

# LOWLAND NEPAL 2009

## Day 1 Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November

After an uneventful but thoroughly professional service with Qatar Airways we arrived in Kathmandu at around 5pm and met our ground co-ordinator Badri. A short drive through the chaotic traffic brought us to our hotel in the Thamel District and after some time to freshen up, we visited Kilroys for our first evening meal together.

## Day 2 Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December

As ever the first morning's birding in a new country is always eagerly anticipated and today proved no exception. Over a buffet breakfast at 5.30am we discussed the day's possibilities and targets with our guide and good friend Tika before driving in a convoy of 3 Landcruisers to Phulchowki. Our plan was to drive straight to the summit but needless to say birds got in the way! In fact we didn't make it a kilometre of the way from the main road before a flock of **Red-billed Blue Magpies** prompted a mass exodus from our vehicles. Several birds were present in this area including our only **Large-billed Crows** of the tour, as well as **Spangled Drongo**, **Grey-winged Blackbird**, **Long-tailed Minivet**, **Lemon-rumped Warbler**, **Black-lored Tit**, **Oriental White-eye** and a flock of **Himalayan Black Bulbuls**.



A little further up the road but still at the base of the mountain, a **Chestnut-headed Tesia** was heard as we drove by. We didn't connect with this one, but after several attempts with different individuals in the same vicinity at least a few people caught a glimpse. Also here was a flock of **Black-throated Tits**, several **Green-backed Tits**, **Lemon-rumped Warbler**, a brief **Black-chinned Babbler**, **Blue Whistling-thrush**, **Red-billed Leiothrix**, a flock of **Nepal Fulvettas**, **Grey-hooded Warbler** and a **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler** for Geoff P and Tika.

Driving up the deteriorating road, a **Kalij Pheasant** ran across the road before we stopped next for a few **Yellow-browed Tits** amongst an assortment of other tits, **Striated Laughingthrush** and **Great Barbet**. At the next corner we had **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker**, **Blue-winged Minla**, **Golden Bush-robins**, **Maroon Oriole**, the first of many **Buff-barred Warblers** to be seen today and a delightful flock of **Black-faced Warblers**. Walking up from here we had a flock of 15+ **Black-headed Jays** moving across the hillside above us with a couple of **Eurasian Jays** and 2 **Greater Yellownapes**.

So by late morning we made it to the top of the forested mountain and parked just above the small pool before having our packed lunch. There are several species you only find at this altitude and we did very well to find a **Brown-fronted Woodpecker** perched on top of a dead tree. Other important species up here were **Stripe-throated** and **Rufous-vented Yuhinas**, **Rufous-winged Fulvettas** were common and a pair of **White-browed Fulvettas** showed well to some of us. However, with many of the trees heavily laden with fruit it was the numerous flocks of **White-collared Blackbirds** that provided the biggest spectacle. Smaller numbers of **Grey-winged Blackbirds** were present, but best of all were at

least 2 **Chestnut Thrushes** present and we even had all 3 species present in the same scope view at one point!

By slowly walking down we notched up several other new birds for the trip, with **Rufous Sibia** being the dominant species, although **Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush** was quite common around the pool. A fine and very inquisitive **Green Shrike-babbler** put in an appearance, we counted 30+ **Great Barbets** attracted to all the fruits, a few delightful **Chestnut-tailed Minlas**, 3 **Steppe Eagles** soared low overhead and a fine male **Kalij Pheasant** feeding on a bend in the road completed the picture for today.



We celebrated a good days birding back at Kilroys with some of the local Everest beer.

### Day 3 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Once our luggage had been loaded onto our coach we drove out of Kathmandu and the road followed the Trisuli River between tall hills on either side. **Black Kite**, **Oriental Turtle Dove**, **Jungle Myna**, **Eastern Cattle Egret** and several **Long-tailed Shrikes** were seen from the vehicle. Our first walk



when the road came very close to the river gave us good views of **Brown Dipper**, **Plumbeous Water Redstart**, **Rufous Treepie**, **Long-tailed Minivet**, and brief **Rufous-bellied Niltava** and **Crested Bunting**. The first of two **Little Forktails** to be seen today was much appreciated as it perched on a rock in the the fast-flowing river, whilst overhead a flock of **Nepal House Martins** congregated over the hillside behind us. Our next stop began with a **Sirkeer Malkoha** flying

across the river, our second **Little Forktail** in a small side-stream was almost immediately overlooked when a delightful **Black-backed Forktail** appeared. There were more dippers at this spot, along with great views of **White-capped Water Redstart** as well.

But the highlight of the day and the undoubted bird of the trip was yet to come. Within a few minutes of leaving the vehicle at our next site, we were scoping a distant **Ibisbill** nestled between the grey boulders beside a particularly turbulent stretch of water. However things got much better when Geoff P spotted another **Ibisbill** feeding right below our vantage point – unbelievable. As we watched this amazing bird another 2 flew in and joined it feeding in the shallows. We had such fantastic views and wer enjoying these much-wanted birds so much that we ended up staying much too long but the day was warming up nicely and we were also finding other birds. A female **Hodgson's Redstart** was very confiding and a pair of **Red-headed Vultures** also put on a great show as they flew around us before

one landed on a carcass mid-stream. There was also **Pied** and **White-throated Kingfishers**, **Grey-throated Sand-martin**, **Himalayan Bulbul**, **Crested Goshawk**, **White-browed Wagtail** and **Grey-breasted Prinia**. But eventually we had to leave and drove down to a roadside restaurant where we had our picnic lunch and some much needed cold drinks. A **Hume's Warbler** showed well in the surrounding trees before we left on our final birding mission of the day. And it didn't take too long before we found a pair of **Wallcreepers** a few miles downriver at a traditional site, with one bird in particular showing very well for over half an hour. The remainder of our journey to Chitwan was spent eating up the miles, with only a **Woolly-necked Stork** somehow spotted by Tika of note.

It was late afternoon by the time we rolled in to the parking area of Machan Paradise View Lodge but this gave us just enough time to scan the grassland and marsh from the viewing area. The light was stunningly clear as the sun began dipping down behind the distant trees and in a short space of time, and over a nice cup of tea and biscuits, we saw **Indian Peafowl**, **Lesser Adjutant**, **Brown Crake**, **Bronze-winged Jacana**, **Eurasian Wryneck**, **Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker**, **White-tailed Rubythroat**, **Siberian Stonechat**, **Verditer Flycatcher** and **Plain Prinia**.

Just before dinner we managed to spotlight a **Jungle Owlet** and ended the day with an excellent meal and a few drinks around the bonfire. Simply perfect!

#### **Day 4 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**

After a 6am breakfast we drove the short distance to the bridge over the Trisuli River and walked across in the thick mist, struggling to see any birds at all. Then we boarded our two jeeps and drove into the Sal forest of Chitwan National Park and it was frustrating to begin with due to the mist, but we managed to dig out **Grey-crowned Prinia**, **Grey Tit**, **Jungle Babbler**, and best of all, a spectacular **Blue-eared Kingfisher** at a small lake. We made several attempts at **White-tailed Rubythroat** throughout the morning, with only a single male found amongst the 3 or 4 females seen. It's always an enjoyable experience driving around these parks in jeeps, stopping to view game of when any birds



appear and we soon began racking up an impressive list with **Common Woodshrike**, **Scarlet Minivet**, **White-rumped Shama** and a perched **Changeable Hawk-eagle**.

As we were just about to leave the forest for the extensive grassland we came across a huge flock that was slowly making its way out into the grassland to feed. A couple of **Puff-throated Babblers** were very confident, both **Chestnut-capped** and **Yellow-eyed Babblers** were also seen, and there was also **Striped Tit-babbler**, **Lesser Yellownappe**, **Himalayan Flameback**, both **Grey-capped Pygmy**

and **Fulvous-breasted Woodpeckers**, **Common Iora**, **White-bellied Drongo**, **Velvet-fronted Nuthatch**, **Black-hooded Oriole**, and a brief **Grey-sided Bush-warbler**.

Out in the grasslands the weather began to clear by mid-morning and we found more **Yellow-eyed** and then a group of much scarcer **Slender-billed Babblers**, as well as **Lineated Barbet**, flocks of **Plum-headed** and some **Alexandrine Parakeets**, **Red-whiskered Bulbul**, **Lesser Coucal**, our first **Rhino**, **Grey-fronted Green-pigeon**, **Velvet-fronted** and **Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches** and **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo**.



Just then we heard the alarm calls of **Spotted Deer** and drove quickly to the vicinity but everything went quiet, but by now we were close to the river so waded across and walked around the Tiger Tops area. It didn't take us long to find a noisy flock of 30+ **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes** and there were also a couple of spectacular **Common Green Magpies** tagging along as well. Walking on there was a **Green-billed Malkoha**, **Western Crowned**, **Greenish**, **Hume's** and **Chestnut-crowned Warblers**, **Grey-headed**

**Canary-flycatcher**, leader only **Black-chinned** and **Grey-throated Babblers**, 2 flyover **Himalayan Griffon Vultures**, **Black-backed Forktail**, male **Crimson Sunbird**, and finally after a couple hours searching a fine male **Red-headed Trogon** and later a **White-tailed Robin**.

After lunch and a **Pied Kingfisher**, **White-browed** and *alboides* race **White Wagtail** we drove down to the river again and scanned, seeing **Ruddy Shelduck**, **Red-naped Ibis**, **Little Ringed Plover**, **Temminck's Stint**, **Green Sandpiper** and **Asian Openbill**. Driving back we had **Streak-throated Woodpecker**, a mother and calf **Rhino**, **Red Junglefowl**, **Indian Peafowl** and **Yellow-footed Green-pigeon**. Mammal highlights not already mentioned included **Spotted**, **Barking** and **Sambar Deers**, and **Rhesus Macaque** and **Common Langur**.

### Day 5 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December

A later breakfast was a real luxury this morning, but with the mist very thick there was no point in going out too early. As it happened our walk around the lodge turned out to be very profitable with a **Jungle Owlet** scoped in the gardens before we walked out to view the grassland and marsh before following the trail beside the road. A large flock held **Whistler's Warbler** and **Pale-chinned Flycatcher**, both star birds. The flock remained very close to us and we had decent views of **Hume's** and **Greenish Warblers**, **Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch**, **Striped Tit-babbler**, and both **Fulvous-breasted** and **Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers**. Out in the grass a group of 3 **Chestnut-capped Babblers** gave repeated views, there was a **Brown Crake** in the creek, as well as **Large Cuckooshrike**, **Common Tailorbird**, brief **Blyth's Reed-warbler** and an obliging **Taiga Flycatcher**.

At 10am we boarded our **Elephants** and headed out for a very enjoyable couple of hours ride into the Sal forest and grassland. The main focus on this excursion is on seeing mammals, which were in short supply but we'd already seen **Rhino** so settled back and enjoyed a few good birds such as **White-rumped Shama**, brief **Paddyfield Pipit** and **Black-rumped Flameback**, as well as many commoner species.

John stayed behind at the lodge and enjoyed fine views of a **Collared Falconet** perched in the gardens of the lodge and a **Blyth's Reed-warbler** as well, whilst an adult **Black-crowned Night-heron** posed nicely in the gardens for us all.

After lunch we drove back to the Rapti River where **Little, Eastern Cattle, Great and Intermediate Egrets** fished in the shallows all together allowing an excellent comparison. There was also **Ruddy Shelduck**, a single **Bar-headed Goose**, a flock of **Common Greenshank** held 4 **Common Redshank**,



**Little Ringed Plover, Gadwall** and 2 **Woolly-necked Storks**. Then we boarded a couple dugout **canoes** and spent a leisurely half an hour sailing downriver where the highlights were a distant **Blue-bearded Bee-eater** and **Collared**

**Falconet** in a large dead tree before landing and scanning a small marsh. Here a couple of **Small Pratincoles** were scoped, along with **Kentish Plover, Temminck's Stint, Green Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover, Citrine Wagtail, Sand Lark, Bluethroat, White-tailed Stonechat** and **Striated Babblers**. Jeff then spotted a huge gathering of **Small Pratincoles** feeding further downriver and we enjoyed watching them through the scopes. From here we walked back to the lodge through a small village and across the fields seeing **Indian Roller, Himalayan Buzzard, Pied Bushchat**, many **Long-tailed Shrikes, Marsh Mugger** and a **Spotted Owlet**.

### Day 6 Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Our last full day in Chitwan (or so we thought) began with a **Paddyfield Pipit** in a roadside field, followed by a few of the commoner birds as we walked across the bridge over the Rapti River and in to



the National Park. A **Crested Serpent-eagle** posed nicely in a trackside tree just inside the entrance, and we set off deep into the park seeing all the usual birds as well as **Grey-headed Woodpecker, Brown Fish-owl, Alexandrine** and **Plum-headed Parakeets, Blyth's Leaf-warbler, Red-headed Trogon** much to Geoff W's delight, **Black-crested** and **Himalayan Bulbul, Streaked Spiderhunter, Spangled, Bronzed, Ashy** and **Greater Racket-tailed Drongos** in a flock and a **White-rumped Shama**.

After a nice picnic lunch we began slowly driving back, getting much better views of the trogon and a **Green-billed Malkoha** put in an appearance right next to it. We took a different track on our return journey, which bordered an oxbow lake where we hoped to see **Grey-headed Fish-eagle**. Unfortunately there was no sign in its favourite tree so we decided to hang around and see what happens, which turned out to be a good move as a **Collared Falconet** flew into the tree right next to us and gave outstanding views for everyone. We also had **Greater** and **Himalayan Flameback**, **Stork-billed Kingfisher** and **Pied Flycatcher-shrike** as well, before the fish-eagle flew over and landed in its tree. Then we drove to another oxbow lake where we had nice close flight views of a **Blue-bearded Bee-eater**, a few **Himalayan Parakeets**, **Indian Baya Weaver**, and a large gathering of **Red-vented** and **Red-whiskered Bulbuls**.



### Day 7 Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December

With a last minute nationwide strike called by the Maoists we found ourselves heading back into Chitwan NP rather than driving to Koshi Tappu this morning. C'est la vie! So we drove deep into the park and came across a big flock of **Greater** and **Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrushes** feeding beside the track. So we took the opportunity to get good views of both species, which took quite a while as they were very shy but eventually everyone was happy and we also had another **Common Green Magpie** as well. A short while later a large, mixed flock of passerines came quite close to the track with **White-bellied Yuhina** being the pick of a good bunch of commoner species. Another big flock a short while later gave us much better views of **Blyth's Leaf-warbler**, as well as **Chestnut-crowned Warbler**, several **Striped Tit-babblers**, **Blue-throated Barbet** and another **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo**.

Our long walk was enlivened even further when a **Tiger** began roaring from the forest ahead and numerous fresh pug marks could be seen on the sandy track, so we kept close to the Jeeps after that!

After lunch a pair of **Great Pied Hornbills** flew low over the treetops and the sound of their wings was incredible! Leaving here we drove to an area which produced a calling **Pale-footed Bush-warbler** and great views of a male **White-tailed Rubythroat** before we left the park and headed back to the lodge a little earlier than usual. Along the way, most of the group took the opportunity to walk through the villages and across the fields on their way back.

### Day 8 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

4am is never a good time to start the day, but that's what time we set out on the long drive to Koshi Tappu this morning. It took nearly an hour to get out onto the main road due to the poor visibility but we eventually made it and we were soon making good time. Our route took us across the Terai, the lowlands of southern Nepal, passing through numerous small villages and by the time we crossed the Churia Hills the light was good enough to see the surrounding countryside. A pair of **Oriental Pied Hornbills** were the cause of our first stop, as Tika spotted them perched in a dead tree not far from the road. The rest of the drive was spent dosing or watching the world go by, along with the typical lowland Nepalese birds as we crossed the fertile plain covered in arable fields.

About 20kms from Koshi Barrage we stopped when an **Indian Spotted Eagle** and a female **Pied Harrier** flew over the road, then a group of **Himalayan Griffon Vultures** flew over with a **Long-legged Buzzard**. The wetlands held a rare **Glossy Ibis**, **Grey-headed (Purple) Swamphen**, a few **Pintail** and a couple of **Pintail Snipe** were flushed by a hunting **Hen Harrier**.

At the barrage a couple of **Gangetic River Dolphins** put in a few brief appearances and a pair of **Great Black-headed (Pallas's) Gulls** flew over. The wetlands on the east side of the Barrage had our only **Pheasant-tailed Jacanas** and **Cotton Pygmy-goose** of the tour, along with a bunch of more familiar wildfowl and another **Long-legged Buzzard**.



Eventually we reached Koshi Camp at a little after 1.30pm and it was good to see many of the same staff still present as on our previous visits making this a real home from home. We avidly consumed our picnic lunch and a much needed cup of tea whilst watching 4 **Yellow-breasted Buntings** and a female **Crested Bunting** perched in the reeds outside the dining hall. And after some time off to get settled into our tents, we saw a **Pied Harrier** flying over, along with 30+ **Lesser Kestrels** and a soaring **Lesser Adjutant**. Other birds

around camp included **Grey-headed (Chestnut-tailed) Starling**, a heard only **Thick-billed Warbler**, **White-browed** and **White-throated Fantails**, **Blue-throated Barbet**, **Jungle Myna**, **Long-tailed Shrike** and groups of **Asian Pied Starlings** before starting our afternoon walk.

As we approached the first pool a **Black Bittern** flew up onto the bank and promptly disappeared, but we were soon distracted by a warbler-fest with **Hume's**, **Greenish**, **Tickell's Leaf**, **Dusky** and **Blyth's Reed Warblers** in the surrounding trees! Just then a **Small-billed Scaly Thrush** was spotted by Koshi Camps excellent resident birder Badri but only lingered long enough for a few of us to get on it. Up on the embankment a fine male **Siberian Rubythroat** perched out in the open for some of the group, whilst **Purple Heron** and **Verditer Flycatcher** were more obliging, and John had a quick look at a **Swamp Francolin**. Further along the track a mother and kitten **Jungle Cat** frolicked on the track some distance away and as we watched them a **Fishing Cat** strolled across behind them!



### Day 9 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

We kick-started a great days birding at 6.15am with tea and biscuits before exploring the immediate vicinity of camp. A male **Siberian Rubythroat** perched out in the open always takes some beating, although a **Thick-billed Warbler** perched on a small grass stem for several minutes after giving us the runaround for ages sure did feel special. And speaking of special, the 4 **Swamp Francolins** we watched flying and then strolling across the track was also a highlight. There was also several **Tickell's Leaf-warblers**, **Large Cuckooshrike** and **Black-rumped Flameback** as well, followed by **Blyth's Reed-warbler**, **Grey-sided Bush-warbler**, **Streak-throated Woodpecker**, **Common Rosefinch** and **Siberian Chiffchaff**. A pair of **Red-necked Falcons** flew by and ended what had been a very species pre-breakfast excursion right on the edge of camp where we literally spent ages watching everything really well.



After breakfast back at camp we headed up to the embankment once again, but got side tracked by a strange call in the camp grounds which led us to a **Spotted Bush-warbler** skulking at the edge of the marsh. Then we drove a few kilometres north before beginning our walk and this time everyone had great looks at a **Small-billed Scaly Thrush** through the scope after it gave us the runaround for ages. The rest of the morning was spent walking along the embankment that was bordered on either side by mature trees and dense secondary growth. Amongst numerous birds seen there was **Yellow-footed Green-pigeon**, **Grey-headed Starlings** feeding in an area with lots of **Plum-headed Parakeets**, **White-bellied**, **Spangled**, **Ashy** and **Bronzed Drongos**, 3 **Spotted Owlets** in a tree, but best of all was a **Small Niltava** we found and which is the first record of for Koshi.



After a late lunch we drove south and scanned the marsh bordering the embankment, seeing 20+ **Red-naped Ibis**, **Striated Grassbird**, 4 **Indian Thick-knees**, **Rosy Pipit**, **Bluethroat**, **Eurasian Hoopoe**, a **Cinnamon Bittern** for Jeff, **Golden Jackal**, and best of all were the 2 male **Pied Harriers** that flew over.



### Day 10 Wednesday 9th December

We drove a few kilometres upriver to where a couple of boats were waiting for us, seeing **Red Collared Dove**, **Paddyfield** and **Olive-backed Pipits**, **Black Redstart** of the *Rufiventris* race, and **Common Rosefinch** as we walked the last stretch to meet them.

We started the boat ride with lots of **Kentish** and **Little Ringed Plovers**, **Bar-headed Goose** and a fine **Black-bellied Tern** before sailing to the opposite bank across the shallow Koshi River. Upon reaching the far bank we walked across a kilometre long sand bank, which prior to the floods 2 years ago had all



been underwater! But once on solid ground the open woodland was found to be alive with birds and we quickly found the first of several very fine-looking **Bay-backed Shrikes**. The carpet of short grass was proving attractive to numerous **Citrine** and **White Wagtails**, **Paddyfield** and **Richard's Pipits**, and best of all we found at least 2 **Blyth's Pipits**. Probably the chief prize of our walk was the flock of 10 **Himalayan Griffons** and a single **White-rumped Vulture**.

Continuing downriver in our **rubber rafts** was sometimes slow going due to the river being extremely shallow in places but eventually we made it to our site for a picnic lunch. Afterwards we carried on and got pretty close to a **Steppe** and **Indian Spotted Eagle** perched side by side on the river bank, and the hot weather was obviously conducive to soaring raptors as we followed this with a group of 4 raptors: an adult and immature **Eastern Imperial Eagle**, **Short-toed Eagle** and another **Indian Spotted Eagle**. Further on we sailed past 2 **Great Black-headed Gulls**, lots of **Ruddy Shelducks**, **Dunlin**, 2 **Ganges River Dolphins**, **Striated Babbler**, **Striated Heron**, another adult **Eastern Imperial Eagle**, and finished off with a **Booted Eagle**.

We finally landed several kilometres downriver of the camp and walked along the embankment in the late afternoon sunshine, seeing **Jungle Owlet**, **Blyth's Reed** and **Dusky Warblers**, whilst the marsh held **Little** and **Temminck's Stints**, **Green Sandpiper**, *Dukhunensis* **White Wagtail**, **Citrine** and **Yellow Wagtails**, with 3 **Common Grey Mongoose** seen nearby.



### Day 11 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December

For a change of scenery and the chance of some new birds we drove north for a couple of hours, passing through numerous small villages towards Patnali Forest, stopping to look at a **Besra** perched in a roadside tree and a little later an **Oriental Pied Hornbill** feeding in a large fruiting tree. We passed through a nice brushy area that prompted a short walk as there were numerous **Crested Buntings**

feeding along with a few **Common Rosefinches**, and apart from a buttonquail species that Geoff & Jackie saw running in front of the vehicles there was nothing new so we carried on to the forest.



On arrival we drove much further along the dried riverbed than I've ever done before, parked the vehicles and immediately set the scopes up on a **Collared Falconet** perched some distance away in a tall tree. We followed a trail into the forest where we spent the rest of the morning in what turned out to be a productive but sometimes frustrating few hours – typical forest birding in fact! We initially found a couple of big mixed flocks that held **Large** and **Black-winged Cuckooshrikes**, **Blyth's Leaf-warbler**, as well as a good selection of commoner species that took some sorting through and really delayed us quite a while. From here Tika led us along a narrow trail into the forest where we found a

very cooperative **Snowy-browed Flycatcher**, **Little Pied Flycatcher**, a perched **Common Hawk-cuckoo**, a pair of **White-tailed Robins**, an **Orange-headed Thrush**, **Rufous-bellied Niltava**, and another very showy **Snowy-browed Flycatcher**. Tika found a **Yellow-vented Warbler**, but apart from yours truly no one else managed to see it, as it was present in a very fast moving warbler flock that also held numerous **Western Crowned** and **Hume's Warblers**. However, a **Rufous Woodpecker** was more obliging before we returned to the vehicles for our picnic lunch where we enjoyed the antics of 5 **Collared Falconets** at very close range as they hunted for dragonflies from some low bushes right beside us!

Afterwards, we drove back to some vast open fields beside the river and spent the rest of the afternoon walking across them which turned up a veritable pipit-fest with numerous **Blyth's**, **Richards**, **Tawny** and **Paddyfield Pipits**, as well as an Indian Thick-knee, and our first **Ashy-crowned Sparrow-lark**, **Crested & Oriental Skylarks** of the tour. However, everything else literally paled into insignificance when a pair of **Indian Coursers** seared one of the most unforgettable sightings of the tour into our eyeballs! We drove a little closer to these beauties and watched them for a good half an hour before leaving them undisturbed. What a bird! ,



### Day 12 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Sadly we had to leave the wonderful Koshi Camp this morning and drive to Biratnagar where we were due to catch our morning flight back to Kathmandu. However, the weather was delaying departures and we ended up flying with Buddha Air some 4 hours late so spent a frustrating time in the airport gardens. Anyway, we had excellent views of the mighty, snow-clad Himalayas, including **Mount Everest** before reaching Kathmandu. A short drive took us to our hotel where some of us watched the **Black** and **Black-eared Kites** from the roof garden, whilst others took the opportunity for some shopping before we had another fine evening meal.

### Day 13 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Left early for Godaveri Botanical Gardens at the base of Phulchowki and had what was probably the best days birding of the whole tour. We started with an **Orange-gorgeted Flycatcher** and a **Rufous-bellied Niltava** that performed very well by the entrance gate. A short distance away we came across a large flock of **White-throated Laughingthrushes** moving through the woods, and in the same area a flock of **Red-billed Leiothrix** appeared with single **Grey-throated Babbler** and **White-tailed Robin** tagging along behind. A **Grey Treepie** then began calling from the treetops and when everyone had decent views we concentrated our efforts on what turned out to be an extraordinarily cooperative **Grey-bellied Tesia** that enthralled us for a good half an hour.

Walking back towards the small stream a **Pygmy Wren-babbler** showed well and a **Small-billed Scaly-thrush** perched up in a big tree, before a superb **Golden Bush-robin** was spotted perched on a nearby fence post. As we walked back down through the gardens, a **Spotted Forktail** obliged us with an appearance along the stream and there was also a few **Mountain Bulbuls** present as well. Further on, an **Asian Barred Owlet** was found by Jeff and as we lingered in this area we also found a pair of **Slaty-backed Flycatchers** and a couple of **Blue-fronted Redstarts** as well.

We were having a really good morning and things just kept getting better and better as first a female, then a cracking male **Himalayan Red-flanked Bush-robin** appeared and we watched it feeding in a small bush. So we walked over for better views and had further views of the redstart, this time a fine male plus both **Red-breasted** and **Taiga Flycatchers** as well. Then a flock of warblers passed by and we saw our first **Yellow-browed**, as well as **Hume's**, **Lemon-rumped** and a few **Greenish Warblers**. A much larger flock then dallied in the large trees in front of us and although nothing new was seen it was very pleasant watching all these birds in the sunshine and we enjoyed watching all the previously seen tits, plus **Brown-throated Treecreeper**, and both **Velvet-fronted** and **Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches**.



But by now it was late morning and time for us to head off to Phulchowki, but after hearing a **Chestnut-headed Tesia** on the slope above us we had to try and wandered up in search of it. Some of us had brief views although kept getting distracted by our 3<sup>rd</sup> very obliging **Snowy-browed Flycatcher** of the tour. But as we rejoined the path a thrush flew along the stream and landed on a rock a few metres away and it turned out to be a truly outstanding **Long-billed Thrush** which then proceeded to feed amongst the leaf litter beside the stream. We watched this early Xmas cracker for ages and simply soaked up the views! We finished the morning session with **Yellow-bellied Fantail**, **Black-throated Sunbird** and a flock of **Red-headed (Black-throated) Tits**.

Afterwards we drove up to the mid section of Phulchowki and had our picnic lunch in the sun before walking back down the road. We saw many of the same species as on our previous visit, but best of all was when John found a **Crimson-breasted Woodpecker** perched on top of a dead tree which is quite a scarce bird here. Other goodies included **Black Eagle**, both **Chestnut-crowned** and **Striated Laughingthrushes**, **Green-tailed** and **Fire-tailed Sunbirds**, **Green-Shrike-babbler**, **Yellow-browed**

**Tit**, a heard only **Brown Bullfinch**, **Chestnut-tailed Minla**, **Whistler's Warbler** and 2 obliging **White-browed Fulvettas**. It was hard to tear ourselves away but in the fading light we made one final stop at the base of the mountain when some **White-crested Laughingthrushes** were heard and we had a brief appearance by a pair of **Grey-sided Laughingthrushes**, our final new bird of the tour.

We ended the day at a different restaurant where we enjoyed some fine local cuisine complimented by a cultural show and was a fine way to end a superb tour.

#### **Day 14 Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

We said our farewells to Tika this morning before setting out on the return flight to London where the tour concluded later this afternoon.

**On behalf of Tika and myself I would like to thank everyone in this group for making it such a pleasure to lead. By the end of the tour we had seen 345 species, one of the highest toals ever for this time of the year and this included many special birds. Our Top 5 birds of the tour were very difficult to pick out and the fact that 22 different species were picked shows the quality of the birds seen. Needless to say, Ibisbill was voted number one, with Long-billed Thrush and Indian Courser joint second. We had been fortunate to have the excellent guiding skills of Tika Ram Giri who had not only impressed us all with his birding and leadership skills, but had been a constant source of good humour and was always willing to impart his extensive knowledge on all things Nepalese. I am indebted to him for his huge role in making this such a wonderful tour.**

Nick Bray.

## BIRDLIST FOR LOWLAND NEPAL 2009

SPECIES		SCIENTIFIC NAME	Notes
1.	Swamp Francolin <span style="float: right;">e</span>	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>	Endemic to the Indian Subcontinent. Nice views of a group of 4 on our first morning at Koshi Tappu.
	Yellow-legged Buttonquail	<i>Turnix tanki</i>	A couple of brief sightings at Chitwan and Koshi were probably of this species.
2.	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	A daily sighting at Chitwan.
3.	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	A grand total of 9 were seen on our first day at Phulchowki.
4.	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	A few seen each day at Chitwan.
5.	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>	A few were seen at Chitwan.
6.	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	Seen on 6 dates in the lowlands.
7.	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	Very common.
8.	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Seen on 7 dates.
9.	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Just a single at Chitwan was seen.
10.	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Only seen during our boat ride at Koshi.
11.	Indian Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	This species subject to a relatively recent split according to birds of South Asia – The Ripley Guide. Chinese Spot-billed Duck <i>Anas zonorhyncha</i> now treated as full species and found in areas further east. Seen during our boat excursion at Koshi.
12.	Cotton Pygmy-goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	Just a couple at Koshi Barrage.
13.	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	A few present at Koshi.
14.	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Seen in small numbers at Chitwan and Koshi.
15.	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Small numbers seen at Koshi.
16.	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	A female was seen during our boat trip at Chitwan.
17.	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	A female was beside Koshi Barrage.
18.	Ferruginous Pochard	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	A group of 6 at Koshi Camp showed well.
19.	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Seen on 4 dates.
20.	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Singles on 4 dates at Chitwan and Koshi.
21.	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Celeus brachyurus</i>	A pair showed well at Patnali Forest.
22.	Grey-capped Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>	Relatively common and seen on 7 dates.
23.	Brown-fronted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos auriceps</i>	Single showed well near the summit of Phulchowki on our first visit.
24.	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>	A daily sighting at Chitwan.
25.	Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>	Single seen on our first visit to Phulchowki.
26.	Crimson-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos cathpharius</i>	Single seen well on our second visit to Phulchowki.
27.	Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	A daily sighting at Chitwan.
28.	Greater Yellownape	<i>Picus flavinucha</i>	Pair seen following a flock of Black-headed Jays on our first day on Phulchowki.
29.	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>	Seen several times at both Chitwan and Koshi.
30.	Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>	A scattering of sightings at Chitwan and Koshi.
31.	Himalayan Flameback	<i>Dinopium shorii</i>	Seen very well a few times at Chitwan.
32.	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	Common at Koshi Tappu

33.	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	A couple showed well at Chitwan.
34.	Great Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>	We probably underestimated 30+ present in the mass of fruiting trees below the summit of Phulchowki.
35.	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	Scarce this year with on a couple seen at Chitwan.
36.	Golden-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima franklinii</i>	A single amidst the fruiting trees at Phulchowki was a good record.
37.	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	This beautiful bird was seen on 8 dates.
38.	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	Just a few seen at Chitwan and Koshi.
39.	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoseros albirostris</i>	First seen from the coach as we drove to Koshi. Also pair at Koshi and 3 at Patnali forest flew over.
40.	Great Pied Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>	Good views of a pair at Chitwan.
41.	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Seen on 3 dates at Koshi.
42.	Red-headed Trogon	<i>Harpactes erythrocephalus</i>	Two different pairs found at Chitwan and we all enjoyed great views of this stunning species.
43.	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	Quite common in the lowlands.
44.	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>	Seen distantly during our boat ride at Chitwan, then had close flight views the following day.
45.	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Quite common at both Chitwan and Koshi.
46.	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Singles seen on 6 dates.
47.	Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	A major surprise when a single appeared right beside us at a small lake in Chitwan.
48.	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	Good views on 4 dates.
49.	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	Common and seen on 10 dates.
50.	Lesser Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Quite common and seen several times at Chitwan and Koshi.
51.	Common Hawk-cuckoo	<i>Cuculus varius</i>	Singles observed at Chitwan and Koshi.
52.	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>	Singles on 3 dates at Chitwan, on two occasions following Red-headed Trogons!
53.	Sirkeer Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>	Single flying across Trisuli River as we drove to Chitwan from Kathmandu.
54.	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	Seen at scattered localities.
55.	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	One showed quite well at Chitwan.
56.	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	A common sight and sound at Chitwan.
57.	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Abundant.
58.	Himalayan Parakeet	<i>Psittacula himalayana</i>	A recent split from Slaty-headed Parakeet. At least 2 observed one evening at Chitwan.
59.	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	Relatively abundant this year.
60.	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>	Only seen once at Koshi Tappu.
61.	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus balasiensi</i>	Quite common at Koshi.
62.	House Swift	<i>Apus affinis nipalensis</i>	Only seen around Kathmandu.
63.	Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>	Several small flocks seen at Chitwan and Patnali Forest.
64.	Brown Hawk-owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	One seen at a day roost near our lodge at Chitwan.
65.	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Single observed on our drive to Patnali Forest.
66.	Indian Scops-owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	The resident bird at Koshi Camp played hard to get and called every night. We eventually tracked it down in the spotlight for excellent views one evening.
67.	Brown Fish-owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	Day roosting birds at Chitwan and Koshi.

68.	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>	Single present at Godaveri Botanical Gdns.
69.	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	A few seen in the lowlands.
70.	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	Single at Machan Lodge, and several birds present around Koshi Camp.
71.	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Common.
72.	Oriental Turtle-dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	Seen on the way from Kathmandu to Chitwan.
73.	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Common.
74.	Red Collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	A few seen at Koshi Tappu.
75.	Eurasian Collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Seen on 8 dates.
76.	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	A couple of brief flybys at Chitwan.
77.	Orange-breasted Green-pigeon	<i>Treron bicincta</i>	A brief view at Chitwan.
78.	Grey-fronted Green-pigeon	<i>Treron affinis</i>	One of several splits from Pompadour Green-pigeon. A couple were feeding in a fruiting tree at Chitwan during our first visit
79.	Yellow-footed Green-pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	Seen on 4 dates in the lowlands.
80.	Brown Crake	<i>Amaurornis akool</i>	Several nice views from our lodge at Chitwan.
81.	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.
82.	Grey-headed Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>	Treated by some authorities as a recent split from Purple Swamphen. Seen at Koshi.
83.	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Seen on 9 dates.
84.	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Only seen at Koshi Tappu.
85.	Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>	A couple were seen in flight after being flushed by a hunting Hen Harrier near Koshi Barrage.
86.	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Seen on 2 dates at Chitwan.
87.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Seen on 5 dates.
88.	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Small numbers at Chitwan and Koshi.
89.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	A few seen at Chitwan.
90.	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	A few seen along the Koshi River.
91.	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	Quite common at Chitwan and Koshi.
92.	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Just 2 seen along the Koshi River.
93.	Indian Courser	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>	The pair at Koshi was voted equal 2 <sup>nd</sup> best bird of the tour. Says it all!
94.	Indian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>	A recent split from Eurasian Stone-curlew. A few seen wll at Koshi.
95.	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>	Voted THE bird of the tour by a country mile! Excellent views on the Trisuli River of 4 birds.
96.	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	Just a few seen near Koshi Barrage.
97.	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	Widespread in the lowlands and seen on 9 dates.
98.	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	Locally common in the lowlands.
99.	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Several seen along the Rapti and Koshi Rivers.
100.	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>	A large feeding flock were present over the Rapti River at Koshi.
101.	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus duvaucelii</i>	Several seen at Chitwan.
102.	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	Common.
	Heuglin's Gull	<i>Larus fuscus heuglini</i>	A bird seen whilst sailing down the Koshi River was thought to be this species.
103.	Great Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>	2 adults over Koshi Barrage and 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> cy birds seen whilst sailing down Koshi River.
104.	Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	A few seen flying along the Rapti River.
105.	Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>	Fine views of several of these stunning

			birds on the Koshi River.
106	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	A daily sighting at Koshi.
107	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	A frequent sighting in the lowlands and seen on 8 dates.
108	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Seen on 5 dates.
109	Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	Some authorities treat this as a distinct species. Seen in Kathmandu and around Biratnagar.
110	Grey-headed Fish-eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	Fine views of an adult at Chitwan.
111	Indian White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	Single bird perched in a tree during our boat excursion at Koshi Tappu.
112	Himalayan Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	Several nice views this year, with a pair present at Chitwan and groups of 4 and 10 being seen around Koshi.
113	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	A pair showed really well at the Ibisbill site.
114	Short-toed Snake-eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	Seen on 3 dates in the lowlands.
115	Crested Serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Seen on 7 dates.
116	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	Brief views on our last day on Phulchowki.
117	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>	One of the stars of the tour with 4 birds seen at Koshi, including a fine male.
118	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Singles appeared on 3 dates at Koshi.
119	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	A hunting bird along the Trisuli River was the only one seen this year.
120	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Just a couple seen at Chitwan.
121	Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	Singles on Phulchowki and at Koshi.
122	Himalayan Buzzard	<i>Buteo burmanicus</i>	A relatively recent split from Common Buzzard <i>Buteo buteo</i> . A few individuals present at scattered sites.
123	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	At least 3 seen in the Koshi area.
124	Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila hastata</i>	A split from Lesser Spotted Eagle <i>Aquila pomarina</i> . Seen 3 times at Koshi.
125	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	Seen during our boat journey at Koshi.
126	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	The commonest <i>Aquila</i> species and seen on 5 dates at both Chitwan and Koshi.
127	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	3 present along the Koshi River on 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec.
128	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Just a couple at Koshi.
129	Changeable Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>	This species has been split to include Crested Hawk-eagle <i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i> in peninsular India and Sri Lanka. Several decent views at Chitwan this year.
130	Collared Falconet	<i>Microhierax caerulescens</i>	A couple seen at Chitwan with one bird perched in a tree above us and seen chasing some prey through the forest. At Patnali Forest we had very close views of several birds hunting and eating dragonflies.
131	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	A flock of 20+ flew over Koshi Camp.
132	Eurasian Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Seen on 9 dates.
133	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>	A pair of fast moving birds was seen on 2 consecutive days at Koshi.
134	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Seen a few times at Koshi.
135	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	A small group beside Koshi Barrage were the only ones seen this year.
136	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Just a few at Koshi.
137	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Seen on 6 dates.
138	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	Reasonably common in the lowlands.
139	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Quite common at Koshi Tappu.



140	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.
141	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Common and seen on 10 dates.
142	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	Seen on 4 dates and probably overlooked.
143	Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>	A recent split from Western Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> . Very common.
144	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Just a few seen at Koshi Tappu.
145	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	A couple of sightings at Koshi including a nicely plumaged adult at Koshi Camp.
146	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	Very common.
147	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	The 2 seen whilst on our boat trip at Koshi were the only ones seen.
148	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	An adult perched in trees beside our lodge at Chitwan was the only one seen this year.
	Cinnamon Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	Jeff was fortunate to see one flying into cover at Koshi Tappu.
149	Black Bittern	<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	1 at Koshi Camp.
150	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Single bird observed on western side of Koshi Barrage is a rarity here.
151	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	A few seen along Koshi River.
152	Red-naped (Black) Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	A few at Chitwan, but commoner at Koshi with the highest count of 20+ on our way back from Patnali Forest.
153	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.
154	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	A sprinkling of sightings from various sites.
155	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	Only seen once at Koshi Tappu.
156	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	Seen on 7 dates.
157	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	Single at Patnali Forest.
158	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	A daily sighting at Koshi.
159	Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>	A small population resides on the west side of the mighty Koshi River and we saw at least 6 birds there.
160	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Very common and seen daily.
161	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	Seen on 8 dates.
162	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	A few were moving with a flock of the following species on Phulchowki.
163	Black-headed Jay	<i>Garrulus lanceolatus</i>	A flock of 15+ were seen on Phulchowki. Quite a scarce bird here.
164	Red-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	The first bird we had on our first visit to Phulchowki. Also seen at Chitwan.
165	Common Green Magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>	Great views of a pair moving with Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes near Tiger Tops at Chitwan.
166	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	Common and seen most days.
167	Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>	Finally caught up with this species at Godaveri Botanical Gardens on our final morning.
168	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	Seen daily.
169	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	A few sightings at the beginning of the tour.
170	Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus culminatus</i>	Seen most days.
171	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>	Several large gatherings were seen.
172	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	Common in the lowland sites and seen on 9 dates.
173	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>	Several fine views on Phulchowki.
174	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>	A frequent sight flying overhead giving its distinctive call in the lowlands.
175	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>	A scattering of sightings throughout the tour

176	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	A few small groups at Chitwan.
177	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	Seen on 5 dates.
178	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	This species has been recently split with Orange Minivet <i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i> found in peninsular India and Sri Lanka.
179	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	Just a few seen in mixed flocks at Chitwan.
180	Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	Seen during both visits to Phulchowki.
181	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	Several sightings at Chitwan and Koshi.
182	White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>	Present at Koshi Camp.
183	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	Common.
184	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	Quite common and seen at all forested sites.
185	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>	Only seen a few times at Chitwan and Koshi.
186	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>	Seen on 7 dates at various sites.
187	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	Seen on 6 dates at various sites.
188	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	Several good views at Chitwan.
189	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Seen on 8 dates.
	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>	Only heard at Chitwan and Patnali Forest.
190	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	Seen several times in the lowland forests.
191	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>	Very nice views along the Trisuli River.
192	Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>	A female was present on Phulchowki.
193	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	Males seen along the trisuli River and the dried river bed at Patnali Forest.
194	Blue Whistling-thrush	<i>Myiophonus caeruleus</i>	A widespread species seen in small numbers.
195	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina citrina</i>	Showed briefly at Patnali Forest.
196	Small-billed Scaly-thrush	<i>Zoothera dauma</i>	After frustratingly brief views beside Koshi Camp, we scoped an individual as it perched in a tree a few kilometres from camp. Another showed briefly in Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
197	Long-billed Thrush	<i>Zoothera monticola</i>	Voted equal 2 <sup>nd</sup> best bird of the tour. We were privileged to watch this beauty feeding for ages beside the stream in Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
198	White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>	Several feeding parties were present on the fruiting trees just below the summit on Phulchowki. We estimated 50+ present but could well have been double that!
199	Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	Smaller numbers than the previous species were on Phulchowki.
200	Chestnut Thrush	<i>Turdus rubrocanus</i>	At least 3 birds were seen just below the summit of Phulchowki on our first visit.
201	Slaty-backed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hodgsonii</i>	2 birds were seen in Godaveri Gardens.
202	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophitata</i>	Good views at Godaveri.
203	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	Seen at Chitwan and Godaveri.
204	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	Common and seen on 10 dates.
205	Snowy-browed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hyperythra</i>	Close and prolonged views of 2 individuals at Patnali Forest and another at Godaveri.
206	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>	Single bird seen at Patnali Forest.
	Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	Only heard at Chitwan.
207	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	Seen on 7 dates at various sites.
208	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	Seen on 10 dates.
209	Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>	The 1 <sup>st</sup> record for Koshi Tappu was an individual a few kilometres north of the camp beside the embankment.

210	Rufous-bellied Niltava	<i>Niltava sundara</i>	One beside the Trisuli River whilst searching for Ibisbill showed briefly, but better views were had at Patnali Forest and Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
211	Pale-chinned Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis poliogenys</i>	A good run of sightings this year with several seen well at Chitwan and also at Patnali Forest.
212	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	It's just one of the best feelings when everyone gets their binoculars on a male. And that's what we all did at Koshi – eventually!
213	White-tailed Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia pectoralis</i>	A very common sound at Chitwan, but seeing them was a different matter. Yet we eventually saw several females and 2 males.
214	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	Singles at Chitwan and Koshi Tappu.
215	Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger rufilaus</i>	A distinct species from nominate Red-flanked Bluetail <i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i> . A stunning male showed well in Godaveri Botanical Gardens. A female was present there as well.
216	Golden Bush-robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysaesus</i>	A male showed to some of the group on our first visit to Phulchowki, but a female in Godaveri Botanical Gardens was very cooperative.
217	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.
218	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	A daily sighting at Chitwan and also present at Patnali Forest.
219	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros rufiventris</i>	A couple of the <i>Rufiventris</i> red-bellied race at Koshi looked very different to the ones we are used to seeing in Europe.
220	Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>	A confiding female did her best to distract us from Ibisbill-watching!
221	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	Great views of a superb male in Godaveri Botanical Gardens. Also at least 2 females present here as well.
222	White-capped Water Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	This stunner showed well when searching for Ibisbill, and at Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
223	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	A common bird of all rivers during the tour.
224	White-tailed Robin	<i>Cinclidium leucurum</i>	Seen briefly at Tiger Tops, but much better at Patnali Forest and Godaveri Gardens.
225	Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	2 were seen along the Rapti River.
226	Black-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>	First seen with the preceding species and also near Tiger Tops in Chitwan.
227	Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>	Showed well at Godaveri Botanical Gardens
228	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata maura</i>	Common and seen on 10 dates.
229	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>	Seen daily at Chitwan.
230	Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	Seen daily at Chitwan.
231	Grey-headed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>	Formerly lumped under Chestnut-tailed Starling with Malabar White-headed Starling <i>Sturnia blythii</i> which is found in SW Peninsular India & Western Ghats. Common at Koshi Tappu.
232	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	Common.
233	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Seen daily.
234	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	Small flocks observed at Koshi and Chitwan.
235	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.

236	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>	This species has been split with Indian Nuthatch <i>Sitta castanea</i> found in India south of the Himalayan region. Regularly seen at Chitwan and also noted at Patnali Forest and Godaveri Gardens.
237	White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>	Seen well on the higher parts of Phulchowki.
238	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>	Present in most mixed flocks in the lowlands.
239	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	Stunning views along the Trisuli River of a pair, one of which came quite close to us as it fed amongst the boulders beside the river.
240	Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	<i>Certhia nipalensis</i>	Single bird below the summit of Phulchowki was a new bird for this tour.
241	Brown-throated Treecreeper	<i>Certhia discolor</i>	Seen on Phulchowki and Godaveri.
242	Grey Tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>	A long overdue split from Great Tit <i>Parus major</i> . Common!
243	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	Seen on Phulchowki and at Godaveri.
244	Black-lored Tit	<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>	Present on both visits to Phulchowki.
245	Yellow-browed Tit	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>	Seen on both visits to Phulchowki in small groups.
246	Black-throated Tit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	This delightful species was seen well in small flocks at either end of the tour.
247	Grey-throated Sand-martin	<i>Riparia chinensis</i>	A recent split from Plain Martin. Seen along the Rapti and Koshi Rivers in good numbers
248	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	A daily sighting.
249	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	A scattering of sightings from the lowlands.
250	Nepal House-martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>	A large flock were congregating over the hillside as we searched for Ibisbill.
251	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	Only seen in Chitwan in small numbers.
252	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	Very common at Chitwan and also present at Koshi Tappu as well.
253	Himalayan Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	Seen on Phulchowki and at Chitwan in small numbers.
254	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	A daily sighting.
255	Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mccllellandii</i>	Only seen in Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
256	Himalayan Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	This species has been split with Square-tailed Black Bulbul <i>Hypsipetes ganeesa</i> being found in peninsular India and Sri Lanka.
257	Grey-crowned Prinia	<i>Prinia cinereocapilla</i>	Seen on our first visit to Chitwan NP.
258	Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>	Common at Chitwan in small numbers.
259	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	Seen in small numbers at various sites.
260	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>	Scarce this year and only seen near our lodge at Chitwan on one occasion.
261	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Seen once at Chitwan.
262	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	Seen regularly in most areas visited.
263	Chestnut-headed Tesia	<i>Tesia castaneocoronata</i>	Several were singing on the lower slope of Phulchowki but hard to see well. Another in Godaveri Gardens only showed to a few.
264	Grey-bellied Tesia	<i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>	Amazing views of a bird reacting to the tape in Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
265	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	Common and seen most days.
	Pale-footed Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia pallidipes</i>	Heard only at Chitwan.
266	Chestnut-crowned Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia major</i>	Seen a couple of times in the grassland at Chitwan National Park.
267	Grey-sided Bush-warbler	<i>Cettia brunnifrons</i>	A tricky individual gave several brief views

			on the embankment above Koshi Camp.
268	Spotted Bush-warbler	<i>Bradypterus thoracicus</i>	Heard near our lodge at Chitwan. Another at Koshi Camp reacted strongly to the tape and showed to some of the group.
269	Blyth's Reed-warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	Very common at Koshi Tappu and also a few seen at Chitwan.
270	Thick-billed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>	After a few brief views, one perched on a small stick for several minutes gave amazing views.
271	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>	Only seen at Koshi Tappu.
272	Siberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita tristis</i>	Seen at Chitwan, but far commoner at Koshi Tappu.
273	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	Common at Koshi and seen daily there.
274	Tickell's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	Common at Koshi and we were treated to very close views.
275	Western Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus occipitalis</i>	A small flock was seen at Chitwan and also several seen at Patnali Forest.
276	Blyth's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>	Some good views at Chitwan was followed by further views at Patnali Forest.
277	Buff-barred Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>	Common on Phulchowki.
278	Ashy-throated Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>	Scarce this year and just a few seen on our first visit to Phulchowki.
279	Lemon-rumped Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>	A large flock was present on the lower section of Phulchowki, followed by further sightings at Chitwan and Godaveri.
280	Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	Common and a daily sighting.
281	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	At least 2 birds were found in Godaveri.
282	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	Seen on 8 dates.
	Yellow-vented Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus cantator</i>	A leader only sighting at Patnali Forest.
283	Whistler's Warbler	<i>Seicercus whistleri</i>	A sprinkling of sightings at Kathmandu, Chitwan and Patnali Forest.
284	Grey-hooded Warbler	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistus</i>	A common bird at Phuchowki and Godaveri
285	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>	A few were seen at Chitwan.
286	Black-faced Warbler	<i>Abrosopus schisticeps</i>	A couple of nice, close flocks on Phulchowki at either end of the tour.
287	White-throated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	Good views of a flock of 30+ at Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
	White-crested Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	Sadly, only heard this year on Phulchowki.
288	Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax monileger</i>	Eventually had tickable views of at least 10 at Chitwan in company with the following species.
289	Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i>	A flock of at least 30 gave repeatedly good views near Tiger Tops at Chitwan.
290	Striated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>	A couple of decent views on Phulchowki.
291	Grey-sided Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax caerulatus</i>	Our last new bird of the tour, seen at dusk by a lucky few as we left Phulchowki.
	Streaked Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>	A leader only sighting on Phulchowki.
292	Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>	Quite common on Phulchowki on both visits this year.
293	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	Seen several times in small groups at Chitwan National Park.
294	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogenys</i>	A brief view on our first visit to Phulchowki
295	White-browed Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>	Seen on our first visit to Phulchowki.
296	Pygmy Wren Babbler	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>	Good views of a single bird as it fed beside a small stream in Godaveri Gardens.
	Black-chinned Babbler	<i>Stachyris pyrrhops</i>	Only heard at Phulchowki and Godaveri.
297	Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	After a leader only sighting at Chitwan, one

			was seen following a flock of Red-billed Leiothrix at Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
298	Striped Tit Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>	A daily sighting at Chitwan and also present at Patnali Forest.
299	Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>	Excellent views on consecutive days in the grassland at Chitwan National Park.
300	Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	Seen in company with the previous species.
301	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>	Seen well at both Chitwan and Koshi.
302	Slender-billed Babbler	<i>Turdoides longirostris</i>	This scarce grassland specialist gave us a couple of nice views at Chitwan.
303	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	Common and seen on 10 dates.
304	Red-billed Leiothrix	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>	Flocks seen at either end of the tour.
	White-browed Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius flaviscapis</i>	Heard at Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
305	Green Shrike Babbler	<i>Pteruthius xanthochlorus</i>	Very close birds were seen on both visits to Phulchowki.
306	Blue-winged Minla	<i>Minla cyanouroptera</i>	A fast-moving flock was seen at the mid-section of Phulchowki.
307	Chestnut-tailed Minla	<i>Minla strigula</i>	Seen on both visits to Phulchowki.
308	Rufous-winged Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>	Very nice views of several flocks at Phulchowki on both visits
309	White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>	A pair seen on both visits to Phulchowki.
310	Nepal Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>	Nice views of a couple flocks at either end of the tour.
311	Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>	Seen well just below the summit of Phulchowki on our first visit.
312	Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	Seen in company with the previous species.
313	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>	Formerly known as White-bellied Yuhina but recent DNA analysis suggests it is not related at all to the Babblers and may indeed be a vireo!
314	Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	A very common resident on Phulchowki.
315	Ashy-crowned Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>	On our way back from Patnali forest we explored an open, grassy area and found several feeding parties.
316	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella cinere brachydactyla</i>	Seen several times in the fields north of Koshi Camp.
317	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>	Seen along the Rapti and Koshi Rivers.
318	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	A few present in fields at Koshi Camp.
319	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	Quite common in the right habitat at Koshi.
320	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	Several very nice views on Phulchowki.
321	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	Only seen by a few people at Koshi Camp.
322	Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>	Common on Phulchowki.
323	Black-throated Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>	Very close views of a family group in Godaveri Botanical Gardens.
324	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	A male showed well near Tiger Tops.
325	Fire-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga ignicauda</i>	A few eclipse-type birds seen on our last day on Phulchowki.
326	Streaked Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera magna</i>	One bird flew in to the clearing when we were watching a large mixed flock in Chitwan National Park.
327	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Common.
328	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Good views at either end of the tour.
329	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba dukhinensis</i>	Seen at Koshi in small numbers.
	White-faced Wagtail	<i>Motacilla lugens leucopsis</i>	Seen throughout the tour.
	Black-backed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla lugens alboides</i>	Quite common throughout the tour.
330	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba madaraspatensis</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates.

331	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	Seen on 5 dates.
332	Syke's Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava beema</i>	A few seen one evening on the embankment at Koshi.
333	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Seen a few times at either end of the tour.
334	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae richardi</i>	Several nice views at Koshi.
335	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi rufulus</i>	Fairly common and seen on 6 dates.
336	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	A few present during our boat trip at Koshi.
337	Blyth's Pipit	<i>Anthus godlewskii</i>	An adult and immature were seen during one of our shore excursions during our boat ride at Koshi. Also a few seen and heard the following day when looking for couriers.
338	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	Common and seen on 9 dates. Several small groups around our lodge at Chitwan gave exceptionally good views.
339	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>	Just a couple seen at Koshi.
340	Indian Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus p. philippinus</i>	A few seen at Chitwan and Koshi.
341	White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>	A small group seen as we followed the Trisuli River at the start of the tour.
342	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Seen on 7 dates in the lowlands.
343	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	A few seen at both Chitwan and Koshi.
	Brown Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula nipalensis</i>	Heard on Phulchowki.
344	Crested Bunting	<i>Melophus lathami</i>	Seen on 6 dates in the lowlands.
345	Yellow-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza aureola</i>	A group of 4 were roosting in Koshi Camp.

**345 species seen, plus 11 heard only or single observer sightings, 356 species recorded in total.**

	<b>Mammals &amp; Other Animals</b>	Scientific Name
1	Wild Boar	<i>Sus sciofa</i>
2	Water Buffalo (semi wild)	<i>Bubalus arnee (bubalis)</i>
3	Spotted Deer	<i>Tragulus meminna</i>
4	Indian Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjai</i>
5	Sambar	<i>Cervis unicolor</i>
6	Ganges River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>
7	Indian Elephant (domesticated)	<i>Elephas maximus</i>
8	Indian (Bengal) Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>
9	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>
10	Tiger (Heard only)	<i>Panthera tigris</i>
11	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>
12	Fishing Cat	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>
13	Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis</i>
14	Assamese Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>
15	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
16	Common (Grey) Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>
17	Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>
18	Indian Rhinoceros	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>
19	Gharial	<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>
20	Marsh Mugger	<i>Crocodylus palostris</i>
21	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>
22	Orange-bellied Squirrel	<i>Dremomys lokriah</i>
23	Indian Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus coromandra</i>
24	Common Garden Lizard	<i>Calotes versicolor</i>
25	Hard-shelled Terrapin	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>
26	Common Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus albigularis</i>
27	Giant Wood Spider	<i>Nephila maculata</i>
28	Northern House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>