

# INDIA - GUJARAT & FOREST OWLET TOUR 2010

28<sup>th</sup> November – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Indian Courser
- MacQueen's Bustard
- Sociable Lapwing
- Sarus Crane
- Red Spurfowl
- Rock Eagle-owl
- White-naped Woodpecker
- Grey Junglefowl
- Stoliczka's Bushchat
- Grey Hypocolius
- Red-tailed Wheatear
- Marshall's Iora
- Crab Plover
- Indian Scimitar-babbler
- Asian Desert Warbler
- White-naped Tit
- Forest Owlet
- Green Avadavat
- Painted Sandgrouse
- Amur Falcon
- Striped Hyena
- Asiatic Leopard
- Asiatic Lion
- Wolf

**Leaders:** Nick Bray and Ganesh

## SUMMARY:

India has an amazing avifauna and most of us naturally think of the mighty Himalayas or the Tiger reserves, and of course the famous Bharatpur. It is a fascinating place for birdwatchers and in our search for something new, we have designed this special tour to seek out even more very special birds. This is India as you have never seen it before with some of the finest birding and speciality birds imaginable. From Mount Abu with its Green Avadavats and a couple of other extra endemics, we travelled across the Little Rann of Kutch searching for a huge list of desert specialities including McQueen's Bustard. From here a short drive took us to the world's largest harrier roost at Velavadar where hundreds of birds arrive every evening and finished off with an excellent sighting of Asiatic Wolf patrolling its territory at dusk. We followed this up with a series of jeep safaris at Gir National Park where White-bellied Minivet, Mottled Wood-owl, Asiatic Lion and Leopard were amongst the highlights. Our desert birding was rounded off amidst the surroundings of Bhuj where Rock Bush-quail, Grey Hypocolius, White-naped Tit and the wonderful Crab Plover were seen well, amongst a number of other truly exciting species. Turning inland we made the pilgrimage to Melghat and the recently rediscovered Forest Owlet for a grand finale, making this a remarkable and bird-filled journey.



Forest Owlet – Melghat Dec 2010  
Classified as Critically Endangered by BirdLife International, it has a tiny population and is known from only ten locations in Central India. It was rediscovered in 1997 after disappearing for over a century and now there are estimated to be only 100 individuals within its stronghold of Melghat Tiger Reserve. It is indeed a truly rare bird and to have a chance of finding it requires a lengthy journey, well away from the regular birding & tourist areas. But it is well worth the extra effort!

## 28<sup>th</sup> November 2010

Following our midday arrival into Indira Gandhi International Airport it was amazing how everything had changed since our last visit just a few months before. Now we have a state of the art and thoroughly modern terminal and were soon on our way through the hustle and bustle of Delhi's traffic. After checking in to the hotel we spent a leisurely afternoon sipping tea on the roof garden in the glorious sunshine and notching up our first birds of the tour. Numerous **Black Kites** were soaring around overhead and several were perched up on the rooftops providing glorious views. A **Brown Rock-chat** then appeared on a chimney behind us, whilst both **Coppersmith** and **Brown-headed Barbets** were perched at eye-level right out in the open in some trees across the road. It was quite surprising how many birds we could see from the rooftop in the middle of Delhi and it was a relaxing beginning to what turned out to be a very successful tour.

## 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010

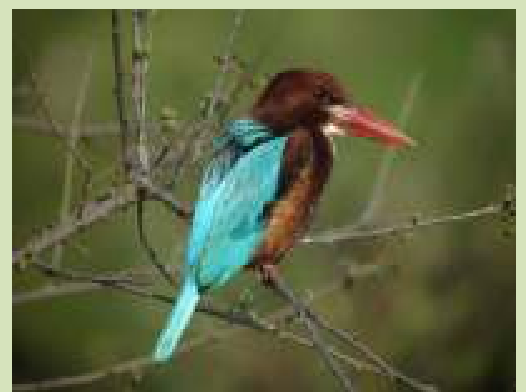
After an early breakfast we set off to Okhla Bird Sanctuary, situated on the banks of the mighty Yamuna River. This fine reserve is located right in the middle of Delhi but it is a vast area of tall grassland and marsh positively thronging with birds. With the light just about right by the time we arrived and a lovely cool temperature we walked along a track bordered on either side by tall Acacias. Numerous **Siberian Chiffchaffs** were present, along with **Blyth's Reed-warbler**, both **Greenish** and **Hume's Warblers**, **Ashy Prinia**, **Red-whiskered Bulbuls**, and a close **Indian Grey Hornbill**. Several **Grey Francolins** obliged us with nice looks when they walked along the path towards us, whilst overhead flocks of **Greylag Geese**, a few **Painted Storks** and a **Marsh Harrier** were seen. After a heavy monsoon this year the water level was much higher than it has been for many years and our route to one of the watchtowers was blocked. But it didn't matter as we found all of our target species quite easily with **Striated Grassbird**, **Yellow-bellied Prinia**, **Striated Babbler** and **White-tailed Stonechat** all seen without a long walk through the tall grass. A nice selection of waders was present close to the track and amongst a flock of **Ruff** we also saw **Green** and **Marsh Sandpipers**, **Temminck's Stint**, **Spotted Redshank** and **White-tailed Lapwing**. Nearby a **Bluethroat** perched right out in the open for us and a fine **Red-breasted Flycatcher** was still in breeding plumage. Walking back to the car gave us **Little Green Bee-eaters** and **White-throated Kingfishers** to round off a productive few hours birding. So we returned to the hotel for a quick shower and some lunch before making a dash across Delhi to the train station, only making our train with about 5 minutes to spare thanks to the heavy traffic!



White-tailed Lapwing showed very well at Okhla Barrage on our first morning.



Indian Grey Hornbill was the first of 30 Indian Subcontinent endemics seen on this tour.



The Beautiful White-throated Kingfisher was a daily sighting during this tour.

## 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010

At 4am we arrived at Abu Road Station and met up again with Rakesh, our driver from the first day, and drove through the deserted streets to a small chai stall. After a refreshing cup of tea and quick wash at a nearby hotel, ticking **Spotted Owlet** along the way, we drove up the winding road of Mount Abu and soon after dawn arrived at an open area of fields and bushes. Our main quarry was the exceedingly localised **Green Avadavat**, and after a short search managed to locate a flock of at least 30 birds feeding alongside a small stream, including a few magnificent males showing their black and white barred underparts. This was a very good find indeed and one very few western birders have seen. Also present in the immediate vicinity were flocks of **Brahminy Starlings**, **Indian Black Robin**, **Crested Bunting**, **Eurasian Hoopoe**, **Taiga Flycatcher**, **Hume's Warbler**, **Grey-breasted Prinia** and a **White-bellied Drongo**. By the time we left to return to the hotel for breakfast it was much warmer and after a good breakfast we took in some birds in the gardens. A **Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** was nice, a few **Indian Yellow Tits** were also present and an **Ashy Drongo** was seen, but a **Sulphur-bellied Warbler** was a nice surprise feeding amongst the rocks behind our rooms. We then visited a nice secluded forest area and almost immediately scored with the endemic **Indian Scimitar-babbler**. A short trail led to an open area where a **Red Spurfowl** called back to the tape without really showing, although a little later we inadvertently scared one into flying up into a tree where it remained motionless for a short while. A **Grey Junglefowl** also put in an appearance briefly before we left and headed back for lunch. The afternoon session was spent along the road a few kilometres down the mountain and after an initially quiet start we added **Indian Pygmy Woodpecker**, **Tawny-bellied Babbler**, **Grey Tit** and a fine **White-naped Woodpecker** to our list. An early return to the hotel was much appreciated after our long day in the field but a calling **Indian Scops-owl** had other ideas and we eventually had great views of it in the spotlight before going to dinner.

## 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010

Up early as usual and we returned to the same forest as yesterday, this time just as the sun was rising above the ridge. We hadn't walked more than 100m when a **Red Spurfowl** began calling and in no time at all it walked across the road in front of us after a little bit of playback and we watched it hesitating on the grassy verge before walking back across the road and disappearing for good. Despite our best efforts we couldn't locate a **Grey Junglefowl** so returned to the hotel for breakfast before loading the luggage onto the roof of the car and heading down the mountain and beginning our journey to



One of the rarest birds in India, and only reliably known from two secluded mountains. A flock of 30+ Green Avadavat were seen extremely well on Mount Abu.



Flocks of Brahminy Starlings were present on Mount Abu.



This Indian Scimitar-babbler was one of four Indian endemics seen on the slopes of Mount Abu at the start of the tour.

Gujarat. It was something of a surprise to find ourselves speeding along a new dual carriageway and an even bigger surprise when Rakesh slammed on the brakes. The reason was perched in some roadside waste-ground in the shape of a pair of **Yellow-wattled Lapwings** that Ganesh had somehow spotted. When we set the scope up to take a closer look a few **Ashy-crowned Finch-larks** was seen beside the lapwings, and in the river valley below our first **Black-headed Ibis**. Moving on we crossed the border into Gujarat and the Little Rann of Kutch which turned out to be a very green and fertile area indeed. After a 4 hour drive we stopped beside a small lake where **Cotton Pygmy-goose, Lesser Whistling-duck, Asian Openbill**, numerous **Wire-tailed Swallows, Common Babbler** and **Bay-backed Shrike** were all new for our list. As it turned out this was just a short distance away from Rann Riders Lodge where we were staying for the next two nights. After a fine lunch in the spectacular dining area we had an afternoon jeep safari along the roads that crisscross the arable countryside and made numerous stops to scan the surrounding scrub and fields. In the village near the lodge the first of many **Rosy Starlings** was seen, whilst a little further on 4 **Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** were present in the middle of a small field. At the same site we had **Variable** and **Desert Wheatears** and several **Eurasian Hoopoes**. Further stops revealed a flock of 5 **Yellow-wattled Lapwings**, single **Indian Black Ibis**, and a flooded field held a large flock of **Ruff** with some **Little Stints**, a **Black-tailed Godwit** and many **Yellow Wagtails**. But the afternoon was really all about the flock of 26 **Sociable Lapwings** found out in the middle of a huge area of open fields. We finished the day with 11 **Common Cranes** floating across the sky to round off another good day.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010

We headed out on a superb full morning's safari into the Little Rann of Kutch before sunrise. We drove through the lush arable land, passing several small wetlands but only made our first stop of the day due to a puncture. This was fortunate as a **Paddyfield Warbler** showed itself in some grass bordering a flooded ditch. A **Hen Harrier** was also seen nearby and as we continued our drive eventually reached the flat salt-encrusted plain we had pictured in our minds. Almost immediately a **Short-eared Owl** flew up from beside a small bush and drifted across the arid-looking countryside. As we watched it another took to the wing and in the end at least 6 birds were on view at any one time. With the area unseasonally still under much water we had to pick a route around the edge and stay on the drier areas which meant we couldn't reach the area for **Hoopoe Lark**. However, our other main target bird was seen quite easily, when a **MacQueen's Bustard** flew across in front of us and away into the distance. We crossed over onto a different area and found another bustard walking between some bushes



This Indian Scops-owl called incessantly above our rooms during our stay on Mount Abu!.



Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse proved to be an extremely common sight and sound throughout the tour.



Classified as Critically Endangered by BirdLife International, a flock of 26 Sociable lapwings found in the fields near our lodge in the Little Rann of Kutch was a good find. Apparently these birds now winter here every year and is one of the best places to find this rare species.

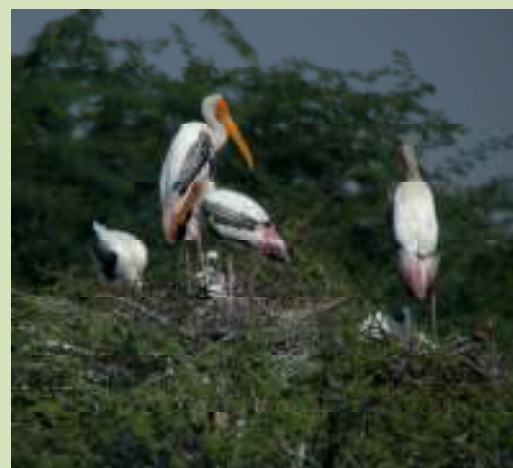
and it froze when we stopped the engine allowing brilliant views. Numerous **Desert Wheatears** were present, as well as a few **Isabelline Wheatears**, and a couple of **Southern Grey Shrikes** followed. Our raptor list got a boost with 2 **Short-toed Eagles**, a **Long-legged Buzzard** and **Red-necked Falcon**. We had our picnic breakfast right in the middle of nowhere, a vast flat landscape that also produced **Crested Lark** and **Oriental Skylark** between mouthfuls of cheese sandwich. The next hour or so was spent criss-crossing the area and turning up flocks of **Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** before reaching the main road again and finding a few **Rufous-tailed Larks** along the way. A large wetland area beside the road caused the next stop and was thronging with thousands of all the usual ducks, **Eurasian Spoonbills**, **Whiskered** and **River Terns**, **Glossy Ibis** and lots of commoner species. As we drove along the edge of the marsh an **Indian Spotted Eagle** was perched on top of a tree, and further on a couple of pairs of **Painted Storks** were nesting in an isolated tree, with some nesting **Spoonbills** close by. There were also a few **Indian Cormorants** and an **Oriental Darter** sunning themselves in a big tree beside the water. And as we walked down to the water's edge to get a better view, David spotted a **Rufous-tailed Shrike** and as we tried to get better views came across a **Sykes's Warbler** close by. But by now it was nearly lunchtime so returned to the lodge and had some time to rest before heading out in the afternoon. A **Woolly-necked Stork** was seen before we headed out to another wetland. Here again we were confronted with numerous ducks, ibis and waders, with the best of the bunch being 40+ **Comb Ducks**, **Western Reef Egret**, **Temminck's** and **Little Stints**, **Marsh Sandpiper** and **Paddyfield Pipit**. With a beautiful sunset and countless birds flying overhead to roost it was certainly an evocative setting to end another great day.

### *3<sup>rd</sup> December 2010*

We left early and headed towards Velavadar National Park, taking our time to scan the fields for coursers along the way. But our first stop was beside a rubbish tip where over 80 **Egyptian Vultures** were gathered. And we made numerous checks of the roadside fields and were eventually rewarded when a pair of **Indian Coursers** was found quite close to the road. Several flocks of **Common Cranes** passed overhead throughout the morning, totalling around 200+ birds. **Greater Short-toed Larks** were even commoner than yesterday with several large flocks which we estimated 1000+ birds in total. There was also **Booted** and **Bonelli's Eagles** seen, and 22 **Sarus Cranes** were scoped in the middle of a large wetland. Eventually we made it to Velavadar by early afternoon and began driving around the grassland. **Blackbucks** were immediately obvious, with several fine males being seen, along with a few **Nilgai**, and at a large lake our first **Dalmatian Pelicans** showed well along with all the usual waterbirds, plus **Greater Spotted Eagle**, **Indian Reed**



**Desert Wheatear is a very common bird in then deserts of western India.**



**Nesting colonies of Painted Storks and various egrets and cormorants were found amidst the numerous wetlands at the Little Rann of Kutch.**



**Possibly the most beautiful antelope in the world? There is a high population of Blackbuck present at Velavadar National Park. We even saw a pair of Wolves hunting a large herd in the grassland here.**

and **Paddyfield Warblers**. We followed numerous tracks across the reserve and had a **Jungle Cat** cross in front of us, but the best was yet to come. Whilst watching a flock of **Gull-billed Terns** quartering a field, 2 **Asiatic Wolf** were seen stalking a herd of **Blackbuck**. We tried to get closer views by driving around to the other side but initially lost them, yet after quite a wait were treated to them walking across an open area. And we finished off watching at least 500 **Montagu's** and **Pallid Harriers** coming in to roost at dusk which made for quite a spectacle to round off our visit.

### 4<sup>th</sup> December 2010

After spending most of yesterday morning searching for **Indian Courser**, it was rather ironic to find nine of them in the field beside our chai stop en-route to Gir National Park this morning. In the same field were a couple of **Paddyfield Pipits** and hundreds of **Yellow Wagtails** of the races *Beema* and *Thunbergi*. And we eventually arrived at the edge of Gir NP around midday, stopping to look at 5 **Chinkara (Indian Gazelles)** along the way. The last 12km of the drive was along a dirt track through the park to Gir Birding Lodge where after settling into our rooms enjoyed a fine lunch from the first floor restaurant. Our table was set outside and we could scan the Mango orchard and distant hills, where **Booted Eagle**, **Oriental Honey Buzzard**, **Red-rumped Swallows**, **Dusky Crag Martins** and **Crested Treeswifts** could all be seen from the comfort of our chairs! As we waited for our jeep to arrive to take us on our afternoon safari there was **Black-rumped Flameback**, **Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** and **Thick-billed Flowerpecker** in the surrounding trees, with a fine **Tickell's Blue Flycatcher** coming in to bathe in a puddle right next to us. Then we set off into the park and were fortunate with the rare sighting of **Chousingha (Four-horned Antelope)**, along with **White-browed Wagtail**, **Woolly-necked Stork** and **Striated Heron**.

### 5<sup>th</sup> December 2010

Our 2nd jeep safari began quietly just after dawn as we followed the bumpy track through the open Teak forest. We stopped to talk to a Park Ranger who informed us that he had seen a male **Lion** cross the path in front of him some time ago so we waited and waited but nothing showed. However, a pair of **White-bellied Minivets** performed very well in the Acacia nearby. Moving on further into the park we came across another couple of jeeps that had heard some alarm calls of **Spotted Deer** so we waited and were fortunate to observe a male **Asiatic Lion** asleep inside the forest. He had obviously just fed as his belly was very fat and just once he raised his head to look at us before lying down again! Obviously elated with this we drove on and hit a purple patch beginning a few minutes later with a



Several small flocks of Indian Coursers were found during the tour.



The endemic White-bellied Minivet was seen well at Gir National park.



The only place to see Asiatic Lion in the world is at Gir National Park. This male was resting in the shade after eating a Spotted Deer and kept a watchful eye on us!

pair of day roosting **Mottled Wood-owls**, followed by an **Indian Scops-owl** peering out from its nesting hole, and an **Indian Little Nightjar** roosting in a tree. Other mammal highlights were **Golden Jackal**, **Sambar**, and numerous **Spotted Deer**, plus a **Monitor Lizard**. By late morning we were back at the lodge with several hours off to rest before our afternoon safari. Needless to say a few birds were found in the surrounding forest with **Common Woodshrike**, **Asian Paradise-flycatcher** and **Small Minivet** all being new. At lunch we heard how a pair of **Lions** had been seen in the same patch of woodland right next to the lodge a few hours earlier! And as we enjoyed some cold drinks after our lunch our first **White-eyed Buzzard** flew in and landed on a nearby tree. Our afternoon safari again started quietly but just as we thought we were in for a dull time, we turned a corner in the track and were hit full in the face by the sight of a **Lioness** and 2 **cubs** sat in a small meadow just a few metres away. Wow! (That one's for you Malcolm!) The adult female was set back a bit in the shade of a tree but the two cubs, aged about 4 months, were right out in the open. One was far more inquisitive and approached our jeep to within 6 metres or so and put on quite a show; playfully prodding a rock with its outlandishly large paws, yawning, stretching, and staring at us. After numerous photos we left this delightfully tranquil family scene and happy with our lot headed towards the lodge. However, we hadn't got far when amazingly a **Leopard** appeared beside the track and we screeched to a halt. This stunningly beautiful animal then proceeded to walk through the forest parallel to us, and on a couple of occasions would sit down to look back at us. We marvelled at its intricately patterned coat and were almost in a state of disbelief at our luck. When it finally melted away into the jungle we left the forest and headed for a celebratory cup of tea back at the lodge!

### *6<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

Time for one last safari in Gir NP and we turned up a variety of good birds such as **Indian Black Ibis**, **Indian Little Nightjar**, **Indian Scops-owl**, **Small Minivet** and the roosting pair of **Mottled Wood-owls** again. Definitely the highlight was discovering a huge fruiting tree literally alive with **Coppersmith Barbets** and **Asian Koels**. A few **Indian Golden Orioles** were also present including some brightly plumaged males, but the characteristic call of a thrush really had us searching hard. In the end we found a **Tickell's Thrush** and a very nice **Orange-headed Thrush** – the first Zoothera thrush to be seen on our first Asian tour! The rest of the day was spent driving north to the Great Rann of Kutch and our base for the next 4 nights near Bhuj.



A pair of roosting **Mottled Wood-owls** were present at Gir National park.



We came across a **Lioness** and two cubs during our afternoon safari and it was a real privilege to watch this family playing in the sunshine.



We lucked in with a terrific sighting of this **Asian Leopard** at Gir National Park. This is a very good place to see this magnificent creature and was just one of 22 species of mammal seen on this tour.

## 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010

Well we spent the morning searching for **Great Indian Bustard** without any joy, as the grassland the birds apparently favour turned out to be a vast area which stretched to the horizon on all sides. But we managed to turn up several new birds for the trip and had nice views of many others. In the former category we had **Barred Buttonquail, Black Francolin, Rufous-fronted Prinia, Long-billed Pipit, White Stork** and **Eurasian Griffon Vulture**. Nice views of 4 **Indian Coursers, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Desert** and **Isabelline Wheatears** and **Southern Grey Shrike** added to the excitement. Following lunch at a restaurant we headed to the coast where some lagoons either side of the road had a number of interesting species, including a couple of **Greater Flamingos, Great White and Dalmatian Pelicans, Gull-billed** and **Caspian Terns**, plus a whole load of waders and wildfowl. But the best bird was a rather unexpected **Amur Falcon** which initially soared overhead before heading out to sea. Leaving here we drove inland, stopping along a river valley with sandstone cliffs where Ganesh pointed out a roosting **Rock (Indian) Eagle-owl** close to the road, and a **Grey-necked Bunting** also appeared on top of a bush as well. We finished the day sat on top of a large escarpment surveying the grassland below after a longish drive along a dirt track that criss-crossed the grassland for several miles. But what a view we had and as the sun slowly dipped towards the horizon in the late afternoon, we were treated to fabulous views of several **Striped Hyenas** leaving their dens below us and heading out on their evening foray. Leaving here we had **Bengal Fox** and **Indian Hare** in the headlights to bring our mammal total to 22 species so far.

## 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010

We began the day at the famous stake-out for **Grey Hypoclius** which winters in the area in increasingly small numbers. And after a long wait in the chilly early morning air a fine male was seen to fly in and perch up all too briefly before disappearing. Whilst waiting for the fabled beastie to appear we were entertained by the antics of a pair of **Bluethroats**, as well as **Blyth's Reed-warbler** and **Siberian Chiffchaff** performing well in the bushes in front of us. Overhead several flocks of **Common Cranes** passed over calling, and in all we estimated about 200+ were seen throughout the day. Leaving here we drove across a vast plain to a nice rocky area where a couple of **Red-tailed Wheatears** were found. We had our picnic breakfast around mid-morning before driving on to a huge lake surrounding by tall grass where lots of commoner wildfowl were present, and both **Dalmatian** and **Great White Pelicans** were the stars. But our main aim of visiting here was to find the rare **Stoliczka's**



We encountered several flocks of the attractive Grey-necked Buntings in rocky areas near Bhuj.



At least 3 dens of Striped Hyena were present in a rocky ravine and we watched from a concealed position as they left at dusk on their hunting forays.



The vast desert landscape near Bhuj is home to an amazing variety of very special birds.



**Bushchat** and **Asian Desert Warbler** which took a bit of finding in the heat of the day but we ended up with very close views of both species. And we also added a couple of **Steppe Eagles** to our list for good measure. So we returned to the hotel pretty happy with all our morning's target species being seen. In the afternoon we headed to a rocky area of undulating hills covered in Acacia trees and made our first attempt at **White-naped Tit**. Despite drawing a blank on this bird, we had eyeball popping views of a **Marshall's Iora** down to just a few metres away as it called incessantly from the top of a tree in the late afternoon sunshine. During our search we also came across a large covey of **Jungle Bush-quail**, a couple of which scuttled along the path in front of us, several **Grey-necked Buntings**, and David found a **Sirkeer Malkoha**.

### 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010

A quick change of plan before heading to the coast saw us back on the search for **White-naped Tit** just after sunrise. As the sun slowly crept over the hills the first birds began to call and within an hour we had nailed the tit which was following a mixed flock of **Common Woodshrikes**, **Small Minivets** and at least 2 **Marshall's Ioras**. It was great following the flock as they moved from tree to tree and we enjoyed fabulous views in the early morning sunshine. A flock of **Grey-necked Buntings** was also noteworthy. Once we were done with the flock we were about to return to the car when an **Eastern Orphee Warbler** appeared and after a short wait performed admirably well, but not as good as another individual we had a little later. Driving back up the track we disturbed a small group of **Rock Bush-quail** with one bird flying off to the left and the main group to the right. We knew the lone bird would try and cross the track to rejoin the flock and sure enough it responded to a call from the main group and in no time at all we saw it scurrying over the rocks nearby where we could see its plumage perfectly before it crossed the main track right in front of us. Leaving here we returned to the hotel for a late breakfast and then headed on to the coast. Just before reaching the beach a small estuary produced **White Pelican**, **Pintail Snipe**, **Grey Plover**, several **Gull-billed Terns**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Pacific Golden Plover** and **Little Stint**. A flock of **Demoiselle Cranes** could also be seen feeding in a grassy area behind the main estuary. Upon arrival at the beach we walked barefoot across the soft sand and began scanning the tideline where a flock of **Great Black-headed** and **Heuglin's Gulls** greeted us and there was also a **Slender-billed** and some **Brown-headed Gulls** as well nearby. In the distance a group of 5 **Great Thick-knees** flew in and landed, whilst we were distracted with groups of **Lesser Sandplover** and **Kentish Plovers**, and a couple of **Greater Sandpipers**. More waders appeared at intervals with a few **Terek Sandpipers**, **Sanderling**, **Ruddy Turnstone** and **Bar-tailed Godwit**. But this little lot were just an entree to the



Red-tailed Wheatear inhabits rocky areas amidst arid lowland areas.



The poorly known Stoliczka's Bushchat is a rare wintering visitor and is classified as Vulnerable by BirdLife International due to its small declining population. One showed very well to our group in the semi-arid agricultural areas near Bhuj.



It was surprising to find that Marshall's Iora is in fact relatively common in the right habitat. Our group found several flocks of this little beauty.

main course when 4 **Crab Plovers** flew in and landed just a little way off. A superb adult and 3 immatures waded elegantly along the shore and we were able to watch these impressive birds at leisure. Leaving here we visited a local restaurant for lunch before checking out a small lake in the middle of town where a flock of **Indian Cormorants** and a colony of **Painted Storks** were seen. Another small lake on the journey back to our hotel also had some commoner birds such as **Grey-throated Sand Martin**, **Dusky Crag-martin**, **Wire-tailed Swallow** and **Temminck's Stints**.

### 10<sup>th</sup> December 2010

Our last morning was spent leisurely birding a nearby area and our timing was perfect as the preparations were being finalised at our hotel for a wedding and the festivities that would follow! Anyway, we spent most of the morning exploring some rocky covered rolling grassland which was dotted with low trees and turned up some good birds. A couple of **White-naped Tits** were found and **Marshall's Iora** seemed positively common and in one tree we saw 8 individuals! But the highlight of the morning were the close views of several **Painted Sandgrouse**, a species which had eluded us so far. **Rufous-fronted Prinia** was also common here, and we also found lots of previously seen species as well. So we left here and made our way to a nice restaurant for lunch before arriving at Bhuj Airport where we flew to Mumbai. Unfortunately our flight was late taking off and we missed our connecting flight to Nagpur so after some quick arrangements stayed in a hotel for the night close to the airport.

### 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010

We flew to Nagpur early this morning and upon arrival drove to Melghat, and arrived in time for lunch at our hotel conveniently located inside the park. A little afternoon birding along the forest road was relatively quiet although we added **Alexandrine Parakeet**, **Puff-throated Babbler** and **Jungle Owlet** to our lists.

### 12<sup>th</sup> December 2010

So this was it! The pilgrimage to central India for the recently rediscovered **Forest Owlet** was nearing its conclusion. Another predawn departure saw us arrive at the site set amidst the teak forest, seemingly like the rest of the forest we had travelled across for many miles. Within a matter of minutes of our arrival we had the scope set up on the first of two owlets found within half an hour. It sounds like a cliché but it was an extraordinary privilege to be among the lucky few to have laid eyes on this rather superb little owl. The rest of the morning and early afternoon was spent in various sections of the park and we turned up a number of new birds for the trip.



We found a covey of the endemic **Rock Bush-quail**, one of which ran across the road in front of us.



One of the many highlights of this tour was finding a group of **Crab Plovers** on a secluded beach.



This is one of the main species that draws birders to Gujarat. Not only is it a stunning-looking species but its behavior is also very interesting. It nests in burrows in dense-colonies on its breeding grounds!

Beginning with a **Large Cuckooshrike** and Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, we then had **Indian** and **Velvet-fronted Nuthatches**, followed by **Black-hooded Oriole**, **Oriental Turtle-dove**, **Long-tailed Minivet** and **Pale-billed Flowerpecker**. Other nice sightings were of **Indian Golden Oriole**, the darker race of **Tawny-bellied Babbler** than we had seen on Mt Abu and **Taiga Flycatcher**. It then took the rest of the afternoon to reach Nagpur and the wonderful Tuli International Hotel, where we said our goodbyes to Ganesh who had been a most entertaining travelling companion and excellent guide.

### 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010

A morning flight from Nagpur to Delhi was followed by a short drive to an area close to Sultanpur. Upon arrival we walked along a path bordering a lake absolutely full of birds. A good selection of commoner wildfowl was present, but a flock of **Bar-headed Goose** was new. Several hundred **Ruff** were also present, as well as 50+ **Temminck's Stint**, **Bluethroat**, **Black-eared Kite**, **Purple Swamphen**, **Pheasant-tailed Jacana** and a flock of **Pied Avocets**. It was a really fine way to end our birding on this very special tour and to round things off on a high we found ourselves a **Booted Warbler** amongst the arid scrubland to finish off with a bang!

Nick Bray



Common Cranes in the desert.



Western Reef-heron was reasonably common at several sites visited.



Long-billed Pipit was also relatively common in the semi-desert areas.



One of the features of this tour is the variety of habitats encountered. Numerous wetlands held a large number of waterbirds, with nesting colonies of egrets, storks and ibis present.

# BIRDLIST FOR INDIA

## GUJARAT & FOREST OWLET TOUR 2010

<b>SPECIES</b>		<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>
<b>E</b> – Indian Subcontinent endemic		
<b>E</b> - Endemic		
1.	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
2.	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
3.	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>
4.	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
5.	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
6.	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
7.	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>
8.	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
9.	Western Reef-heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>
10.	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
11.	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
12.	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>
13.	Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>
14.	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
15.	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
16.	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
17.	Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
18.	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
19.	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
20.	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>
21.	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
22.	Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>
23.	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
24.	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>
25.	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
26.	Indian Black Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>
27.	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
28.	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>
29.	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>
30.	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>
31.	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
32.	Comb Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>
33.	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
34.	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>
35.	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
36.	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>
37.	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
38.	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
39.	Indian Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
40.	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>

41.	Tufted Duck		<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
42.	Common Pochard		<i>Aythya ferina</i>
43.	Cotton Pygmy-goose		<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>
44.	Black-winged Kite		<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
45.	Black Kite		<i>Milvus migrans</i>
46.	Black-eared Kite		<i>Milvus lineatus</i>
47.	Shikra		<i>Accipiter badius</i>
48.	Eurasian Sparrowhawk		<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
49.	Long-legged Buzzard		<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
50.	Oriental Honey-buzzard		<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>
51.	White-eyed Buzzard		<i>Butastur teesa</i>
52.	Common Buzzard		<i>Buteo buteo</i>
53.	Crested Serpent-eagle		<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
54.	Short-toed Eagle		<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>
55.	Booted Eagle		<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
56.	Bonelli's Eagle		<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>
57.	Crested Hawk-eagle	e	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>
58.	Indian Spotted Eagle		<i>Aquila hastata</i>
59.	Greater Spotted Eagle		<i>Aquila clanga</i>
60.	Steppe Eagle		<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>
61.	Osprey		<i>Pandion heliaetus</i>
62.	Eurasian Griffon		<i>Gyps fulvus</i>
63.	Egyptian Vulture		<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>
64.	Montagu's Harrier		<i>Circus pygargus</i>
65.	Pallid Harrier		<i>Circus macrourus</i>
66.	Hen Harrier		<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
67.	Western Marsh Harrier		<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
68.	Amur Falcon		<i>Falco amurensis</i>
69.	Common Kestrel		<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
70.	Red-headed Falcon		<i>Falco chicquera</i>
71.	Grey Francolin		<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>
72.	Black Francolin		<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>
73.	Jungle Bush Quail	e	<i>Perdica asiatica</i>
74.	<b>Rock Bush Quail</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Perdica argoondah</i>
75.	Barred Buttonquail		<i>Turnix suscitator</i>
76.	<b>Red Spurfowl</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>
77.	<b>Grey Junglefowl</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>
78.	Indian Peafowl	e	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
79.	Common Crane		<i>Grus grus</i>
80.	Demoiselle Crane		<i>Grus virgo</i>
81.	Sarus Crane		<i>Grus antigone</i>
82.	MacQueen's Bustard		<i>Chlamydotis macqueeni</i>
83.	White-breasted Waterhen		<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
84.	Purple Swamphen		<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
85.	Common Moorhen		<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
86.	Eurasian Coot		<i>Fulica atra</i>
87.	Crab Plover		<i>Dromas ardeola</i>
88.	Pied Avocet		<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
89.	Black-winged Stilt		<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>

90.	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>
91.	Indian Courser	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>
92.	Great Thick-knee	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>
93.	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
94.	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malarbaricus</i>
95.	Sociable Lapwing	<i>Vanellus gregarius</i>
96.	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>
97.	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
98.	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
99.	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
100.	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
101.	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>
102.	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
103.	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
104.	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
105.	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
106.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
107.	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>
108.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
109.	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
110.	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
111.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
112.	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
113.	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>
114.	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
115.	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
116.	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
117.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
118.	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
119.	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
120.	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
121.	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
122.	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
123.	Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
124.	Heuglin's Gull	<i>Larus heuglini</i>
125.	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyætus</i>
126.	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Larus genei</i>
127.	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>
128.	Common Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
129.	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
130.	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
131.	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>
132.	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
133.	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
134.	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>
135.	Painted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>
136.	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
137.	Oriental Turtle-dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
138.	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>

139.	Red Collared-dove		<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
140.	Spotted Dove		<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
141.	Eurasian Collared-dove		<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
142.	Yellow-footed Green-pigeon		<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
143.	Plum-headed Parakeet	e	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
144.	Rose-ringed Parakeet		<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
145.	Alexandrine Parakeet		<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
146.	Asian Koel		<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>
147.	Sirkeer Malkoha	e	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>
148.	Greater Coucal		<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
149.	Common Barn Owl		<i>Tyto alba</i>
150.	<b>Indian Eagle-owl</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Bubo bengalensis</i>
151.	Short-eared Owl		<i>Asio flammeus</i>
152.	<b>Mottled Wood-owl</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Strix ocellata</i>
153.	Indian Scops-owl	e	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>
154.	Spotted Owlet		<i>Athene brama</i>
155.	<b>Forest Owlet</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Heteroglaux blewitti</i>
156.	Jungle Owlet	e	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
157.	Indian Little Nightjar		<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>
158.	Crested Treeswift		<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>
159.	Asian Palm-Swift		<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
160.	House Swift		<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
161.	Indian Roller		<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
162.	Common Hoopoe		<i>Upupa epops</i>
163.	White-throated Kingfisher		<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
164.	Lesser Pied Kingfisher		<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
165.	Common Kingfisher		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
166.	Little Green Bee-eater		<i>Merops orientalis</i>
167.	Indian Grey Hornbill	e	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>
168.	Coppersmith Barbet		<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>
169.	Brown-headed Barbet	e	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>
170.	Eurasian Wryneck		<i>Jynx torquilla</i>
171.	Indian Pygmy Woodpecker	e	<i>Dendrocopus nanus</i>
172.	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker		<i>Dendrocopus mahrattensis</i>
173.	Black-rumped Flameback	e	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
174.	White-naped Woodpecker	e	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>
175.	Indian Bushlark	e	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>
176.	Oriental Skylark		<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
177.	Crested Lark		<i>Galerida cristata</i>
178.	<b>Sykes's Lark</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Galerida deva</i>
179.	Ashy-crowned Finch-lark	e	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>
180.	Rufous-tailed Lark	e	<i>Ammomanes phoenicurus</i>
181.	Greater Short-toed Lark		<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>
182.	Common Sand Martin		<i>Riparia riparia</i>
183.	Grey-throated Sand-martin		<i>Riparia chinesnsis</i>
184.	Dusky Crag Martin		<i>Hirundo concolor</i>
185.	Barn Swallow		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
186.	Red-rumped Swallow		<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
187.	Wire-tailed Swallow		<i>Hirundo smithii</i>

188.	Grey-headed Yellow Wagtail		<i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>
	Sykes's Yellow Wagtail		<i>Motacilla flava beema</i>
189.	Grey Wagtail		<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
190.	Citrine Wagtail		<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
191.	White Wagtail		<i>Motacilla alba dukhunensis</i>
192.	White-browed Wagtail		<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>
193.	Olive-backed Pipit		<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
194.	Tree Pipit		<i>Anthus trivialis</i>
195.	Richard's Pipit		<i>Anthus richardi</i>
196.	Paddyfield Pipit		<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
197.	Tawny Pipit		<i>Anthus campestris</i>
198.	Long-billed Pipit		<i>Anthus similis</i>
199.	Ashy Woodswallow		<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
200.	Common Woodshrike		<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>
201.	Large Cuckooshrike		<i>Coracina macei</i>
202.	Long-tailed Minivet		<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
203.	<b>White-bellied Minivet</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Pericrocotus erythropygius</i>
204.	Small Minivet		<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>
205.	Red-vented Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
206.	Red-whiskered Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
207.	White-eared Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>
208.	Common lora		<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
209.	Marshall's lora	<b>e</b>	<i>Aegithina nigrolutea</i>
210.	Long-tailed Shrike		<i>Lanius schach erythronotus</i>
211.	Southern Grey Shrike		<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>
212.	Rufous-tailed (Xinjiang) Shrike		<i>Lanius isabellinus arenarius</i>
213.	Bay-backed Shrike		<i>Lanius vittatus</i>
214.	Grey Hypocolius		<i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>
215.	Asian Paradise-flycatcher		<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
216.	White-browed Fantail		<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>
217.	<b>White-spotted Fantail</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Rhipidura albogularis</i>
218.	White-throated Fantail		<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
219.	Orange-headed Thrush		<i>Zoothera citrina</i>
220.	Tickell's Thrush		<i>Turdus unicolor</i>
221.	Bluethroat		<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
222.	Oriental Magpie Robin		<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
223.	Indian Black Robin	<b>e</b>	<i>Saxicoloides fulvicata</i>
224.	Brown Rock-chat		<i>Cercomela fusca</i>
225.	Black Redstart		<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
226.	Isabelline Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
227.	Desert Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>
228.	Variable Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe picata</i>
229.	Red-tailed Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrmyna</i>
230.	Pied Bushchat		<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
231.	Siberian Stonechat		<i>Saxicola maura</i>
232.	White-tailed Stonechat		<i>Saxicola leucurus</i>
233.	Stoliczka's Bushchat	<b>e</b>	<i>Saxicola macrorhyncha</i>
234.	Red-breasted Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula parva</i>
235.	Red-throated Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula parva</i>



236.	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher		<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>
237.	Tawny-bellied Babbler	e	<i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>
238.	Common Babbler	e	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>
239.	Striated Babbler		<i>Turdoides earlei</i>
240.	Large Grey Babbler	e	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>
241.	Jungle Babbler		<i>Turdoides striatus</i>
242.	<b>Indian Scimitar-babbler</b>	E	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>
243.	Puff-throated Babbler		<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>
244.	Zitting Cisticola		<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
245.	Striated Grassbird		<i>Megalurus palustris</i>
246.	Ashy Prinia	e	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
247.	Grey-breasted Prinia		<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
248.	Plain Prinia		<i>Prinia inornata</i>
249.	Rufous-fronted Prinia	e	<i>Prinia buchanani</i>
250.	Yellow-bellied Prinia		<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
251.	Indian Reed-warbler		<i>Acrocephalus brunnescens</i>
252.	Blyth's Reed-warbler		<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>
253.	Paddyfield Warbler		<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>
254.	Booted Warbler		<i>Hippolais caligata</i>
255.	Sykes's Warbler		<i>Hippolais rama</i>
256.	Common Tailorbird		<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
257.	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher		<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
258.	Siberian Chiffchaff		<i>Phylloscopus tristis</i>
259.	Sulphur-bellied Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>
260.	Greenish Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
261.	Hume's Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
262.	Eastern Orphean Warbler		<i>Sylvia crasirostris</i>
263.	Asian Desert Warbler		<i>Sylvia nana</i>
264.	Lesser Whitethroat		<i>Sylvia curruca halimodendri</i>
265.	<b>White-naped Tit</b>	E	<i>Parus nuchalis</i>
266.	Grey Tit		<i>Parus nipalensis</i>
267.	<b>Indian Yellow Tit</b>	E	<i>Parus aplonotus</i>
268.	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch		<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
269.	<b>Indian Nuthatch</b>	E	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
270.	Pale-billed Flowerpecker	e	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchus</i>
271.	Thick-billed Flowerpecker		<i>Dicaeum agile</i>
272.	Oriental White-eye		<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
273.	Purple Sunbird		<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>
274.	Crested Bunting		<i>Melophus lathami</i>
275.	Grey-necked Bunting		<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>
276.	Red Avadavat		<i>Amandava amandava</i>
277.	Common Rosefinch		<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
278.	<b>Green Avadavat</b>	E	<i>Amandava formosa</i>
279.	Indian Silverbill		<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>
280.	Scaly-breasted Munia		<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
281.	House Sparrow		<i>Passer domesticus</i>
282.	Yellow-throated Sparrow		<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>
283.	Indian Baya Weaver		<i>Ploceus p. philippinus</i>
284.	Indian Golden Oriole		<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>

285.	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
286.	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
287.	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
288.	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
289.	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
290.	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
291.	Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>
292.	Rosy Starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>
293.	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>
294.	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>
295.	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
296.	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
297.	Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
298.	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>

	<b>Other Animals</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
1.	Indian Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>
2.	Northern Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennantii</i>
3.	Asiatic Lion	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>
4.	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>
5.	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
6.	Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>
7.	Bengal (Indian) Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>
8.	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>
9.	Grey Wolf	<i>Canis lupis</i>
10.	Common Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>
11.	Indian Hedgehog	<i>Hemiechinus micropus</i>
12.	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>
13.	Greater Short-nosed Fruit Bat	<i>Cynopterus sphinx</i>
14.	Grey (Hanuman) Langur	<i>Presbytes entellus</i>
15.	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scofa</i>
16.	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>
17.	Chital (Spotted Deer)	<i>Cervus axis</i>
18.	Indian Gazelle (Chinkara)	<i>Gazella bennettii</i>
19.	Chowsingha	<i>Tetracerus quadricornis</i>
20.	Blackbuck	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>
21.	Nilgai (Blue Bull)	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>
22.	Onager (Indian Wild Ass)	<i>Equus onager</i>
23.	Agama Lizard sp	<i>Agama sp.</i>
24.	Spiny-headed Lizard	<i>Cordylus sp.</i>
25.	House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
26.	Indian Social Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>
27.	Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>
28.	Water Snake sp	