaziranga</u> : 6 seen on 11th, 4 on 12th	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
BLACK NECKED CRANE <u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 in Sangti Valley on 1st and 2nd (?second-year bird, no red visible on head)	<i>Grus nigricollis</i>
WHITE BREASTED WATERHEN <u>Kaziranga</u> : 4 singles	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
BLACK TAILED CRAKE <u>Sangti Valley</u> : min.4	<i>Amaurornis bicolor</i>
PURPLE SWAMPHEN <u>Okhla</u> : c.400	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
COMMON MOORHEN <u>Okhla</u> : c.10 noted - probably many more	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
EURASIAN COOT <u>Okhla</u> : 20+ noted, probably many more	<i>Fulica atra</i>
BRONZE WINGED JACANA <u>Kaziranga</u> : 6	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER <u>Kaziranga</u> : 4	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
LONG BILLED PLOVER <u>Sangti Valley</u> : min.4 (two pairs)	<i>Charadrius placidus</i>
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER <u>Nameri</u> : 2 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 3	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
RIVER LAPWING <u>Nameri</u> : 6 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 2	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
GREY HEADED LAPWING <u>Kaziranga</u> : 5	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>

RED WATTLED LAPWING	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 6	
<u>Nameri</u> : 2	
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 4	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : up to 10 around Kaziranga each day	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 4 (2+2) on Kaziranga-Guwahati route on 13th	
NORTHERN LAPWING	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 2	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 25+ in area	
WHITE TAILED LAPWING	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 1	
PINTAIL SNIPE	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 6 in rice fields adjacent to Jupuri Ghar lodge	
COMMON SNIPE	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : day counts of 8 and 10	
BLACK TAILED GODWIT	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 300+	
COMMON REDSHANK	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in park	
SPOTTED REDSHANK	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 8 on 11th, 15 on 12th	
GREENSHANK	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 by Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 8 on 11th and 6 on 12th	
MARSH SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in park	
GREEN SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 3 Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 both days in Park	
WOOD SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 3	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : singles both days in Park	
COMMON SANDPIPER	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 3 Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Park	
TEMMINCK'S STINT	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 distant bird	
[flock of c.30 stints at <u>Okhla</u> too distant to identify]	
IBISBILL	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 on Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Dirang</u> : 5 (3+2) along Dirang river	
BLACK WINGED STILT	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 20+	

PIED AVOCET <u>Okhla</u> : 20 <u>Kaziranga</u> : 7	<i>Recurvirostris avocetta</i>
SMALL PRATINCOLE <u>Nameri</u> : 100+ along Jia Bhareli river	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
CASPAIN GULL <u>Okhla</u> : 10	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>
BROWN HEADED GULL <u>Okhla</u> : c.10	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>
BLACK HEADED GULL <u>Okhla</u> : 300+	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
INDIAN RIVER TERN <u>Nameri</u> : 10 along Jia Bhareli river <u>Kaziranga</u> : day counts of 20 and 10	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
ROCK DOVE / FERAL PIGEON Occasional small flocks in towns; large numbers around Delhi	<i>Columba livia</i>
SNOW PIGEON <u>Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : two flocks (total 22) below Baisakhi Army Camp on 3rd	<i>Columba leuconota</i>
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE <u>Nameri</u> : 1 <u>Sangti Valley - Mandala Road</u> : total 8 (singles/2s) <u>Kaziranga</u> : 6	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
SPOTTED DOVE <u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : frequent sightings of 2s/3s along this route <u>Nameri</u> : small numbers <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : occasional sightings of 2s/3s along this route <u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : small numbers (10 recorded) along approach route to Kaziranga <u>Kaziranga</u> : common around Kaziranga (day counts of 30 and 20)	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
RED COLLARED DOVE <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Park on 11th	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE <u>Delhi-Okhla</u> : small numbers (2s/4s) on outskirts of Delhi and at Okhla <u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 on approach to Kaziranga on 10th <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 at Kaziranga on 11th and 2 on 12th	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
LAUGHING DOVE <u>Okhla</u> : 2	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
BARRED CUCKOO DOVE <u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : occasional sightings of singles/twos (2-4 each day)	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>
YELLOW FOOTED GREEN PIGEON <u>Okhla</u> : 10+ <u>Kaziranga</u> : fairly common around park (day counts of 40 and 20+)	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
WEDGE TAILED GREEN PIGEON <u>Nameri</u> : 3 <u>Sessni area</u> : 2	<i>Treron curvirosta</i>

GREEN IMPERIAL PIGEON	<i>Ducula aenea</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : total 20 on 31st	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : small numbers (total 20) along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 Kaziranga on 12th	
MOUNTAIN IMPERIAL PIGEON	<i>Ducula badia</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 on 10th	
ALEXANDRINE PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : two small flocks (4+6) in park on 10th	
ROSE RINGED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
<u>Delhi-Okhla</u> : Common around Delhi with c.100 counted on route to Okhla	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : flock of 6 on route towards Kaziranga on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : small flocks common in and around Kaziranga, day counts 30+	
RED BREASTED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : day counts 20+	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : common in park, day counts 50+ and 30+	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : two flocks (8+7) along this route Kaziranga on 13th	
VERNAL HANGING PARROT	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 5+ on 31st	
LARGE HAWK CUCKOO	<i>Hierococcyx sparvariodes</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 on 12th	
GREEN BILLED MALKOHA	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : singles in park on 11th and 12th	
GREATER COUCAL	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 1	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3-4 in park both days	
COLLARED OWLET	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 seen, another heard	
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang route</u> : 1 seen	
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 seen along Mandala road	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : frequently heard in these areas; 1 seen on 8th	
ASIAN BARRED OWLET	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 1 seen	
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles near Nameri Eco Camp on 30th and singles on 31st and 1st	
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 seen above Sangti Valley on 1st	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 seen by Sessni camp on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 singles in Kaziranga park on 11th, 1 seen plus 1 heard on 12th	
SPOTTED OWLET	<i>Athene brama</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 on 11th	
HIMALAYAN SWIFTLET	<i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : occasional flocks totalling c.50 on 30th	
<u>Nameri</u> : frequently seen ("numerous") on 31st	
ASIAN PALM SWIFT	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : occasional sightings of 3s/4s	
<u>Nameri</u> : common in area	

LITTLE (House) SWIFT	<i>Apus affinis</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : small numbers (10-12)	
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : occasional sightings, total c.10, along this route	
RED HEADED TROGON	<i>Harpactes erythrocephalus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang route</u> : 1 ♂	
<u>Sessni area</u> : single ♂♂ seen in different areas on three days at Sessni (and another bird calling on 9th)	
COMMON KINGFISHER	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 2 singles	
<u>Nameri</u> : 5 singles	
STORK BILLED KINGFISHER	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 in park on 11th	
WHITE THROATED KINGFISHER	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
<u>Delhi-Okhla</u> : 5	
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 10 along this route	
<u>Nameri</u> : 2	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 2 seen on approach to Kaziranga on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : up to 4 in Park area each day	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 5 singles on 13th	
CRESTED KINGFISHER	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 by Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Dirang</u> : 3 (2+1) in Dirang area	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 1 between Dirang and Bomdila on 4th	
PIED KINGFISHER	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 6 along Jia Bhareli	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 10 in park on 11th, 5 on 12th	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 3 singles on 13th	
BLUE BEARDED BEE EATER	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>
<u>Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations</u> : 1 on edge of Panbari forest on 12th	
(Little) GREEN BEE EATER	<i>Merops orientalis</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : Min.2 at Okhla	
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 6 along Guwahati-Nameri route	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 1 northwest of Kaziranga on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Kaziranga on 11th	
INDIAN ROLLER	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 6+ along this route	
<u>Nameri</u> : 3 in camp area	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : very common, 8 along approach route 10th, 25 in Park area on 11th, min.20 on 12th	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 4 singles on 13th	
HOOPOE	<i>Upupa epops</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 near Park entrance (Kohora) on 11th	
ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 5 (3+2) on 11th, heard only on 12th	
GREAT PIED HORNBILL	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : total 6 (group of 5 + single)	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 singles west of Kaziranga and 23 coming in to roost above Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th, 1 seen with Oriental Pied (<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>) in Park on 12th	

RUFIOUS NECKED HORNBILL	<i>Aceros nipalensis</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : min.2 birds seen over three days (1 ♂ on 7th, pair on 8th; 1 seen, 1 heard 9th, 2 seen 10th)	
WREATHED HORNBILL	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 (?4) - 2 over Jia Bhareli river on 31st and 2 perched birds 1st Feb	
GREAT BARBET	<i>Megalaima virens</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang route</u> : 2 singles	
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 3 (2+1) along Mandala road	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 14 feeding in a fruiting tree east of Dirang	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : common around Bompu and Sessni with up to 6 sightings daily, frequently heard	
LINEATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : highest day count was 6, more often heard	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 6+ on 9th, 4 on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : very common in this area with c.10 seen on 11th and 15+ recorded on 12th	
GOLDEN THROATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima franklinii</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 1 seen at Bompu; frequent at Sessni - highest day count 6	
BLUE THROATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 3-4 each day	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 2 well below Sessni	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 5 seen on 12th	
COPPERSMITH BARBET	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : fairly common, frequently heard and 3 seen together in fruiting tree on edge of town	
GREY CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 4 (two pairs)	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 in Kaziranga	
<u>Kaziranga-Guwahati route</u> : 1 at roadside stop near Nagaon town on 13th	
DARJEELING WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>
<u>Bompu</u> : Singles on two days	
CRIMSON BREASTED WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos cathpharius</i>
<u>Lama and Bompu areas</u> : 1-3 sightings per day around Lama and Bompu (not at Sessni)	
LESSER YELLOWNAPE	<i>Picus chlorophus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles	
GREATER YELLOWNAPE	<i>Picus flavinucha</i>
<u>Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations</u> : 1 at edge of Panbari forest on 12th	
STREAK THROATED WOODPECKER	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 singles	
GREY HEADED WOODPECKER	<i>Picus canus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 only	
BLACK RUMPED FLAMEBACK	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 seen, others heard	
GREATER FLAMEBACK	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 6	
BAY WOODPECKER	<i>Blythipicos pyrrhotis</i>
<u>Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : Fairly common, heard daily and singles seen on 5 days	

LONG TAILED BROADBILL	<i>Psarisomus dalhousiae</i>
<u>Sessni</u> : brief view of 1 (calling then in flight) on 9th	
BENGAL (Rufous winged) BUSHLARK	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 4 in Park on 11th	
SAND LARK	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 by Jia Bhareli river on 31st	
PLAIN MARTIN	<i>Riparia paludicolor</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 50+	
<u>Nameri</u> : very common along Jia Bhareli river	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : hundreds around Park	
EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 2	
BARN SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 50+	
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : common along this route	
<u>Nameri</u> : common	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 50+ noted along route towards Kaziranga on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : hundreds around Kaziranga	
NEPAL HOUSE MARTIN	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 60+ over rice fields in valley	
WHITE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Race <i>alboides</i> Nameri to Dirang; both <i>alboides</i> and <i>leucopsis</i> around Kaziranga	
<u>Nameri</u> : 10 (race <i>alboides</i>) on 31st	
<u>Dirang</u> : 1 (race <i>alboides</i>) on 1st	
<u>Dirang / Sangti Valley area</u> : 3 on 2nd and 3 on 3rd (all race <i>alboides</i>)	
<u>Jupuri Ghar Lodge (Kaziranga)</u> : 2 (<i>leucopsis</i>) at Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th, 3 <i>leucopsis</i> and 2 <i>alboides</i> on 11th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : common around Kaziranga and Park on 12th, mostly <i>leucopsis</i> with 4 or 5 <i>alboides</i>	
CITRINE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 2 at the rubbish tip	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 6 in Park on 11th	
WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 10+	
GREY WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : c.10 on 2nd	
<u>Dirang</u> : 1 near Dirang on 4th	
OLIVE BACKED PIPIT	<i>Anthus hodgsonii</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 on 31st	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 4 on 1st	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 2 on 3rd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 2 on 4th	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : total 10 on 6th	
<u>Bompou area</u> : 11 on 7th	
<u>Bompou-Sessni areas</u> : 8 between Bompou and Sessni on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 6 on 9th	
ROSY PIPIT	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : c.5 in park on 11th, 50+ on 12th	

LARGE CUCKOO SHRIKE	<i>Coracina macei</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 3 Kaziranga area on 12th	
LONG TAILED MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : c.20 on 31st	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 4-5 with Scarlet <i>P.flammeus</i> in Kaziranga on 12th	
SCARLET MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : c. 10 with Grey chinned <i>P.solaris</i> at Sessni on 9th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 4-5 with Long tailed <i>P.ethologus</i> in Kaziranga on 12th	
GREY CHINNED MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : c.10 with Scarlet <i>P.flammeus</i> on 9th	
STRIATED BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 1 on 7th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 11 on 8th, 22 on 9th and 2 on 10th	
BLACK CRESTED BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 3 on 31st	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 3 south of Sessni on 10th	
RED WHISKERED BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : common	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : occasional sightings (total c.10) on 1st	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : 20 on route towards Kaziranga on 10th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : common around Kaziranga in small numbers	
RED VENTED BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
Common around <u>Delhi, Guwahati and smaller towns</u>	
<u>Nameri</u> : 10+ at Nameri on 31st	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 12	
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 10 along Mandala road	
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : c.6 around valley on 3rd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : small numbers 4th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 20 around Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th; 10+ in Kaziranga on both 11th and 12th	
WHITE THROATED BULBUL	<i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 seen on 31st, others heard	
MOUNTAIN BULBUL	<i>Hypsipetes indica</i>
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 6 on 4th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 5 on 7th	
BLACK BULBUL	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : frequent sightings on 30th (c.55 total)	
<u>Nameri</u> : abundant around Nameri with many flocks of 50+	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : several large flocks of 50-100	
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : several large flocks of 50-100	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 14 in Park on 11th and 15 on 12th	
GOLDEN FRONTED LEAFBIRD	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 1 ♀ between Bompu and Sessni	
<u>Bompu</u> : 1 ♂ near Bompu camp	

ORANGE BELLIED LEAFBIRD*Chloropsis hardwickii*

Nameri: 2
Nameri-Dirang route: 1 ♂
Bompu-Sessni areas: 1 ♂ between Bompu and Sessni
Sessni area: 6
Sessni - Kaziranga route: total 10 along route below Sessni on 10th

COMMON IORA*Aegithina tiphia*

Nameri: 10
Kaziranga: 2

BROWN DIPPER*Cinclus pallasi*

Dirang-Lama Camp route: 2 singles along this route

WINTER WREN*Troglodytes troglodytes*

Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 2 on 3rd

ALPINE ACCENTOR*Prunella collaris*

Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: total 12 in mixed sp. flocks on 3rd

RUFIOUS BREASTED ACCENTOR*Prunella strophiata*

Dirang-Mandala route: total 4 noted amongst mixed flocks along Mandala road on 2nd
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: total 7 in mixed flocks on 3rd

MAROON BACKED ACCENTOR*Prunella immaculata*

Dirang-Mandala route: 4 together 2nd
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 2 together on 3rd
Lama area: 4 on 5th
Bompu area: 1 on 7th
Bompu-Sessni areas: total 10 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th
Sessni area: 6 on 9th

BLUE ROCK THRUSH*Monticola solitarius*

Nameri-Dirang route: 3 singles
Dirang-Mandala route: 1 on Mandala road
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 1

BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH*Myophonus caeruleus*

Nameri: 1
Nameri-Dirang route: frequent sightings of singles
Dirang-Mandala route: 3 along Mandala road
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 6
Dirang-Lama Camp route: 3
Kaziranga: 1 by Jupuri Ghar lodge

PLAIN BACKED THRUSH*Zoothera mollissima*

Nameri-Dirang route: 10
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 8
Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas: fairly common around Lama-Bompu-Sessni with day counts of up to 5

LONG TAILED THRUSH*Zoothera dixonii*

Bompu-Sessni areas: 1-2 daily

BLACK BREASTED THRUSH*Turdus dissimilis*

Nameri: 5 (2+3)
Kaziranga: 1 on 11th

WHITE COLLARED BLACKBIRD*Turdus albocinctus*

Dirang-Mandala route: loose flock of c.12 on Mandala route

ZITTING CISTICOLA <u>Kaziranga</u> : min.2 in Park on 11th	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
HILL PRINIA <u>Sessni area</u> : 2 in Sessni camp on 9th	<i>Prinia atrogularis</i>
ASHY PRINIA <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Park on 12th	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
PLAIN PRINIA <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Park on 12th	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
BROWNISH FLANKED BUSH WARBLER <u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 1 on 4th	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>
THICKBILLED WARBLER <u>Nameri</u> : 1 seen and 1 heard on 30th, 1 seen at Nameri on 31st	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>
COMMON TAILORBIRD <u>Nameri</u> : 1 seen, others heard, on 31st <u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 seen in Park on 11th, others heard	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
CHIFFCHAFF <u>Okhla</u> : 1	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
DUSKY WARBLER <u>Kaziranga</u> : singles seen in Park on both 11th and 12th	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
TICKELL'S WARBLER <u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 in Park on 11th	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>
ASHY THROATED WARBLER <u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : total 5 on 2nd <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 2 on 3rd <u>Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 1-4 seen each day around Lama-Bompu-Sessni	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>
LEMON RUMPED (Pallas's) WARBLER <u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 2 along Mandala road on 2nd	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>
YELLOW BROWED WARBLER <u>Nameri</u> : c.6 seen on 31st and others heard <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 seen in Park on 12th, others heard	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
GREENISH WARBLER <u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles on 31st <u>Sessni area</u> : 2 on 10th <u>Kaziranga</u> : heard by us at Kaziranga, seen by other member of group	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
HUME'S WARBLER <u>Okhla</u> : Min.2	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
YELLOW VENTED WARBLER <u>Nameri</u> : 2 seen on 31st;	<i>Phylloscopus cantator</i>
BUFF BARRED WARBLER <u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 along Mandala road on 2nd <u>Bompu area</u> : 1 on 7th	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>
HUME'S WHITETHROAT <u>Okhla</u> : 1	<i>Sylvia althaea</i>

GREY HOODED WARBLER	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistos</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 on 3rd	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 6+ on 8th	
WHITE SPECTACLED WARBLER	<i>Seicercus affinis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 4 on 8th	
GREY CHEEKED WARBLER	<i>Seicercus poliogenys</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 on 8th, 2 on 9th and 2 on 10th	
CHESTNUT CROWNED WARBLER	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 2 on 8th	
YELLOW BELLIED WARBLER	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang route</u> : 1 along this route	
BLACK FACED WARBLER	<i>Abroscopus schisticeps</i>
<u>Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : common in both single sp. and mixed flocks; day counts of 15-3-8-25-10-6	
BROAD BILLED WARBLER	<i>Tickellia hodgsoni</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 1 on 7th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 on 10th	
STRIATED GRASSBIRD	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : Singles seen on 30th and 1st, others heard	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2+ in Park on 11th	
SLATY BACKED FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula hodgsonii</i>
<u>Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations</u> : 1 ♀ on 12th	
RUFIOUS GORGETTED FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula strophiate</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 ♂	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ on 9th; 1 ♂ 2 ♀♀ below Sessni on 10th	
RED BREASTED (Throated) FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula parva albicilla</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 1	
<u>Nameri</u> : 1	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 in Kaziranga-Panbari area on 12th	
LITTLE PIED FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula westernanni</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles (1 ♂, 1 ♀) on 30th and min.4 on 31st	
<u>Kaziranga / Panbari forest / Tea Plantation</u> : 3 ♂♂ on 11th; 2 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ in Kaziranga-Panbari area on 12th	
SLATY-BLUE FLYCATCHER	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 ♂ on 2nd	
VERDITER FLYCATCHER	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 ♂	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Kaziranga on 12th	
<u>Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations</u> : 1 edge of Panbari forest on 12th	
LARGE NILTAVA	<i>Niltava grandis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 ♀	
SMALL NILTAVA	<i>Niltava macgrigorae</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 + 2 ♂♂	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 ♂ in grounds of Jupuri Ghar lodge, 1 ♂ in park	

RUFOUSE BELLIED NILTAVA <u>Nameri</u> : Pair	<i>Niltava sundara</i>
GREY HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER <u>Nameri</u> : 2 on 30th and 5 on 31st	<i>Culicapa ceylonensis</i>
SIBERIAN RUBYTHROAT <u>Nameri</u> : heard at Nameri (seen by most of the group, glimpsed briefly by us)	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>
RED FLANKED BLUE TAIL (Orange flanked Bush Robin) <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 6 <u>Sangti Valley</u> : 1 ♂ <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 3 <u>Lama and Bompu areas</u> : day counts of 3-6	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>
GOLDEN BUSH ROBIN <u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 2 single ♀♀ along Mandala road	<i>Tarsiger chrysaeus</i>
WHITE BROWED BUSH ROBIN <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 2 single ♂♂ <u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 4 singles <u>Lama area</u> : 3 (2+1) on 5th	<i>Tarsiger indicus</i>
RUFOUS BREASTED BUSH ROBIN <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 2 singles (♂ + ♀) <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 ♂	<i>Tarsiger hyperythrus</i>
ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN <u>Okhla</u> : 1 <u>Nameri</u> : 2 on 30th and 1 on 31st <u>Kaziranga</u> : 4-5 on both 11th and 12th	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
WHITE RUMPED SHAMA <u>Nameri</u> : 1 on 30th, 2 on 31st <u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 on 11th and 2 on 12th	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
BLACK REDSTART <u>Sangti Valley</u> : 2 singles seen on both 1st and 2nd	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
HODGSON'S REDSTART <u>Nameri</u> : 1 ♀ <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : min.3 ♀♀ and 1 ♂ <u>Dirang / Sangti Valley / Mandala Road route</u> : common in area - max. count of 25 seen on 2nd <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 4+ along route towards Sela Pass <u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 8 <u>Lama area</u> : 1 near Lama camp	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>
BLUE FRONTED REDSTART <u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 12 <u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 30 along this route on 2nd <u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 <u>Lama area</u> : 2 singles seen on both 4th and 5th	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
WHITE THROATED REDSTART <u>Baisakhi Army Camp area</u> : 6 (4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀) on open hillside below army camp (route towards Sela Pass)	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>

WHITE CAPPED WATER REDSTART (River Chat)*Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

Nameri: 4 by Jia Bhareli river on 31st

Nameri-Dirang route: 4

Sangti Valley: 2 on both 2nd and 3rd

Dirang: 2 east of Dirang on 4th

Lama area: 1 in clearing (small settlement) below Lama camp on 5th

Sessni-Kaziranga Route: 1 on route towards Kaziranga on 10th

PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART*Rhyacornis fuliginosus*

Nameri: 6 along Jia Bhareli river

Sangti Valley: 3 on 2nd and 2 on 3rd

Dirang-Lama Camp route: 2

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 1 well below Sessni on 10th

LITTLE FORKTAIL*Enicurus scouleri*

Sangti Valley: 1

BLACK BACKED FORKTAIL*Enicurus immaculatus*

Nameri: 4 along Jia Bhareli river

SPOTTED FORKTAIL*Enicurus maculatus*

Sessni area: poor view of 1 below Sessni on 9th

SIBERIAN STONECHAT*Saxicola maurus*

Nameri: probably this sp. at Nameri - a few distant views

Sangti Valley: 6 in Sangti valley

Kaziranga: common around Kaziranga with min.10 seen both 11th and 12th

YELLOW BELLIED FANTAIL*Rhipidura hypoxantha*

Nameri: total 6

Dirang-Mandala route: 1 on Mandala road

Bompu-Sessni areas: 1 along Bompu-Sessni route on 8th

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 2 south of Sessni on 10th

BLACK NAPED MONARCH*Hypothymis azurea*

Nameri: 2

Kaziranga: 1

LESSER NECKLACED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax monileger*

Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations: poor view of 1 probable amongst Greater Necklaced *G.pectoralis* at edge of Panbari forest/tea plantation; others in the group had reasonable views.

GREATER NECKLACED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax pectoralis*

Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations: c.10 at edge of Panbari forest plus 10-12 in tea plantation near Kohora on 12th

STRIATED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax striatus*

Nameri-Dirang route: 2 on 2nd

Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas: seen daily around Lama-Bompu-Sessni with day counts of 1-6

RUFIOUS NECKED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax ruficollis*

Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations: 9 in tea plantation near Kohora on 12th

GREY SIDED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax caerulatus*

Bompu area: total 10 on 7th

SPOTTED LAUGHING THRUSH*Garrulax ocellatus*

Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 3 together on 3rd

Lama area: 2 near Lama camp on 4th

STREAKED LAUGHING THRUSH	<i>Garrulax lineatum</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 7 seen on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 3 on 5th	
SCALY LAUGHING THRUSH	<i>Garrulax subunicolor</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 on 5th	
BLUE WINGED LAUGHING THRUSH	<i>Garrulax squamatus</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 4 on 4th	
BLACK FACED LAUGHING THRUSH	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 on 5th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 2 on 7th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 4 between Bompu and Sessni on 8th	
CHESTNUT CROWNED LAUGHING THRUSH	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : total 15 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 2 on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 on 5th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 5 on 7th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 2 on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 2 on 9th	
ABBOTT'S BABBLER	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 on 31st	
BUFF BREASTED BABBLER	<i>Pellorneum tickelli</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1 (?2) on 1st	
STREAK BREASTED SCIMITAR BABBLER	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 3 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 3 on 3rd	
CORAL BILLED SCIMITAR BABBLER	<i>Pomatorhinus ferruginosus</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 3 together on 8th; total of 18 on 9th and 2 on 10th	
SLENDER BILLED SCIMITAR BABBLER	<i>Xiphirhynchus superciliaris</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 1 seen on 4th	
LONG BILLED WREN BABBLER	<i>Rimator melacoptilus</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 1 on 8th	
SCALY BREASTED WREN BABBLER	<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 together on 5th	
RUFIOUS THROATED WREN BABBLER	<i>Spelaeornis caudatus</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 seen on 5th, others heard on 4th	
WEDGE BILLED WREN BABBLER	<i>Sphenocichla humei</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 seen well (others heard nearby) on 8th	
RUFIOUS CAPPED BABBLER	<i>Stachyris ruficeps</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : total 10 on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 6+ on 4th and 4 on 5th	
GOLDEN BABBLER	<i>Stachyris chrysaee</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 4 on 8th and 4 on 9th	

STRIPED TIT BABBLER	<i>Macronous gularis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 singles on 31st	
STRIATED BABBLER	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 1 in Park on 12th	
JUNGLE BABBLER	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 3	
SILVER EARED MESIA	<i>Leiothrix argentauris</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : flock of c.20 on 1st	
CUTIA	<i>Cutia nipalensis</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : total 20 in two mixed flocks on 7th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 3 above Sessni on 9th	
<u>Sessni - Kaziranga route</u> : total 11 in a few mixed flocks below Sessni on 10th	
WHITE BROWED SHRIKE BABBLER	<i>Pteruthius flaviscapis</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 1 in mixed sp. flock on 7th	
GREEN SHRIKE BABBLER	<i>Pteruthius xanthochlorus</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 2 on 3rd	
BLACK EARED SHRIKE BABBLER	<i>Pteruthius melanotis</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 2 on 8th and 1 on 9th	
RUSTY FRONTED BARWING	<i>Actinodura egertoni</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : total 9 on 5th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : total 50 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : total 80 in Sessni area on 9th and 15 on 10th	
HOARY THROATED BARWING	<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 3 seen on 2nd may have been hybrid <i>nipalensis</i> x <i>waldeni</i> ??	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : total 10 on 4th	
STREAK THROATED BARWING	<i>Actinodura waldeni</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 2 on 6th and 6 on 7th	
BLUE WINGED MINLA	<i>Minla cyanouroptera</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : Singles seen on both 9th and 10th	
CHESTNUT TAILED MINLA	<i>Minla strigula</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : total 8 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 6 on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 6 on 5th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 40 on 7th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 20 on 8th and 1 on 9th	
RED TAILED MINLA	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 along Mandala road route on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 along route towards Sela Pass on 3rd	
<u>Sessni area</u> : singles at Sessni on 8th and 9th, 3 on 10th	
YELLOW THROATED FULVETTA	<i>Alcippe cinerea</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : total 40 on 7th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : total 35 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : total 30 on 9th and 25 on 10th	

RUFOUS WINGED FULVETTA	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 25 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
BROWN THROATED FULVETTA	<i>Alcippe ludlowi</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 12 (8+4) on 3rd	
NEPAL FULVETTA	<i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 10 on 4th	
RUFOUS BACKED SIBIA	<i>Heterophasia annectans</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 3 on 9th and 1 on 10th	
BEAUTIFUL SIBIA	<i>Heterophasia pulchella</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 4 (3+1) along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Lama and Bompu areas</u> : common, with day counts up to 30+	
<u>Sessni area</u> : very few around Sessni with only 2 on 9th and 2 on 10th	
LONG TAILED SIBIA	<i>Heterophasia picaoides</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : very common: 45 seen on 8th, 50 on 9th and 50+ on 10th	
WHITE NAPED YUHINA	<i>Yuhina bakeri</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : total 50 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 6 on 9th	
WHISKERED YUHINA	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : total 20 in mixed flocks on 3rd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 6 on 4th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 10 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : total 60 on 9th	
STRIPE THROATED YUHINA	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 6 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Lama and Bompu areas</u> : common, day counts of 8 to 30+	
RUFOUS VENTED YUHINA	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 12+ in mixed flocks along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Sessni area</u> : total 20 on 9th, 30+ on 10th	
BLACK CHINNED YUHINA	<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>
<u>Lama-Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : fairly common with day counts of 1-20	
FIRE TAILED MYZORNIS	<i>Myzornis pyrrhoura</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 2 singles on 7th	
BLACK THROATED PARROTBILL	<i>Paradoxornis nipalensis</i>
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : total 20 along Bompu-Sessni walk on 8th	
GREATER RUFOUS HEADED PARROTBILL	<i>Paradoxornis ruficeps</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 on 9th, 4 on 10th	
BLACK THROATED TIT	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : c.10 in a mixed sp. flock on 2nd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : 8	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 10 on 8th	
COAL TIT	<i>Parus ater</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : total 12 in mixed flocks on 3rd	

GREAT TIT	<i>Parus major</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 1 on 30th and 2 on 31st	
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 1 along Mandala road on 2nd	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 in grounds of Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th; 3 Kaziranga area on 11th and 2 on 12th	
GREEN BACKED TIT	<i>Parus monticolus</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : 20+ amongst mixed sp. flocks along Mandala route on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 with other <i>Parus</i> sp. on 3rd	
GREY CRESTED TIT	<i>Parus dichrous</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 4 on 3rd	
RUFOUS VENTED TIT	<i>Parus rubidiventris</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 3 amongst other <i>Parus</i> sp. on 3rd	
YELLOW CHEEKED TIT	<i>Parus spilonotus</i>
<u>Bompu area</u> : 8 seen on 7th	
<u>Bompu-Sessni areas</u> : 2 on the walk from Bompu to Sessni	
YELLOW BROWED TIT	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 2 in Lama area on 5th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 1 in Sessni area on 8th	
WHITE TAILED NUTHATCH	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 3 on 5th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 3 on 7th	
VELVET FRONTED NUTHATCH	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
<u>Nameri</u> : 2 on 31st	
WALLCREEPER	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : total 5 on 1st (2 together plus 3 singles)	
<u>Dirang</u> : 1 near Dirang on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 on route towards Sela pass on 3rd	
RUSTY FLANKED TREECREEPER	<i>Certhia nipalensis</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 on 3rd	
BAR TAILED TREECREEPER	<i>Certhia himalayana</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 seen in same area as Rusty flanked <i>C.nipalensis</i> was probably this sp.	
Two members of our group got 'scope views of the tail barring.	
PURPLE SUNBIRD	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 1 on approach to Okhla on 29th	
MRS GOULD'S SUNBIRD	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : 1 ♂ probably this sp. on 1st	
<u>Lama area</u> : 1 ♂ in Lama area on 4th and 3 ♂♂ on 5th	
<u>Lama and Bompu areas</u> : 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀ on 6th	
<u>Bompu area</u> : 2 ♂♂ 7th	
It is possible some of these may have been Green tailed <i>A.nipalensis</i> as not all were checked carefully	
GREEN TAILED SUNBIRD	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>
<u>Dirang-Mandala route</u> : at least 1 ♂ along Mandala road on 2nd	
BLACK THROATED SUNBIRD	<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>
<u>Sessni area</u> : at least 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ on 9th and total 4 ♂♂ on 10th	

CRIMSON SUNBIRD*Aethopyga siparaja*

Guwahati-Nameri route: 1 at breakfast stop east of Guwahati

Kaziranga: 1 ♂ at Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th; 1 ♂ in Kaziranga area on 12th

LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER*Arachnothera longirostris*

Guwahati-Nameri route: 1 at breakfast stop east of Guwahati plus another later in day on 30th

Nameri: 1 on 31st

STREAKED SPIDERHUNTER*Arachnothera magna*

Nameri: 2 singles on 31st

Sessni area: heard in Sessni area on 10th but not seen

FIRE BREASTED FLOWERPECKER*Dicaeum ignipectus*

Dirang-Mandala route: 1 ♂ along Mandala road on 2nd

ORIENTAL WHITE EYE*Zosterops palpebrosus*

Guwahati-Nameri route: 3 (1+2) seen on 30th

Nameri: total c.25 in mixed flocks on 31st

Dirang-Mandala route: 10 in mixed sp. flock along Mandala road on 2nd

Kaziranga: 4 in Kaziranga area on 11th

BLACK HOODED ORIOLE*Oriolus xanthornus*

Nameri: min.6

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 3 (1+2)

Kaziranga: 3 in park on both 11th and 12th

MAROON ORIOLE*Oriolus traillii*

Sessni area: 1 ♂ by Sessni camp on 9th

ASIAN FAIRY BLUEBIRD*Irene puella*

Nameri: 6 (2 pairs and 2 singles)

BROWN SHRIKE*Lanius cristatus*

Guwahati-Nameri route: 3 singles

Nameri: 2 singles

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 1 south of Sessni on 10th

Guwahati marshland: 1 on Guwahati marsh on 13th

LONG TAILED SHRIKE*Lanius schach*

Okhla: 1

Guwahati-Nameri route: 4 singles

Nameri: 1

Dirang: 1 on 1st, 3 singles on 2nd (all *tricolor*)

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 3 along approach route towards Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: counts of 10 on both 11th and 12th

GREY BACKED SHRIKE*Lanius rephronotus*

Nameri: 2 singles

Kaziranga: counts of 5 in Kaziranga on both 11th and 12th

LARGE WOODSHRIKE*Tephrodornis gularis*

Nameri: 20

Kaziranga: 12 Kaziranga area on 12th

BLACK DRONGO*Dicrurus macrocercus*

Okhla: 4

Guwahati-Nameri route: frequent sightings of singles/2s

Nameri: 5+

Dirang: 1

Sessni-Bhalukpong-Kaziranga route: frequently seen on route from Bhalukpong to Kaziranga

Kaziranga: very common

ASHY DRONGO*Dicrurus leucephaeus*

Sessni area: 1 on 9th and 2 on 10th

Kaziranga: 1 at Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th

BRONZED DRONGO*Dicrurus aeneus*

Sessni area: 6 in area on 8th and 5+ around Sessni camp on 10th

Kaziranga: c.10 noted around Kaziranga on 12th

LESSER RACKET TAILED DRONGO*Dicrurus remifer*

Nameri: 1

Bompu-Sessni areas: 1 on Bompu-Sessni walk

HAIR CRESTED (SPANGLED) DRONGO*Dicrurus hottentottus*

Nameri: common, c.30 seen

Nameri-Dirang route: 1

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 10 noted along route towards Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 4 in park on 12th

GREATER RACKET TAILED DRONGO*Dicrurus paradiseus*

Sessni area: 1

Sessni - Kaziranga route: 3 singles south of Sessni and 1 near Kaziranga on 10th

Kaziranga: 3 Kaziranga area on 12th

ASHY WOODSWALLOW*Artamus fuscus*

Nameri: 1 only

YELLOW BILLED BLUE MAGPIE*Urocissa flavirostris*

Baisakhi Army Camp area: 2 singles below army camp

Lama area: 2 seen on 5th, heard only on 7th

COMMON GREEN MAGPIE*Cissa chinensis*

Sessni area: 2 birds heard above Sessni on 9th and again on 10th (not seen)

Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations: very brief views of 2 on edge of Panbari forest

RUFIOUS TREEPIE*Dendrocitta vagabunda*

Kaziranga: 6 in park on 11th, 5 on 12th

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: 2 singles west of Kaziranga on 13th

EURASIAN NUTCRACKER*Nucifraga caryocatactes*

Sangti Valley: 5 (2+2+1)

Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 1

Lama area: 6 on 6th

Bompu area: 1

HOUSE CROW*Corvus splendens*

Common around Delhi, Guwahati and other towns

Nameri: just a few noted

Sessni - Kaziranga route: a few noted on 10th on approach to Kaziranga

Kaziranga-Guwahati route: small numbers near towns

LARGE BILLED CROW***Corvus macrorhynchos***Not specifically identified - Large billed *macrorhynchos* / Jungle Crow *levaillantii***Guwahati-Nameri route:** small numbers along this route**Nameri:** c.8**Nameri-Dirang route:** c.6**Route Dirang towards Sela Pass:** 5-6 noted**Lama area:** 4 above Lama Camp on 5th**Sessni - Kaziranga route:** frequent sightings of 2s/4s towards Kaziranga on 10th**Kaziranga:** frequent sightings of 1-3**Kaziranga-Guwahati route:** frequent sightings along road towards Guwahati**SPOT WINGED STARLING*****Saroglossa spiloptera*****Nameri:** common in small numbers (6-10) amongst mixed flocks**Kaziranga:** many hundreds around Kaziranga in flowering *Bombax* trees**COMMON HILL MYNA*****Gracula religiosa*****Nameri:** 4 on 30th and 10 on 31st**Nameri-Dirang route:** c.8**Kaziranga:** 2 west of Kaziranga on 13th**ASIAN PIED STARLING*****Sturnus contra*****Delhi-Okhla:** hundreds at Okhla and outskirts of Delhi**Guwahati-Nameri route:** 30+**Nameri:** 1 only**Sessni - Kaziranga route:** 10 (4+6) along route towards Kaziranga on 10th**Kaziranga:** 30+ each day**Kaziranga-Guwahati route:** frequent sightings of small flocks (6-10) along Kaziranga-Guwahati route on 13th**CHESTNUT TAILED STARLING*****Sturnus malabaricus*****Guwahati-Nameri route:** 1 at breakfast stop north east of Guwahati**Nameri:** 30+ seen on 31st**Sessni area:** 2 well south Sessni on 10th**Kaziranga:** 3 at Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th, frequent flocks of 6-20 (total 60+) in flowering *Bombax* trees in Park**Kaziranga-Guwahati route:** 7 near Nagaon town on 13th**COMMON STARLING*****Sturnus vulgaris*****Okhla:** 20+**WHITE VENTED MYNA*****Acridotheres cinereus*****Kaziranga:** 2 in grounds of Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th; 15+ in Park on 11th**JUNGLE MYNA*****Acridotheres fuscus*****Nameri:** 2 pairs on 30th and c.6 on 31st**Kaziranga:** common in the area**Kaziranga-Guwahati route:** very common**BANK MYNA*****Acridotheres ginginianus*****Delhi-Okhla:** fairly common**Guwahati-Nameri route:** fairly common**COMMON MYNA*****Acridotheres tristis***Very common around **Delhi, Guwahati and other towns, also cultivations.**A few at **Nameri.****HOUSE SPARROW*****Passer domesticus***Common around **Delhi, Guwahati and other towns**

RUSSET SPARROW	<i>Passer rutilans</i>
<u>Sangti Valley</u> : 5 (2 + 3) on 2nd	
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : total 10 on 3rd	
EURASIAN TREE SPARROW	<i>Passer montanus</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u> : 1 noted in small town on route to Nameri on 30th	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u> : c.50 in Bomdila	
<u>Dirang</u> : 10+ on 2nd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : total 25 on 4th	
<u>Kaziranga</u> : c.5 around Jupuri Ghar lodge and small numbers in Kohora town	
BAYA WEAVER	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 8 in park on 11th and 6 on 12th	
FINN'S WEAVER	<i>Ploceus megarhynchos</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u> : 2 in park on 11th	
RED AVADAVAT	<i>Amandava amandava</i>
<u>Okhla</u> : 12	
SCALY BREASTED MUNIA	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri route</u> : 5 at breakfast stop north east of Guwahati on 31st	
PLAIN MOUNTAIN FINCH	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : flock of 6 on 3rd	
BLANFORD'S ROSEFINCH	<i>Carpodacus rubescens</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : total 25+ in two areas along this route 3rd	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : 4 on 6th	
DARK BREASTED ROSEFINCH	<i>Carpodacus nipalensis</i>
<u>Baisakhi Army Camp area</u> : 12 in mixed finch flock below army camp on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 1 ♂ on 4th and 6 on 5th	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : c.6 on 6th	
<u>Sessni area</u> : 4 on 9th	
COMMON ROSEFINCH	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
<u>Baisakhi Army Camp area</u> : 1 ♂ with other finches below army camp on 3rd	
DARK RUMPED ROSEFINCH	<i>Carpodacus edwardsii</i>
<u>Lama area</u> : 1 ♀ on 4th and flock of 6 on 5th	
WHITE BROWED ROSEFINCH	<i>Carpodacus thura</i>
<u>Baisakhi Army Camp area</u> : 10 with other finches below army camp on 3rd	
YELLOW BREASTED (Himalayan) GREENFINCH	<i>Carduelis spinoides</i>
<u>Dirang</u> : 2 by Pameling hotel on 2nd	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp route</u> : total 20 on 4th	
RED HEADED BULLFINCH	<i>Pyrrhula erythrocephala</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 1 ♀ with Grey headed <i>P.erythraca</i> on 3rd	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : 1 ♂ with Grey headed <i>P.erythraca</i> 6th	
<u>Bompou area</u> : 1 ♀ with Grey headed <i>P.erythraca</i> on 7th	
GREY HEADED BULLFINCH	<i>Pyrrhula erthraca</i>
<u>Route Dirang towards Sela Pass</u> : 11 on 3rd	
<u>Lama area</u> : 4 on 4th and 14 on 5th	
<u>Lama and Bompou areas</u> : 20 on 6th	
<u>Bompou area</u> : 30 on 7th	

GOLD NAPED FINCH

Dirang-Mandala route: 2 sub-adult ♂♂ along Mandala road on 2nd
Route Dirang towards Sela Pass: 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ on 3rd
Lama area: 2 ♀♀ on 5th

*Pyrrhoplectes epauletta***SCARLET FINCH**

Sessni area: 2 ♂♂ and 1 ♀ on 9th

*Haematospiza sipahi***LITTLE BUNTING**

Sangti Valley: 3 on 2nd

Emberiza pusilla

 The following species were **HEARD ONLY** by K and M Claydon

RUFOUS THROATED HILL PARTRIDGE

Bompu-Sessni areas: heard frequently but none seen

*Arborphila rufogularis***GREY PEACOCK PHEASANT**

Bompu-Sessni areas: heard often but none seen

*Polyplectron bicalcaratum***BLUE EARED BARBET**

Panbari Forest / Tea Plantations: 1 heard by Panbari forest, not seen

*Megalaima australis***BLUE NAPED PITTA**

Kohora (Kaziranga) Tea Plantations: heard twice at tea plantation east of Kohora (Kaziranga) - not seen

*Pitta nipalensis***CHESTNUT HEADED TESIA**

Sessni area: 2 heard by us, seen by others in group

*Tesia castameocoronata***WHITE THROATED LAUGHING THRUSH**

Lama area: heard on 5th but not seen

*Garrulax albogularis***WHITE CRESTED LAUGHING THRUSH**

Sessni area: heard on 8th and 9th but not seen

*Garrulax leucolophus***LARGE SCIMITAR BABBLER**

Sessni area: heard on 10th (responded to tape) but not seen

Pomatorhinus hyperleucos

There was an unidentified **Nightjar sp.** at dusk in grounds of Jupuri Ghar lodge on 10th

Additional species recorded by other members of the group but not by K and M Claydon

GADWALL	Okhla	<i>Anas strepera</i>
EMERALD DOVE	Panbari/Tea Plantation	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
BLOSSOM HEADED PARAKEET	Nameri	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>
WARD'S TROGON	Lama	<i>Harpactes wardi</i>
FULVOUS BREASTED WOODPECKER	Nameri	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>
RED RUMPED SWALLOW	Kaziranga	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
BLACK WINGED CUCKOO SHRIKE	Sessni	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>
SCALY THRUSH	Nameri	<i>Zoothera dauma</i>
SAPPHIRE FLYCATCHER	Nameri	<i>Ficedula sapphira</i>
BLUETHROAT	Kaziranga	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
WHITE THROATED FANTAIL	Lama and Sessni	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
BROWN ROCK CHAT	Delhi	<i>Cercomela fusca</i>
SCALY THRUSH	Nameri	<i>Zoothera dauma</i>
RED FACED LIOCICHLA	Sessni	<i>Liocichla phoenicea</i>
BUGUN LIOCICHLA	Lama	<i>Liocichla bugunorum</i>
EYEBROWED WREN BABBLER	Sessni	<i>Napothera epilepidota</i>
BLACK HEADED SHRIKE BABBLER	Bompu	<i>Pteruthius rufiventer</i>
RUFOUS FRONTED TIT	Dirang-Lama route	<i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>
SULTAN TIT	Nameri	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>

CHESTNUT BELLIED NUTHATCH	Nameri	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
BEAUTIFUL NUTHATCH	Sessni	<i>Sitta formosae</i>
COLLARED TREEPIE	Bompu and Sessni	<i>Dendrocitta frontalis</i>
PINK BROWED ROSEFINCH	Below Baisakhi Army Camp	<i>Carpodacus rodochrous</i>

MAMMALS species **seen/heard by K & M Claydon only**

HOOLOCK GIBBON	Heard at Panbari forest, not seen	<i>Bunopithecus hoolock</i>
RHESUS MACAQUE	Small numbers along Guwahati-Nameri and Kaziranga-Guwahati routes; a few around Kaziranga	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
ASSAMESE MACAQUE	Just 1 ♂ identified as this sp. south of Sessni (other possibles)	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>
CAPPED LANGUR	10 at Nameri; c.15 in tea gardens at edge of Panbari forest	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>
SWAMP DEER	Common in Kaziranga park	<i>Cervus duvaucelii</i>
INDIAN MUNTJAC	Only 1 seen, at Nameri	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>
HOG DEER	Very common around Kaziranga park	<i>Axis porcinus</i>
ASIATIC WILD BUFFALO	Common in Kaziranga park	<i>Bubalus arnee</i>
WILD BOAR	1 at Nameri	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
ASIAN ELEPHANT	2 singles in Kaziranga (1♀ 1♂); also heard in forest below Sessni and Panbari forest	<i>Elaphus maximus</i>
ONE HORNED RHINOCEROS	Common Kaziranga, 3 on 10th, 14 on 11th, >20 on 12th	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>
SMOOTH COATED OTTER	Two groups (3+2) in Kaziranga park	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>
MALAYAN GIANT SQUIRREL	2 together near ?Khelong (route Sessni to Kaziranga)	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>
FIVE STRIPED PALM SQUIRREL	Several seen around Delhi	<i>Funambulus pennantii</i>
HIMALAYAN STRIPED SQUIRREL	Frequent in forested areas	<i>Tamiops macclellandi</i>
ORANGE BELLIED HIMALAYAN SQUIRREL	Frequent sightings of probably this sp. in forested areas (or possibly <i>Dremomys pernyi</i> or <i>D.rufigenis</i>)	<i>Dremomys lokriah</i>
HOARY BELLIED HIMALAYAN SQUIRREL	Frequent sightings in forested areas	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>
INDIAN FLYING FOX (FRUIT BAT)	Large colony in village tree west of Kaziranga	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>

SIGNS of mammals

YELLOW THROATED MARTEN	Frequent tracks and droppings Lama-Bompu-Sessni	<i>Martes flavigula</i>
PORCUPINE (?Himalayan Crestless?)	Quill found in Bompu-Sessni area, also footprints	<i>Hystrix ?brachyura</i>
UNIDENTIFIED "CAT" SP.	Tracks of a medium-sized cat in snow across Eaglenest Pass	
UNIDENTIFIED LARGE "DEER" SP.	Tracks and droppings of large deer species below Bompu	

K and M Claydon
kandm.claydon@virgin.net