

NORTH EAST INDIA March-April 2011
Nameri - Dirang - Eaglenest - Kaziranga - Mishmi Hills. 1-week Extension **Bharatpur** and **Ranthambhore**
 Kathie & Mick Claydon, Chris Skinner and Jim Glover

The trip was tailor-made for us by *Jo Thomas* of *Wild About Travel* (see below). As K&MC had a very successful trip to the Northeast in 2008 we knew we would be in good hands. We spent 23 days in the North East and added a week in Rajasthan/Madhya Pradesh. The trip was a great success, with Peter Lobo's competent team of drivers, cooks, camp-managers and all-round hard-working, good natured guys were without fault. They fed and watered us, organised camp, gave us hot water bottles on some very chilly nights, provided delicious meals both in camp and out in the forest, waited patiently as we tried to identify yet another skulking bird, always laughing and smiling.

We had a total of 445 bird species in the North East (more were seen or heard only by our guide Abid but have not been included) and 21 mammals and plenty of plants, insects and a few reptiles. Then a (separate) total of 151 bird and 15 mammal species in Bharatpur/Chambal/Ranthambhore. The whole trip produced **511 bird** and **25 mammals** species.

In February 2008 temperatures were very low with much snow, curtailing birding somewhat and we failed to reach Sela Pass on that trip (success this time). On this trip we had a lot of cloudy, dull weather with some rain on many days but never for long and it didn't stop us from birding. We had the whole range of temperatures with Lama Camp to Sunderview at Eaglenest being cold and damp, heavy mist a nuisance in the higher reaches of Mishmi (we didn't get to see Mayodia Pass) and it was cold up there, but at Nameri, Sessni (Eaglenest), Kaziranga and Sally Lake (lower Mishmi) it was warm and humid.

It was well worth including 4½ days around Kaziranga allowing time to visit each range more than once. Panbari Forest is still out-of-bounds because of wild elephants but walking along the edge by the tea plantations gave a taster of the bird life there. Mishmi Hills was new for all of us; it was unfortunate that the weather was poor in the higher reaches but we still managed to see some of the specialties of those thickly forested slopes. Maguri Beel was an interesting add-on for some grassland birds.

Tented accommodation at Nameri and Eaglenest was very good, as was the food. The lodge at Kaziranga (Jupuri Ghar) was also good, clean and comfortable with excellent food, and well away from the hustle and bustle of Kohora town. The hotel in Tinsukia was OK, with a good restaurant (heavy on the chilli, though). At Mishmi, the government-owned Tourist Lodge at Sally Lake was not so good! Unfortunately, Peter Lobo cannot take charge of the rooms and the standard is poor - but fortunately his team *can* take over the kitchen and we ate well. Plans are afoot for improvement as well as a camping option nearby. At Mayodia, "The Coffee House" is better than Sally Lodge because Peter has more control in the running of the place. The North East may not suit everyone but the experience is fantastic with a wealth of birds, mammals, insects and plants among stunning scenery and fabulous habitats.

Our final week was spent at Bharatpur - see separate section below. Lists below have been split into "North East" and "Bharatpur/Chambal/Ranthambhore".

It was another excellent trip, very well-organised by Jo Thomas, Peter Lobo and Ranno Sikarwar. We would like to thank Abid Rahman, our guide, for his patience and his knowledge of the birds, insects and plants of North East India. We would also like to thank Pudum, not only for his driving skills but for his keen eyes - we could so easily have missed the Ward's Trogons and Blyth's Tragopan without him!

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Our 2008 trip report available on Surfbirds

ITINERARY for NORTH EAST

(see separate section for Bharatpur, Chambal and Ranthambhore)

19 March	Arrived Delhi airport 13.15hrs and transferred to Sunstar Hotel . Afternoon/evening at hotel. DELHI
20 March	Morning: 05.35 flight Delhi arriving Guwahati 08.00. Drove to Nameri via Guwahati rubbish tip. Afternoon: Eco Camp , Potasili and surrounding tracks. NAMERI
21 March	Morning: Crossed river (Jia Bhareli) and walked forest edge. NAMERI Afternoon: Raft trip along Jia Bhareli.
22 March	Day: Drove to Hotel Pemaling, Dirang via Bhalukpong, Bomdila, Tenga . Birding on route. DIRANG
23 March	Day: Day walking/driving Mandala Road . MANDALA ROAD
24 March	Day: Drove to Sela Pass with birding stops outward and return SELA PASS
25 March	Early morning: Sangti Valley . SANGTI VALLEY Day: Drove to Lama Camp, Eaglenest via Bomdilla and Tenga . Late afternoon: Walked below Lama Camp EAGLENEST
26 March	Day: Early walk below Lama Camp . Remainder of day drove across Eaglenest Pass then walked back to Lama Camp EAGLENEST
27 March	Morning: Drove over Eaglenest Pass and walked in " mossy forest ". EAGLENEST Afternoon: Walked/drove Sunderview - Bompu - returned to Sunderview Camp .
28 March	Day: Walked/drove Sunderview - Bompu - Sessni - Bompu - Sunderview EAGLENEST

29 March	Day:	Walked/drove Sunderview - Eaglenest Pass/mossy forest - Sunderview - Bompu - Sunderview	<i>EAGLENEST</i>
30 March	Day:	Walked/drove Sunderview - Eaglenest Pass/mossy forest - Lama Camp.	<i>EAGLENEST</i>
31 March	Morning:	Drove from Lama Camp via alternative "countryside" route to Tippi and Bhalukpong , crossed Brahmaputra at Tezpur and on to Kaziranga .	<i>EAGLENEST</i>
	Afternoon:	Walked in Lodge area (Jupuri Ghar, Kohora) then drove to edge of Kaziranga Central Range to 'scope grassland.	<i>KAZIRANGA</i>
1 April	Morning:	Early walk near Jupuri Ghar then jeep to Central Range	<i>KAZIRANGA</i>
	Afternoon:	Jeep into Eastern Range	
2 April	Morning:	Two tea plantations plus edge of Panbari Forest	<i>KAZIRANGA</i>
	Afternoon:	Jeep into Western Range	
3 April	Morning:	Early elephant ride over grassland, then jeep into Central Range	<i>KAZIRANGA</i>
	Afternoon:	Jeep into Eastern Range	
4 April	Morning:	Early walk near Jupuri Ghar then jeep to Western Range	<i>KAZIRANGA</i>
	Afternoon:	Jeep Central Range	
5 April	Day:	Drove from Jupuri Ghar to Maguri Beel via Tinsukia. Morning and afternoon boat trips and walking in grassland. Lunch in village. Overnight Tinsukia .	<i>MAGURI BEEL</i>
6 April	Morning:	Tinsukia to Saikhowa Ghat for ferry across Lohit (Brahmaputra) river . Short walk in scrub and grassland on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat). Drove to Mishmi Hills/Sally Lake via Roing .	<i>RIVER CROSSING to MISHMI</i>
	Afternoon:	Walked at Sally Lake and then walked/drove to Tiwari Gaon and back to Sally Lake	
7 April	Day:	Walked/drove from Sally Lake up to The Coffee House, Mayodia	<i>MISMI</i>
8 April	Day:	Walked/drove Mayodia to Sally Lake	<i>MISMI</i>
9 April	Morning:	Drove to Tiwari Gaon and walked back to Sally Lake .	<i>MISMI</i>
	Afternoon:	Around Sally Lake	
10 April	Day:	Drove from Sally Lake to Sadiya Ghat ; short walk in scrub and grassland before crossing the Lohit/Brahmaputra river. Drove to Tinsukia for overnight stay.	<i>MISHMI to TINSUKIA</i>
11 April	Early morning:	Tinsukia to Digboi Oil fields then to Dibrugarh airport for flight to Delhi	<i>DIGBOI</i>

SITE NAMES USED IN THIS REPORT with approximate altitude of key locations

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 the former camp site at 1,950m plus track above and below (Eaglenest WLS) AP
Digboi Oil Fields	Scrub, trees, ponds, ditches in disused parts of the Oilfield, about 1 hour from Tinsukia. Assam
Dirang	Town 45k northwest from Bomdila. 1,500m AP
Eaglenest Pass	Between Lama and Sunderview Camps (Eaglenest WLS). 2,900m . AP
Eaglenest	In this report refers to the area Lama Camp-Sunderview-Bompu-Sessni Camp. AP
Guwahati rubbish tip	Site for Greater Adjutants. AP
Kohora	The town around Central Range of Kaziranga NP. We stayed at Jupuri Ghar. Assam
Lama Camp	The camp 15km from Tenga, incl. areas above/below camp. 2,350m . Eaglenest WLS. AP
Mandala Road	The road from Dirang towards Mandala ridge. AP
Maguri-Beel (Maguri-Motapung)	Channel off the Brahmaputra outside Dirbu Saikhowa NP. Part forms a large "lake". An unprotected area surrounded by grassland now rather degraded but still holding many interesting species. Assam
Mishmi	Here refers only to the road and forests from just below Sally Lake up to The Coffee House near Mayodia Pass at 2,650m . AP
Mossy Forest	The damp, moss-festooned forest at the top of Eaglenest Pass. 2,900m . AP
Nameri Eco Camp	A privately-run camp at Potasili, 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
Panbari Forest	Reserved forest close to Kaziranga National Park but access no longer permitted other than along the edge by the tea plantation. Assam
Sangti Valley	A large, picturesque valley 12 kms north of Dirang. 1,600m . AP
Sela Pass	Sela Pass is at about 4,200m (2½ hour drive from Dirang without stops). AP
Sessni area	The track above the former Camp (1,250m). AP
Sunderview	We camped at Peter Lobo's site below the original Sunderview Camp. c. 2,400m . AP
Tea plantations	One site was near Kohora (Kaziranga), one on edge of Panbari forest. Assam
Tenga	South of Bomdila, 15kms from Lama Camp.

DIARY NOTES for NORTH EAST

SATURDAY 19 MARCH

Delhi

Arrived Sunstar Hotel in Delhi early afternoon on the eve of Holi celebrations. People were already in high spirits, hurling polythene bags full of water at each other. This is the spring "festival of colours" so these bags would soon contain brilliant dyes; we decided this was not the best of times to stroll round to our favourite Indian restaurant two blocks away so spent a couple of hours on the hotel's rooftop re-acquainting ourselves with the common city birds before having dinner there - reasonably priced and perfectly adequate.

Species in Delhi included: Coppersmith Barbet; White-throated Kingfisher; Koel; Rose-ringed Parakeet; Little Swift; Feral Pigeon; Spotted and Laughing Doves; Red-wattled Lapwing; Black Kite; Shikra; Asian Openbill; House Crow; Jungle Crow; Asian Pied Starling; Common Myna; Bank Myna; Barn Swallow; Red-vented Bulbul; White Wagtail

SUNDAY 20 MARCH

Delhi - Guwahati - Nameri

Bed-tea at 02.30hrs as we have a 06.00 flight to Guwahati! Abid, our guide for the whole of the north-east trip, met us on arrival and Pudum, our driver, quickly loaded the bags onto the vehicle. First stop was the rubbish tip at Guwahati, an horrendous, festering expanse of waste but an absolute magnet for scavenging birds and people, too, making a living by sifting through the piles and piles of rubbish. The reason for our visit was, of course, to see the Greater Adjutants - 43 of them, and hundreds of Black Kites. We were soon on our way again, travelling through villages and towns, sparsely wooded and scrubby hillsides, rice fields, tea plantations and seeing a fair amount of birdlife. Breakfast was at a roadside cafe (puris and curry) overlooking a large pond with an Indian Cormorant, a Wood Sandpiper and a White-fronted Kingfisher. There had been 3-4 days of heavy rain before we arrived (now just cloudy and rather grey) and in places the roads were very muddy and slippery. The usual (shortest) route to Nameri was impassable so we turned back and took a longer route on a somewhat better road.

Species along Guwahati-Nameri route included: BIRDS: Indian Cormorant; Oriental Darter; Indian Pond Heron; Little and Eastern Cattle Egrets; White-fronted Kingfisher; Asian Openbill, Greater and Lesser Adjutant Storks; Black Kite; Red-wattled Lapwing; Wood and Common Sandpipers; Spotted Dove; Feral Pigeon; Barn Swallow; Red-vented Bulbul; Yellow-bellied Warbler; Common Stonechat; Grey-backed Shrike; Black Drongo; Rufous Treepie; House and Jungle Crows; Chestnut-bellied and Asian Pied Starlings; Common and Bank Mynas; House and Tree Sparrows. MAMMALS: Small Indian Mongoose; Himalayan Hoary-bellied Squirrel.

Arrived Eco Camp at Potasali on the edge of Assam's Nameri National Park by early afternoon. It's a nice set up with a mix of rustic chalets and large, permanently erected tents with adjoining shower and flush loo. Tasty Indian food served in the large dining area. Lots of large trees around the site so a good range of birds. After a quick lunch we set off to walk the track from camp through scrub and open woodland and noted that wild elephants had recently walked the track too. We saw plenty - such as Small Niltava, Spot-winged Starling, Hair-crested Drongo, Asian Barred Owllet, the resident Oriental Hobby and a few Capped Langur monkeys. Barbets and Koels calling constantly. It rained a little as we returned to camp. At dusk some Belgian birders called us over to see a Brown Hawk-owl above the tents. The Barred Owllets were very vocal this evening.

MONDAY 21 MARCH

Nameri: forest walks and river trip

A few thunderstorms and much rain during the night. Breakfast of toast, cornflakes and eggs-to-order at 05.30 then off to cross the Jia Bhareli. As soon as we reached the far side of the river we saw Sand Larks. Spent 4½ hours walking in the forest edge with an armed guard "because it's a tiger reserve and there are also elephants and buffalo". Huh - we should be so lucky! Checked a forest pool for White-winged duck; no luck. Then a long walk to the next pools - still no luck. Retraced our steps and diverted to another pool - success!! One very relaxed duck, completely unaware of our presence. Great views of new species for us - Sultan Tit and Pale-blue Flycatcher. It was very hot and humid - drank lots of water. Decided to forego the chance of Pied Falconet as it would mean another hour's walk and the temperature was rising rapidly. Back to camp for a quick lunch and then drove several kilometres up river to board the inflatable rafts and come back down stream. Very strong wind; boatmen had to work hard but we saw far more than on our 2008 trip - hundreds of Small Pratincoles (nesting), Goosander, Oriental Pied Hornbill, immature Great Black-headed Gull, Pallas's Fish Eagle, 60+ Greater Cormorants on an island, Black Stork, Plumbeous Water-redstart, wagtails, pipits. Abid spotted an Ibisbill way off in the distance and after a while we got out of the raft and waded across partly-submerged boulders - fantastic views of 2 Ibisbills and Greater Stone Curlew. Back on the raft, we saw a third Ibisbill resting on the island. A very successful day. Early to bed as lack of sleep was beginning to take its toll. The Barred Owllets were less noisy tonight, or maybe we just slept more soundly!

Species around Nameri and Eco Camp included: Red Junglefowl; Ruddy and Common Shelduck; White-winged Duck; Eurasian Teal; Northern Pintail; Northern Shoveler; Tufted Duck; Goosander (Common Merganser); Fulvous-breasted, Rufous, Greater Yellownape and Greater Goldenback Woodpeckers; Lineated, Blue-throated and Coppersmith Barbets; Oriental Pied Hornbill; Indian Roller; Blue-eared, Common and White-fronted Kingfishers; Blue-bearded and Chestnut-headed Bee Eaters; Plaintive Cuckoo; Koel; Green-billed Malkoha; Greater Coucal; Red-breasted and Rose-ringed Parakeets; Himalayan Swiftlet; Asian Palm Swift; Asian Barred Owllet; Brown Hawk-owl; Grey Nightjar; Green Imperial Pigeon; Oriental Turtle Dove; Spotted and Emerald Doves; Yellow-footed, Pin-tailed and Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons; Greenshank; Green and Common Sandpipers; Ibisbill; Greater Stone Curlew; Small Pratincole; Little Ringed Plover; River Lapwing; Great Black-headed and Black-headed Gulls; River Tern; Osprey; Shikra; Pallas's Fish Eagle; Common Kestrel; Oriental Hobby; Little and Greater Cormorants; Eastern Cattle and Little Egrets; Grey and Indian Pond Herons; Black Stork; Asian Fairy Bluebird; Golden-fronted Leafbird; Sand Lark; Grey-throated Martin; Red-rumped Swallow; White and Grey Wagtails; Paddyfield and Olive-backed Pipits; Large Cuckoo-shrike; Long-tailed and Scarlet Minivets; Black-crested, Red-whiskered, Red-vented, White-throated and Black Bulbuls; Common Iora; Blue Rock-thrush; Thick-billed Warbler; Common Tailorbird; Dusky, Tickell's Leaf, Yellow-browed and Greenish Warblers; Brown-breasted, Verditer, Pale Blue and Pale-chinned Flycatchers; Small Niltava; Oriental Magpie-robin; Plumbeous Water-redstart; Common Stonechat; Puff-throated Babbler; Striped Tit-babbler; Great and Sultan Tits; Velvet-fronted Nuthatch; Streaked Spiderhunter; Black-

hooded Oriole; Grey-backed Shrike; Black, Greater Racket-tailed and Hair-crested Drongos; Rufous Treepie; Jungle Crow; Ashy Woodswallow; Spot-winged, Chestnut-tailed and Asian Pied Starlings; Common, Jungle and Common Hill Mynas.
HEARD ONLY: *Large Hawk-cuckoo.* **MAMMALS:** *Capped Langur; Himalayan Hoary-bellied Squirrel.*

TUESDAY 22 MARCH

Nameri - Dirang via Bhalukpong

Up at 04.45 to pack. After breakfast we tried to visit the Pygmy Hog Captive Breeding Centre adjacent to Eco Camp but there was no one around this early so we watched a Koel calling from the tree above us instead. Left camp at 07.00 for the journey to Dirang but soon stopped to photograph a gorgeous epiphytic orchid, then some Lesser Adjutants, Ashy Woodswallows and an Asian Barred Owl. We reached the Assam/Arunachal Pradesh border check point at Bhalukpong by 08.00. Lots of soldiers and police around but all very polite and pleasant and Abid dealt with our Restricted Area Permits in a matter of minutes.

Species along Nameri-Bhalukpong route included: *Black and Crested Serpent Eagles; Common Kestrel; Eastern Cattle Egret; Pond Heron; Lesser Adjutant and Asian Openbill Storks; Rock/Feral Pigeon; Spotted Dove; Asian Barred Owl; Himalayan Swiftlet; Blue-throated Barbet; Barn and Red-rumped Swallows; Olive-backed Pipit; Large Cuckoo-shrike; Red-vented Bulbul; Plumbeous Water Redstart; Long-tailed Shrike; Black Drongo; Ashy Wood-swallow; Common Myna; Tree Sparrow.*

Away from town the habitat became more forested and we stopped a few of times to walk in the forest and bamboo zone (probably Sessa area?) seeing some great birds, including Pale-headed Woodpecker, Black Eagle, Short-billed Minivet, Bhutan Laughingthrush, Coral-billed Scimitar-babbler, Pied Shrike-babbler, Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill. We went through patches of thick mist before reaching Tenga town by 13.40 where we had lunch in a small hotel/cafe and were back on the road again by 14.20. The road got really bad from here onwards where it is being widened. They are working along the whole route, not doing it in sections, so it was a very muddy, slippery, slow journey not good for birding at all and it was a relief when we got to Hotel Pemaling at Dirang around 18.00hrs to find the hotel sign blown down by yesterday's strong winds; fortunately it was much calmer now. Peter Lobo greeted us on arrival - he was there with two clients. Peter's team has its own field kitchen at the hotel and they provided excellent meals for us.

Species along Bhalukpong-Dirang route included: *Black-winged Kite; Mountain Imperial and Rock Pigeons; Collared Owllet; Pale-headed Woodpecker; Grey-chinned, Short-billed, Long-tailed and Scarlet Minivets; Black and Red-vented Bulbuls; Orange-bellied Leafbird; Asian Fairy Bluebird; Blue Whistling-thrush; Lemon-rumped and Yellow-browed Warblers; Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher; Oriental Magpie Robin; White-capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts; Grey Bushchat; Yellow-bellied Fantail; Bhutan Laughingthrush; Coral-billed Scimitar-babbler; Pied Shrike-babbler; Rusty-fronted Barwing; Long-tailed Sibia; Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill; Sultan Tit; Black-throated and Fire-tailed Sunbirds; Maroon Oriole; Brown Shrike; Large-billed Crow; Tree Sparrow.*

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH

Dirang - Mandala Road

Tea and biscuits at 05.30, picking up packed breakfast and lunch for our day along Mandala Road. The sky was clear and it soon became quite warm. Good birds almost immediately - Large Niltava, Verditer Flycatcher, Crested Bunting. Sadly, large stretches have been totally ruined where old forest fires killed many big trees (deliberate?) and there's much logging/clearing for intensive cultivation, but where the natural forest remains it's excellent. We had lunch watching a mixed flock of Red- and Black-throated Thrushes and listening to Spotted Laughingthrushes. The bird list continued to grow despite some spells of heavy mist in the afternoon, with Mountain Hawk-eagle, Barred Cuckoo-dove, Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Nutcracker, White-throated and Blue-fronted Redstart, Eurasian and Brown-throated Treecreepers, Fire-capped Tit, Fulvettas..... Early dinner and early to bed tonight as it's an 03.15 start tomorrow!

THURSDAY 24 MARCH

Dirang - Sela Pass

We'll try to reach Sela Pass today (having been unsuccessful in 2008 because of heavy snowfall). Dark and very misty as we drove away from the hotel and the road was really bad. Even when the sun came up we couldn't recognise much of the route as all the roadside trees and vegetation has been bulldozed. There was one good watch-point overlooking forest and we spent a while here hoping for Monal. We passed the Baisakhi army camp which was the limit of our ascent in 2008 (3,500m) but today the road was clear and the sky was blue. We reached the Pass in about 2¾ hrs. and soon saw Grandal foraging in the snow - brilliant! We watched 9 Blood Pheasants making their way slowly down a snow-covered slope where a Red Fox was snoozing on a boulder. A flock of Snow Pigeons flew back and forth. At well over 4,000m we managed only a few short walks - Alpine Accentor, Himalayan Buzzard, Red-billed Chough, Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch.... and a Wren! After an excellent morning we made our way back down the road, trying again for that Monal - success! A superb male flew across a clearing. The roadworks gave us some anxious moments. The rubble isn't taken away by lorry; oh no, it's simply pushed over the side. Not good if you happen to be down on the winding road below. Not to worry, though. They have a flag-waving system to avoid rocks and cars meeting.....hmmm! The birds continued to be good throughout the day, with White-collared Blackbird, Blue-fronted Redstart, Brown-throated Fulvetta, Rufous-vented Tit, Firetailed Sunbird and Dark-breasted Rosefinch.

FRIDAY 25 MARCH

Dirang - Sangti Valley - Lama Camp, Eaglenest

Left at 05.40 for a couple of hours around Sangti Valley in the hope of finding Black-tailed Crane and Long-billed Plover (too late in the season for Black-necked Crane). In luck - three crakes together within minutes of our arrival and another calling nearby. We eventually found a well-camouflaged plover, a Long-legged Buzzard and Rosy Pipits then it was back to the hotel for breakfast.

Species around Dirang (Mandala Rd., Sela Pass, Sangti Valley) included: *Crested and Northern Goshawks; Shikra; Himalayan and Long-legged Buzzards; Mountain Hawk-eagle; Common Kestrel; Hill Partridge; Himalayan Monal; Blood Pheasant; Black-tailed Crane; Long-billed Plover; Red-wattled Lapwing; Snow Pigeon; Barred Cuckoo-dove; Collared Owllet; Common Kingfisher; Crested Kingfisher; Great Barbet; Darjeeling Woodpecker; White Wagtail; Paddyfield, Rosy and Olive-backed Pipits; Short-billed Minivet; Black and Red-vented Bulbuls; Orange-bellied Leafbird; White-throated Dipper; Wren; Alpine and Rufous-breasted Accentors; Blue Whistling-thrush; Plain-backed, White-collared, Red-throated and Black-throated Thrushes; Brownish-flanked, Buff-barred Ashy-throated, Blyth's Leaf and Grey-hooded Warblers; Verditer Flycatcher; Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher; Large Niltava; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Oriental Magpie*

Robin; White-throated and Blue-fronted Redstarts; White-capped and Plumbeous Water-redstarts; Grandala; Common Stonechat; Grey Bushchat; Spotted, Bhutan, Black-faced and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes; Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler; Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler; Red-billed Leiothrix; Chestnut-tailed Minla; Golden-breasted and Brown-throated Fulvetta; Whiskered, Stripe-throated and Rufous-vented Yuhinas; Beautiful Sibia; Fire-capped, Coal, Green-backed, Yellow-cheeked, Rufous-vented, Rufous-fronted and Black-throated Tits; Brown-throated and Eurasian Treecreepers; Mrs Gould's, Green-tailed and Fire-tailed Sunbirds; Fire-breasted Flowerpecker; Long-tailed and Grey-backed Shrikes; Ashy, Bronzed and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongos; Yellow-billed Blue Magpie; Grey Treepie; Spotted Nutcracker; Red-billed Chough; Large-billed Crow; Russet Sparrow; Dark-breasted and Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch; Crested and Little Buntings. HEARD ONLY: Large Hawk-cuckoo; Grey Nightjar; Pale-headed Woodpecker. MAMMALS: Red Fox; Himalayan Striped Squirrel.

On route to Eaglenest we had an unscheduled stop in Bomdila for a vehicle repair (40 mins and £16.50 to replace a suspension spring) but filled the time with a stroll round the edge of town: Grey-breasted Prinia, Whiskered Yuhina, Black-throated and Green-backed Tits, Oriental White-eye, Oriental Magpie, Hodgson's Redstart. As we got lower it became sunny and warm with mist rising in the valleys between densely-forested mountain-sides. From Tenga up to Eaglenest the views were stunning and we saw Himalayan Greenfinches then a superb Wallcreeper. Lama Camp is only 15 kms from Tenga but it's a slow, uphill climb to 2,330m from badly degraded habitat up to much better forest. Abid 'phoned ahead and lunch was ready when we arrived at 14.00hrs. The camp was just as we remembered it with tents and bamboo huts perched on the hillside. A new addition was an almost-finished dining room below the tents. One thing missing, though, was the snow that covered the ground in 2008! Little time to rest after the journey - we were soon walking downhill from camp; so much to see despite thickening cloud and some rain and thunder. We could hear a flock of Rusty-fronted Barwings making their way up the wooded gully, heading for a favourite roosting spot and, exactly as Abid predicted, a pair of BUGUN LIOCICHLAS was with them!! Brief but good view, although the light was rather poor. An amazing end to the day.

Species from Dirang to Lama Camp, Eaglenest included: Black-winged Kite; Common Kingfisher; Verditer Flycatcher; Hodgson's Redstart; White-capped Water-redstart; Brown and Long-tailed Shrikes; Rock/Feral Pigeon; Red-vented Bulbul; Wallcreeper; Grey-breasted Prinia, Large-billed Crow; House and Tree Sparrows; Himalayan Greenfinch; Whiskered Yuhina; Black-throated and Green-backed Tits; Oriental White-Eye; Oriental Magpie Robin; Rusty-fronted Barwing; Bugun Liocichla; Scarlet Finch. MAMMALS: Himalayan Striped and Orange bellied Squirrels;

SATURDAY 26 MARCH

Lama Camp to Eaglenest Pass

Tea and biscuits at 04.30 and heading for "Bugun Gully" as soon as possible, but first we were treated to an impressive display by three Grey Nightjars overhead, with a couple of bats zooming around, too. Barely light as we reached the spot where the Liocichlas had gone to roost and we waited anxiously to see if they would show. The Barwings began moving and calling then, yes, there they were, in full view! Two of them, very close for several minutes with a third seen a few meters away and a fourth, unseen, calling nearby. Brilliant. It wasn't until they had moved on that we could concentrate on the other great birds around us whilst eating our packed breakfast on the roadside. It took a few of hours to walk back up to Lama Camp then after lunch (at 11.30!) we drove to the top of Eaglenest Pass and spent the afternoon walking down to Lama Camp. An excellent day in fantastic habitat; woodland cloaked the slopes, right up to the tops, magnolia trees glowed white, even in the dull light and blood-red Rhododendrons added dramatic colour to the scene. Dark patches of thick, wet forest brooded where mist rolled up and over the pass. After dark at Lama Camp there was a short flurry of snow before a thick mist covered camp for an hour or so before clearing.

Species Lama Camp - Eaglenest included: Crested Goshawk; Himalayan Buzzard; Grey Nightjar; Spotted Nutcracker; Short-billed Minivet; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Ashy Drongo; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Verditer Flycatcher; Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Rufous-breasted Bush Robin; Blue-fronted Redstart; Grey Bushchat; White-tailed Nuthatch; Green-backed, Yellow-cheeked, Yellow-browed and Black-throated Tits; Striated Bulbul; Black-throated Prinia; Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler; Buff-barred, Ashy-throated, Whistler's, Chestnut-crowned and Black-faced Warblers; Striated, Spotted, Grey-sided, Bhutan, Scaly, Black-faced and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes; Bugun Liocichla; Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler; Cutia; Green Shrike-babbler; Rusty-fronted and Hoary-throated Barwings; Chestnut-tailed and Red-tailed Minlas; Rufous-winged Fulvetta; Stripe-throated and Rufous-vented Yuhinas; Beautiful Sibia; Brown and Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills; Green-tailed Sunbird; Rufous-breasted Accentor; Scarlet and Gold-naped Finches. HEARD ONLY: Hill Partridge; Great Barbet; Large Hawk-cuckoo; Collared Owlet. MAMMALS: Himalayan Striped and Orange bellied Squirrels. SIGNS: large cat dropping(!); Yellow-throated Marten droppings; Civet droppings.

SUNDAY 27 MARCH

Lama Camp - Eaglenest Pass - Sunderview Camps - Bompu

Packed bags before 05.30 breakfast as we are moving on to Peter Lobo's Sunderview Camp. We drove across the Pass, stopping several times for short walks including through the cloud forest (living up to its name) with trees festooned with dripping mosses. One of the muddier slopes was pot-holed by huge footprints; elephants regularly pass through on migration. A Slender-billed Scimitar-babbler teased us for a while but eventually showed itself but not so the hoped-for Temminck's Tragopan which called just twice in the distance. It got quite cold with mist coming and going but no rain. We stopped at Sunderview for a while then walked down to Bompu. Great scenery, great birds, and even some great plants such as the large, single-flowered ground orchids *Pleione humilis* growing in moss. We saw the tree where one lucky group had a Red Panda - the nearest we got to that species! Of today's many highlights the most impressive has to be the three beautiful female Ward's Trogons flying together. Back to Sunderview camp to be greeted by freshly-cooked pokoras, tea and coffee. After dinner we went for a night-drive, hoping for some mammal sightings..... hmmm; several moths and the back-end of a small "cat"! A cold night, despite the "more sheltered" location of Peter's camp.

Species Lama Camp - Eaglenest - Sunderview Camp - Bompu included: Hill Partridge; Mountain Imperial Pigeon; Ward's Trogon; Himalayan Swiftlet; Darjeeling Woodpecker; Olive-backed Pipit; Striated Bulbul; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Blue-fronted Redstart; Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher; Rufous-chinned, Bhutan, Black-faced, Grey-sided and Striated Laughingthrushes; Rufous-capped

Babbler; Slender-billed and Streak-breasted Scimitar-babblers; Rufous-vented and Stripe-throated Yuhinas; Rufous-winged, Yellow-throated, Brown-throated and Golden-breasted Fulvettas; Beautiful Sibia; Chestnut-tailed and Red-tailed Minlas; Black-eared and Pied Shrike-babblers; Rufous-throated and Bar-winged Wren-babblers; Brown Parrotbill; Chestnut-headed Tesia; Black-faced, Chestnut-crowned and Whistler's Warblers; Green-backed, Black-throated, Yellow-cheeked and Yellow-browed Tits; White-tailed Nuthatch; Fire-breasted Flowerpecker; Fire-tailed, Green-tailed and Mrs. Gould's Sunbirds; Grey-headed Bullfinch; Ashy Drongo; Spotted Nutcracker; Yellow-billed Blue Magpie. HEARD ONLY: Temminck's Tragopan; Large Hawk-cuckoo; Collared Owllet; Grey Nightjar; Great and Golden-throated Barbets; Bay Woodpecker. MAMMALS: Himalayan Striped and Orange bellied Squirrels.

MONDAY 28 MARCH

Sunderview - Bompu - Sessni

Heavy rain during the night had eased by dawn and Grey Nightjars were very vocal. It rained on and off during the day as we made our way down through Bompu to the lush, green forests of Sessni where it was very warm and humid. Some of the day's highlights: a singing male Green Cochoa, 6 Beautiful Nuthatches, Slaty-bellied Tesia, Cutias, Rufous-backed Sibias, White-crested Laughingthrushes, Long-billed and Sikkim Wedge-billed Wren-babblers. Many spectacular species of butterfly seen between Bompu and Sessni - the most impressive being Orange Oak Leaf, Chestnut Tiger, Golden Barredwing, Purple Sapphire, Yellowjack Sailor, Common Rose, Great Mormon, Common Nawab, Common Bluebottle, White Dragontail and Paris Peacock. We also encountered two of Sessni's specialties, the ferocious large stinging nettle ("sessni" is the local name for this plant) and the Blister Fly (such a tiny fly but the small red mark it leaves slowly turns into a big, incredibly-itchy blister). Heavy rain again tonight.

Species Sunderview - Bompu - Sessni included: Crested Honey Buzzard; Black Eagle; Rufous-throated Partridge; Kalij Pheasant; Mountain Imperial Pigeon; Barred Cuckoo-dove; Himalayan Swiftlet; Asian Palm Swift; Rufous-necked Hornbill; Golden-throated Barbet; Olive-backed Pipit; Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike; Short-billed Minivet; Striated Bulbul; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Green Cochoa; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Blue Whistling Thrush; Small-billed Scaly Thrush; Himalayan Bluetail; Rufous-gorgetted, Verditer and Pale Blue Flycatchers; Red-faced Liocichla; Chestnut-crowned, White-crested and Striated Laughingthrushes; Coral-billed Scimitar-babbler; Silver-eared Mesia; White-naped Yuhina; Rufous-winged, Yellow-throated and Nepal Fulvettas; Rusty-fronted Barwing; Rufous-backed and Beautiful Sibias; Pied Shrike-babbler; Cutia; Rufous-throated, Long-billed and Sikkim Wedge-tailed Wren-babblers; Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill; Hill Prinia; Mountain Tailorbird; Slaty-bellied and Chestnut headed Tesias; Black-faced and Buff-barred Warblers; Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher; Sultan Tit; Beautiful Nuthatch; Black-throated Sunbird; Streaked Spiderhunter; Ashy, Bronzed and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongos; Large-billed Crow; Maroon Oriole; Scarlet Finch. HEARD ONLY: Hill Partridge; Chestnut-breasted Partridge; Large Hawk-cuckoo; Great Barbet; Bay Woodpecker; Grey Nightjar. MAMMALS: Himalayan Striped and Orange bellied Squirrels; Malayan Giant Squirrel.

TUESDAY 29 MARCH

Sunderview - Eaglenest - Bompu

Drove up to the mossy forest at dawn and spent ages searching for the Temminck's Tragopan. Heard two calling again, one very close, but only one of us had a very brief glimpse of a sub-adult as it flew through the trees in heavy mist. Lots of steep, muddy scrambles in the damp forest in the hope of better views. Abid was more nimble than any of us and he managed a close view of an adult male and got a fuzzy photo of it in the gloom amongst fallen logs. The terrain was just too steep and slippery for the rest of us. Despite thermal underwear and several top layers, the damp and cold finally sent us back to the vehicle where breakfast awaited us: hot porridge, warm parathas, boiled eggs and lots of tea/coffee. We moved on towards Bompu and clocked up more splendid birds despite the spells of mist: Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler, Grey-sided and White-throated Laughingthrushes, Chestnut-headed Tesia, Silver-eared Mesias, Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler, Black-headed Shrike-babbler. Suddenly a Blyth's Tragopan called and we were all on high-alert. Pudum saw the bird moving at the forest edge and after some very anxious moments we all managed excellent views (bins and 'scope) of a splendid adult male standing quietly amongst fallen logs. Another wonderful day.

Species Sunderview - Bompu - Sessni included: Hill Partridge; Temminck's and Blyth's Tragopans; Bay Woodpecker; Barred Cuckoo-dove; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Blue-fronted Redstart; White-tailed Nuthatch; Yellow-cheeked and Yellow-browed Tits; Striated Bulbul; Chestnut-headed Tesia; Ashy-throated, Buff-barred, Whistler's and Black-faced Warblers; White-throated, Striated and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes; Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler; Silver-eared Mesia; Black-headed and Pied Shrike-babblers; Streak-throated Barwing; Chestnut-tailed and Red-tailed Minlas; Yellow-throated, Rufous-winged and Brown-throated Fulvettas; Stripe-throated and Rufous-vented Yuhinas; Beautiful Sibia; Fire-breasted Flowerpecker; Mrs Gould's, Green-tailed and Fire-tailed Sunbirds. HEARD ONLY: Great and Golden-throated Barbets; Large Hawk-cuckoo; Collared Owllet; Spotted and Grey-sided Laughingthrushes.

WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH

Sunderview - Eaglenest - Lama Camp

Another dawn attempt at the Temminck's Tragopan in the mossy forest at Eaglenest Pass - again we heard them but still no proper view. We did, however, have stunning views of a Bay Woodpecker and then a Spotted Laughingthrush. We made our way slowly to Lama Camp, arriving late morning. In the afternoon we walked below Lama Camp. It remained quite cold and misty at times but not enough to stop us birding and we saw good numbers of the many smaller birds today. A Himalayan Wood Owl called several times this evening.

Species Sunderview - Eaglenest - Lama Camp included: Bay Woodpecker; Great Barbet; Collared Owllet; Spotted Nutcracker; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Rufous-gorgetted and Pygmy Blue Flycatchers; Rufous-bellied Niltava; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Blue-fronted Redstart; White-tailed Nuthatch; Green-backed, Yellow-browed and Black-throated Tits; Striated Bulbul; Chestnut-headed Tesia; Ashy-throated, Lemon-rumped and Yellow-browed Warblers; Striated, Spotted, Black-faced and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes; Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler; Rusty-fronted and Hoary-throated Barwings; Chestnut-tailed and Red-tailed Minlas; Brown-throated Fulvetta; Stripe-throated, Rufous-vented and Black-chinned Yuhinas; Beautiful Sibia; Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill; Mrs. Gould's, Green-tailed, Black-throated and Fire-tailed Sunbirds; Olive-backed Pipit, Scarlet and Gold-naped

Finches. HEARD ONLY: Hill Partridge; Temminck's and Blyth's Tragopans; Darjeeling Woodpecker; Golden-throated Barbet; Himalayan Wood Owl; Large Hawk-cuckoo.

THURSDAY 31 MARCH

From Lama Camp via minor road to Bhalukpong and on to Kaziranga

Packed and away by 05.15; sorry to leave the wonderful forest and birds of Eaglenest but looking forward to a change of habitat at Kaziranga. There was, apparently, a threat of strikes along the main road towards Bhalukpong so Abid and Pudum decided to take the "country" route (their words) from Lama Camp, which suited us fine. Probably took longer but it was a scenic drive through forested hills much like Bompou-Sessni with many climbers, lush flowering understorey and often with views of the river. There was a police check along the way but it delayed us by only a few minutes. Good view of Scarlet Finches, Nepal House Martins and an Asian Barred Owllet along the way. Lower down we followed the Kameng river, passing the Orchid Research Centre at Tippi. It became rather dull and grey with some light drizzle. More roadworks here, with large stretches of soft mud to negotiate but Pudum coped well. We reached the Assam border at Bhalukpong by 09.00 where Abid again dealt quickly with the formalities. It became more cultivated, with sparse tree cover and scrub with many tethered cows, interspersed with patches of bamboo and palm trees. We noticed armed soldiers in the woodlands and at one point we were stopped; they opened the boot and made a cursory search, asked about the luggage on the roof then waved us on. We passed many Army convoys. The sky became heavy and dark and it was raining steadily by the time we reached Tezpur but we continued to see birds such as Black-winged Kite, Brown and Long-tailed Shrikes and Ashy Wood-swallow; we heard Striated Grassbird at one stop.

Species along the Lama Camp to Tezpur route included: Black-winged Kite; Eastern Cattle Egret; Indian Pond Heron; Blue-throated Barbet; Asian Barred Owllet; Spotted Dove; Himalayan Swiftlet; Nepal House Martin; Barn Swallow; Wallcreeper; White-fronted Kingfisher; Long-tailed and Brown Shrikes; Ashy Woodswallow; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Red-vented Bulbul; Blue Whistling Thrush; Silver-eared Mesia; Streaked Spiderhunter; Spangled Drongo; Jungle, Common and Bank Mynas; Eastern Jungle Crow; Asian Pied Starling; House Sparrow; Scarlet Finch.

Along the main road west of Kaziranga we saw two Rhinos, Black-necked Stork, Lesser Adjutant, Crested Serpent Eagle and lots of wetland birds including Bar-headed Goose. It was about 12.20 when we reached our lodge, the very comfortable Jupuri Ghar in a nice setting with very friendly and efficient staff who served us a good lunch. We had a short walk by the lodge around tea plantations, scrub and small paddy fields - best sightings were Rufous-bellied Woodpecker and two Pin-tailed Snipe. We didn't have a jeep ride in the park so scanned the grasslands from the Central Range Visitor Centre rooftop for the remaining couple of hours. Good move - a Florican within minutes! Great 'scope views several times. A male Pied harrier was impressive, too.

Species on approach to Kaziranga - Jupuri Ghar and Kohora on 31st March included: Bar-headed Goose; Lesser Adjutant; Black-necked and Openbill Storks; Great White Egret; Crested Serpent Eagle; Pied and Marsh Harriers; Bronze-winged Jacana; White-breasted Waterhen; White-fronted Kingfisher; Blue-throated Barbet; Rufous-bellied Woodpecker; Greater Coucal; Asian Palm Swift; Red-Whiskered and Red-vented Bulbuls; Eastern Jungle Crow; Black Drongo; Oriental Magpie Robin; Black-hooded Oriole; Asian Pied Starling; Common Myna. MAMMALS: Rhinoceros; Swamp Deer

FRIDAY 1 APRIL

Kaziranga: Central Range a.m. and Eastern Range p.m.

A Large-tailed Nightjar was calling before dawn. Early morning walk around fields and plantations by Jupuri Ghar where plenty of common species - best perhaps were close views of Blue-tailed Bee Eaters and Long-tailed Minivets. Heavy cloud and very damp but no rain. After a huge breakfast, with plenty of choice, we went in 2 Park jeeps (allowed room for scopes and cameras) to the park booking office. What a performance; full names, home addresses, AGE (!) At last we got into the park and very soon saw a rhino in the water looking like a floating log. Lots of elephants, buffalo, sambar, swamp and hog deer, wild boar. A group of 9 otters (6 or 7 juvs) were chasing and catching fish in shallow water; very entertaining and we saw two more groups later. Birds everywhere - two Floricans, Pallas's and Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Red-necked Falcon, Spot-billed Pelicans, Black-headed Ibis and Stork-billed Kingfisher were probably the most notable. Watched from a tower for a while and saw many waders, storks and ducks, etc. It rained early on and was damp and grey all day. Morning permits stipulate you leave the Park by midday - the gates were locked when we got back at 12.20 and the attendant didn't seem too happy that we disturbed his lunch break. After a superb lunch at Jupuri Ghar we were off to the Eastern Range (20+kms from Kohora) and a long, slow booking-in process. They just don't seem to understand our desire to get into the Park as soon as possible. Even with permits and guard on board there's still a long drive through rice paddies, cultivations and a settlement before you reach the Park. But it's worth it once you get there. The first stop is Sohola beel, a vast (distant) expanse of water with masses of ducks, waders, terns, pratincoles, egrets, fish eagles, etc. Then on to woodland and grassland species - Khalij Pheasant, Green-billed Malkoha, Changeable Hawk-eagle, Large Cuckoo-shrike, White-tailed Stonechat, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Tickell's Leaf Warbler, Abbott's Babbler, White-vented Myna, Citrine Wagtail. Fairly fresh tiger prints on a muddy track, but no tiger. Afternoon permits are issued for 14.00 to 16.00hrs only - ridiculous - and we got back to the office by 16.45hrs. Geckos and frogs were very noisy around Jupuri Ghar this evening.

SATURDAY 2 APRIL

Kaziranga: Tea plantations/Panbari forest edge a.m. and Western Range p.m.

Out at 04.50 to walk the local area - barely light, lots of frogs and cicadas calling and one Large-tailed Nightjar flying around. Looks like rain is on the way. We did the tea plantations and edge of Panbari Forest this morning. The first tea plantation we visited had been rather disturbed recently by work on new drainage ditches, which may be why there seemed to be no Blue-naped Pittas around. Compensation came in the form of two Brown Fish Owls roosting in a shade-tree but these, too, were disturbed by the many workers and flew off to some bigger trees. After clocking-up a reasonable number of species we moved on to Panbari tea plantations where we laughed and joked with the tea-pickers. It became very hot and humid and leech-proof socks were essential; lots of very big leeches deterred us from spending too long in one spot! We managed to get good views of Blue-eared Barbets, Indian and Plaintive Cuckoos, Black-winged and Large Cuckoo-shrikes, Red-throated Flycatcher, Striped Tit-babbler, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and Crimson Sunbird. A couple of Hoolock Gibbons called but didn't show themselves. Back at Jupuri Ghar we were just about to have lunch when the staff called us to see a pair of Oriental Pied Hornbills. The afternoon trip was to Western Range and another long booking-in process; we arrived well before the 14.00 opening time but even though we were the only visitors it was 14.45 when we finally pulled away. Lots of rhinos, elephants and buffalo and another otter eating a huge fish. 4 Greater Adjutants, 14 Slender-billed Vultures, 9 of which perched in one tree, Pied Harriers, Black-naped Monarch, White-

rumped Shama, Jerdon's Bushchat. The sky cleared and it was a warm, breezy evening. Lots of noise from firecrackers in the town - probably related to the forthcoming elections and possible strike.

SUNDAY 3 APRIL

Kaziranga: Central Range a.m. and Eastern Range p.m.

Heavy overnight rain stopped by dawn. We had an early morning elephant ride on the grassland of Central Range. A Barred Buttonquail flushed by the elephant was the only bird of note but it was nice to have close views of the two deer species and several rhinos with calves. It rained again for about half an hour. We had a short wait before our jeep ride and went to the Visitor Centre rooftop again to scan the short grassland where we saw a superb male Pied Harrier. We ate our packed breakfast by the first watch-tower then did the long route through the tall grassland, around the forest and along the river. Red Collared-dove, Slender-billed Babblers, Khalij Pheasants and lots of Red Junglefowl this morning. We watched a Slender-billed Vulture with a small chick on a nest and saw two groups of otters, 12 in total. The afternoon was spent in the Eastern Range and we managed to see more of the area this time. Abid was very frustrated because the Blue-naped Pittas would not show but there were masses of birds on Sohola beel. The temperature was pleasant and we had quite a bit of sunshine this afternoon.

MONDAY 4 APRIL

Kaziranga: Western Range a.m. and Central Range p.m.

More overnight rain but clear by dawn, becoming a warm, hazy day. A short walk by the lodge turned up two Greater Painted Snipe, then we were off to the Western Range for the morning. Lots of raptors including a displaying pair of Black Bazas. We followed very fresh tiger tracks in the soft mud out onto short grassland by a pool; we probably missed it by just minutes - disappointing! The afternoon drive in Central Range was taken at a leisurely pace and we saw a great deal, including a subadult male Pied Harrier, Crimson Sunbirds feeding close to the jeep and Indian Sawback or Roofed Terrapins in the river. On the far side of the park the tracks were very wet and muddy; we turned back and then the throttle cable on one of the jeeps broke. It took a while but the drivers came up with an imaginative temporary repair by pushing the cable through the dashboard and using his right hand to pull the throttle.....all the way back to our lodge! This delay meant we were still in the park as light dropped; large flocks of birds were going to roost - swallows and martins, wagtails, bee eaters, cormorants, pond herons, all heading East over our heads across the grassland - a memorable experience. It was after 17.30 as we left the park. A storm blew up with much thunder and heavy rain for about an hour; it was a very hot, sticky night filled with the sounds of hundreds of frogs. The room geckos were noisy, too.

Kaziranga species included:

C = Central Range E = Eastern Range W = Western Range J = Jupuri Ghar-Kohora
T = Tea Plantations/Panbari Forest edge x = seen h = heard only

	C	E	W	J	T		C	E	W	J	T
<i>Little Grebe</i>		x					<i>Grey-headed Lapwing</i>	x	x		
<i>Great Crested Grebe</i>		x					<i>Red-wattled Lapwing</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Spot-billed Pelican</i>	x	x	x				<i>Pin-tailed Snipe</i>		x	x	x
<i>Little Cormorant</i>	x	x	x				<i>Common Redshank</i>		x	x	
<i>Indian Cormorant</i>	x	x	x				<i>Spotted Redshank</i>	x		x	
<i>Greater Cormorant</i>	x	x	x				<i>Green Sandpiper</i>		x	x	
<i>Oriental Darter</i>	x	x	x				<i>Wood Sandpiper</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Little Egret</i>	x	x	x				<i>Common Sandpiper</i>	x	x		
<i>Great Egret</i>	x	x	x				<i>Temminck's Stint</i>		x	x	
<i>Intermediate Egret</i>	x	x	x				<i>Small Pratincole</i>		x		
<i>Eastern Cattle Egret</i>	x	x	x				<i>Brown-headed Gull</i>	x			
<i>Pond Heron</i>	x	x	x				<i>River Tern</i>			x	
<i>Grey Heron</i>	x	x	x				<i>Whiskered Tern</i>		x		
<i>Purple Heron</i>	x	x	x				<i>Green Imperial Pigeon</i>	x	x		
<i>Asian Openbill</i>	x	x	x				<i>Oriental Turtle Dove</i>		x		
<i>Woolly-necked Stork</i>	x	x	x				<i>Spotted Dove</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Black-necked Stork</i>		x	x				<i>Red Collared-dove</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Lesser Adjutant</i>	x	x	x				<i>Emerald Dove</i>	x	x		
<i>Greater Adjutant</i>		x	x				<i>Yellow-ftd Green Pigeon</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Black-headed Ibis</i>		x					<i>Alexandrine Parakeet</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Bar-headed Goose</i>	x	x	x				<i>Rose-ringed Parakeet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Ruddy Shelduck</i>	x	x	x				<i>Blossom-headed Parakeet</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Common Shelduck</i>			x				<i>Red-breasted Parakeet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Cotton Pygmy Goose</i>		x					<i>Indian Cuckoo</i>		x		x
<i>Gadwall</i>	x	x					<i>Plaintive Cuckoo</i>				x
<i>Eurasian Wigeon</i>	x	x	x				<i>Asian Koel</i>	x	x	x	h
<i>Mallard</i>	x						<i>Green-billed Malkoha</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Indian Spot-billed Duck</i>	x	x	x				<i>Greater Coucal</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Eurasian Teal</i>	x	x	x				<i>Lesser Coucal</i>	x		x	
<i>Garganey</i>	x	x					<i>Brown Fish Owl</i>				x
<i>Pintail</i>		x					<i>Asian Barred Owlet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Shoveler</i>	x	x					<i>Spotted Owlet</i>		x		
<i>Falcated Duck</i>		x					<i>Brown Hawk-owl</i>				x
<i>Ferruginous Duck</i>		x					<i>Large-tailed Nightjar</i>				x
<i>Crested Honey Buzzard</i>	x						<i>Himalayan Swiftlet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Black-shouldered Kite</i>			x				<i>Asian Palm Swift</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Pallas's Fish Eagle</i>	x	x	x				<i>Little Swift</i>	x			x
<i>Grey-headed Fish Eagle</i>	x	x	x				<i>Common Kingfisher</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Slender-billed Vulture</i>	x		x				<i>Stork-billed Kingfisher</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Crested Serpent Eagle</i>		x	x				<i>White-throated Kingfisher</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Eastern Marsh Harrier</i>	x						<i>Pied Kingfisher</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Pied Harrier</i>	x	x					<i>Green Bee Eater</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Shikra</i>		x					<i>Chestnut-headed Bee Eater</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Greater Spotted Eagle</i>					x		<i>Blue-tailed Bee Eater</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Changeable Hawk-eagle</i>	x	x	x				<i>Hoopoe</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Osprey</i>		x	x				<i>Great Pied Hornbill</i>		x		
<i>Common Kestrel</i>	x		x				<i>Oriental Pied Hornbill</i>		x		x
<i>Red-necked Falcon</i>	x						<i>Lineated Barbet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Peregrine Falcon</i>	x						<i>Blue-throated Barbet</i>	x	x	x	x
<i>Black Baza</i>			x				<i>Blue-eared Barbet</i>				x
<i>Swamp Francolin</i>	x	x	x				<i>Coppersmith Barbet</i>	x	x		x
<i>Red Junglefowl</i>		x					<i>Grey-capped Pygmy Wdpkr</i>		x	x	
<i>Khalij Pheasant</i>		x					<i>Fulvous-breasted Wdpkr</i>				x
<i>Barred Buttonquail</i>	x						<i>Rufous Woodpecker</i>				x
<i>Bengal Florican</i>	x						<i>Streak-throated Wdpkr</i>		x		
<i>White-brstd Waterhen</i>	x	x	x				<i>Black-rumped Goldenback</i>			x	
<i>Ruddy-breasted Crane</i>	x	x					<i>Blue-naped Pitta</i>		h		
<i>Common Moorhen</i>	x						<i>Oriental Skylark</i>			x	
<i>Pheasant-tailed Jacana</i>	x	x	x				<i>Grey-throated Martin</i>	x	x	x	
<i>Bronze-winged Jacana</i>	x	x	x				<i>Barn Swallow</i>	x	x	x	x

	C	E	W	J	T		C	E	W	J	T
<i>Greater Painted Snipe</i>				x		<i>Red-rumped Swallow</i>	x			x	
<i>Northern Lapwing</i>		x				<i>Nepal House Martin</i>		x			
<i>River Lapwing</i>		x				<i>Asian House Martin</i>		x			
<i>White Wagtail</i>	x	x	x	x		<i>Striped Tit-babbler</i>					x
<i>Citrine Wagtail</i>	x	x	x			<i>Slender-billed Babbler</i>			x		
<i>Yellow Wagtail</i>		x				<i>Great Tit</i>				x	
<i>Olive-backed Pipit</i>	x	x	x			<i>Crimson Sunbird</i>	x				x
<i>Large Cuckoo-shrike</i>	x	x				<i>Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker</i>					x
<i>Black-wingd Cuckooshrike</i>	x	x				<i>Black-hooded Oriole</i>	x	x	x	x	
<i>Long-tailed Minivet</i>			x	x		<i>Long-tailed Shrike</i>	x	x	x	x	
<i>Red-whiskered Bulbul</i>	x	x	x			<i>Grey-backed Shrike</i>	x	x	x		
<i>Red-vented Bulbul</i>	x	x	x	x		<i>Large Woodshrike</i>					x
<i>White-throated Bulbul</i>					x	<i>Black Drongo</i>	x	x	x	x	x
<i>Orange-bellied Leafbird</i>					x	<i>Ashy Drongo</i>					x
<i>Common Iora</i>					x	<i>Lesser Racket-tail Drongo</i>		x			
<i>Asian Fairy Bluebird</i>					x	<i>Grtr Racket-tailed Drongo</i>					x
<i>Swamp Printia</i>	x		x			<i>Rufous Treepie</i>	x	x	x	x	x
<i>Common Tailorbird</i>				x		<i>House Crow</i>					x
<i>Dark-necked Tailorbird</i>		x				<i>Eastern Jungle Crow</i>				x	x
<i>Tickell's Leaf Warbler</i>	x					<i>Ashy Woodswallow</i>	x		x		x
<i>Red-throated Flycatcher</i>	x				x	<i>Chestnut-tailed Starling</i>	x	x	x	x	
<i>Bluethroat</i>			x			<i>Asian Pied Starling</i>	x	x	x	x	
<i>White-rumped Shama</i>	h	h	h			<i>Common Myna</i>	x			x	x
<i>Black Redstart</i>	x	x				<i>Jungle Myna</i>	x	x	x	x	x
<i>White-tailed Stonechat</i>		x				<i>White-vented Myna</i>	x	x		x	
<i>Common Stonechat</i>	x	x	x			<i>Common Hill Myna</i>					x
<i>Jerdon's Bushchat</i>		x				<i>House Sparrow</i>					x
<i>Black-naped Monarch</i>	x					<i>Tree Sparrow</i>	x				
<i>Abbott's Babbler</i>	x					<i>Baya Weaver</i>	x	x	x		
<i>Puff-throated Babbler</i>			x			<i>Scaly-breasted Munia</i>	x				
<i>White-browd Scim-babbler</i>					x						

MAMMALS	REPTILES
<i>Rhinoceros</i>	<i>Monitor Lizard</i>
<i>Asian Elephant</i>	<i>Assam Roofed Turtle</i>
<i>Asiatic Wild Buffalo</i>	<i>Spotted Pond Turtle</i>
<i>Wild Boar</i>	<i>Indian Sawback/Roofed Terrapin</i>
<i>Muntjac Deer</i>	<i>Indian Peacock Softshell Turtle</i>
<i>Swamp Deer</i>	
<i>Hog Deer</i>	
<i>Sambar Deer</i>	
<i>Rhesus Macaque Monkey</i>	
<i>Smooth-coated Otter</i>	
<i>Small Indian Mongoose</i>	

TUESDAY 5 APRIL

Kaziranga - Maguri Beel (via Tinsukia)

We decided to add in a visit to Maguri Beel (properly Maguri-Motapung Beel), not in our planned itinerary and an early start was necessary; we left Jupuri Ghar at 04.30hrs. The main road to Dibrugarh and Tinsukia took us through many typical Assamese towns and lots of wet, open areas and tea plantations so we saw a good number of birds on route.

Species from Kaziranga to Dibrugarh/Tinsukia included: Little Cormorant; Oriental Darter; Eastern Cattle, Little, and Great Egrets; Indian Pond and Purple Herons; Asian Openbill; Lesser and Greater Adjutants; White-breasted Waterhen; Purple Swampphen; Pheasant-tailed and Bronze-winged Jacanas; Red-wattled Lapwing; Spotted Dove; Rose-ringed Parakeet; Koel; Himalayan Swiflet; Asian Palm Swift; Stork-billed and White-throated Kingfishers; Barn Swallow; Red-vented Bulbul; Oriental Magpie Robin; House Crow; Eastern Jungle Crow; Asian Pied and Chestnut-tailed Starlings; Common and Jungle Mynas; House Sparrow.

We reached Tinsukia by 09.30 (short breakfast stop) and Maguri Beel was only 45 minutes from there. It is an expanse of water and grassland on the south bank of the Dibru river (a channel off the Brahmaputra) near Dibru-Saikhowa National Park. It has no conservation status and isn't protected, being a vital resource for local people. Although its wildlife interest has undoubtedly diminished over recent years, it still has much to offer and some local people are running boat trips with guides as well as providing meals and accommodation. We had a productive day with morning and afternoon trips on a canoe, first around a "lake" (ducks, Purple Swampphens, waders, Whiskered Tern, cormorants and egrets) then walking in the surrounding area in search of grassland species (lots of Striated Grassbirds, Black-shouldered Kite, Pied and Marsh Harrier, Jerdon's, Striated and Chestnut-capped Babbler and Bengal Bushlark) and we had brief glimpses of River Dolphins in the wider channel. Had a very nice lunch in a local village house (the owner runs the boat trips) mild curries, specially prepared for our Western taste, made with their own vegetables

and chicken and local fish. We relaxed in the shade of the veranda, with foxtail orchids (the Assam State flower) hanging from the surrounding trees, watching a pair of Spotted Owlets and a breeding colony of Cattle Egrets, then off to the boat for another look at the water and grassland birds - Jerdon's and Striated Babblers, Swamp and Yellow-bellied Prinias being the most memorable this afternoon.

Species around Maguri Beel included: *Little and Great Crested Grebes; Little and Greater Cormorants, Oriental Darter; Little, Intermediate, Great and Eastern Cattle Egrets; Purple, Indian Pond and Striated Herons; Fulvous Whistling Duck; Garganey, Pintail, Spot-billed, Common Pochard, Ferruginous and Tufted Ducks; Black-shouldered Kite; Pied and Western Marsh Harriers; Swamp Francolin; Purple Swamphen; Common Moorhen; White-breasted Waterhen; Red-wattled and River Lapwings; Pin-tailed Snipe; Common Greenshank; Green, Wood and Common Sandpipers; Temminck's Stint; Brown-headed and Black-headed Gulls; Spotted Dove; Yellow-footed Green Pigeon; Koel; Greater Coucal; Spotted Owllet; Asian Palm Swift; White-throated, Pied and Common Kingfishers; Blue-throated and Green Bee Eaters; Indian Roller; Coppersmith Barbet; Bengal Bushlark; Grey-throated and Asian House Martins; White and Citrine Wagtails; Red-vented Bulbul; Zitting Cisticola; Swamp and Yellow-bellied Prinias; Common Tailorbird; Tickell's Leaf Warbler; Striated Grassbird; Red-throated (Taiga) Flycatcher; Chestnut-capped, Jerdon's and Striated Babblers; Great Tit; Black-hooded Oriole; Long-tailed and Grey-backed Shrikes; Rufous Treepie; House and Eastern Jungle Crows; Chestnut-tailed and Asian Pied Starlings; Common and Jungle Mynas; House Sparrow; Scaly-breasted Munia. MAMMALS: Small Indian Mongoose; Rhesus Macaque, River Dolphin;*

Back to Tinsukia for an overnight stay at Hotel Centre Point - a nice hotel (plumbing could do with a bit of attention) and a good restaurant but it's important to tell the chef in advance to go easy on the chilli.

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL

Tinsukia - Brahmaputra/Lohit river crossing - Roing - Sally Lake

We left the hotel by 04.45 so we could get an early ferry across the Lohit river, an arm of the Brahmaputra river (always referred to as "the mighty Brahmaputra", and rightly so!) We passed many tea plantations and cultivated areas, seeing plenty along the way such as Indian Roller, more Lesser Adjutants, Grey-backed Shrikes, Citrine Wagtails and lots of Rhesus Macaque monkeys. We reached Saikhowa Ghat in an hour and followed the signs to "the ferry". The river is low at this time of year leaving a wide plain which is grassed over but very wet and covered in deep, slushy ruts where lorries have got stuck (several were still stuck). Our vehicle was not a 4x4 but Pudum managed to get us across to the distant ferry boats. Problem. Wrong crossing point. We had to slip and slide our way back across acres of mud (seeing a Slender-billed Vulture and some Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes) and then a mile or so along the road to the car-ferry point. As the river level changes, so does the access for crossing but there's no signs to let you know where! We met up with the team of three guys who would be looking after our needs for the next five days (so we now had Abid as guide, Pudum our driver plus three in a second vehicle to shop, cook and generally organise things - for just the four of us). The vehicles were manoeuvred onto the ferry via planks of wood (looks very dodgy, but don't worry, they know what they're doing.....don't they?) but the ferry engine wouldn't start. No problem, just bring another ferry alongside, lash the two together, move one of the vehicles across to balance things and let the second ferry do the work. We finally set off at 07.15 and it took almost exactly an hour to cross this part of the river at a fairly good speed - and this isn't even the Brahmaputra proper. It was an almost bird-free crossing, just a flock of Fulvous Whistling Duck, a few Spot-billed Ducks, a Common Sandpiper, 1 Lesser Kestrel and 1 Common Kestrel on the sandbanks. There's an impressive-looking new bridge being built across the river but it will be many years before it is completed. Getting the vehicles off the ferry and up the steep slope on the other side (Sadiya Ghat / Kundil Bazaar?) was interesting, to say the least. The vehicle driver has to rely totally on the ferry men to get the planks in exactly the right position under each wheel in order to cross the narrow expanse of water (it's quite a drop) and up the slope. We then went for a short walk in scrub and grassland nearby - Bluethroat, Rufescent Prinia, Tickell's and Yellow-browed Warblers - and when we got back the lads had set up a breakfast table for us behind the parked lorries! Our itinerary said "packed breakfast on the ferry" but this was much better - freshly boiled eggs, bread, bananas, peanut butter, jam and lots of freshly made tea and coffee, listening to Chestnut-capped Babblers.

Species from Tinsukia to Saikhowa Ghat ferry crossing included: *Greater Cormorant; Swamp Francolin; Indian Spot-billed and Fulvous Whistling Ducks; White-breasted Waterhen; Common Sandpiper; Red-wattled Lapwing; Black Kite; Slender-billed Vulture, Lesser and Common Kestrels; Rose-ringed Parakeet; Lesser Pied and White-fronted Kingfishers; Barn Swallow; Bluethroat; Common Stonechat; Black Redstart; Rufescent Prinia; Yellow-browed and Tickell's Leaf Warblers; Oriental Skylark; Yellow Wagtail; Chestnut-capped Babbler; Rufous-necked Laughingthrush*

Beyond the ferry, heading for Roing, the scene was mostly rural with small groups of well-spaced houses across a wide, flat plain, interspersed with rice fields. We saw some vultures in a field - 1 White-rumped and 6 Himalayan Griffons.

Species from Sadiya Ghat to Roing included: *Little and Greater Cormorants; Himalayan Griffon and White-rumped Vultures; Shikra; White-breasted Waterhen; Green Bee Eater; Common and Jungle Mynas; House Sparrow; Indian Roller; White and Citrine Wagtails; Red-vented Bulbul; Common Tailorbird; Grey-backed Shrike; Rufous Treepie; House and Eastern Jungle Crows;*

We could see the heavily-forested Mishmi Hills beyond Roing rising steeply to over 2,600m and it wasn't long before we crossed the river (?Deopani) and reached Sally Lake Guest House. A stunning setting above the lake surrounded by lush forest. Entering the building, however, is almost soul-destroying. A once-magnificent building left to decay - absolutely no maintenance at all. Huge rooms devoid of furnishing, stained walls and peeling paint. We had two ground-floor bedrooms - Abid said these were the worst rooms but there were no keys to the better rooms! Never mind, let's get outside and enjoy the view. We walked a wooded trail beside the lake and almost immediately saw Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Silver-eared Mesia, Nepal Fulvetta and White-throated Bulbul. A distant Hoolock Gibbon was calling, butterflies and dragonflies all around us. It was very warm and rather humid so we had lunch outside under one of the gazebos rather than in the gloom of the dining room. Later we drove a little way uphill towards the road-workers settlement, Tiwari Gaon, and walked for a while until almost dusk. Fantastic views through the forest across the vast plains of the Dibang Valley and many birds such as Beautiful Nuthatch, Lesser Short-wing, Cachar Wedge-billed Wren-babbler and White-hooded Babbler. Back at Sally Lodge we had to unpack our bags and settle in the rooms. Damp and musty, with no running water (related, somehow, to recent strike

action in the area). The single "eco-bulb" took 30 minutes to produce any useful light. It's a government-owned property and Peter Lobo's team cannot do anything to improve the state of the rooms; the bed linen, too, belongs to the property, hence its poor condition. Thankfully, our team did prepare the (delicious) meals and provided us with big buckets of water for washing and loo-flushing. It's worth remembering that in these rural back-of-beyond areas accommodation options are very limited but it's good to know that Wild about Travel, as well as Peter Lobo, have listened to feedback and this is already being addressed. I know that in future Peter's team will carry bed linen for their guests and there should soon be the option of camping nearby (similar to Lama Camp at Eaglenest) rather than staying at Sally Lodge - something to discuss when booking a trip!

THURSDAY 7 APRIL

Sally Lake - Mayodia

A Mountain Scops Owl was calling before dawn. We spent the day making our way slowly walking/driving from Sally Lake up to Mayodia and seeing more brilliant birds along the way - Green Magpie, Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill, Long-tailed Sibia, Rufous-fronted Babbler. As we rounded a corner, Abid called "Hoolock" - they were very close, right beside the road, and gave us a wonderful display, six of them calling loudly, posturing and peering at us for several minutes, with a second group responding in the distance; a wonderful experience. As we continued upwards through stunning forest we saw more and more birds, Mishmi Wren-babbler, Small Niltava, White-crested Laughingthrush, White-tailed Nuthatch, Blyth's Leaf Warbler. Cloud built up, mist was rising in the valleys and the temperature dropped considerably as we got higher. We reached The Coffee House, Mayodia by about 14.30. By the time we had eaten and scanned the surrounding area there wasn't much daylight time left and we only managed a short visit to the start of Mayodia Pass. From outside, The Coffee House doesn't look good but inside it is much cleaner and more cared-for than Sally Lodge. The rooms were fine and the bedding was provided by Peter Lobo so lots of it and very clean! It was a very comfortable night, especially with the hot water bottles!

FRIDAY 8 APRIL

Mayodia - Sally Lake

Storms and heavy rain in the night and thick mist as we had our 05.00 tea and biscuits. We tried the Pass, hoping for Sclater's Monal but the mist got worse, we could barely identify a group of Black-faced Laughingthrushes so we walked back to the Coffee House and after breakfast tried walking downhill - a few nice birds (Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill) and some orchids but it was cold with showers and mist and birding wasn't easy. We decided to move back to Sally Lodge where, hopefully, the weather would be better and certainly warmer. We took the whole afternoon to get there, enjoying stunning views over heavily-forested, very steep hills and across the vast plains below with the sun glinting on a maze of water channels - glorious. Some highlights were Sapphire Flycatcher, Spotted Forktail, Pygmy Wren-babbler, Chestnut-tailed Minla, Streak-throated Barwing, Silver-eared Mesia, Whistler's and Ashy-throated Warblers. We twice heard Long-tailed Broadbill but failed to see it but a Mishmi Wren-babbler came out of a thicket onto Mick's boot! There were showers, thunder and some mist but whenever the rain came, Pudum would catch up with us and we'd jump into the vehicle for the 5-10 minutes that it lasted. Got back to Sally Lake by 17.00 hrs and saw Little Pied Flycatcher and Black-backed Forktail before it got dark. We were in "VIP room No.2" tonight; not much better than before but at least the bathroom was OK and there was no horrible odour. Acres of space and huge beds. The lads brought us hot water for washing and cooked us a lovely meal.

SATURDAY 9 APRIL

Sally Lake - Tiwari Gaon

A very stormy, wet and warm night. Up at 05.00 for full breakfast and a short stroll around the grounds where we saw Black-backed Forktail, Mountain Bulbul and heard Pale-headed Woodpecker again. We drove up to Tiwari Gaon and spent the morning walking back down to Sally Lake, driving through the less-productive stretches. There were lots of leeches in the lush, wet roadside vegetation. We heard two groups of Hoolocks calling but didn't see them, nor did we see the Green Cochoa calling nearby. Abid picked a particular fern which grows up here - just the new shoots - called Dhekia Shak. They cooked it for us this evening - delicious. Apparently it's the one fern sp. that is **not** dangerous to eat! The sky was grey much of the day with frequent short showers but not enough to stop us birding and the temperature was pleasant, especially in the short spells of sunshine. We walked around Sally Lake during the afternoon (more leeches) and had an hour's watch from one of the gazebos overlooking the distant plains. The afternoon highlights were Lesser Yellownappe, Besra Sparrowhawk, Maroon Oriole, Orange-headed Thrush, Little Pied Flycatcher and Fire-breasted Flowerpecker. A troop of monkeys moved, unseen, through the trees but judging by the sounds they made, they may have been Capped Langurs.

Species in Mishmi Hills included: Red Junglefowl; Kalij Pheasant; Lesser Yellownappe; Great, Golden-throated and Blue-throated Barbets; Great Pied and Red-necked Hornbills; Hoopoe; Common and White-throated Kingfishers; Chestnut-winged and Banded Bay Cuckoos; Himalayan Swiftlet; Asian Barred and Collared Owlets; Mountain Imperial Pigeon; Emerald and Spotted Doves; Black Kite; Crested Serpent Eagle; Black Eagle; Besra Sparrowhawk; Northern Goshawk; Common Kestrel; Orange-bellied Leafbird; Grey-backed Shrike; Yellow-billed Blue Magpie; Green Magpie; Grey and Collared Treepies; Eastern Jungle Crow; Maroon Oriole; Large and Black-winged Cuckoo-shrikes; Grey-chinned, Scarlet and Long-tailed Minivets; Bar-winged Pied Flycatcher-shrike; Yellow-bellied and White-throated Fantails; Ashy, Bronzed, Spangled, Greater Racket-tailed and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongos; Asian Paradise Flycatcher; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Blue Whistling Thrush; Orange-headed Thrush; Lesser Shortwing; Rufous-gorgetted, Little Pied, Sapphire and Large Blue Flycatchers; Large and Small Niltavas; Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher; Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail; Oriental Magpie Robin; White-rumped Shama; Daurian, Blue-fronted and Black Redstarts; White-capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts; Blue-fronted Robin; Black-backed and Spotted Forktails; Common Stonechat; Chestnut-tailed Starling; Beautiful, White-tailed and Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches; Yellow-cheeked, Sultan and Black-throated Tits; Barn Swallow; Asian and Nepal House Martins; Mountain, Ashy, Black, Striated, White-throated, Red-whiskered and Red-vented Bulbuls; Striated Prinia; Chestnut-headed Tesia; Mountain and Common Tailorbirds; Ashy-throated, Large-billed, Blyth's Leaf, Whistler's, Grey-cheeked and Rufous-faced Warblers; White-crested, Lesser Necklaced, Striated, Spotted, Grey-sided and Black-faced Laughingthrushes; Pygmy, Mishmi and Cachar Wedge-billed Wren-babblers; Rufous-fronted, Rufous-capped, Golden, Grey-throated and White-hooded Babbler; Silver-eared Mesia; Pied Shrike-babbler; Rusty-fronted and Streak-throated Barwings; Chestnut-tailed Minla; Yellow-throated, Rufous-winged, Manipur and Nepal Fulvettas; Striated, Whiskered and Stripe-throated Yuhinas; Rufous-backed, Beautiful and Long-tailed Sibilas; Lesser Rufous-headed and

Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills; Fire-breasted Flowerpecker; Mrs. Gould's, Green-tailed, Black-throated and Fire-tailed Sunbirds; Little and Streaked Spiderhunters; Eurasian Tree Sparrow; White and Grey Wagtails; Olive-backed Pipit; Scaly-breasted Munia, Gold-naped Finch. HEARD ONLY: Hill Partridge; Pale-headed and Bay Woodpeckers; Plaintive and Large Hawk-cuckoos; Collared, Asian Barred and Mountain Scops Owls; Green Cochoa; Long-tailed Broadbill. MAMMALS: Orange-bellied Squirrel

SUNDAY 10 APRIL

Mishmi - Roing - Brahmaputra/Lohit river crossing - Tinsukia

We had a short watch over Sally Lake (Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike, Golden-throated Barbet) before leaving at 06.00, but stopped by the river below the Lodge for a Daurian Redstart. We moved on through Roing and back across the plains. A small flock of Temminck's Stints was feeding by the river as we arrived at the ferry crossing (08.30) We had a half-hour wait until "our" ferry (Peter Lobo has a favoured operator) so we walked through the scrub and over-grazed grassland nearby, seeing Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes, Citrine Wagtails and Striated Grassbird amongst others but we were too far from the better grassland where Floricans have been seen in the past, which is one of the problems of a shifting ferry crossing point. We saw very few species on the river, some Himalayan and White-backed Vultures standing on a sandbank, a few Cormorant, Little Egrets and a Peregrine flew by. We failed to see River Dolphins. It was 11.30 when we stopped at a roadside cafe where, bizarrely, we ate our packed lunch on the veranda whilst the team went inside for their curry. We continued on through the typical Assamese countryside, many tea plantations and cultivated areas, reaching Tinsukia. It was the start of Assam's "spring festival" and was very busy with roads closed to vehicles so it took a while to reach Hotel Centre Point. We read in a local newspaper that on Wednesday this week (6th) hundreds of birds had been killed in massive hail storms - parakeets, green pigeons, egrets, etc had been knocked from nests. The Assam Birdwatching Society and Wildlife Trust of India were trying to set up a rescue programme for injured and stressed birds.

Species on route from Mishmi to Tinsukia included: Fulvous Whistling Duck; Indian Roller; Common, Pied and White-throated Kingfishers; Blue-throated Barbet; Rose-ringed Parakeet; Spotted Dove; White-breasted Waterhen; Common Moorhen; Green and Wood Sandpipers; Temminck's Stint; Black Kite; White-rumped and Himalayan Vultures; Shikra; Red-necked and Peregrine Falcons; Little, Indian and Great Cormorants; Eastern Cattle, Little, Intermediate and Great Egrets; Indian Pond Heron; Lesser and Greater Adjutant; Long-tailed and Grey-backed Shrikes; Rufous Treepie; House and Eastern Jungle Crows; Ashy Woodswallow; Black Drongo; Oriental Magpie Robin; Black Redstart; Common Stonechat; Asian Pied, Common and Jungle Mynas; Barn Swallow; Nepal House Martin; Red-whiskered and Red-vented Bulbuls; Striated Grassbird; Rufous-necked Laughingthrush; House and Eurasian Tree Sparrows; Citrine and White Wagtails; Paddyfield Pipit. HEARD ONLY: Swamp Francolin. MAMMALS: Rhesus Macaque

MONDAY 11 APRIL

Digboi Oilfield - Dibrugarh Airport

We had a couple of hours to spare before our flight back to Delhi so went to the Digboi oilfield, about an hour from Tinsukia. The oilfield began operation in the Victorian era and the part we walked through appeared to have been long abandoned. Antique oil-blackened derricks and gear wheels emerged from swathes of bright green vegetation. The various bits of machinery open to view looked like sculpture - it was like walking through an Industrial Heritage Park, with added jungle and of course, birds. Broad tarmac roads crossed the site, allowing for an easy and silent approach to patches of scrub, clumps of trees, occasional ponds and frog-filled ditches. These wide roads meant that good views of birds could be had as they flew through large areas of open space to the next clump of cover. Liberal amounts of football-sized droppings indicated that wild elephants also used these roads, the site acting as a green corridor. Some of the pipes were connected to a modern processing plant nearby, so our walk was accompanied by an assortment of clanks, gurgles and bangs, made by the oil passing through the pipes and valves. Abid informed us that this was practically the only site in Assam where we stood a chance of seeing Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush and this was the first species we saw on entering the site; excellent views of five individuals moving around in the base of a bush.

Species at Digboi Oilfield included: Blue-throated Barbet; White-throated Kingfisher; Green-billed Malkoha; Brown-backed Needletail; Asian Palm Swift; Green Imperial Pigeon; Spotted Dove; Besra; Little Cormorant; Indian Pond Heron; Long-tailed Broadbill; Grey-backed Shrike; Grey and Collared Treepies; House Crow; Scarlet Minivet; Red-throated (Taiga) Flycatcher; White-rumped Shama; Oriental Magpie Robin; Jungle Myna; Velvet-fronted Nuthatch; Black, Ashy and Red-whiskered Bulbuls; Oriental White-eye; Common Tailorbird; Striated Grassbird; Greater Necklaced, Chestnut-backed and Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes; Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker; Crimson Sunbird; Tree Sparrow. HEARD ONLY: Coppersmith Barbet; Plaintive Cuckoo; Greater Coucal.

Late morning at Tinsukia 30 vultures soared high above the town, too distant and hazy for identification but it was, sadly, an impressive number these days. An hour's drive took us to Dibrugarh airport where we said goodbye to Abid and Pudum. One of Peter's "regular" porters then took charge of us; just as well really, because there was a flight delay and very little information on what to do and where to go.

This completed the North-East part of our holiday and we moved on to very familiar ground at Bharatpur (reported separately below).

NORTH EAST - species list

BIRDS Total 445

*** Heard only**

SWAMP FRANCOLIN

Francolinus gularis

Kaziranga Frequently heard, occasionally seen.

Maguri Bheel 1 seen, many others heard

Brahmaputra/Lohit River X Heard in grassland area beyond Sadiya Ghat but not seen

HILL PARTRIDGE

Arborophila torqueola

Dirang Several heard along Mandala Road but none seen.

Eaglenest 1 seen in Sunderview camp and another near the Pass; constantly heard most areas.

Mishmi Often heard but none seen.

CHESTNUT-BREASTED PARTRIDGE	Heard only	<i>Arborophila mandelli</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Heard several times but not seen	
RUFIOUS-THROATED PARTRIDGE		<i>Arborophila rufogularis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Very brief view of one in flight (had been calling)	
BLOOD PHEASANT		<i>Ithaginus cruentus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	9 at Sela Pass	
BLYTH'S TRAGOPAN		<i>Tragopan blythii</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Good 'scope views of ♂ for several minutes (Sunderview-Bompu stretch). Another heard next day.	
TEMMINCK'S TRAGOPAN		<i>Tragopan temminckii</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Two birds in the "mossy forest" at Pass, one of which was a sub-adult male seen very briefly as it flew. The other was an adult ♂ seen by Abid only; heard by all (on two days) but terrain too steep for speedy pursuit in heavy mist.	
HIMALAYAN MONAL		<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ seen well in flight below Sela Pass.	
RED JUNGLEFOWL		<i>Gallus gallus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3 ♀♀ seen. Frequently heard.	
<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u>	Frequent sightings along forested areas	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> Pair on 1st; 3 single ♂♂ on 3rd	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 ♂ below Mayodia	
KHALIJ PHEASANT		<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> pair on 1st; 3 single ♂♂ on 3rd	
FULVOUS WHISTLING DUCK		<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	50+	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	6 in flight	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	7 in flight east of town	
BAR-HEADED GOOSE		<i>Anser indicus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Many on approach road to Park on 31st. <i>Central Range:</i> 20+ on 1st; <i>Western Range:</i> 30+ on 2nd; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 50+ on 3rd	
COMMON SHELDUCK		<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3 on river	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Western Range:</i> 7 on 4th	
RUDDY SHELDUCK		<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common, c.50 in total	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 50+ on 1st; 1 on 4th; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 40+ on 3rd; <i>Western Range:</i> 6 on 4th	
COTTON PYGMY-GOOSE		<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 12 on 1st; c.7 on 3rd	
WHITE-WINGED DUCK		<i>Asarcornis (Cairina) scutulata</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Single bird, seen well	
GADWALL		<i>Anas strepera</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 ♂ on 31st; 50+ on 1st and 3rd; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 150+ on 1st; 100+ on 3rd	
FALCATED DUCK		<i>Anas falcata</i>
<u>Kaziranga:</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 1♀	
EURASIAN WIGEON		<i>Anas penelope</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common and numerous throughout; e.g. 400 in <i>Eastern Range</i> on 1st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	45 around lake	
MALLARD		<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> Single ♂ on 1st	
INDIAN SPOT-BILLED DUCK		<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Seen in small numbers (6-30) throughout	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	c.12 around lake	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	5 seen from ferry	
NORTHERN SHOVELER		<i>Anas clypeata</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	20+	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 on 31st; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 200+ on 1st; 30 on 3rd	
NORTHERN PINTAIL		<i>Anas acuta</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Pair on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 10+ on 1st; 5 on 3rd	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	6 around lake	

GARGANEY		<i>Anas querquedula</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 ♂ on 3rd; Eastern Range: 10 (4♂♂, 6♀♀) on 1st; 1♂ on 3rd	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	6 around lake	
EURASIAN TEAL		<i>Anas crecca</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	4 seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Small numbers throughout; highest count of 50 in Eastern Range	
COMMON POCHARD		<i>Aythya ferina</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 first-year ♂	
FERRUGINOUS DUCK		<i>Aythya nyroca</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 27	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4 around lake	
TUFTED DUCK		<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	30 (two flocks, 16 and 14)	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	c.200	
GOOSANDER (Common Merganser)		<i>Merganser merganser</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3 seen from raft	
LITTLE GREBE		<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: at least 6 together on 1st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	12 around lake	
GREAT CRESTED GREBE		<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 1st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4 on lake	
ASIAN OPENBILL		<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
	Common in all suitable lowland habitat, in groups of up to 20	
BLACK STORK		<i>Ciconia nigra</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 singles on 21st	
WOOLLY-NECKED STORK		<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common, 4-10 seen each visit, all areas	
BLACK-NECKED STORK		<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	2-8 seen each visit, all areas, incl. 4 juvs in Central on 1st and 5 juvs Eastern on 3rd	
LESSER ADJUTANT		<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	5 (2+2+1) along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequent sightings of 2-6 all areas	
<u>Tinsukia-Roing</u>	Common in wet fields and paddies (12 on 5th; 5 on 6th; 5 on 10th)	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	6 around lake	
GREATER ADJUTANT		<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>
<u>Guwahati</u>	43 on the large rubbish-tip outside town	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 1st; Western Range: 4 on 2nd; 1 on 4th	
<u>Kaziranga-Dibrugarh</u>	12 in wet areas/rice fields between Jorhat and Dibrugarh	
BLACK-HEADED IBIS		<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	2 singles in Eastern Range on 1st and again on 3rd	
STRIATED HERON		<i>Butorides striata</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 by lake	
INDIAN POND HERON		<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
	Common in all suitable habitat. 9 perched in one tree (Kaziranga) on 3rd	
EASTERN CATTLE EGRET		<i>Bubulcus(ibis) coromandus</i>
	Common in all suitable habitat, often in large numbers, including several coming to roost near Tinsukia hotel	
GREY HERON		<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1-2 seen on each visit, all areas	
PURPLE HERON		<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1-2 seen on each visit, all areas	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 at lake	
GREAT EGRET		<i>Ardea (Egretta) alba</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Kaziranga route</u>	Several sightings along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common all areas, up to 30 per visit	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u>	Frequent sightings along this route	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	5+ coming in to roost near hotel	

INTERMEDIATE EGRET		<i>Egretta intermedia</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common, up to 8 noted per visit	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u>	Occasional sightings along route	
LITTLE EGRET		<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
<u>Guwahati to Nameri</u>	Fairly common along this route	
<u>Nameri</u>	1 by river on 31st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common in small numbers (up to 8 per visit) all areas	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	5 around lake	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u>	Frequent sightings along this route + 1 by the ferry crossing	
SPOT-BILLED PELICAN		<i>Pelicanus philippensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Very common. Flocks up to 32 frequently seen, all areas (20 perched in one tree)	
LITTLE CORMORANT		<i>Microcarbo (Phalacrocorax) niger</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3 on 20th; 40+ on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common all areas, up to 40 together. Large numbers flying in to roost at dusk in <i>Central Range</i> on 4th	
<u>Kaziranga-Tinsukia</u>	Very common in all suitable areas	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Common around lake. Large roost on edge of village	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry X-Roing</u>	Common along this route but only a few (6+) on Brahmaputra river	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	3 over hotel	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
INDIAN CORMORANT (SHAG)		<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	1 in pool at roadside cafe stop	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	2-3 noted on each visit	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 seen from ferry on 10th	
ORIENTAL DARTER		<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
<u>Guwahati to Nameri</u>	3 together at roadside pool	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Very common all areas, up to 20 together	
<u>Kaziranga to Tinsukia</u>	4 singles along route	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	6 around lake	
GREAT CORMORANT		<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common. 60+ seen from raft	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common in small numbers (1-5 together) all areas	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	3 on lake	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry crossing</u>	2 singles along this route + 2 on sandbanks mid-Brahmaputra river	
(Western) OSPREY		<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> min.10 on 1st; 2 singles on 3rd; <i>Western Range:</i> 1 on 2nd	
BLACK BAZA		<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Western Range:</i> Pair in display flight on 4th	
CRESTED (Oriental) HONEY BUZZARD		<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 in Bompou area on 28th	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 together on 3rd	
BLACK-WINGED KITE		<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong area</u>	1 a few kms north of town	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Western Range:</i> 1	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 near lake	
BLACK KITE		<i>Milvus migrans</i>
<u>Guwahati to Nameri</u>	Frequent sightings of singles/2s along this route	
<u>Mishmi</u>	3 Sally Lake-Tiwari Gaon area	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 over ferry (? <i>M.m.lineatus</i>)	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	1 over town	
PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE		<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common, at least 6 seen (5 adults, 1 juv)	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 adults plus pair with 3 well-grown chicks on nest on 1st; 2 on 3rd; 3 adults+2 imm 4th; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 on 31st; 4 on 3rd; <i>Western Range:</i> 4 on 2nd and again on 4th	
GREY-HEADED FISH EAGLE		<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common; up to 6 sightings per visit, all Ranges. 2 imms. in <i>Western Range</i>	

WHITE-RUMPED VULTURE		<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>
<u>Ferry to Roing route</u>	1 in field (with Himalayan <i>G.himalayensis</i>) a few kms north of ferry crossing 2 seen from ferry on sandy island in Brahmaputra	
SLENDER-BILLED VULTURE		<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 in flight + 1 on nest with at least 1 chick Western Range: 2 in flight + 9 perched	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 on ground near ferry crossing (south side)	
HIMALAYAN VULTURE		<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>
<u>Ferry to Roing route</u>	6 in field (with 1 White-rumped <i>G.bengalensis</i>) a few kms north of ferry crossing 3 (2 ads 1 imm) seen from ferry on sandy island in Brahmaputra	
c.30 <i>Gyps</i> vultures soaring above <i>Tinsukia</i> town on 11th were not identified		
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE		<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	1 over woodland	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 3rd; Western Range: 1 on 4th; 1 heard on 1st	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 over Sally Lodge	
WESTERN MARSH HARRIER		<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1 on approach to Kaziranga on 31st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 ♂ 1 ♀	
EASTERN MARSH HARRIER		<i>Circus spilonotus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 from rooftop watchpoint on 31st (<i>CS/JG/Guide</i>)	
PIED HARRIER		<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1 on approach to Kaziranga on 31st; Central Range: 1 ad ♂; 1 s/a ♂ on 4th; Eastern Range: 1 ad ♂ and 1 probable ♀ on 3rd	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 ad ♂	
CRESTED GOSHAWK		<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 26th	
SHIKRA		<i>Accipiter badius</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 3rd; <i>Jupuri Ghar</i> : 1 in grounds	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 in grassy area north side of ferry	
BESRA		<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 9th near Tiwari Gaon	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
NORTHERN GOSHAWK		<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Pair along Mandala Road	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 in display flight by Sally Lake	
(COMMON) HIMALAYAN BUZZARD		<i>Buteo (buteo) burmanicus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 along Mandala Road 1 Sela Pass	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 over the Pass on 26th	
LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD		<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 in Sangti Valley	
BLACK EAGLE		<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	1 over forest	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 singles on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 7th	
GREATER SPOTTED EAGLE		<i>Aquila clanga</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Panbari forest/Tea plantation</i> : 1 probably this sp. on 2nd	
CHANGEABLE (CRESTED) HAWK-EAGLE		<i>Nisaetus limnaetus (Spizaetus) (cirrhatus)</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 1st; Eastern Range: 1 on 1st; Western Range: 1 on 2nd; 1 on 4th	
MOUNTAIN HAWK-EAGLE		<i>Nisaetus (Spizaetus) nipalensis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	

LESSER KESTREL		<i>Falco naumanni</i>
<u><i>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</i></u>	1 ♂ seen from ferry on sandbank in middle of Brahmaputra river on 6th	
COMMON KESTREL		<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
<u><i>Nameri</i></u>	1 ♀	
<u><i>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</i></u>	1 ♀	
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	1 ♂ in Sangti Valley	
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	Singles in <i>Central and Western Ranges</i>	
<u><i>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</i></u>	1 ♀ on river bank	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	1 near Sally Lake	
RED-NECKED FALCON		<i>Falco chicquera</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1	
<u><i>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</i></u>	1 probably this sp. over north side of river on 10th	
ORIENTAL HOBBY		<i>Falco severus</i>
<u><i>Nameri</i></u>	Pair seen several times around Eco Camp	
PEREGRINE FALCON		<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1	
<u><i>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</i></u>	1 large falcon over river on 10th was probably this sp.	
BENGAL FLORICAN		<i>Houbaropsis benghalensis</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 ♂ seen well from observation point (top of Visitor Centre near entrance) on 31st; 2 males here (seen from jeep) on 1st	
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN		<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	Common throughout	
<u><i>Tinsukia-Roing route</i></u>	Common along this route; c.30 seen on 6th and 15 on 10th	
BLACK TAILED CRAKE		<i>Porzana bicolor</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	Close views of 3 together in Sangti Valley; another calling nearby	
RUDDY BREASTED CRAKE		<i>Porzana fusca</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 <i>Eastern Range:</i> 1	
PURPLE SWAMPHEN		<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga-Dibrugarh route</i></u>	Common in marshes and paddy fields	
<u><i>Maguri Bheel</i></u>	5 around lake	
COMMON MOORHEN		<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 7+ on 3rd only	
<u><i>Maguri Bheel</i></u>	12+ around lake	
<u><i>Roing to ferry crossing</i></u>	2 singles along this route	
BARRED BUTTONQUAIL		<i>Turnix suscitator</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 flushed by elephant	
GREATER STONE-CURLEW (THICK-KNEE)		<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>
<u><i>Nameri</i></u>	2 seen from raft on 21st	
IBISBILL		<i>Ibidiorhyncha struthersii</i>
<u><i>Nameri</i></u>	3 (2+1) seen from raft on 21st	
NORTHERN LAPWING		<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 on 1st	
RIVER LAPWING		<i>Vanellus duvaucelli</i>
<u><i>Nameri</i></u>	2 pairs	
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 2 on 3rd	
<u><i>Maguri Bheel</i></u>	2 by lake	
GREY-HEADED LAPWING		<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 on 3rd; 12 on 4th <i>Eastern Range:</i> 9 on 3rd	
RED-WATTLED LAPWING		<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
<u><i>Guwahati-Nameri route</i></u>	Frequent sightings of 2s/4s along this route	
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	Several along the river	
<u><i>Kaziranga</i></u>	Frequent sightings of 2s/4s, all areas	
<u><i>Tinsukia-Ferry crossing</i></u>	2 seen East of Tinsukia town	
LONG-BILLED PLOVER		<i>Charadrius placidus</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	2 together in Sangti Valley	

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER		<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Two pairs along river	
GREATER PAINTED-SNIPE		<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Jupuri Ghar: 2 in adjacent wet paddy field	
PHEASANT-TAILED JACANA		<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: Singles on 1st & 4th; Eastern Range: 4+ on 3rd; Western Range: 2 on 4th	
<u>Kaziranga-Dibrugarh route</u>	Frequent sightings in marshy areas and paddies along this route	
BRONZE-WINGED JACANA		<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common in all areas	
<u>Kaziranga-Dibrugarh route</u>	Frequent sightings in marshy areas and paddies along this route	
PIN-TAILED SNIPE		<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 4 on 1st Western Range: Poor view of 1, probably this sp.; Jupuri Ghar: 4 in adjacent wet paddy field	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 unidentified snipe was probably this sp.	
SPOTTED REDSHANK		<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 on 1st; Western Range: 1 on 2nd; min.5 on 4th	
COMMON REDSHANK		<i>Tringa totanus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 3 on 1st Western Range: 4 on 2nd	
MARSH SANDPIPER		<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Singles in Eastern and Western Ranges on 1st and 2nd	
COMMON GREENSHANK		<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 singles along the river	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequently seen and heard; up to 10 sightings per visit	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Heard in area but not seen	
GREEN SANDPIPER		<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 1st; 3 on 3rd; Western Range: 2 on 4th; 3 on 4th	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	3+ around lake	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 over grassy area north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat) on 10th	
WOOD SANDPIPER		<i>Tringa glareola</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	1 at roadside pool / breakfast stop	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 on 1st; Eastern Range: 2 on 1st; Western Range: 1 on 4th	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	3 around lake	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 over grassy area north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat) on 10th	
COMMON SANDPIPER		<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 4th; Eastern Range: 1 on 1st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4+ around lake	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 on sandbank in river on 6th	
TEMMINCK'S STINT		<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 on 1st; Western Range: 10+ on 2nd; 8 on 4th	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 by lake	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	5 on north bank of river on 10th	
SMALL PRATINCOLE		<i>Glareola lactea</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Large numbers along Jia Bhareli with 200+ on 21st (nesting on islands)	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 5 pratincole sp., very distant, were probably this sp.	
BROWN-HEADED GULL		<i>Chroicocephalus (Larus) brunnicephalus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 1st	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 at the lake	
BLACK-HEADED GULL		<i>Chroicocephalus (Larus) ridibundus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 over river	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	2 on lake	
PALLAS'S (GREAT BLACK-HEADED) GULL		<i>Ichthyaetus (Larus) ichthyaeus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 over the river	
RIVER TERN		<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Pair on rocky island in river	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Western Range: 1 on 4th	

WHISKERED TERN		<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 32 on 1st and c.25 on 3rd.	
ROCK/FERAL PIGEON		<i>Columba livia</i>
	Seen everywhere, except high forest	
SNOW PIGEON		<i>Columba leuconota</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Flock of 11 seen three times at Sela Pass	
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE		<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	8 seen on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 2	
RED COLLARED-DOVE		<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: single ♂ on 3rd Eastern Range: single ♂ on 3rd Western Range: single ♂ on 4th	
SPOTTED DOVE		<i>Spilopelia (Streptopelia) chinensis</i>
	Common in many areas: frequently seen at <i>Nameri</i> , <i>Kaziranga</i> , along the <i>Tinsukia-Maguri Bheel</i> road, <i>Mishmi</i> and <i>Digboi Oil Fields</i>	
BARRED CUCKOO-DOVE		<i>Macropygia unchall</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 near Dirang on 22nd 2 along Mandala Road on 23rd	
EMERALD DOVE		<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 singles in forest	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1; Eastern Range: 1;	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 6th; 2 on 7th; 2 on 8th; 2 on 8th	
YELLOW-FOOTED GREEN PIGEON		<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 in Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common and numerous in all areas, frequent small flocks	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Several sightings in wooded areas near lake	
PINTAILED GREEN PIGEON		<i>Treron apicauda</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	8 (2+6) in forest	
WEDGE-TAILED GREEN PIGEON		<i>Treron sphenura</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	6 over forest	
GREEN IMPERIAL PIGEON		<i>Ducula aenae</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	c.10 seen on forest walk	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 5 on 3rd; c.12 on 4th Eastern Range: 4 on 3rd	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
MOUNTAIN IMPERIAL PIGEON		<i>Ducula badia</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	c.5	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Fairly common, up to 10 seen most days	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 seen below Mayodia on 7th; 3 on 8th	
ALEXANDRINE PARAKEET		<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Occasional sightings of small groups 2-6 each day	
ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET		<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common throughout	
<u>Kaziranga to Dibrugarh route</u>	Frequent sightings in flocks of 4-10	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	2 only, by Hotel Centre Point	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	Several flocks seen	
BLOSSOM-HEADED (Rosy-headed) PARAKEET		<i>Psittacula roseata</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequent sightings of small flocks 2-6 overhead; only one group seen well, perched	
RED-BREASTED PARAKEET		<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Very common and numerous (e.g. 40+ in one tree near Eco Camp)	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Very common	
GREATER COUCAL		<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Often heard but not seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common all areas. 2-3 seen each visit, many more heard	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 seen	
<u>Tinsukia-Roing route</u>	Heard at roadside stops but not seen	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	Heard but not seen	

LESSER COUCAL		<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 seen; Western Range: 1 seen	
GREEN-BILLED MALKOHA		<i>Phaenicophaeus tristris</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 seen in forest	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 on 1st; Eastern Range: 1 on 1st; 2 together on 3rd Western Range: 1 on 2nd; Kohora: 1 seen in tea plantation	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	4 seen	
CHESTNUT-WINGED CUCKOO		<i>Clemator coromandus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen	
ASIAN KOEL		<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 ♂♂ seen at Eco Camp and often heard in forest	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Occasionally heard in Park and around Jupuri Ghar but not seen	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Heard around village and by lake but not seen	
BANDED BAY CUCKOO		<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 seen at Sally Lake on 6th; heard again on 9th	
PLAINTIVE CUCKOO		<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 prob. this sp. seen in forest but not calling	
<u>Kaziranga area</u>	1 seen well and another heard calling in tea plantation near Kohora	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Frequently heard around Sally Lake and one calling by Dibang river but none seen	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	Heard several times but not seen	
LARGE HAWK-CUCKOO		<i>Hierococcyx sparveriioides</i>
	Common in many areas. Frequently heard at <i>Nameri, Mandala Road, Sangti Valley, Eaglenest, Roing-Sally Lake-Mayodia</i> . Only heard once at <i>Kaziranga</i> on 4th.	
INDIAN CUCKOO		<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
<u>Kaziranga area</u>	Eastern Range: 1 seen and heard 1 seen well in tea plantation east of Kohora.	
*MOUNTAIN SCOPS OWL	Heard only	<i>Otus spilocephalus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 calling at dawn on 7th by Sally Lodge	
BROWN FISH OWL		<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Panbari forest/Tea plantation:</i> Pair seen well	
*HIMALAYAN (WOOD) OWL	Heard only	<i>Strix (aluco) nivicolium</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Heard several times at Lama Camp on 25th and 30th but not seen	
COLLARED OWLET		<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 seen at roadside stop north of Bhalukpong; another heard	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 heard along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Often heard in most areas	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Common; frequently heard each day	
ASIAN BARRED OWLET		<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3 seen near Eco Camp; 1 seen in camp grounds on two nights (two birds calling)	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	1 seen along this route	
<u>Eaglenest - Kaziranga route</u>	2 seen along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 6 (4 singles+pair); Eastern Range: 1; Western Range: 1; Jupuri Ghar: 1 heard	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Heard each night at Sally Lake and below The Coffee House	
SPOTTED OWLET		<i>Athena brama</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 seen	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Pair in village	
BROWN HAWK-OWL		<i>Ninox scutulata</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 seen by tents at Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Jupuri Ghar: 1 seen in grounds; heard again following night	
GREY (JUNGLE) NIGHTJAR		<i>Caprimulgus (indicus) jotkata</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 calling through night of 20th	
<u>Dirang</u>	Heard each night by Hotel Pemaling	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 at Lama Camp in display flight pre-dawn on 26th; 1 seen at dawn on 31st. 1 seen at Sunderview on 28th	
LARGE-TAILED NIGHTJAR		<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Jupuri Ghar: 1 seen in grounds (also heard each night)	

HIMALAYAN SWIFTLET		<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Flocks up to 20 seen each day	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	Occasional flocks along route	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Flocks up to 50 frequently seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequent flocks 30+ each day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	30+ over Tiwari Gaon on 6th and 9th; 10+ over The Coffee House, Mayodia on 7th	
BROWN-BACKED NEEDLETAIL		<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
ASIAN PALM SWIFT		<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
	Common in small numbers (1-15) at <u>Nameri</u> , <u>Kaziranga</u> , <u>Maguri Bheel</u> and <u>Digboi Oil Fields</u> . 1 at <u>Sessni</u> , <u>Eaglenest</u> on 28th.	
LITTLE (HOUSE) SWIFT		<i>Apus affinis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 5-6 on 4th <i>Panbari forest/Tea plantations:</i> 5	
WARD'S TROGON		<i>Harpactes wardi</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 ♀♀ together	
INDIAN ROLLER		<i>Coracias benghalensis affinis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Fairly common	
<u>Tinsukia to Ferry Crossing Point</u>	6 sightings along route on 6th; 3 on return journey 10th	
STORK-BILLED KINGFISHER		<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 on 1st; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 on 3rd; <i>Western Range:</i> 2 on 4th	
<u>Kaziranga to Jorhat route</u>	1 seen by roadside	
WHITE-THROATED KINGFISHER		<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
	Very common in Assam and around Sally Lake in Mishmi. Also seen at Digboi Oil Fields	
BLUE-EARED KINGFISHER		<i>Alcedo meninting</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 at forest pool	
COMMON KINGFISHER		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 seen from the raft	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 in Sangti Valley	
<u>Dirang to Bhalukpong route</u>	1 seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	4 seen	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4 seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 at Sally Lake on 6th; singles by Dibang river on 9th and 10th	
<u>Ferry Crossing to Tinsukia route</u>	2 singles	
CRESTED KINGFISHER		<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 in Sangti Valley	
PIED KINGFISHER		<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common, seen all areas (e.g. 6 pairs in <i>Central Range</i> on 4th)	
<u>Tinsukia-River crossing</u>	2 along route and 1 seen on ferry crossing	
BLUE-BEARDED BEE EATER		<i>Nyctyornis athertoni</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 near Eco Camp	
GREEN BEE EATER		<i>Merops orientalis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 on 1st; 3 on 4th; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 on 3rd;	
<u>Tinsukia-River crossing</u>	2 along this route	
CHESTNUT-HEADED BEE EATER		<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Several pairs and singles seen on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequent sightings in groups of 2-10	
BLUE-TAILED BEE EATER		<i>Merops philippinus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common all areas usually groups of 3-6 but 15 together at dusk in <i>Central Range</i> on 4th	
HOOPOE		<i>Upupa epops</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common, up to 6 seen daily	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 by The Coffee House, Mayodia 4 between Sally Lake and Mayodia on 8th; 1 on 9th	
GREAT PIED HORNBILL		<i>Buceros bicornis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 3 seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 seen, rather distant; others heard	

ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL		<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 over river	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 2 seen; <i>Jupuri Ghar:</i> 2 seen in ground on two occasions; <i>Kohora:</i> 1 apparently feeding mate at sealed hole in roadside tree	
RUFIOUS-NECKED HORNBILL		<i>Aceros nipalensis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Poor, distant view of 1 perched bird with at least 4 more calling on same day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 heard but not seen	
GREAT BARBET		<i>Megalaima virens</i>
	Constantly heard in all hill country but not seen often:	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 27th; 1 on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 4th; 1 on 8th; 6 on 9th	
LINEATED BARBET		<i>Megalaima lineata</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common, constantly heard and frequently seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Frequently heard all area; singles seen in <i>Central Range</i> and <i>Eastern Ranges</i>	
GOLDEN-THROATED BARBET		<i>Megalaima franklinii</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Often heard but only 2 singles seen in lower areas	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Constantly heard in lower areas	
BLUE-THROATED BARBET		<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common; constantly heard and several sightings each day	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	3 seen and others heard at roadside stops along route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common; constantly heard and 2 singles seen at <i>Jupuri Ghar</i>	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Heard several times around village near lake	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 seen at Sally Lake and constantly heard here	
<u>Tinsukia</u>	1 by Centre Point Hotel	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen, others heard	
BLUE-EARED BARBET		<i>Megalaima australis</i>
<u>Kaziranga area</u>	2 singles in tea plantation East of Kohora	
COPPERSMITH BARBET		<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 at Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 2 seen near entrance; <i>Eastern Range:</i> heard once only; <i>Jupuri Ghar:</i> 2 seen in grounds, often heard	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Heard around village	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	Heard only	
PALE-HEADED WOODPECKER		<i>Gecinulus grantia</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 seen in flight several times at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Dirang</u>	Heard in two bamboo areas along Mandala Road, not seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Frequently heard close to Sally Lake but not seen	
BAY WOODPECKER		<i>Blythipicus pyrrhotis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Frequently heard each day but only 1 seen, on 29th	
GREY-CAPPED PYGMY-WOODPECKER		<i>Dendrocopus canicapillus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> Pair <i>Western Range:</i> 2 singles	
FULVOUS-BREASTED WOODPECKER		<i>Dendrocopus macei</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 only	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1 ♀ east of Kohora in roadside tree and 2 singles at <i>Jupuri Ghar</i> on two days	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 probably this sp. (although it <i>could</i> have been Stripe-breasted <i>D. atratus</i>)	
RUFIOUS WOODPECKER		<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Jupuri Ghar:</i> 1 near the lodge on 31st	
DARJEELING WOODPECKER		<i>Dendrocopus darjellensis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 26th; 2 on 27th; 4 on 29th. Heard only on 30th	
STREAK-THROATED WOODPECKER		<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> at least 1 ♂ seen	
LESSER YELLOWNAPE		<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	Singles on 8th and 9th	
GREATER YELLOWNAPE		<i>Picus flavinucha</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 on 21st	

LESSER GOLDENBACK (BLACK-RUMPED FLAMEBACK)		<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common; 2-4 seen most visits and around Kohora	
GREATER GOLDENBACK (FLAMEBACK)		<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common; several sightings each day	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Western Range: 1 only	
LONG-TAILED BROADBILL		<i>Psarisoma dalhousiae</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 heard, very close, on 8th but not seen	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
*BLUE-NAPED PITTA	Heard only	<i>Pitta nipalensis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 1 heard, very close, but not seen	
BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE		<i>Hemipus picatus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 at Sally Lake on 7th; 1 seen and another heard on 9th	
LARGE WOODSHRIKE		<i>Tephrodornis (gularis) virgatus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: pair in tea plantation	
ASHY WOOD-SWALLOW		<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Occasional sightings of small groups 2-8	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong</u>	Occasional sightings of small groups 2-6	
<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u>	2 + 4 on route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 13 on power lines near entrance on 1st; 4 + on 4th Western Range: 6+ on 4th; Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 5	
<u>Ferry to Roing</u>	4 on route	
COMMON IORA		<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	c.6 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Heard at edge of Panbari forest but not seen	
LARGE CUCKOO-SHRIKE		<i>Coracina macei</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Two pairs on 21st	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong</u>	5 (3+2) on route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 1st; Eastern Range: 2 on 1st; 1 on 3rd	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 above Sally Lodge	
BLACK-WINGED CUCKOO-SHRIKE		<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 singles between Bompou and Sessni	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 3rd; Eastern Range: 1 on 3rd; Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 2 singles	
<u>Mishmi</u>	A few seen each day around Sally Lake and up to Tiwari Gaon	
GREY-CHINNED MINIVET		<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	2 at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 above Tiwari Gaon	
LONG-TAILED MINIVET		<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 ♂♂, 1 ♀	
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	6+ at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Jupuri Ghar: 1 in grounds; Western Range: 5 probably this sp.	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Two flocks 6+9 on 7th; c.20 on 9th	
SHORT-BILLED MINIVET		<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	2 at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Dirang</u>	4 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	12+ on 26th; 5 on 28th	
SCARLET MINIVET		<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common, frequent sightings of small flocks 6-8	
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	6+ at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 at Sally Lake on 6th; four flocks totalling 18 birds on 9th	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1	
BROWN SHRIKE		<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong</u>	1 near town	

LONG-TAILED SHRIKE*Lanius schah tricolor*

- Nameri-Dirang 2 singles
Dirang 3 Mandala Road; 2 in Sangti Valley
Dirang-Eaglenest 2
Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga) 3 singles
Kaziranga Central Range: 1 on 3rd; Jupuri Ghar: 1 in grounds
Maguri Bheel 3 around lake
Roing-Tinsukia 1 along this route

GREY-BACKED SHRIKE*Lanius tephronotus*

- Guwahati-Nameri 2 on route
Nameri 1 near Eco Camp
Dirang 1 in Sangti Valley
Kaziranga Fairly common, up to 6 sightings per visit, all areas
Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing 3 on route 6th; 3 on 10th
Mishmi 1 near Sally Lake
Digboi Oil Fields 1

PIED (White-browed) SHRIKE-BABBLER*Pteruthius flaviscapis*

- Bhalukpong-Dirang Pair on at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)
Eaglenest 2 pairs on 27th; single ♂ on 28th; 3-4 on 29th
Mishmi Single on 6th near Tiwari Gaon

GREEN SHRIKE-BABBLER*Pteruthius xanthochlorus*

- Eaglenest 2 on 26th

BLACK-EARED SHRIKE-BABBLER*Pteruthius melanotis*

- Eaglenest 2 on 27th

BLACK-HEADED SHRIKE-BABBLER*Pteruthius rufiventer*

- Eaglenest 1 male on 29th

BLACK-HOODED ORIOLE*Oriolus xanthornus*

- Nameri 1
Kaziranga Common in Park and around Jupuri Ghar
Maguri Bheel 1 in village garden

MAROON ORIOLE*Oriolus traillii*

- Nameri-Dirang 1 at roadside stop north of Tenga
Eaglenest 2 singles between Bompou and Sessni
Mishmi Singles on three days Sally Lake-Tiwari Gaon

BLACK DRONGO*Dicrurus macrocerus*

- Common at Nameri, Kaziranga and around villages

ASHY DRONGO*Dicrurus leucophaeus*

- Dirang 1 south of Dirang on 22nd; 3 along Mandala Road on 23rd
Eaglenest Fairly common, 3-6 seen most days
Kaziranga Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 2 on edge of forest
Mishmi Common, 5+ seen daily

BRONZED DRONGO*Dicrurus aeneus*

- Dirang 1 near Dirang on 22nd; 1 near Mandala Road on 23rd
Eaglenest 1 in Sessni area on 28th
Mishmi 6 between Sally Lake and Tiwari Gaon on 6th; 3 on 9th

LESSER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO*Dicrurus remifer*

- Dirang 1 near Mandala Road
Eaglenest 2 singles in Bompou area
Kaziranga Eastern Range: 1 on 3rd
Mishmi 1 near Tiwari Gaon on 7th; 2 on 9th

GREATER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO*Dicrurus paradiseus*

- Nameri 2 singles on 21st
Kaziranga Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 1 on edge of forest
Mishmi 1 on 7th

HAIR-CRESTED (Spangled) DRONGO*Dicrurus hottentottus*

- Nameri 5 singles on 20th; 6-7 on 21st
Kaziranga 1-2 seen each day, all areas, including edge of Panbari forest
Mishmi Singles on 7th and 9th

WHITE-THROATED FANTAIL		<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Up to 4 seen each day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Up to 6 each day	
YELLOW-BELLIED FANTAIL		<i>Chelidorhynx (Rhipidura) hypoxanthus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	c.8 at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Fairly common, up to 7 per day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 on 9th	
BLACK-NAPED MONARCH		<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 ♂	
ASIAN PARADISE FLYCATCHER		<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	Pair by Sally Lake	
YELLOW-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE		<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	2 along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 near Sunderview	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 by Coffee House, Mayodia	
GREEN MAGPIE		<i>Cissa chinensis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 seen on 7th; 1 on 8th; 2 on 9th	
RUFOUS TREEPIE		<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	3 on route	
<u>Nameri</u>	Several sightings each day	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Fairly common, frequent sightings all areas	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4 around village	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u>	Common	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	2 seen	
GREY TREEPIE		<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	2 Mandala Road	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 (or possibly Collared <i>D.frontalis</i>) near Tiwari Gaon on 6th; 1 definitely this sp. on 7th	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1	
COLLARED TREEPIE		<i>Dendrocitta frontalis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 definitely this sp. seen on 7th; 1 possibly this, or Grey <i>D.formosae</i> near Tiwari Gaon on 6th, others heard.	
SPOTTED NUTCRACKER		<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 26th; 2 together on 27th; 1 on 30th	
(Red-billed) CHOUGH		<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	4 at Sela Pass	
HOUSE CROW		<i>Corvus splendens</i>
	Common in and around all towns and villages	
(EASTERN) JUNGLE CROW		<i>Corvus (macrorhynchus) leuillanti</i>
	Common in small groups in lower areas/Assam and around Sally Lake	
LARGE-BILLED CROW		<i>Corvus (macrorhynchus) japonensis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Occasional pairs Sangti Valley, Mandala Road and Sela Pass	
GREY-HEADED CANARY-FLYCATCHER		<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	2 singles at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Dirang</u>	Common along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Common, up to 20 per day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	c.10 seen on 9th	
COAL TIT		<i>Periparus (Parus) ater</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.7 along Mandala Road; 1 on route to Sela Pass	
RUFOUS-VENTED TIT		<i>Periparus (Parus) rubidiventris</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	6 along Mandala Road; 8 on route to Sela Pass	
GREAT TIT		<i>Parus major</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 near Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Jupuri Ghar: 1	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 in village garden	

GREEN-BACKED TIT		<i>Parus monticolus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	6 along Mandala Road; 1 on route to Sela Pass	
<u>Bomdila</u>	1 in town	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 on 26th; 5 on 27th; 4-5 on 30th	
YELLOW-CHEEKED (Black-spotted) TIT		<i>Parus spilnotus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.5 along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	8 on 26th; 6+ on 27th; 2 on 29th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 on 7th	
YELLOW-BROWED TIT		<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Up to 6 each day	
SULTAN TIT		<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 on 21st	
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	Pair on route	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Pair near Bompou	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 on 9th; others heard in fast-moving mixed flock on 6th	
BLACK-THROATED TIT		<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.6 along Mandala Road	
<u>Bomdila</u>	1 in town	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	7 on 25th; 4+ on 26th; 15+ on 27th; 20+ on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Common in impressive numbers: c.50 (15+17+18) on 7th and c.40 (10+15+15) on 9th	
RUFOUS-FRONTED TIT		<i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.7 along Mandala Road	
FIRE-CAPPED TIT		<i>Cephalopyrus flammiceps</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	5 along Mandala Road	
BENGAL BUSH LARK		<i>Mirafra assamica</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 seen, in song flight, by river	
SAND LARK		<i>Calandrella raytal</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 seen (other probables, very distant)	
ORIENTAL SKYLARK		<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Western Range:</i> Only 1 seen well	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	2 singles, in song-flight, on south side of ferry crossing	
STRIATED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3-8 seen daily	
<u>Mishmi</u>	61 above Sally Lake on 8th	
BLACK CRESTED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus (melanicterus) flaviventris</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 20th; 2+ on 21st	
RED-WHISKERED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus jocusus</i>
	Fairly common in many areas; not at Eaglenest and only in lower parts of Mishmi	
RED-VENTED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
	Common in most areas; not at Eaglenest and only around Sally Lake at Mishmi	
WHITE-THROATED BULBUL		<i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Frequently heard in forest but not seen	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Panbari forest/Tea plantation:</i> heard at edge of forest but not seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 seen at Sally Lake on 6th	
ASHY BULBUL		<i>Hemixos flava</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1	
MOUNTAIN BULBUL		<i>Ixos (Hypsipetes) mccllellandi</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	4 at Sally Lake on 9th	
BLACK BULBUL		<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	6 on 21st	
<u>Nameri-Dirang</u>	c.18 along this route	
<u>Dirang</u>	Common along Mandala Road	
<u>Mishmi</u>	6 on 6th; 2 on 7th; 2 on 8th	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	2	

GREY-THROATED MARTIN		<i>Riparia chinensis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Thousands seen along the river, from the raft	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common throughout	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Small groups around the river/lake	
BARN SWALLOW		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	One flock only, c.20, on this route	
<u>Nameri-Bhalukpong</u>	Small numbers only	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common throughout	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	Small numbers in the area but none over the river	
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW		<i>Cecropis (Hirundo) daurica</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 with Grey-throated Martins <i>R.chinensis</i> seen from raft	
<u>Nameri-Bhalukpong</u>	1 seen along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 on 31st; Kohora: 4 East of town on 2nd	
NEPAL HOUSE MARTIN		<i>Delichon nipalense</i>
<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u>	Small flocks fairly common over forested areas, probably all this sp.	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: Small flocks of 6-8	
<u>Mishmi</u>	6 below Sally Lake on 10th	
ASIAN HOUSE MARTIN		<i>Delichon dasypus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Eastern Range: 8 on 2nd	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	3 probably this sp. high over lake	
SCALY-BREASTED WREN-BABBLER		<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Extended views of 1 along Mandala Road, apparently nesting	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Singles seen on two days, others heard	
PYGMY WREN-BABBLER		<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	Good views of 1 and several more heard	
RUFOUS-THROATED WREN-BABBLER		<i>Spelaeornis caudatus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 seen (1 on 27th, 2 on 28th) and several more heard	
MISHMI (Rusty-throated) WREN-BABBLER		<i>Spelaeornis badeigularis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	3 very good sightings and another heard	
LONG-BILLED WREN-BABBLER		<i>Rimator malacoptilus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 seen well + few possibles on 28th	
SIKKIM WEDGE-BILLED WREN-BABBLER		<i>Sphenocichla humei</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Good views of 1 + several others heard and glimpsed on 28th	
CACHAR WEDGE-BILLED WREN-BABBLER		<i>Sphenocichla roberti</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 near Tiwari Gaon	
CHESTNUT-HEADED TESIA		<i>Tesia castaneocoronata</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Singles on 27th and 29th; 3 on 28th; several more heard	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen, 2 others heard	
SLATY-BELLIED TESIA		<i>Tesia olivea</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 very brief view then 3 more heard	
BROWNISH-FLANKED (Strong-footed) BUSH WARBLER		<i>Cettia fortipes</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 1 seen, a few more possibles	
RUFOUS-FACED WARBLER		<i>Abroscopus albogularis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 male near Sally Lake	
YELLOW-BELLIED WARBLER		<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	1 at roadside stop	
BLACK-FACED WARBLER		<i>Abroscopus schisticeps</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Common, often in groups amongst mixed-sp. flocks At least 15 on 25th; 10 on 26th; 12+ on 27th; 5 on 28th; 9 on 29th	
DUSKY WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 near Eco Camp	
TICKELL'S LEAF WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 near Eco Camp	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 31st; 1 on 3rd	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	4 together in village	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 in scrub on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat)	

BUFF-BARRED WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 seen well and 4 probables along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	20 on 26th; 5+ on 27th; 1 on 28th; 4 on 29th	
ASHY-THROATED (Grey-faced) WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	6+ along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	c.15 on 26th; 10+ on 27th; 4+ on 29th; 5+ on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen well on 8th; other possibles	
LEMON-RUMPED WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 seen on route	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 1, probably 4, seen on 30th	
YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 on route	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 1 on 30th plus few possibles	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	4 in scrub on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat)	
LARGE-BILLED LEAF WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus magirostris</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen well on 9th, plus few possibles	
GREENISH WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
BLYTH'S LEAF WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 25th; 2 on 27th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen well plus few possibles	
GREY-HOODED WARBLER		<i>Phylloscopus xanthoschistos</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
WHISTLER'S WARBLER		<i>Seicercus whistleri</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 on 26th; at least 1 on 27th; 2 on 29th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 8th	
GREY-CHEEKED WARBLER		<i>Seicercus poliogenys</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 near Lama camp on 25th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen well plus few possibles on 9th	
CHESTNUT-CROWNED WARBLER		<i>Seicercus castaneiceps</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 on 26th; 3 on 27th; 5 on 28th	
THICK-BILLED WARBLER		<i>Iduna (Acrocephalus) aedon</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 near Eco Camp	
STRIATED GRASSBIRD		<i>Megalurus palustris</i>
<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u>	1 at roadside stop along this route	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	c.10 seen	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	5 in grassland area on 10th	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
ZITTING CISTICOLA		<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 only	
BLACK-THROATED PRINIA		<i>Prinia atrogularis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 (pair + single) above Lama camp on 26th; heard on 28th but not seen	
STRIATED PRINIA		<i>Prinia crinigera</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	15 seen on 7th	
SWAMP PRINIA		<i>Prinia cinerascens</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Probably this species seen several times	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 seen in grassland; others heard	
GREY-BREASTED PRINIA		<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
<u>Bomdila</u>	1 seen at edge of town on 25th	
YELLOW-BELLIED PRINIA		<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 4th; Western Range: 1 singing ♂ on 4th	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 singing ♂	
RUFESCENT PRINIA		<i>Prinia rufescens</i>
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 in grassland on north side of river on 6th	

MOUNTAIN TAILORBIRD		<i>Phyllergates (Orthotomus) cuculatus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 poor view (but heard for extended period) near Sunderview on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen well, two others heard	
COMMON TAILORBIRD		<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Common	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	1 near Jupuri Ghar	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	3 around village	
<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u>	Often seen and heard along this route	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 near Sally Lake on 9th	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
DARK(Black)-NECKED TAILORBIRD		<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 male in woodland edge on 3rd	
STREAK-BREASTED SCIMITAR-BABBLER		<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 25th; 1 seen and another heard on 27th; 1 on 29th; 2 on 30th	
CORAL-BILLED SCIMITAR-BABBLER		<i>Pomatorhinus ferruginosus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 seen well + 2 other probables at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
WHITE-BROWED SCIMITAR-BABBLER		<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 1 seen in tea plantation	
SLENDER-BILLED SCIMITAR-BABBLER		<i>Pomatorhinus (Xiphirhynchus) superciliaris</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 seen well + few possibles on 27th	
RUFOUS-FRONTED BABBLER		<i>Stachyridopsis (Stachyris) rufifrons</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 in mixed-sp. flock	
RUFOUS-CAPPED BABBLER		<i>Stachyridopsis (Stachyris) ruficeps</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Several in mixed-sp. flock on 27th, only 1 of which seen well	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 (two groups) on 8th	
GOLDEN BABBLER		<i>Stachyridopsis (Stachyris) chrysaea</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2-3 on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	At least 1 on 8th	
GREY-THROATED BABBLER		<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 together on 9th	
(PIN-) STRIPED TIT-BABBLER		<i>Macronous gularis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	3+ on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 4 together	
PUFF-THROATED BABBLER		<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Western Range: 1 on 2nd	
ABBOTT'S BABBLER		<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 2 seen and others heard on 3rd	
CHESTNUT-CAPPED BABBLER		<i>Timalia pileata</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 in grassland	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	2 in scrub on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat)	
STRIATED BABBLER		<i>Turdoides earlei</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 seen	
SLENDER-BILLED BABBLER		<i>Turdoides longirostris</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Western Range: 3 together on 4th	
WHITE-THROATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 below the Pass on 29th	
WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Flock of c.10 on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Fairly common, often heard and three flocks seen	
STRIATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax striata</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Fairly common, 1-6 seen each day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Singles on two days	
SCALY LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Trochalopteron (Garrulax) subunicolor</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 1 on 26th but others probably overlooked	

RUFOUS-NECKED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax ruficollis</i>
<u><i>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</i></u>	5 near south side of crossing on 6th; 6-7 in scrubby area north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat) on 10th	
<u><i>Digboi Oil Fields</i></u>	1 seen	
RUFOUS-CHINNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax ruficularis</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	Flock of 5+ on 27th	
SPOTTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax ocellata</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	c.5 along Mandala Road but only 1 seen properly (others were calling)	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	1 seen well at the Pass with several others calling; often heard	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	1 heard on 8th but not seen	
CHESTNUT-BACKED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax nuchalis</i>
<u><i>Digboi Oil Fields</i></u>	5	
GREATER NECKLACED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i>
<u><i>Digboi Oil Fields</i></u>	5 seen	
LESSER NECKLACED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax monileger</i>
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	Flock heard, but not seen, near Tiwari Gaon	
<u><i>Digboi Oil Fields</i></u>	5 seen	
GREY-SIDED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Garrulax caerulatus</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	Fairly common, often heard but only a few seen: 2 on 2nd and 8+ on 27th	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	5+ on 9th	
BHUTAN (STREAKED) LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Trochalopteron (Garrulax) imbricatum</i>
<u><i>Bhalukpong-Dirang</i></u>	1 seen at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	2 Mandala Road	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	c.4 on 26th; 5-6 on 27th	
BLACK-FACED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Trochalopteron (Garrulax) affinis</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	10 (6+4) along Mandala Road	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	15+ on 27th (three groups); singles on 26th and 30th	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	At least 4 barely visible in thick mist at start of Mayodia Pass on 8th	
CHESTNUT-CROWNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH		<i>Trochalopteron (Garrulax) erythrocephalus</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	3 together on Mandala Road	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	10+ (two groups) on 26th; 4-5 on 29th; several sightings on 30th	
CUTIA		<i>Cutia nipalensis</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	3 on 25th; 6 on 26th; c.12 on 28th	
BAR-THROATED (Chestnut-tailed) MINLA		<i>Minla strigula</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	c.6 along Mandala Road	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	1 on 25th; c.10 on 26th; 5+ on 27th; c.12 on 29th; 6+ on 30th	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	10+ on 8th	
RED-TAILED MINLA		<i>Minla ignotincta</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	6 on 26th; 6 on 27th; 3 on 29th; 6+ on 30th	
RED-FACED LIOCICHLA		<i>Liocichla phoeniceus</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	2 on 28th	
BUGUN LIOCICHLA		<i>Liocichla bugunorum</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	Below Lama Camp: 2 on 25th and 3 on 26th (with a 3rd calling nearby)	
RUSTY-FRONTED BARWING		<i>Actinodura egertoni</i>
<u><i>Bhalukpong-Dirang</i></u>	Flock of 10+ at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	20+ on 25th; c.30 on 26th; 5+ on 28th; c.10 on 30th	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	15+ on 8th; 10+ on 9th	
HOARY-THROATED BARWING		<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	1 seen on 26th (others probably missed in mixed flocks); 5+ on 30th	
STREAK-THROATED BARWING		<i>Actinodura waldeni</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	20+ on 29th (others probably missed in mixed flocks)	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	At least 1 with Rusty-fronted <i>A. egertoni</i> on 8th	
SILVER-EARED LEIOTHRIX (Mesia)		<i>Leiothrix argenteauris</i>
<u><i>Eaglenest</i></u>	6 on 28th; 5+ on 29th; two flocks (6+7) on 31st	
<u><i>Mishmi</i></u>	5 on 6th; 20 on 7th; 20+ on 8th; 8 on 9th	
RED-BILLED LEOTHRIX		<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>
<u><i>Dirang</i></u>	1 along Mandala Road	

RUFOUS-BACKED SIBIA		<i>Heterophasia annectens</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 together on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 on 6th; 2 together on 9th	
BEAUTIFUL SIBIA		<i>Heterophasia pulchella</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Common in small groups (2-8) along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Several sightings of 2s/4s each day. Max. day count of 10	
<u>Mishmi</u>	10 on 8th; 20+ on 9th	
LONG-TAILED SIBIA		<i>Heterophasia picaoides</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	Two flocks (8+12) on roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 above Sally Lake on 7th and again on 8th; 6 on 9th	
JERDON'S BABBLER		<i>Chrysomma altirostre</i>
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 seen, another heard	
BROWN PARROTBILL		<i>Cholornis (Paradoxornis) unicolor</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	5 on 26th; 2 on 27th	
PALE-BILLED (Lssr Rufous-headed/Black-browed) PARROTBILL		<i>Chleuasicus (Paradoxornis) atosuperciliaris</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	A flock of 10-15 seen on route; good views	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Flock of 5+ on 7th	
GREATER RUFOUS-HEADED PARROTBILL		<i>Paradoxornis ruficeps</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Flock of 6 on 26th, good views; 5 on 28th, c.8 on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	10+ on 8th; 6+ on 9th	
GOLDEN-BREASTED FULVETTA		<i>Lioparus (Alcippe) chrysolis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	2 Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	4 on 27th	
YELLOW-THROATED FULVETTA		<i>Alcippe cinerea</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	4 on 27th; 5 on 28th; 10+ on 29th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	6 on 8th; 3 on 9th	
RUFOUS-WINGED FULVETTA		<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 1 in mixed flock on 26th; 3+ on 27th; 4 on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 on 8th	
NEPAL FULVETTA		<i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	4 on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	10 seen on 6th; several on 8th; only brief glimpses of calling birds twice on 9th	
BROWN-THROATED FULVETTA		<i>Fulvetta (Alcippe) ludlowi</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road; 1 on return from Sela Pass	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 seen well, 2-3 other probables, on 27th; c.4 on 29th; 3+ on 30th	
MANIPUR FULVETTA		<i>Fulvetta (Alcippe) manipurensis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	Good views of 1 on 8th	
WHITE-HOODED BABBLER		<i>Gampsorhynchus rufulus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	Flock of 9 near Tiwari Gaon on 6th	
STRIATED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina castaniceps</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	10 in three flocks on 6th; 5 together on 8th	
WHITE-NAPED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina bakeri</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	25 in three mixed-sp. flocks on 28th	
WHISKERED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	3 Mandala Road	
<u>Bomdila</u>	1 on edge of town	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 on 6th; 16 in mixed-sp. flock on 7th; 30+ (four flocks) on 9th	
STRIPE-THROATED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina gularis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Flocks of 10-15 frequently seen along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 on 26th; 50+ (in three flocks) on 27th; 5 on 29th; 7 on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	c.5 on 7th; 20 on 8th; 10+ on 9th	
RUFOUS-VENTED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	20 (three flocks) along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Common in flocks of 15-20. Day counts of 50 on 26th; 15 on 27th; 40 on 29th; 40+ on 30th	
BLACK-CHINNED YUHINA		<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	c.8 in a mixed-sp. flock on 30th	

ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE		<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>
<u>Bomdila</u>	1 on edge of town	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
ASIAN FAIRY BLUEBIRD		<i>Irene puella</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 heard and seen briefly	
<u>Nameri-Dirang route</u>	5 (2 singles + 3 together) along this route	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 1 ♂ on edge of forest	
(Eurasian) WREN		<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 at Sela Pass	
CHESTNUT-BELLIED NUTHATCH		<i>Sitta cinnamoventris</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 below Tiwari Gaon on 9th	
WHITE-TAILED NUTHATCH		<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Fairly common with 4 on 26th; 6 on 27th; c.6 on 29th; 3 on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 on 7th; 5 on 8th	
VELVET-FRONTED NUTHATCH		<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
BEAUTIFUL NUTHATCH		<i>Sitta formosa</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	6 between Sunderview and Bompou on 28th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 at Tiwari Gaon	
WALLCREEPER		<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on approach to Lama Camp on 25th; 1 on 31st	
EURASIAN TREECREEPER		<i>Certhia familiaris</i> (? <i>mandelli</i>)
<u>Dirang</u>	2 singles along Mandala Road	
BROWN-THROATED TREECREEPER		<i>Certhia discolor</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	3 singles along Mandala Road	
SPOT-WINGED STARLING		<i>Saroglossa spiloptera</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	5 near Eco Camp on 20th	
CHESTNUT-TAILED (GREY-HEADED) STARLING		<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	3 at breakfast stop on route from Guwahati	
<u>Nameri</u>	Flock of c.12 on 21st	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Small flocks (6-12) common in all areas, incl. around <i>Jupuri Ghar</i>	
<u>Kaziranga-Tinsukia</u>	Small flocks common	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Common around village	
<u>Mishmi</u>	5 near Sally Lake on 7th	
PIED MYNA (Asian Pied Starling)		<i>Gracupica contra</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri</u>	1 at breakfast stop on route from Guwahati	
<u>Nameri</u>	1 at Eco Camp on 22nd	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common in small flocks all areas, incl. around <i>Jupuri Ghar</i>	
<u>Kaziranga-Tinsukia</u>	Small flocks frequently seen	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	Common around village	
<u>Ferry to Roing</u>	Small numbers on route	
COMMON MYNA		<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Common around towns and villages at lower levels		
BANK MYNA		<i>Acridotheres gingininus</i>
Less often seen than Common <i>A.tristis</i> , in towns and villages		
JUNGLE MYNA		<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>
Common at <u>Kaziranga</u> . Fairly common in rural areas, <i>Nameri</i> , <i>Tinsukia</i> and <i>Digboi Oil Fields</i> .		
WHITE-VENTED (GREAT) MYNA		<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: 1 on 1st; Eastern Range: 4 on 3rd; <i>Jupuri Ghar</i> : 2 in grounds	
COMMON HILL MYNA		<i>Gracula religiosa</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Several pairs seen each day	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 2 at forest edge	

BLUE WHISTLING-THRUSH		<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	2 on route	
<u>Dirang</u>	12+ along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 in Bompou area on 28th	
<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u>	Common along this forested route, at least 10 seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Common, up to 6 daily	
ORANGE-HEADED THRUSH		<i>Zoothera citrina</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 by Sally Lake	
PLAIN-BACKED THRUSH		<i>Zoothera mollissima</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 Mandala Road	
(Small-billed) SCALY THRUSH		<i>Zoothera dauma</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 near Bompou on 28th	
CHESTNUT-BELLIED (Rufous-bellied) THRUSH		<i>Turdus rufiventris</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3-4 seen each day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 male on 7th	
WHITE-COLLARED BLACKBIRD		<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Several small groups, totalling 20+, along Mandala Road; 1 on route to Sela Pass	
RED-THROATED THRUSH		<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.35 in open, rough grassland foraging with Black-throated <i>T.atrogularis</i> on Mandala Road	
BLACK-THROATED THRUSH		<i>Turdus atrogularis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.10 in open, rough grassland foraging with Red-throated <i>T.ruficollis</i> on Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Single near Sunderview	
GREEN COCHOA		<i>Cochoa viridis</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ seen below Sunderview (with a another calling nearby); 1 ♀ seen later in day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 heard near Tiwari Gaon but not seen	
LESSER SHORTWING		<i>Brachypteryx leucophrys</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 ♂ on 6th	
BLUETHROAT		<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Western Range:</i> 1 on 4th	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 on grassy area north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat) on 10th	
HIMALAYAN (Red-flanked) BLUETAILED (Bush Robin)		<i>Tarsiger rufilatus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Up to 4 seen daily, all areas	
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 singles (♂ + ♀) on 7th	
RUFIOUS-BREASTED BUSH ROBIN		<i>Tarsiger hyperythrus</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ near the Pass on 26th	
ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN		<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
	Common. Seen most areas except Eaglenest and higher areas of Mishmi	
WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA		<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Heard several times but not seen	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Seen on three days in lower areas (2+1+1). More often heard	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 seen	
BLACK REDSTART		<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 ♂ on 31st; 1 ♂ on 3rd; probably ♀ on 4th; <i>Eastern Range:</i> 2 ♀♀ on 3rd	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1-2 each day Sally Lake-Tiwari Gaon	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	1 ♂ on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat)	
HODGSON'S REDSTART		<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>
<u>Dirang-Eaglenest</u>	10+ singles/pairs, along this route	
WHITE-THROATED REDSTART		<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	2 ♂♂ + 3 ♀♀ in one small area along Mandala Road	
DAURIAN REDSTART		<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 near Sally Lake on 9th; 1 by the Dibang river below Sally Lodge	
BLUE-FRONTED REDSTART		<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	2 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ along Mandala Road; 6 ♂♂ + c.20 ♀♀ between Dirang and Sela Pass; 2 ♂♂ + 1 female in Sangti Valley	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ on 26th; 1 ♂ + 2 ♀♀ on 27th and again on 30th; 1 male on 29th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 ♂ below Mayodia on 7th	

PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART		<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosa</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	2 single ♂♂	
<u>Nameri - Bhalukpong route</u>	1 ♂	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♀ below Sela Pass; 2 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ in Sangti Valley	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 male + 1 ♀ by the Dibang river below Sally Lodge	
WHITE-CAPPED WATER REDSTART (RIVER CHAT)		<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	2 singles on route	
<u>Dirang</u>	2 in Sangti Valley	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp</u>	5 singles on route	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 by the Dibang river below Sally Lodge	
BLUE-FRONTED (Blue) ROBIN		<i>Cinclidium frontalis</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 seen very briefly (and heard) on 7th; 1 seen, 2 more heard only, on 8th	
GRANDALA		<i>Grandala coelicolor</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	3 at Sela Pass	
BLACK-BACKED FORKTAIL		<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 at Sally Lake on 7th; single bird in same place on 8th + 9th	
SPOTTED FORKTAIL		<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 between Tiwari Gaon and Mayodia	
WHITE-TAILED STONECHAT		<i>Saxicola leucurus</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 ♂ seen well on 1st	
STONECHAT		<i>Saxicola torquatus (maura/indicus)</i>
<u>Guwahati-Nameri:</u>	Fairly common along roadside	
<u>Nameri</u>	Common	
<u>Dirang</u>	Pair in Sangti Valley	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Common. Frequent sightings all areas	
<u>Brahmaputra/Lohit River X</u>	Common in grassland on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat)	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Pair by the Dibang river below Sally Lodge	
JERDON'S BUSH CHAT		<i>Saxicola jerdoni</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Eastern Range:</i> 1 seen on 3rd	
GREY BUSH CHAT		<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 on route	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 above Lama camp	
BLUE ROCK THRUSH		<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 ♂ on large boulder by river on 21st	
BROWN-BREASTED FLYCATCHER		<i>Muscicapa muttui</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Good views of 1 in forest on 21st	
RUFOUS-GORGETTED FLYCATCHER		<i>Ficedula strophiate</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	At least 3 seen each day	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Singles on three days and 3 on 9th	
TAIGA (Red-throated) FLYCATCHER		<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	<i>Central Range:</i> 1 male on 3rd; <i>Panbari forest/Tea plantation:</i> 1 ♀	
<u>Maguri Bheel</u>	1 ♂ in village	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 ♂	
LITTLE PIED FLYCATCHER		<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	3 ♂♂ at Sally Lake on 8th and 1 ♂ on 9th	
SAPPHIRE FLYCATCHER		<i>Ficedula sapphira</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 ♂ on 8th	
VERDITER FLYCATCHER		<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 20th; 5 on 21st	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ Mandala Road	
<u>Dirang-Lama Camp</u>	1 near Tenga town	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	5 on 26th; 4 on 28th	
LARGE BLUE FLYCATCHER (Hill Blue Flycatcher)		<i>Cyornis magnirostris (banyumas)</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ seen well (MC+Abid)	
PALE BLUE FLYCATCHER		<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 ♂ on 21st	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ (and possible ♀ nearby) in Bompu area on 28th	

PALE-CHINNED FLYCATCHER		<i>Cyornis poliogenys</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 ♂ on 20th	
LARGE NILTAVA		<i>Niltava grandis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 at start on Mandala Road	
<u>Mishmi</u>	3 ♂♂ together at Sally Lake	
SMALL NILTAVA		<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 ♂ near Eco Camp	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Pair above Sally Lake on 7th; 1 ♂ near Tiwari Gaon on 8th	
RUFIOUS-BELLIED NILTAVA		<i>Niltava sundara</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Brief view of 1 ♂ below Eaglenest Pass on 30th	
PYGMY BLUE FLYCATCHER		<i>Muscicapella hodgsoni</i>
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 ♂ near the Pass on 30th	
WHITE-THOATED DIPPER		<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 just below Sela Pass	
GOLDEN-FRONTED LEAFBIRD		<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	Min. 4	
ORANGE-BELLIED LEAFBIRD		<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 ♂ at roadside stop on route	
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ along Mandala Road	
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: 1 ♂ on edge of forest	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1	
FIRE-BREASTED FLOWERPECKER		<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	1 ♂ on Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Very brief glimpse of 1 ♂ on 29th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	8 seen well (2 single ♂♂ + 3 pairs) on 9th	
SCARLET-BACKED FLOWERPECKER		<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Panbari forest/Tea plantation: good views of 1 ♀ in tea plantation	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 ♂ seen	
MRS. GOULD'S SUNBIRD		<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	Common along Mandala Road, at least 10 seen	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Common. Min.8 on 27th; 15+ on 29th; 20+ on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Min.15 (8 ♂♂ + 7 ♀♀) in one flock on 9th	
GREEN-TAILED SUNBIRD		<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>
<u>Dirang</u>	c.4 along Mandala Road	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	Common. 15+ on 26th; 15+ on 27th; 20+ on 29th; c.25 on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	3 ♂♂ + several ♀♀ on 8th	
BLACK-THROATED SUNBIRD		<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 ♂ at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	2 single ♂♂ on 28th; 1 ♂ on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Singles seen at Sally Lake on three days	
CRIMSON SUNBIRD		<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>
<u>Kaziranga</u>	Central Range: Pair on 3rd and again on 4th Panbari forest/Tea plantation: Pair in the tea plantation	
<u>Digboi Oil Fields</u>	1 ♂	
FIRE-TAILED SUNBIRD		<i>Aethopyga ignicauda</i>
<u>Bhalukpong-Dirang</u>	1 ♂ at roadside walk off main road (Sessa/bamboo area)	
<u>Dirang</u>	2 ♂♂ Mandala Road; 1 ♂ near Baisakhi Army Camp (below Sela Pass)	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	3 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ on 27th; 4 ♂♂ on 29th; 1 ♀ on 30th	
<u>Mishmi</u>	1 ♂ on 8th	
LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER		<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>
<u>Mishmi</u>	2 together on 9th	
STREAKED SPIDERHUNTER		<i>Arachnothera magna</i>
<u>Nameri</u>	1 on 21st in forest; 2 singles at Eco Camp	
<u>Eaglenest</u>	1 on 28th in Sessni area; 2 singles near Lama Camp	
<u>Mishmi</u>	Common in Sally Lake to Tiwari Gaon area: 3 on 6th; 3 on 7th; 5 on 8th; 20+ on 9th	

HOUSE SPARROW		<i>Passer domesticus</i>
	Fairly common around towns and villages at lower levels but only small numbers	
RUSSET SPARROW		<i>Passer rutilans</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> Common in small numbers along Mandala Road and Sangti Valley	
EURASIAN TREE SPARROW		<i>Passer montanus</i>
	Fairly common around towns and villages, plus 6 by watchtower in <i>Kaziranga Central Range</i> , 4 by The Coffee House buildings, <i>Mishmi</i> and 1 at <i>Digboi Oilfields</i>	
BAYA WEAVER		<i>Ploceus philippinus (burmanicus)</i>
	<u>Kaziranga</u> Several small flocks each visit, all areas	
SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA		<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
	<u>Kaziranga</u> <i>Central Range</i> : several small flocks flying to roost at dusk on 31st	
	<u>Maguri Bheel</u> Flock of c.15 by the lake probably this sp.	
	<u>Mishmi</u> 2 at Sally Lodge on 9th	
ALPINE ACCENTOR		<i>Prunella collaris</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> 4 (2+2) Sela Pass	
RUFOUS-BREASTED ACCENTOR		<i>Prunella strophiatea</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> 2 Mandala Road	
	<u>Eaglenest</u> 6 on 26th	
WHITE WAGTAIL		<i>Motacilla alba</i>
	A somewhat-bewildering range of races seen - certainly <i>alboides</i> , <i>dukhensis</i> and <i>personata</i> types were noted.	
	<u>Nameri</u> Common	
	<u>Dirang</u> 1 near Hotel Pemaling; 25-30 in Sangti Valley (at least two races)	
	<u>Kaziranga</u> Small numbers around the Park	
	<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u> Frequently seen in small groups on route	
	<u>Mishmi</u> Occasional sightings of 1s/2s	
CITRINE WAGTAIL		<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
	<u>Kaziranga</u> Frequent sightings, all areas. A few breeding plumage ♂ <i>calcarata</i> noted. Flock of c.50 flying to roost in <i>Central Range</i> at dusk on 4th	
	<u>Maguri Bheel</u> Common	
	<u>Tinsukia-Ferry-Roing</u> Common all along this route in rice fields, marshes and by the ferry crossing	
(Western) YELLOW WAGTAIL		<i>Motacilla flava</i>
	<u>Kaziranga</u> <i>Eastern Range</i> : 4, incl. one ? <i>feldegg</i>	
	<u>Ferry crossing</u> 6 on floodplain, south side of river on 6th	
GREY WAGTAIL		<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
	<u>Nameri</u> 1 on 21st	
	<u>Mishmi</u> 1 by Sally Lake on 7th; 1 by waterfall near Tiwari Gaon on 9th	
PADDYFIELD PIPIT		<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
	<u>Nameri</u> 1 on 21st	
	<u>Dirang</u> 30+ around Sangti Valley	
	<u>Ferry crossing</u> 2 on north side of crossing (Sadiya Ghat) on 10th	
OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT		<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
	Fairly common and widespread. Frequently seen, singles or 2s in most suitable areas.	
ROSY PIPIT		<i>Anthus roseatus</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> 3 at Sela Pass; at least 1 in Sangti Valley amongst many Paddyfield <i>A.rufulus</i>	
YELLOW-BREASTED (Himalayan) GREENFINCH		<i>Cardeulis spinoides</i>
	<u>Eaglenest</u> 2 on approach to Lama Camp on 25th	
DARK-BREASTED ROSEFINCH		<i>Carpodacus nipalensis</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> 1 below Sela Pass	
HIMALAYAN BEAUTIFUL ROSEFINCH		<i>Carpodacus pulcherrimus</i>
	<u>Dirang</u> 1 ♂ just before the start of Sela Pass	
SCARLET FINCH		<i>Haematospiza sipahi</i>
	<u>Eaglenest</u> 4 over Lama Camp on 25th; 1 above camp on 26th; 2 pairs below Sunderview on 26th; 3 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ below Lama Camp on 30th	
	<u>Minor road from Eaglenest (-Kaziranga)</u> Two groups (3+5) in forested area along this route	
GREY-HEADED BULLFINCH		<i>Pyrrhula erythaca</i>
	<u>Eaglenest</u> 5 on 27th	

GOLD-NAPED FINCH

Eaglenest 2 ♂♂ + 1 ♀ on 26th; 1 ♀ (others heard nearby) on 30th
Mishmi 2 ♀♀ on 9th

*Pyrrhoptectes epauletta***CRESTED BUNTING**

Dirang 1 ♂ Mandala Road; 1 in Sangti Valley

*Emberiza (Melophus) lathami***LITTLE BUNTING**

Dirang 1 Mandala Road; 2 Sangti Valley

*Emberiza pusilla***MAMMALS** 21 sp.

Hoolock Gibbon *Bunopithecus hoolock*
Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta*
Capped Langur *Trachypithecus pileatus*
Sambar *Cervus unicolor*
Swamp Deer *Cervus duvauceli*
Indian Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjak*
Chital *Axis axis*
Hog Deer *Axis porcinus*
Asiatic Wild Buffalo *Bubalus arnee*
Wild Boar *Sus scrofa*
Asian Elephant *Elephas maximus*
Greater One-horned Rhinoceros *Rhinoceros unicornis*

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes*
Smooth-coated Otter *Lutra perspicillata*
Small Indian Mongoose *Herpestes javanicus*
House Shrew *Suncus murinus*
Malayan Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*
Himalayan Striped Squirrel *Tamiops maccllellandi*
Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel *Dremomys lokriah*
Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrel *Callosciurus pygerythrus*
Ganges (Fresh water) River Dolphin *Platanista gangetica*

("Zho" Domestic Yak x Cow)
("Mithun" Domestic Gaur x Cow)

REPTILES

Monitor Lizard *Varanus sp.*
Assam Roofed Turtle *Pangshura sylhetensi*
Indian Sawback/Roofed Terrapin *Kachuga tecta*
Spotted Pond Turtle *Geoclemys hamiltonii*
Indian Peacock Softshell Turtle *Aspideretes hurum*
Several unidentified frogs and toads
A few unidentified snakes
House gecko spp.

BUTTERFLIES

Orange Oak-leaf *Kallima inachus*
Chestnut Tiger *Parantica sita*
Purple Sapphire *Heliophorus epicles*
Yellowjack Sailor *Lassipa viraja*
Great Mormon *Papilio memnon*
Common Nawab *Polyura athamas*
Common Blue Bottle *Graphium sarpedon*
Common Rose *Pachliopta aristolochiae*
Common Crow *Euploea core*
Paris Peacock *Papilio paris*
Golden Barred-wing (?)
Yellowjack Sailor *Neptis viraja*
Indian Cabbage White *Artogeia (Pieris) canida*
Common Bluebottle *Graphium sarpedon*
White Dragontail *Lamproptera curius*

PLANTS

Foxtail Orchid *Rhynchostylis gigantea*
Esmeralda Orchid *Esmeralda cathcartii*

BHARATPUR - CHAMBAL RIVER - RANTHAMBHORE

Our final week was centred at Bharatpur, with visits to the Chambal river at Dholpur and (for two of us) Ranthambhore. We stayed at Hotel Sunbird, Bharatpur, which is owned by our good friend Ranno Sikarwar and his brother Laxman. Its just a few meters from the Sanctuary and is an excellent place to stay. A small hotel, very clean and comfortable, providing good food at very reasonable prices. We stayed in the Cottages, set in a small, neat garden full of flowers and attracting many birds. Even though it was the "wrong" time of year to be at Bharatpur, we still saw 151 bird and 15 mammal species plus reptiles and amphibians. We had some good sightings and wader numbers were higher than expected: 40+ Spotted Redshanks on one day, 20+ Greenshanks, 35 Ruff and 5 Greater Painted Snipe in one small area. Bharatpur town canal was worth a visit, with plenty of waders and common species in the surrounding trees, grassland, scrub and fields. From Bharatpur we had two very successful half-day trips along the Chambal river at Dholpur, arranged by Hotel Sunbird which included packed meal. This is a much more affordable option, and much more accessible, than staying at a Lodge further along the river. The government-run boats are new, comfortable and spacious (can stand up, move around and even use a 'scope). The (new) life jackets were not needed as water levels were very low but it was reassuring to know they were available as this is a very big river! Two of us went to Ranthambhore for a couple of days (an easy train journey from Bharatpur).

ITINERARY for Bharatpur - Chambal - Ranthambhore

12 April	Car from Delhi to Bharatpur (Hotel Sunbird). Afternoon in Bharatpur Park.
13 April	Morning and afternoon in Bharatpur Park. Lunch at Hotel Sunbird
14 April	Morning visit to Chambal river at Dholpur. Afternoon to Taj Mahal. Late afternoon Hotel Sunbird grounds
15 April	Morning and afternoon in Bharatpur Park. Lunch at Hotel Sunbird
16 April	Early walk along Bharatpur Canal then CS&JG to Ranthambhore by train, K&MC to Fatehpur Sikri
17 April	CS&JG at Ranthambhore, K&MC to Chambal river at Dholpur.
18 April	K&MC in Bharatpur Park, CS&JG Ranthambhore and return to Bharatpur
19 April	Return to Delhi for flight home

DIARY NOTES for Bharatpur - Chambal - Ranthambhore

TUESDAY 12 APRIL

Left Sunstar Hotel in Delhi at 06.15 to avoid heavy traffic. Away from the city, roads were not too busy and, even with a half-hour stop for refreshments on route, we arrived at Hotel Sunbird, Bharatpur before 11.00, a much quicker journey than expected. After a leisurely lunch we were picked up at the hotel by rickshaws and went into Bharatpur Park, taking a guide (Brijendra) recommended by the hotel. A complete contrast to the weeks spent in Arunachal and Assam! The Park was very dry with just a few stretches of open water where scores of Painted Stork (many juveniles), herons, egrets, large numbers of waders and a few ducks were feeding. Plenty of other birds around, Chital deer rutting, many Nilgai, Wild Boar, Golden Jackal, Mongooses. Very hot and humid with distant thunder storms and a few spots of rain.

WEDNESDAY 13 APRIL

Some rain during the night but dry, though cloudy, by the time we got into the Park. Good views of Collared Scops, Spotted and Dusky Eagle owls this morning. Alarm calls from a pair of Red-vented Bulbuls alerted Brijendra to a snoozing Indian Palm Civet tucked up in dense vegetation. *Too many cattle grazing in the Park* - the official leaflet includes "feral cattle" in the species list (feral? - wearing neck collars!) What are the Park authorities thinking of??? Lunch at Hotel Sunbird, then back into the Park to walk across the wide expanse of grassland where we saw Egyptian Vulture, Indian Courser, Yellow-wattled Lapwing, pipits, etc. A Short-toed Snake Eagle perched on a low tree, upsetting some Bay-backed and Long-tailed Shrikes. More thunder and lightening, even a little rain but not enough to really wet the ground.

THURSDAY 14 APRIL

Departed Hotel Sunbird at 05.30 for a 1½ hr. drive to the Chambal river at Dholpur. We had excellent, close, views of nesting Indian Skimmers and Small Pratincoles, some Greater Stone-curlews, many Gharials and Crocodiles, even glimpses of River Dolphins in the deeper stretches. We then drove to Agra where CS&JG visited the Taj Mahal. Late afternoon was spent in the grounds of Hotel Sunbird.

FRIDAY 15 APRIL

Morning and afternoon trips into Bharatpur Park again today, seeing plenty of birds, many turtles plodding around in the fast-drying muddy puddles and lots of deer and antelope. A Golden Jackal trotted along the track behind us for ages.

SATURDAY 16 APRIL

We took rickshaws to the town canal in Bharatpur early this morning. It's the town's main source of water and although it looks polluted we saw a good range of wetland birds as well as those in the adjacent scrub and farmland. Well worth a visit. CS&JG then caught the morning train to Sawai Madhopur for a short visit to Ranthambhore in the hope of seeing a Tiger. No luck, but a Sloth Bear was pretty good compensation! Stayed at a very nice hotel, Ankur Resort (arranged by Ranno from Sunbird Hotel).

K&MC remained at Bharatpur and late afternoon did a little bit of "culture" with a visit to Fatehpur Sikri.

SUNDAY 17 APRIL

For CS&JG at Ranthambhore, no Sloth Bear and missed a leopard on top of the ancient gateway entrance by just a few minutes - but there was a Tiger! She ambled along, in front of the Cantur, crossed the track and walked parallel to the vehicle. She then laid down in a clearing, watching some Sambar for while before walking steadily in their direction. She was clearly aware of us but did not appear to be at all troubled by our presence; watched her for 20 minutes, at times less than ten metres away. According to the Rangers, she was "Tigress 39".

K&MC went to the Chambal again with three other guests from Hotel Sunbird. Good views of River Dolphins almost immediately and got quite close to the Skimmers and Pratincoles nesting on the sandbanks. A surprise was the lone Sarus Crane standing in a field adjacent to the river. It was very hot (sun screen essential). Another successful, value-for-money trip. Cloud built up in the afternoon then overnight a very big storm and torrential rain.

MONDAY 18 APRIL

At Hotel Sunbird, everywhere is wet! All the garden plants are flattened, green leaves from the trees and shrubs covering the ground. It's hot and very humid. The Park was transformed: depressions filled with water, flattened vegetation and everywhere damp and misty. Every track we tried was blocked by fallen trees - five down on one side-track. That was quite a storm! Everywhere is damp and misty and there's much more bird song. Storks, ibises and waders were taking full advantage of the new pools and damp fields.

No Tiger nor Sloth Bear for CS&JG on the final jeep ride at Ranthambhore but a Chinkara (Indian Gazelle) was very nice to see and vultures were soaring. Afternoon train back to Bharatpur.

TUESDAY 19 APRIL

An early start for the return drive to Delhi. We took a "country" route for the first part of the journey to avoid roadworks and we enjoyed the rural scenes - particularly the many Nilgai feeding in the fields close to villages. We reached Delhi in plenty of time for our 13.30 flight back to London.

BHARATPUR - CHAMBAL - RANTHAMBHORE - species list

BIRDS Total 151

* Heard only

GREY FRANCOLIN

Common at Bharatpur Park and Canal, Chambal and Ranthambhore

Francolinus pondicerianus

INDIAN PEA FOWL

Very common everywhere

Pavo cristatus

LESSER WHISTLING DUCK

200+ on both visits to Chambal

Dendrocygna javanica

RUDDY SHELDUCK

8 and 10 on Chambal river

Tadorna ferruginea

KNOB-BILLED DUCK

8+ and 40+ on Chambal river

Sarkidiornis melanotos

INDIAN SPOT-BILLED DUCK

Common at Bharatpur Park and Canal; 14 on Chambal river

Anas poecilorhyncha

GARGANEY

A few pairs at Bharatpur ; 1♂ 2♀♀ on Chambal river

Anas querquedula

LITTLE GREBE

12 at Bharatpur Canal; singles at Chambal

Tachybaptus ruficollis

PAINTED STORK

"Hundreds", many juveniles, in Bharatpur Park; 4 adults by Chambal on 14th and 1 on 17th

Mycteria leucocephala

ASIAN OPENBILL

2 over Delhi; 10 in Bharatpur on 13th and 1 on 18th

Anastomus oscitans

WOOLLY-NECKED STORK

2 in Bharatpur Park on four days (same birds?); 2 by Chambal on 14th, 1 on 17th

Ciconia episcopus

BLACK-NECKED STORK

At least 4 birds at Bharatpur

Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus

GLOSSY IBIS

2 on route Delhi to Bharatpur; 2-3 in Bharatpur Park; 2 + 4 by Chambal

Plegadis falcinellus

BLACK-HEADED IBIS

10-25 per day in Bharatpur Park and 3 by Canal; 8 by Chambal

Threskiornis melanocephalus

RED-NAPED (Black) IBIS

1 on route from Delhi to Bharatpur; 2 over Bharatpur Park

Pseudibis papillosa

EURASIAN SPOONBILL

18-30 each day at Bharatpur; 1 + 18 by Chambal

Platalea leucorodia

LITTLE EGRET

10-20 per day at Bharatpur Park and 8 by Canal; 25 at Chambal

Egretta garzetta

GREAT EGRET

20-25 per visit to Bharatpur Park and 3 by Canal; 2 + 10 at Chambal

Ardea (Egretta) alba

INTERMEDIATE EGRET

2-10 per visit to Bharatpur Park and 3 by Canal; 2 + 6 at Chambal

Egretta intermedia

(Eastern) CATTLE EGRET

Common everywhere, flocks 50+

Bubulcus coromandus

INDIAN POND HERON

Common and numerous in all suitable habitat

Ardeola grayii

BLACK BITTERN

Single bird seen by the watchtower (Keoladeo Temple) at Bharatpur Park on two days

Dupetor flavicollis

GREY HERON

Up to 20 per visit to Bharatpur; 4 + 10 by Chambal

Ardea cinerea

PURPLE HERON

3 together at Bharatpur Park on 18th, up to 3 singles other days; singles at Bharatpur Canal and Chambal

Ardea purpurea

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON

Up to 6 seen most days at Bharatpur

Nycticorax nycticorax

LITTLE CORMORANT 5+ daily at Bharatpur; c.25 along Chambal	<i>Microcarbo (Phalacrocorax) niger</i>
INDIAN CORMORANT (Shag) c.5 along Chambal	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
ORIENTAL DARTER 1-3 per visit to Bharatpur Park and 2 on Canal	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
(Western) OSPREY Single at Chambal on 14th and 17th	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
CRESTED (Oriental) HONEY BUZZARD Frequent at Bharatpur, up to 10 per day (8 circling together on 13th, 3 together on 15th); pair at Ranthambhore	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
BLACK-WINGED KITE 2 singles on route Bharatpur to Chambal	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
BLACK KITE Large numbers around Delhi; 4-5 singles on route Bharatpur to Chambal; 10 + 2 at Chambal; 8+ Fatehpur Sikri	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
INDIAN (Long-billed) VULTURE Pair on nest with 1 chick at Ranthambhore on 17th and 2 soaring on 18th	<i>Gyps indicus</i>
EGYPTIAN VULTURE At least 2 adults + 1 subadult at Bharatpur Park on 3 days; 1 at Chambal; 3 perched on Taj Mahal; 1 over Fatehpur Sikri	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>
RED-HEADED VULTURE 1 at Bharatpur Park	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>
PALLID HARRIER Ringtails seen on Bharatpur to Chambal route on 14th and 17th were probably this sp.	<i>Circus macrourus</i>
SHIKRA 1 in Delhi; 3 in Bharatpur; 1 at Ranthambhore	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
WHITE-EYED BUZZARD 1 in Bharatpur	<i>Butaster teesa</i>
INDIAN SPOTTED EAGLE 1 in Bharatpur	<i>Aquila hastata</i>
SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE 1 in Bharatpur	<i>Cicaetus gallicus</i>
COMMON KESTREL 4 singles in Bharatpur	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN Very common in all wet areas	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
BROWN CRAKE Just 1 seen in Bharatpur Park	<i>Porzana akool</i>
COMMON MOORHEN Common in all wet areas	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
EURASIAN COOT 1 at Chambal on 14 th , 2 on 17 th	<i>Fulica atra</i>
SARUS CRANE 3 pairs in Bharatpur Park; single beside Chambal river on 17th	<i>Grus antigone</i>
INDIAN STONE-CURLEW 2 at Bharatpur on 12 th , heard only on other days	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>
GREATER STONE-CURLEW 4+ along Chambal	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>
BLACK-WINGED STILT Common at Bharatpur, up to 30 seen per visit; 20+ by Bharatpur Canal; 50 along Chambal on 14 th , 60+ on 17th	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
YELLOW-WATTLED LAPWING 4 seen in Bharatpur on 13 th and 1 on 15 th , heard other days	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>
RIVER LAPWING 6+ along Chambal	<i>Vanellus duvauceli</i>
RED-WATTLED LAPWING Common everywhere, including runway at Delhi airport	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
LITTLE-RINGED PLOVER 1 by Chambal	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
GREATER PAINTED-SNIPE 5 together in Bharatpur; 3 at Chambal	<i>Rostulata benghalensis</i>

PHEASANT-TAILED JACANA	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>
1 in Bharatpur; 2 at Chambal on 14 th and 4 on 17 th	
BRONZE-WINGED JACANA	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
1 in Bharatpur Park; 1 Bharatpur Canal	
COMMON SNIFE	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
1 at Bharatpur Park; 1 at Chambal	
BLACK-TAILED GODWIT	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
2 at Chambal on 14 th , 8 on 17 th	
SPOTTED REDSHANK	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
Very common at Bharatpur, groups of 6+ frequent, day counts 6-40 (40+ on 18 th ; 8 on Bharatpur Canal; 3 by at Chambal	
COMMON GREENSHANK	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Common Bharatpur, day counts of 6-25 (flock of 20 on 18 th ; 3 by Bharatpur Canal; 1 at Chambal on 14 th and 10+ on 17 th	
GREEN SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa stagnatalis</i>
2-8 at Bharatpur on each visit; 1 Bharatpur Canal; 1 at Chambal	
WOOD SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Large numbers seen. Day counts at Bharatpur 72 on 12 th (43 of these in one small pool), 12+ on 13 th , 30+ on 15 th and 45 on 18 th ; 5 by Bharatpur Canal; 1 at Chambal on 14 th and 18 on 17 th	
COMMON SANDPIPER	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
2 at Bharatpur Canal; 2 on Chambal	
RUFF	<i>Philomelos pugnax</i>
Common in Bharatpur with day counts of 5, 50 (35 of which together), 40 (24 together) and 8; 10 at Bharatpur Canal; 1 at Chambal on 14 th and 5 on 17 th	
INDIAN COURSER	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>
4 in Bharatpur on 13 th , 1 on 15 th	
SMALL PRATINCOLE	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
30+ (nesting) on sandbanks at Chambal	
INDIAN SKIMMER	<i>Rynchops albicollis</i>
Good view of 18-20 nesting at Chambal	
LITTLE TERN	<i>Sternula albirons</i>
2 pairs at Chambal	
RIVER TERN	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
3 at Chambal on 14 th , c.5 on 17 th	
BLACK-BELLIED TERN	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>
4 at Chambal on 14 th , 2 on 17 th	
WHISKERED TERN	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
2 at Chambal	
PAINTED SANDGROUSE	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>
1 seen at Ranthambhore	
FERAL/ROCK PIGEON	<i>Columba livia</i>
Feral birds around towns and cities; 3 pairs in Bharatpur Park; 30+ along cliffs at Chambal	
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Common everywhere	
RED COLLARED-DOVE	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
2 single males in Bharatpur Park; a few sightings on route to Chamba; 2 males and 1 female by Chambal river	
SPOTTED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Only 2 noted, in Delhi on 19 th March.	
LAUGHING DOVE	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Common throughout	
YELLOW-FOOTED GREEN PIGEON	<i>Treron phaeocephalus</i>
Up to 4 seen most visit to Bharatpur Park; 2 by Bharatpur Canal	
ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Abundant, seen everywhere.	
GREATER COUCAL	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
Common at Bharatpur; 1 by Bharatpur Canal and 2 at Chambal.	
SIRKEER MALKOHA	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>
1 at Ranthambhore	
ASIAN KOEL	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
Common throughout; at least 3 males seen in Bharatpur Park on 16 th	

COMMON HAWK-CUCKOO	Heard only	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
2 heard in Bharatpur Park; 1 heard in Taj Mahal		
INDIAN (COLLARED) SCOPS OWL		<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>
1 seen in Bharatpur Park		
DUSKY EAGLE-OWL		<i>Bubo coromandus</i>
Pair in Bharatpur Park		
SPOTTED OWLET		<i>Athene brama</i>
2 pairs in Bharatpur Park; pair at Ranthambhore		
LITTLE (HOUSE) SWIFT		<i>Apus affinis</i>
Small numbers in most areas; 50+ at Chambal		
INDIAN ROLLER		<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
Up to 4 per day in Bharatpur Park; 2 on route to Chambal		
WHITE-THROATED KINGFISHER		<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
Common at Bharatpur Park and Canal; 1 often in grounds of Hotel Sunbird; singles at Delhi hotel, Chambal, Fatehpur Sikri.		
PIED KINGFISHER		<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
5 along Chambal each visit		
GREEN BEE-EATER		<i>Merops orientalis</i>
Common in most places, except none at Ranthambhore.		
HOOPOE		<i>Upupa epops</i>
1 Bharatpur Park; 1 Bharatpur Canal; 1 in grounds of Taj Mahal		
INDIAN GREY HORNBILL		<i>Ocyroceros birostris</i>
Up to 4 per day at Bharatpur; 1 by Bharatpur Canal; 1 on route to Chambal		
BROWN-HEADED BARBET		<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>
Constantly heard at Bharatpur and 2 seen.		
COPPERSMITH BARBET		<i>Megamaima haemacephala</i>
1 at Delhi hotel; 1 seen by Bharatpur Canal; heard frequently but not seen in Bharatpur.		
YELLOW-CROWNED WOODPECKER		<i>Dendrocopus nanus</i>
3 singles in Bharatpur Park		
LESSER GOLDENBACK (Black-rumped Flameback)		<i>Dinopium benghalensis</i>
5 singles in Bharatpur Park, incl. ♀ in nest hole; 1 by Bharatpur Canal; 1 near Chambal		
COMMON WOODSHRIKE		<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>
Singles at Bharatpur on two days		
BAY-BACKED SHRIKE		<i>Lanius vittatus</i>
2 together in Bharatpur on 13, 1 on 15 th ; 1 by Chambal on 17 th		
LONG-TAILED SHRIKE		<i>Lanius schah</i>
2 in Bharatpur on 12, 3 on 13 th		
(INDIAN) GOLDEN ORIOLE		<i>Oriolus (oriolus) kundoo</i>
1 male at Bharatpur on 12 th , 1 male on 15 th		
BLACK DRONGO		<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
Common everywhere		
WHITE-BELLIED DRONGO		<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
2 at Ranthambhore		
RUFOUS TREEPIE		<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>
Common everywhere		
HOUSE CROW		<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Common in most areas, but none noted at Ranthambhore		
INDIAN JUNGLE CROW		<i>Corvus (macrorhynchos) culminatus</i>
Common in most areas, but none noted at Ranthambhore		
ASHY-CROWNED SPARROW-LARK		<i>Eremopterix griseus</i>
Small flock at Ranthambhore		
ORIENTAL SKYLARK		<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
1 at Bharatpur Park		
RED-VENTED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
Common everywhere		
WHITE-EARED BULBUL		<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>
Up to 6 at Bharatpur Park each visit; 3 at Bharatpur Canal		
PLAIN (Grey-throated) MARTIN		<i>Riparia chinensis</i>
30+ at Chambal; 8 probably this sp. Over Bharatpur Park		

BARN SWALLOW A few seen in Delhi and around Chambal	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW c.8 at Chambal; 5 by Bharatpur Canal	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW Pairs in Bharatpur on two days	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
STREAK-THROATED SWALLOW Probably this sp. at Chambal on 17 th , old nests under rail bridge possible this sp.	<i>Hirundo fluvicola</i>
GREY-BREASTED PRINIA 1 male at Chambal	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
ASHY PRINIA 2 males at Bharatpur Canal	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
PLAIN PRINIA Up to 5 seen per visit at Bharatpur Park, often heard; 5 along Bharatpur Canal	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
ZITTING CISTICOLA 1 by Chambal on 14 th	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
BLYTH'S REED WARBLER 4 seen in Bharatpur Park, several more heard; 3 along Bharatpur Canal	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>
CLAMOROUS (INDIAN) REED WARBLER 3 seen in Bharatpur Park, several more heard	<i>Acrocephalus (stentoreus) brunnescens</i>
LESSER WHITETHROAT 3 seen in Bharatpur Park	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>
COMMON TAILORBIRD Common in Bharatpur Park and along Canal	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
GREENISH WARBLER 1 seen in Bharatpur Park	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides viridanus</i>
COMMON BABBLER 6 in Bharatpur Park on 12 th , 3+ on 13 th	<i>Turdoides caudate</i>
LARGE GREY BABBLER Frequent around Bharatpur Park but less than Jungle <i>T.striata</i> ; 5 by Bharatpur Canal; 5 near Agra; several in Ranthambhore	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>
JUNGLE BABBLER Flocks of 6-8 common everywhere	<i>Turdoides striata</i>
BRAHMINY STARLING Common in Bharatpur and Ranthambhore	<i>Sturnia (Temenuchus) pagodarum</i>
ASIAN PIED MYNA (STARLING) Common everywhere, including around Delhi	<i>Gracula contra</i>
BANK MYNA Pairs and small flocks common in most areas although not noted at Ranthambhore	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>
COMMON MYNA Common around all towns and villages	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
BLUE-THROAT 1 female at Bharatpur on 15 th and 1 male on 18 th ; 1 male by Bharatpur Canal	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
ORIENTAL MAGPIE-ROBIN Common around Bharatpur with highest day count of 20; 1 by Bharatpur Canal; several around Ranthambhore	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
INDIAN ROBIN Common at Bharatpur Park (up to 15 per day); 1 in Hotel Sunbird garden; 3 by Bharatpur Canal; several at Ranthambhore	<i>Saxicoloides fulicatus</i>
BLACK REDSTART 1 at Bharatpur; 1 at Ranthambhore	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
PIED BUSHCHAT Pair in Bharatpur; 1 male at Chambal on 14 th	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER 1 at Bharatpur	<i>Ficedula parva</i>
PURPLE SUNBIRD Common around Bharatpur	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>
HOUSE SPARROW Common in Bharatpur town and on route to Chambal; 4 only at Hotel Sunbird; 6 by Keoladeo Temple in Bharatpur Park	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
YELLOW-THROATED (Chestnut-shouldered) SPARROW Small flocks common around Bharatpur Park	<i>Gymnoris (Passer) xanthocollis</i>

BAYA WEAVER

c.20 by Bharatpur Canal

*Ploceus philippinus***WHITE WAGTAIL**A few around Delhi; 6+ in Bharatpur on 13th and 15+ in mixed wagtail sp. flock on 15th (races *dukhensis* and *personata*?)*Motacilla alba***CITRINE WAGTAIL**10+ in mixed wagtail spp flocks at Bharatpur Park on three days; 10 by Chambal on 14th, 4 on 17th*Motacilla citreola***YELLOW WAGTAIL**In mixed wagtail spp flocks at Bharatpur on two days: 4 *beema* males on 13th and 15+ on 15th included a few ? *thunbergi**Motacilla flava***GREY WAGTAIL**1 male in mixed wagtail spp flock on 15th at Bharatpur Park*Motacilla cinerea***WHITE-BROWED WAGTAIL**

3 by Bharatpur Canal; c.10 along Chambal

*Motacilla maderaspatensis***PADDYFIELD PIPIT**c.8 in open grassland at Bharatpur Park on 13th*Anthus rufulus***INDIAN SILVERBILL**

2 in Bharatpur Park; 4 at Ranthambhore

*Euodice malabarica***CRESTED BUNTING**

6 at Ranthambhore on 18th

*Melophus lathami***MAMMALS** 15 sp.**Rhesus Macaque** *Macaca mulatta* (Bharatpur)**Hanuman Langur** *Semnopithecus* (Ranthambhore)**Sambar** *Cervus unicolor* (Bharatpur, Ranthambhore)**Chital** *Axis axis* (Bharatpur, Ranthambhore)**Nilgai** *Boselaphus tragocamelus* (Bharatpur, Ranthambhore)**Chinkara** *Gazella bennettii* (Ranthambhore)**Wild Boar** *Sus scrofa* (Bharatpur, Ranthambhore)**Sloth Bear** *Melursus ursinus* (Ranthambhore)**Golden Jackal** *Canis aureus* (Bharatpur)**Tiger** *Panthera tigris* (Ranthambhore)**Common Palm Civet** *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* (Bharatpur)**Ruddy Mongoose** *Herpestes smithii* (Ranthambhore)**Grey Mongoose** *Herpestes edwardsii* (Bharatpur)**Small Indian Mongoose** *Herpestes javanicus* (Bharatpur Canal)**Five-striped Palm Squirrel** *Funambulus pennantii* (Bharatpur)**REPTILES****Gharial** *Gavialis gangeticus* (Chambal)**Crocodile** *Crocodylus paluster* (Chambal, Ranthambhore)**Bengal Monitor Lizard** *Varanus bengalensis* (Bharatpur)**Indian Garden Lizard** *Calotes versicolor* (Bharatpur)**Indian Softshell Turtle** *Aspideretes gangeticus* (Bharatpur)**? Three-striped Roofed Turtle** *Kachuga dhongoka* (Chambal)**? Indian Black Turtle** *Melanochelys trijuga* (Bharatpur)