

# INDIA - GUJARAT & FOREST OWLET TOUR 2011

27<sup>th</sup> November – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010

## HIGHLIGHTS

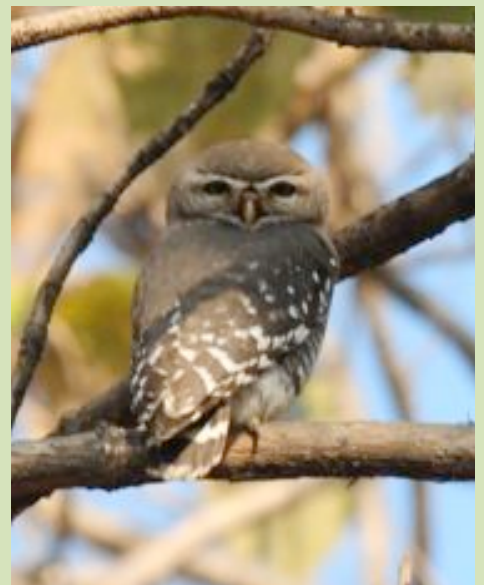
Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite:

- Macqueen's Bustard
- Great Indian Bustard
- Indian Courser
- Cream-coloured Courser
- Crab Plover
- Sarus Crane
- Demoiselle Crane
- Rock Eagle-owl
- Forest Owlet
- Sykes's Nightjar
- Sirkeer Malkoha
- Red-tailed Wheatear
- Bimaculated Lark
- Greater Hoopoe Lark
- Grey Hypocolius
- Indian Scimitar-babbler
- Asian Desert Warbler
- Sykes's Warbler
- Booted Warbler
- Brooks's Leaf-warbler
- Marshall's Iora
- White-naped Tit
- Green Avadavat
- Grey-necked Bunting
- Asiatic Leopard
- Asiatic Lion
- Wolf

Leader: Nick Bray

## SUMMARY:

This is India as you have never seen it before with some of the finest birding and speciality birds imaginable. We started with leisurely visits to Okhla Bird Sanctuary and Sultanpur where Black-necked Stork, Brooks's Leaf-warbler and Sind Sparrow were found. An overnight train journey then took us to Mount Abu with its Green Avadavats and Indian Scimitar-babbler, and then we travelled across the Little Rann of Kutch searching for a huge list of desert specialities including Macqueen's Bustard, Sykes's Nightjar and Greater Hoopoe Lark. From here a short drive took us to Velavadar where we had 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 Asiatic Lion and Leopard were amongst the highlights. A short visit to Marine National Park near Jamnagar was rewarded with a flock of 900+ Crab Plovers amongst hordes of other waders. Our desert birding was rounded off amidst the surroundings of Bhuj where Cream-coloured and Indian Coursers, White-bellied Minivet, Grey Hypocolius, Rufous-tailed Wheatear, White-naped Tit and Marshall's Iora were all 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.



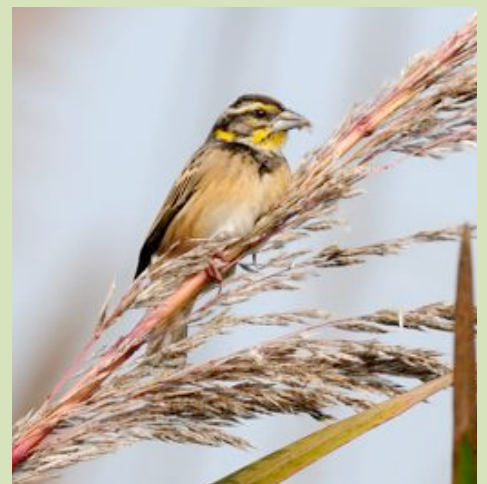
Forest Owlet – Melghat Dec 2011  
Classified as Critically Endangered by BirdLife International, it has a tiny population and is known from only ten locations in Central India. It was rediscovered in 1997 after disappearing for over a century and now there are estimated to be only 100 individuals within its stronghold of Melghat Tiger Reserve. It is well worth the journey!

## *Days 1 - 2 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> November*

Following our overnight flight from London we landed in Delhi just after 5am and were soon heading through the unusually quiet streets to our hotel. We met up with Granville, Paul & Anne who had all ventured to India ahead of the group for some cultural activities, and after breakfast we drove to Okhla Bird Sanctuary where we spent the remainder of the morning. The early morning mist was rapidly clearing and we enjoyed some decent birding in much needed sunshine and got our tour off to a good start. Driving along the entrance road beside the Yamuna River we saw a few **Grey Francolins** run across the road in front of us, several **Painted Storks** flew over and several **Black Kites** were noted. Parking at the end of the road we then walked along a sandy track bordered by scrub and Acacias where both **Ashy** and **Plain Prinias** were numerous, as were **Siberian Chiffchaffs** and **Lesser Whitethroats**, and both **Hume's** and **Greenish Warblers** were calling continuously. Numerous **Red-vented** and smaller numbers of **Red-whiskered Bulbuls** were making a huge commotion in the nearby trees and as we scanned through them a few **Oriental White-eyes** and several **Taiga Flycatchers** appeared. A **Bluethroat** showed really well a little later, a flock of **Yellow-footed Green-pigeons** obliged with nice views and we enjoyed fine views of a superb male **Red Avadavat** in a flock of drabber females and immatures in the tall grassland, along with **Common Rosefinch** and **Indian Baya** and **Black-breasted Weavers**. Out in the river and along the edges we saw **Purple Heron**, **Bar-headed Goose**, numerous common waterfowl, **Indian Spot-billed Duck**, **Purple Swamphen**, **Western Marsh Harrier**, **White-tailed Lapwing**, **Wood** and **Green Sandpipers**, **White-throated Kingfisher**, several **Citrine Wagtails** and a **Long-tailed Shrike**. Returning to the coach a **Shikra** posed nicely for us and our first **Spotted Owlet** was equally obliging, before we finished our session with an **Indian Black Robin** and **Tickell's Leaf-warbler** that Mark found. So we returned to the hotel and had the rest of the afternoon to relax and enjoy a siesta before meeting for dinner at 7pm.

## *Day 3 - Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November*

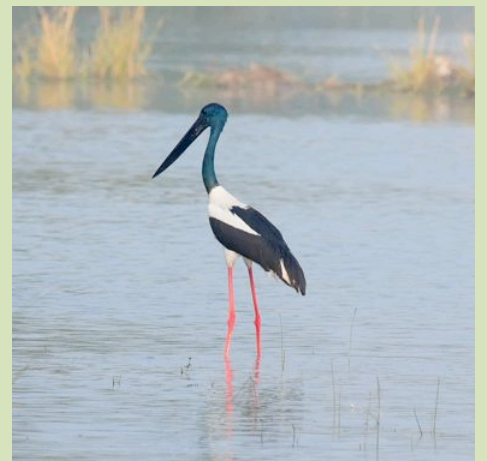
Sultanpur is a terrific wetland area some 50 kms from Delhi and was the focus of our birding this morning prior to catching the afternoon train to Mount Abu. It didn't take us long to track down our first target species when a very obliging **Brooks's Leaf-warbler** gave good views in some close Acacias. The characteristic hovering action first drew our attention to this species, and then the subdued head pattern with a yellowish wash over the face and throat, two wing-bars and pale bill were all noted. Our second target bird wasn't too long in following when a pair of **Sind Sparrows** were noted beside one of the lakes. A relatively recent colonist from Pakistan this species has now



**Black-breasted Weaver at Okhla Bird Sanctuary.**



**Brooks's Leaf-warbler is often hard to track down but this individual was particularly obliging at Sultanpur.**



**This majestic Black-necked Stork showed well at Sultanpur.**

spread into Rajasthan in small numbers and Sultanpur is one of the best places to find it. This pair stayed in the shade of an Acacia but were present for several minutes allowing us to note their small size, the males short black bib and rich chestnut ear-covert border. Plenty of other birds were present on the wetland here with pride of place going to a superb **Black-necked Stork** wading through the shallows. Flocks of **Grey-lag Geese** flew over and there was a continual stream of birds passing by, with numerous **Painted Storks** and **Black-headed Ibis** flying to and from their nests on a tree covered island. Overhead **House Swifts**, **Wire-tailed** and **Red-rumped Swallows** and **Grey-throated Sand-martins** were seen, and a **Eurasian Spoonbill** also passed by. Our raptor list was boosted by both **Booted Eagle** and **Great Spotted Eagle** perched around the lake. Amongst the commoner waterfowl Ben spotted our first **Comb Duck**, and other new birds for the tour were a **Common Hawk-cuckoo** seen on the entrance track, a **Grey Bushchat** was quite a rarity here, **Black-rumped Flameback**, **Common Woodshrike**, **Bay-backed Shrike**, **Indian Golden Oriole**, **Large Grey Babbler** and our first decent view of **Greenish Warbler**. A short drive then took us across some arid fields where we saw **Grey Francolin**, lots of **Eurasian Hoopoes**, **Brown Shrike**, **Indian Bushlark** and **Paddyfield Pipit** before seeing a roosting **Barn Owl** to round off an excellent morning's birding. We then returned to Delhi, stopping for lunch in a restaurant before reaching the railway station where we took the overnight sleeper train to Mount Abu.

#### *Day 4 - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November*

After an early morning arrival at Abu Road station we boarded our excellent coach and set off up the winding road to our hotel high up on Mount Abu. After a minimal breakfast we drove up a little higher to our stake-out for the exceedingly rare **Green Avadavat** only to find many of its favourite feeding bushes had been cut down. But after a little searching we found another good area and sure enough there was a flock of 15+ feeding below a haystack and they fed totally unconcerned to the presence of a very appreciative bunch of birders. In the same area several **Olive-backed** and **Tree Pipits** were seen, along with a fine male **Crested Bunting**, **Coppersmith Barbet**, **Indian Robin**, **Red-breasted Flycatcher**, **White-bellied** and **Ashy Drongos**, flocks of **Chestnut-shouldered Petronias**, **Long-tailed Shrike**, numerous **Black Redstarts** and **Brahminy Starlings**. Walking back towards the coach a large tree seemed to be attracting lots of birds and further examination revealed **White-spotted Fantail**, **Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher**, **Indian Yellow Tit**, **Hume's Warbler**, **Lesser Whitethroat**, **Oriental White-eyes**, and best of all a superb **Sulphur-bellied Warbler**. The latter gave stonking views as it fed nuthatch-like along the boughs allowing us to note all its salient identification features. Driving back to the hotel we had a brief view of a **Red**



Booted Eagle was seen at a number of sites during the tour.



This Indian Bushlark was found near Sultanpur.



Green Avadavat – the main reason for a visit to Mount Abu.



**Spurfowl** as it crossed the road in front of us. After lunch we walked along a quiet forest road in search of **Indian Scimitar-babbler** which turned out to be initially very elusive. In fact the forest was very quiet until the temperature dropped and we began seeing a few goodies such as a mixed flock of **Tawny-bellied Babblers** and **Grey-breasted Prinias**, as well as **Tickell's Blue Flycatcher** and a **Common Iora** nearby. Finally after a couple of hours a pair of endemic **Indian Scimitar-babblers** were lured in for extended views and they obliged us with prolonged looks as they circled us for several minutes before perching out in the open. A **Steppe eagle** also flew over a little later, a pair of **Oriental Turtle Doves** were found by Annette and we finished off with a close perched **Eurasian Wryneck** to round the day off nicely.

### *Day 5 - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December*

Following breakfast we had a short walk along the main road seeing many of the same birds as yesterday, with further good views of **Sulphur-bellied Warbler**, as well as **Brown Rock-chat** and **White-spotted Fantail**, but a flyover **Himalayan Buzzard** was new. Then we spent the rest of the morning on the drive to the Little Rann of Kutch, passing through the arid lowlands of Gujarat to our base for the next two nights, the wonderful Rann Riders. Many birds were seen on the drive but we didn't stop as we wanted to reach our destination in time for lunch – which turned out to be delicious! In the afternoon our converted safari truck took us first of all to a roadside wetland where numerous birds were present. Large flocks of common wildfowl held several **Garganeys** and a couple of **Comb Ducks**, whilst 280 **Eurasian Spoonbills** were counted amongst numerous **Little, Great** and an **Intermediate Egrets**. Small groups of **Glossy Ibis** flew in, whilst a couple of trees were heaving with many young **Painted Storks**. Many waders were present and new for our list were **Spotted Redshank**, **Ruff** and **Marsh Sandpiper** whilst several **River Terns** quartered the marsh, along with a few **Whiskered Terns**. Kerry spotted a few ringtail harriers quartering the grasses in the distance which were probably **Montagu's**, a species we would see again later this evening. Other raptors included a **Greater Spotted Eagle** perched on a small tree out in the marsh, and on the next tree there was our first **Tawny Eagle**. Undoubtedly the star birds here were a family of 4 **Sarus Cranes** striding majestically through the tall grass. We then visited another wetland where the numbers of birds was even more impressive and the open water and marsh was a hive of activity with so much going on it was difficult to know where to look first. All the usual suspects were present but this time there were a few **Common Cranes** flying overhead, flocks of **Little Stints** feeding on the exposed mud, whilst a quiet section held 3 **Temminck's Stints** and a 1<sup>st</sup> year **Citrine Wagtail**, with much closer **Ruff** and **Marsh Sandpipers** than we had previously seen yet and Mark found a



The endemic Indian Scimitar-babbler was seen well at Mount Abu.



Sarus Crane is classified as Vulnerable by BirdLife International.



Several Macqueen's Bustard were present during our safari in the Little Rann of Kutch.

roosting **Gull-billed Tern**. Behind us were some sandy fields and arable crops where **Variable**, **Desert** and **Isabelline Wheatears** were present, along with both **Brown** and **Southern Grey Shrikes** and the first of two **Booted Warbler** sightings from here got our pulses racing even more. A short walk across some fields produced flocks of **Ashy-crowned Sparrow-larks**, several **Crested Larks** and some **Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse**. Just before the light faded too much a group of **Common Babblers** appeared but all too soon we had to leave this wonderful place albeit with happy memories and the cacophony of hundreds of 'marsh' birds going to roost ringing in our ears!

### *Day 6 - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December*

We set off before daybreak into a remote area of the Little Rann of Kutch where the seasonally flooded landscape had dried out sufficiently for us to drive many miles across it in search of some true desert specialities. Amidst this arid landscape were several slightly raised areas of greenery covered in thorn and Acacia scrub, many of which we searched for our first target bird, **Macqueen's Bustard**. After many attempts we finally succeeded in finding a lone individual striding across an area of grassland and we watched in admiration from a distance. A short while later we found a group of five birds feeding beside some **Asiatic Wild Ass** and this time we got out of our safari vehicle and enjoyed decent scope views. Other birds were numerous and none more so than **Desert Wheatear**, but we also saw plenty of **Southern Grey Shrikes** and large flocks of **Greater Short-toed Larks** constantly flying by which probably numbered in the thousands today. A few **Rufous-tailed Shrikes** were also nice, but we kept on driving further into the interior of this vast and seemingly inhospitable landscape. However, birds kept appearing regularly and we then keyed in on another special bird, this time a pair of **Greater Hoopoe Larks** that were reasonably confiding and seemingly at home in a particularly arid area. Other birds present here included **Peregrine Falcon**, a few **Pallid Harriers**, and on one 'island' of greenery several **Short-eared owls** gave particularly good views. Our return journey was enlivened by some **Indian Black Ibis** flying by and a couple of **Rufous-tailed Larks** perched on roadside telegraph wires. In the afternoon we drove back out to similar habitat as this morning, passing though some villages and near one of these a partially dried up pool held a few **Temminck's Stints** which were feeding close to the road. Flocks of **Rosy Starlings** were also present, along with **Bank Myna**, **Montagu's Harrier**, and in one grassy field several **Grey Francolins** fed beside **Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse**, with swirling flocks of **Greater Short-toed Larks** wheeling around and landing briefly in front of us. Upon reaching another wetland Granville quickly spotted a superb **Jungle Cat** striding along on the far side of the lake. Also here was a close **Marsh**



Greater Hoopoe Lark in the Little Rann of Kutch.



Great Black-headed Gull is always a pleasure to see.



Sykes's Nightjar is a little known inhabitant of the desert landscape of the Little Rann of Kutch.



**Sandpiper** as well as lots of other waders, our first **Pallas's Gull**, **Osprey** and **Blyth's Reed Warbler**, as well as **River Terns** and **Citrine Wagtail**. Moving on a pair of **Asian Desert Warblers** showed well before we searched some other areas in vain for any mammals. This was a very good day and at other random stops we also picked up **Black-crowned Night-heron**, lots of **Painted Storks**, some flyover **Common Cranes**, the same family group of **Sarus Cranes** as seen yesterday, **Black-headed Ibis**, **Lesser Whistling-duck**, **Booted Eagle**, **Wire-tailed Swallow**, **White-eared Bulbul**, and both **Variable** and **Isabelline Wheatears** amongst many others. We ended the day with an awesome **Sykes's Nightjar** spotlighted along a dirt track to round off a very good day's birding.

### *Day 7 - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December*

We left the wonderful Rann Riders Lodge and set off towards our next destination at Velavadar National Park. Of course the drive was enlivened by numerous birds spotted from the coach which included **Western Reef-heron**, **Indian Black Ibis**, **Woolly-necked Stork**, **Red Collared-dove**, **Desert Wheatear**, **Southern Grey Shrike**, and flocks of **Brahminy** and **Rosy Starlings** amongst others. Lunch was taken at the hotel before heading to the park, passing a **Terek Sandpiper** in a roadside pool and seeing our first beautiful **Blackbuck** before even entering the main gate. Once the formalities had been taken care of we set off along a dirt track seeing our first **White-eyed Buzzard** and headed to a fine wetland where both **Dalmatian** and **Great White Pelicans** were present. There were also **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos**, **Comb Duck**, and in the waterside vegetation a couple of **Paddyfield Warblers** were present. Other species seen included **Short-toed Eagle**, **Grey Francolin**, **Ashy-crowned Finch-lark**, and we flushed a covey of **Common Quail**. Just as we were about to drive off an **Asiatic Wolf** was spotted and we scoped this impressive beast which was sitting at the water's edge watching the flotillas of wildfowl swim slowly past. Driving on we came across plenty more **Blackbuck** and **Nilgai** giving great photo opportunities, but a rather more demure **Long-billed Pipit** was more to our liking! As the sun slowly set we finished off our birding here from the raised road which dissects the park and saw quite a few **Montagu's** and **Pallid Harriers** flying in to roost, but not in the numbers we had hoped for. Another **Wolf** then strolled along the path below us and crossed the road before disappearing into the other side of the park.

### *Day 8 - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December*

This morning we drove to Gir National Park seeing our closest **Indian Black Ibis** so far and only really taking one short walk during the whole journey to check out a large lake close to the lodge, where **Black Stork** and **Marsh Mugger** were seen. Our



Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse was common in the Little Rann of Kutch.



Asiatic Wolf at Velavadar.



Asiatic Lion at Gir National Park.

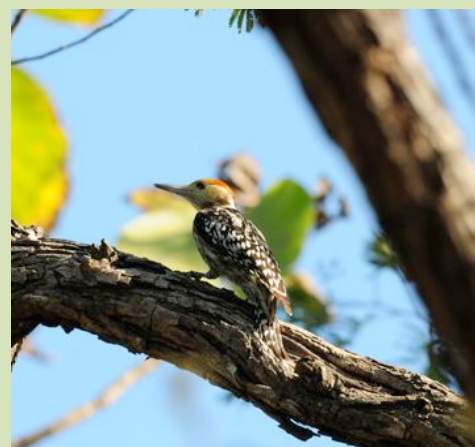
afternoon jeep safari into the national park was a little quiet but we still managed to see **Woolly-necked Stork**, **White-eyed Buzzard**, **White-browed Wagtail**, **Common Woodshrike**, **Small Minivet** and **Crested Serpent-eagle**, but **Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** and **White-browed Fantail** were new additions to our list. Plenty of **Spotted Deer**, a few **Sambar** and **Nilgai** were also present and the only other animal of note was **Common Langur**.

### *Day 9 - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December*

With two jeep safaris into the national park today everyone was feeling optimistic about our chances of finding some new birds and mammals. The latter really stole the show today as we had heard about a pride of **Asiatic Lions** along one of the routes in the park and somehow Ganesh had arranged for our three jeeps to all be allotted that route. So off we went at 6.30am and headed straight for the area the **Lions** had been seen the day before and needless to say there was no sign. But as we continued driving along the dusty forest track we noticed fresh pug marks in the dirt and followed them for several hundred metres. The tracker accompanying us said it was a male and we began to speed up and as we turned a corner came to an abrupt halt as there in front of us were a couple of other jeeps and a fine male **Lion** striding nonchalantly ahead of us. It didn't stop and just kept on going, heading along a track that jeeps were not allowed on and out of sight. We were quite happy with that but it hadn't been a great sighting as the beast kept walking away from us and the rear end isn't the most attractive feature of a big cat! So we continued driving and after another few bumpy kilometres another abrupt stop was warranted as along the track in front of us was a large female **Lioness** walking straight towards us. But then another one appeared, and then a couple of cubs were spotted off to our right. It was the pride we had hoped to see and pretty soon we had eight of these majestic creatures all around us – what an experience! One female slowly sat down just a few metres from our jeep and stared intently at us with piercing pale blue eyes, slowly licking her lips! She remained there for several minutes as another female walked on the other side of the jeep, seemingly oblivious to our presence. A couple of other females then sat on the track behind us and the cubs trotted forward in an attempt to play with the adults and were instantly rebuffed by one female showing her very large teeth at them. And all too soon they began walking away and out of sight. We had another sighting of this group in the late afternoon in a totally different area of the park as they all slept in a grassy area just as the sun began slipping behind the horizon. But that wasn't the only mammal treat of the day, as in the afternoon as we were on the far side of our drive a superb **Leopard** was sighted sat in the leaf litter some 20 metres from the track for one of our jeeps. It just sat there for ten minutes before jumping up and running away from us and deeper into the forest. What a sighting and a



This Leopard was a lucky find at Gir.



Yellow-crowned Woodpecker.



We estimated 900+ Crab Plovers at Marine National Park this year, along with a few Great Knots and plenty of other waders.



supreme privilege to have such a prolonged view of this beautiful predator. Needless to say there were a number of good bird sightings today which included a group of **Indian Black Ibis** on the river near our lodge, **White-eyed Buzzard**, a breeding plumaged **Red-breasted Flycatcher**, as well as plenty of previously seen species. New birds today were **Oriental Honey-buzzard** and **Indian Thick-knee** to keep our lists ticking over nicely.

### *Day 10 - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December*

Our final jeep drive into Gir NP added a few new birds with **Indian Reed-warbler** alongside the big lake, **Crested Treewift**, **Indian Pygmy Woodpecker** and **Thick-billed Flowerpecker**. It turned out to be a successful morning with fine views of **Yellow-crowned Woodpecker**, **Crested Bunting**, a couple bright red **Common Rosefinches**, **Scaly-breasted Munia**, **Black-rumped Flameback**, **Dusky Crag-martin**, **White-browed Wagtail**, **Citrine Wagtail** and a confiding **Greenish Warbler**. The drive from Gir to Jamnagar took just under 5 hours and along the way we saw a few distant vultures that in the heat haze we couldn't identify but were probably **Indian Vultures**, as well as lots of commoner species. Upon arrival in the bustling city of Jamnagar we had some time to rest before meeting for a prolonged dinner and checklist.

### *Day 11 - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December*

We spent the morning at Narara which is part of the fabulous Marine National Park and home to an incredible number of waders. On arrival a flock of **Rosy Starlings** flew into a bush beside the car park and included several nice adults, but of more interest to us was our first **Sykes's Warbler** feeding in a small bush. The same spot also held a **Rufous-tailed Shrike** but we didn't linger as the lure of one of the key targets for the entire tour was calling us. And we didn't have to wait long as a quick scan revealed the first **Crab Plover** feeding along the tideline, an extremely distinctive species albeit a little distant to begin with. With high tide still several hours away we walked out onto the beach and were confronted with masses of waders in all directions, with around a kilometre of exposed sand and mudflats either side of us and the tideline a few hundred metres out we walked on a little further. Our eyes were drawn to the **Crab Plovers** who hugged the water's edge but the multitude of feeding birds was also very enticing and soon scopes were trained in every direction. Flocks of **Bar-tailed Godwits**, **Dunlin** and **Curlew Sandpipers** fed alongside **Whimbrel**, **Ruddy Turnstones**, **Sanderling**, **Grey Plover**, **Common Greenshank** and **Common Redshanks**, all reminding us of home. But there were also numerous **Kentish Plovers** and **Lesser Sandpipers** to sift through and pretty soon we had



Hundreds of Demoiselle Cranes flew right over our coach one evening – a truly memorable experience..



Grey Hypocolius is one of the 'must see' species on this tour. At least 3 individuals were present at Bhuj.



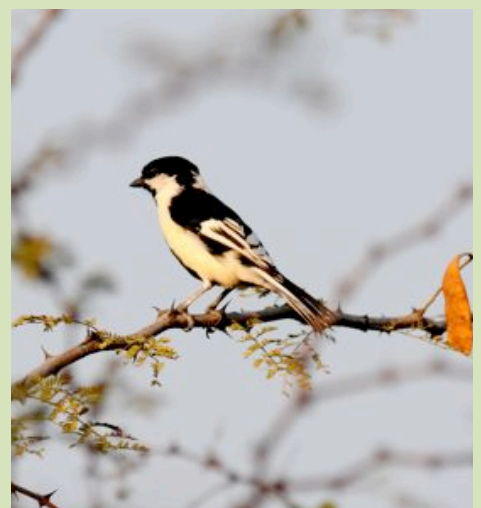
Yellow-wattled Lapwing.



found a few **Greater Sandpipers**, along with lots of **Terek Sandpipers**. Gulls were also notable with **Heuglin's**, **Caspian** and **Steppe** all present, as well as **Caspian**, **Gull-billed** and **Lesser Crested Terns**. And still the lure of closer views of **Crab Plover** were needed so some of the group worked their way around to get a better look at this much-wanted species. With time passing all too quickly we decided to drive back along the entrance road and check out some of the pools, passing **Indian Shag**, and a flock of **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos** as well, and Ben then picked out a few **Great Knots** amidst hordes of other waders settling into their high tide roost. After one final scan we had to tear ourselves away and begin the long drive towards Bhuj. Along the way we were fortunate to witness hundreds of **Demoiselle Cranes** flying low over the road on their way to roost, so we jumped out of the bus and had extraordinary views of these majestic birds – a privilege indeed. We bowled up to the lodge near Nakhatrana later in the evening and settled in for a three night stay.

### *Day 12 - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December*

Driving along a narrow road before dawn this morning produced brief views of **Painted Sandgrouse** and **Indian Little Nightjar** in the headlights of the front vehicle. Pulling into Fulay village it was with huge anticipation that we made our way across the sandy fields to the roosting site of the much-wanted **Grey Hypocolius**. We didn't have to wait long as within a couple of minutes of our arrival a fine male was spotted perched on top of a nearby bush but all too quickly dropped down out of sight. It popped up again a little while later and fed on some fruits for a couple of minutes before flying off and as we scanned some other bushes a male and female were found and just as we scoped them they flew off and away into the distance. Leaving here we headed out into the desert area and promptly came across 5 **Cream-coloured Coursers** in the middle of a rather featureless plain, so we manoeuvred the vehicles to get a better view of these little beauties and watched them for a little while. A short distance away was a rocky area and here we found a **Red-tailed Wheatear** perched up in the morning sun and we were able to watch it at leisure. We enjoyed a nice packed breakfast here with a constant backdrop of calling **Common Cranes**, several thousand of which were present. Mark walked up to some higher ground and spotted a few **White Storks** which were stood beside some bushes. So from here we drove further out into the wilderness and spent quite a while searching unsuccessfully for **Stoliczka's Bushchat**, but encountering numerous **Desert Wheatears** and an **Isabelline Shrike**. After lunch back at the lodge we headed to a different habitat of rocky outcrops and Acacia woodland and quickly found **Sykes's Larks** which gave good views. A short drive found us scanning a woodland where after finding our first **Grey-necked Bunting**, a **White-naped Tit** appeared and proved to be extremely



**White-naped Tit** is an Indian endemic and only found in a few areas of western India.



**Desert Wheatear** is a winter visitor to western India.



**Marshall's Lora** is only found in India and at a couple of sites in Sri Lanka.

obliging. As we soaked up the views of this latest endemic some movement off to our left revealed a **Marshall's Iora** clambering around another Acacia. Phew! Everyone had very good views of all these excellent species but we weren't finished yet and as we checked an area for **Painted Sandgrouse**, an **Eastern Orphee Warbler** was seen, but the call of "**Sirkeer Malkoha**" had most of the group running! Amazingly our run of good luck continued as we were able to scope it from our vantage point when it popped up on top of a tree below us. Once it had done the usual disappearing act into thin air we retraced our steps to the vehicles and returned to the lodge to reflect on another good day choc-full of goodies. As well as all those new, quality ticks we had enjoyed a fine supporting cast including **Rufous-tailed Lark**, **Bluethroat**, **Long-legged Buzzard** and **Pallid Harrier** amongst others.

### *Day 13 - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December*

This morning we set out to the nearby grasslands in search of **Great Indian Bustard**, realising our hopes were rather slim. Upon arrival a few **Black Francolins** were seen, as well as large numbers of **Greater Short-toed Larks** with a few **Bimaculated Larks** mixed in with them. We hadn't really walked very far when Mark exclaimed, "**Great Indian Bustard** flying towards us" and sure enough 4 colossal bustards were indeed heading our way, with slow, lazy wingbeats and we watched in awe as it took a couple of minutes for them to pass us by. With high-fives and smiles all round we returned to our waiting vehicles and much celebration during our 'al fresco' breakfast. There was a lot of activity on the grasslands and we also saw **Indian Bushlark**, **Tawny** and **Paddyfield Pipits**, **Rufous-fronted Prinia** and our only **Sand Martin** of the trip. Leaving here we drove in the direction of the bustards had flown but couldn't relocate them amidst this vast landscape so set about looking for **Indian Courser** without any joy, although found a close **Long-legged Buzzard** and a pair of **Indian Stone-curlews** standing in the shade of a roadside bush. At a dried-out river bed we scoped a **Rock eagle-owl** at its daytime roost, and at the same site six **Booted Eagles** soared low over our heads and a few of them dive bombed a **Short-toed Snake-eagle** which was perched on top of the low cliff. After lunch we drove to a new area and along the way Ganesh spotted some movement beside the road and we screeched to a halt and reversed slowly and sure enough in the shade of a large Acacia were at least 4 **Barred Buttonquails**. They gave quite a show as they fed and chased each other repeatedly just a few metres away from our vehicles. Moving on we got really lucky when Ben spotted a pair of **White-bellied Minivets** feeding low down around some acacias. We scrambled to get our scopes on them and were treated to a fine display as they flitted around the bushes and occasionally perched up in full view for us to admire their finery. These birds didn't wait around though and after moving around to get a little closer they flew off



A covey of Barred Buttonquails gave crippling views beside the road near Bhuj.



Sykes's Lark is another Indian endemic seen well on our tour.



Bank Myna is endemic to the Indian Subcontinent.



high over a small hill and that was it. So we ended the day in a rocky scrub-covered area where we found a **Barn Owl** roosting in a hole in a cliff face, lots of **Little Green Bee-eaters** came in to roost creating a cacophony of sound, several **Grey-necked Buntings** were present, **House Swifts** flew low overhead, and finally an **Indian Little Nightjar** gave a grandstand performance as it repeatedly flew around us to end a successful days birding.

### *Day 14 - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December*

Our last morning in Bhuj was initially spent checking out an area of thorn scrub where a few of the group had flight views of **Painted Sandgrouse**, as well as plenty of previously seen species such as **Hume's Warbler** and **Marshall's Iora**. Then we slowly drove back to the lodge, scanning the roadside fields and were eventually rewarded for our perseverance with 12 **Indian Coursers** in one field. After watching them for a while we headed back and had breakfast before driving into Bhuj and our flight to Mumbai where we spent the night.

### *Day 15 - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December*

An early flight saw us arrive in Nagpur in the central Indian state of Maharashtra by 8.45am and after a little delay in sorting out our transport we headed out of the city and on to our destination of Melghat Tiger Reserve. Arriving in the late afternoon gave us just a little time to notch up a few new birds for the trip - **Bonelli's Eagle**, **Jungle Owlet**, **Alexandrine Parakeet**, **Verditer Flycatcher** and **Northern House-martin**. A few **Grey Tits** and **Tawny-bellied Babblers** also gave nice views as well before we returned to the hotel in time for dinner and some strong beer.

### *Day 16 - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

We left early and headed further into the park, driving for about an hour and a half before reaching the site for **Forest Owlet**. Within a couple of minutes we had one set up in the scope and then spent the next hour admiring this extremely range-restricted, endemic, near-mythical and much sought-after species! In perfect sunlight this individual was sat in a tall leafless tree and seemed totally unconcerned by our presence and we simply soaked up the views. A small flock of birds then came into the same tree and we saw **Indian Nuthatch**, 3 **Indian Pygmy Woodpeckers** and a **Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** all in quick succession. Another owlet was then spotted nearby and was perched much lower allowing even better views. With our appreciative audience fully satisfied we then set about notching up more new birds for our lists, beginning with a pair of **Yellow-eyed Babblers** sat on a fence at the edge of a small field and a



Forest Owlet showed very well at Melghat. Always a real privilege to be able to watch such a rare bird.



Long-legged Buzzard.



Yellow-footed Green-pigeon.

large flock of **Alpine Swifts** flying overhead. A **White-eyed Buzzard** perched nearby wasn't new but still good and then we drove to another site along the road where we birded in the shade of some particularly tall trees. Here we had an assortment of interesting species including such delights as **Indian Grey Hornbill**, **Large Cuckooshrike**, **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo**, **Ashy Woodswallow**, **Crested Treeswift**, **Puff-throated Babbler**, **Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** and **Sulphur-bellied Warbler**, along with better views of **Indian Nuthatch**. Moving on, a **Black-hooded Oriole** was spotted by Annette and a **Brown-headed Barbet** called from a large tree. After a packed lunch and our only **Golden-fronted Leafbird** of the trip, we birded along the main road and amongst a lot of activity despite the early afternoon heat found a superb **Ultramarine Flycatcher** high up in the canopy. Nice views of **Greenish Warbler** followed before a pair of **White-naped Woodpeckers** appeared in a dead tree nearby and a **Little Pied Flycatcher** showed for some of the group. We then spent the latter part of the afternoon trying in vain for a **Malabar Whistling-thrush** that had been seen by the front vehicle on the drive in this morning before returning early to the hotel and some more nice cold beers!

### *Day 17 - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

With a couple of hours birding available this morning we drove along the road to a nearby viewpoint giving us a wonderful view of the forest below. Not much was seen apart from a flock of **Alpine Swifts** overhead and a troop of **Rhesus Macaques**, but we heard a **Malabar Whistling-thrush** singing its distinctive whistling song from far below, as well as a calling **Red Spurfowl**. With not much else happening we drove down into another section of forest and added **Grey-cheeked Fulvetta**, **Long-tailed Minivet** and **Pale-billed Flowerpecker** to our lists. Quite a few previously seen species were seen as well before we had to leave and return to the lodge for breakfast before loading the luggage into the vehicles and driving back to Nagpur. After a late lunch we headed to the airport and flew to Delhi where we spent a short night before flying back to the UK the following morning and the conclusion of another wonderful Indian adventure.

Nick Bray



**White-eared Bulbul .**



**Indian Grey Hornbill at Melghat.**



**Tickell's Blue Flycatcher.**



# BIRDLIST FOR INDIA - GUJARAT & FOREST OWLET TOUR 2011

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

37.	Gadwall		<i>Anas strepera</i>
38.	Eurasian Wigeon		<i>Anas penelope</i>
39.	Northern Shoveler		<i>Anas clypeata</i>
40.	Northern Pintail		<i>Anas acuta</i>
41.	Indian Spot-billed Duck		<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
42.	Mallard		<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
43.	Tufted Duck		<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
44.	Common Pochard		<i>Aythya ferina</i>
45.	Black-winged Kite		<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
46.	Brahminy Kite		<i>Haliastur indus</i>
47.	Black Kite		<i>Milvus migrans</i>
48.	Black-eared Kite		<i>Milvus lineatus</i>
49.	Shikra		<i>Accipiter badius</i>
50.	Long-legged Buzzard		<i>Buteo rufinus</i>
51.	Oriental Honey-buzzard		<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>
52.	White-eyed Buzzard		<i>Butastur teesa</i>
53.	Himalayan Buzzard		<i>Buteo burmanicus</i>
54.	Crested Serpent-eagle		<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
55.	Short-toed Eagle		<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>
56.	Booted Eagle		<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
57.	Bonelli's Eagle		<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>
58.	Crested Hawk-eagle	e	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>
59.	Greater Spotted Eagle		<i>Aquila clanga</i>
60.	Steppe Eagle		<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>
61.	Tawny Eagle		<i>Aquila rapax</i>
62.	Osprey		<i>Pandion heliaetus</i>
63.	Montagu's Harrier		<i>Circus pygargus</i>
64.	Pallid Harrier		<i>Circus macrourus</i>
65.	Western Marsh Harrier		<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
66.	Common Kestrel		<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
67.	Peregrine Falcon		<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
68.	Grey Francolin		<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>
69.	Black Francolin		<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>
70.	Common Quail		<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
71.	Barred Buttonquail		<i>Turnix suscitator</i>
72.	<b>Red Spurfowl</b>	E	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>
73.	Indian Peafowl	e	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
74.	Common Crane		<i>Grus grus</i>
75.	Demoiselle Crane		<i>Grus virgo</i>
76.	Sarus Crane		<i>Grus antigone</i>
77.	MacQueen's Bustard		<i>Chlamydotis macqueeni</i>
78.	Great Indian Bustard	e	<i>Ardeotis nigriceps</i>
79.	White-breasted Waterhen		<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
80.	Purple Swampphen		<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
81.	Common Moorhen		<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
82.	Eurasian Coot		<i>Fulica atra</i>
83.	Crab Plover		<i>Dromas ardeola</i>
84.	Pied Avocet		<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
85.	Black-winged Stilt		<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>



86.	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
87.	Cream-coloured Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>
88.	Indian Courser	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>
89.	Indian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>
90.	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
91.	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malarbaricus</i>
92.	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>
93.	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
94.	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>
95.	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>
96.	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
97.	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
98.	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
99.	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
100.	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
101.	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
102.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
103.	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>
104.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
105.	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
106.	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
107.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
108.	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
109.	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>
110.	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
111.	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
112.	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
113.	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>
114.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
115.	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
116.	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>
117.	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
118.	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
119.	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
120.	Heuglin's Gull	<i>Larus heuglini</i>
121.	Steppe Gull	<i>Larus h. barabensis</i>
122.	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>
123.	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>
124.	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Larus genei</i>
125.	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>
126.	Common Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
127.	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
128.	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
129.	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Sterna bengalensis</i>
130.	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
131.	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
132.	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>
133.	Painted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>
134.	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>

135.	Oriental Turtle-dove		<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
136.	Laughing Dove		<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
137.	Red Collared-dove		<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
138.	Spotted Dove		<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
139.	Eurasian Collared-dove		<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
140.	Yellow-footed Green-pigeon		<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
141.	Plum-headed Parakeet	e	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
142.	Rose-ringed Parakeet		<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
143.	Alexandrine Parakeet		<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
144.	Asian Koel		<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>
145.	Common Hawk-cuckoo	e	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
146.	Sirkeer Malkoha	e	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>
147.	Greater Coucal		<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
148.	Common Barn Owl		<i>Tyto alba</i>
149.	<b>Rock Eagle-owl</b>	E	<i>Bubo bengalensis</i>
150.	Short-eared Owl		<i>Asio flammeus</i>
151.	Spotted Owlet		<i>Athene brama</i>
152.	<b>Forest Owlet</b>	E	<i>Heteroglaux blewitti</i>
153.	Jungle Owlet	e	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
154.	Sykes's Nightjar	e	<i>Caprimulgus mahrattensis</i>
155.	Indian Little Nightjar		<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>
156.	Crested Treeswift		<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>
157.	House Swift		<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
158.	Alpine Swift		<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>
159.	Indian Roller		<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
160.	Common Hoopoe		<i>Upupa epops</i>
161.	White-throated Kingfisher		<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
162.	Lesser Pied Kingfisher		<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
163.	Common Kingfisher		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
164.	Little Green Bee-eater		<i>Merops orientalis</i>
165.	Indian Grey Hornbill	e	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>
166.	Coppersmith Barbet		<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>
167.	Brown-headed Barbet	e	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>
168.	Eurasian Wryneck		<i>Jynx torquilla</i>
169.	Indian Pygmy Woodpecker	e	<i>Dendrocopus nanus</i>
170.	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker		<i>Dendrocopus mahrattensis</i>
171.	Black-rumped Flameback	e	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
172.	White-naped Woodpecker	e	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>
173.	Indian Bushlark	e	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>
174.	Oriental Skylark		<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
175.	Crested Lark		<i>Galerida cristata</i>
176.	<b>Sykes's Lark</b>	E	<i>Galerida deva</i>
177.	Ashy-crowned Finch-lark	e	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>
178.	Bimaculated Lark		<i>Melanocorypha bimaculata</i>
179.	Greater Hoopoe Lark		<i>Alaemon alaudipes</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.	Northern House Martin		<i>Delichon urbica</i>
186.	Barn Swallow		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
187.	Red-rumped Swallow		<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
188.	Wire-tailed Swallow		<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
189.	Grey-headed Yellow Wagtail		<i>Motacilla flava thunbergi</i>
190.	Grey Wagtail		<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
191.	Citrine Wagtail		<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
192.	White Wagtail		<i>Motacilla alba dukhunensis</i>
193.	Masked Wagtail		<i>Motacilla personata</i>
194.	White-browed Wagtail		<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>
195.	Olive-backed Pipit		<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
196.	Tree Pipit		<i>Anthus trivialis</i>
197.	Paddyfield Pipit		<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
198.	Tawny Pipit		<i>Anthus campestris</i>
199.	Long-billed Pipit		<i>Anthus similis</i>
200.	Ashy Woodswallow		<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
201.	Common Woodshrike		<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>
202.	Large Woodshrike		<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>
203.	Large Cuckooshrike		<i>Coracina macei</i>
204.	Long-tailed Minivet		<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
205.	<b>White-bellied Minivet</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Pericrocotus erythropygius</i>
206.	Small Minivet		<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>
207.	Red-vented Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
208.	Red-whiskered Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
209.	White-eared Bulbul		<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>
210.	Common Iora		<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
211.	Marshall's Iora	<b>e</b>	<i>Aegithina nigrolutea</i>
212.	Golden-fronted Leafbird		<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>
213.	Long-tailed Shrike		<i>Lanius schach erythronotus</i>
214.	Southern Grey Shrike		<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>
215.	Brown Shrike		<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
216.	Rufous-tailed (Xinjiang) Shrike		<i>Lanius isabellinus arenarius</i>
217.	Bay-backed Shrike		<i>Lanius vittatus</i>
218.	Grey Hypocolius		<i>Hypocolius ampelinus</i>
219.	Asian Paradise-flycatcher		<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
220.	White-browed Fantail		<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>
221.	<b>White-spotted Fantail</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Rhipidura albogularis</i>
222.	Blue Rock Thrush		<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
223.	<b>Malabar Whistling-thrush</b>	<b>E</b>	<i>Myophonus horsfieldii</i>
224.	Bluethroat		<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
225.	Oriental Magpie Robin		<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
226.	Indian Black Robin	<b>e</b>	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>
227.	Brown Rock-chat		<i>Cercomela fusca</i>
228.	Black Redstart		<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
229.	Isabelline Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
230.	Desert Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>
231.	Variable Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe picata</i>
232.	Red-tailed Wheatear		<i>Oenanthe xanthopyrna</i>



233.	Pied Bushchat		<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
234.	Siberian Stonechat		<i>Saxicola maura</i>
235.	Grey Bushchat		<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>
236.	Ultramarine Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>
237.	Little Pied Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>
238.	Red-breasted Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula parva</i>
239.	Red-throated Flycatcher		<i>Ficedula parva</i>
240.	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher		<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>
241.	Verditer Flycatcher		<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>
242.	Yellow-eyed Babbler		<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>
243.	Tawny-bellied Babbler	e	<i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>
244.	Common Babbler	e	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>
245.	Large Grey Babbler	e	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>
246.	Jungle Babbler		<i>Turdoides striatus</i>
247.	<b>Indian Scimitar-babbler</b>	E	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>
248.	Brown-cheeked Fulvetta		<i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>
249.	Puff-throated Babbler		<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>
250.	Zitting Cisticola		<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
251.	Striated Grassbird	(H)	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>
252.	Ashy Prinia	e	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
253.	Grey-breasted Prinia		<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
254.	Plain Prinia		<i>Prinia inornata</i>
255.	Rufous-fronted Prinia	e	<i>Prinia buchanani</i>
256.	Yellow-bellied Prinia		<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
257.	Indian Reed-warbler		<i>Acrocephalus brunnescens</i>
258.	Blyth's Reed-warbler		<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>
259.	Paddyfield Warbler		<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>
260.	Booted Warbler		<i>Hippolais caligata</i>
261.	Sykes's Warbler		<i>Hippolais rama</i>
262.	Common Tailorbird		<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
263.	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher		<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
264.	Siberian Chiffchaff		<i>Phylloscopus tristis</i>
265.	Sulphur-bellied Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>
266.	Tickell's Leaf-warbler		<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>
267.	Greenish Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
268.	Hume's Warbler		<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
269.	Brooks's Leaf-warbler		<i>Phylloscopus subviridis</i>
270.	Eastern Orphean Warbler		<i>Sylvia crasirostris</i>
271.	Asian Desert Warbler		<i>Sylvia nana</i>
272.	Lesser Whitethroat		<i>Sylvia curruca halimodendri</i>
273.	<b>White-naped Tit</b>	E	<i>Parus nuchalis</i>
274.	Grey Tit		<i>Parus nipalensis</i>
275.	<b>Indian Yellow Tit</b>	E	<i>Parus aplonotus</i>
276.	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch		<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
277.	<b>Indian Nuthatch</b>	E	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
278.	Pale-billed Flowerpecker	e	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>
279.	Thick-billed Flowerpecker		<i>Dicaeum agile</i>
280.	Oriental White-eye		<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
281.	Purple Sunbird		<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>

282.	Crested Bunting	<i>Melophus lathamii</i>
283.	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>
284.	Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>
285.	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
286.	<b>Green Avadavat</b>	<b>E</b> <i>Amandava formosa</i>
287.	Indian Silverbill	<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>
288.	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
289.	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
290.	Sind Sparrow	<i>Passer pyrrhonotus</i>
291.	Yellow-throated Sparrow	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>
292.	Indian Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus p. philippinus</i>
293.	Black-breasted Weaver	<b>e</b> <i>Ploceus benghalensis</i>
294.	Indian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>
295.	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
296.	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
297.	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
298.	White-bellied Drongo	<b>e</b> <i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
299.	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
300.	Brahminy Starling	<b>e</b> <i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>
301.	Rosy Starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>
302.	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>
303.	Bank Myna	<b>e</b> <i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>
304.	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
305.	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
306.	Indian Jungle Crow	<b>e</b> <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
307.	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.	Bengal (Indian) Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>
7.	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>
8.	Grey Wolf	<i>Canis lupus</i>
9.	Common Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>
10.	Small Indian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes javanicus</i>
11.	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>
12.	Greater Short-nosed Fruit Bat	<i>Cynopterus sphinx</i>
13.	Grey (Hanuman) Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>
14.	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
15.	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>
16.	Chital (Spotted Deer)	<i>Cervus axis</i>
17.	Indian Gazelle (Chinkara)	<i>Gazella bennettii</i>
18.	Blackbuck	<i>Antelope cervicapra</i>
19.	Nilgai (Blue Bull)	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>
20.	Onager (Indian Wild Ass)	<i>Equus onager</i>

22.	House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
23.	Indian Social Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>
24.	Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>