

India – Rare Mammals and Birds of Gujarat

Naturetrek Tour Report

28 March – 10 April 2015



Asiatic Lion



Blackbuck



Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse



Indian Courser

Report compiled by Nick Acheson
Images courtesy of Wendy Schmitt



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Tour Participants: Nick Acheson (Naturetrek Leader), Manisha Rajput (Local Leader) and thirteen Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Sunday 29th March

On route from the UK

Day 2

Monday 30th March

The flight arrived very early and we were met at the airport by Nick who escorted the group to the hotel.

No sooner had your heads hit your pillows than Manisha (wonderful, talented, delightful Manisha) and I were banging on your doors getting you up again. It was all worth it though. This morning we were leaving Ahmedabad bound for the beautiful grassland of Blackbuck National Park, Velavadar.

The journey itself was fascinating, with Sarus Cranes, diverse egrets and herons, and many common birds of wetlands and dry scrubby country along the roadside. In Velavadar, needless to say, it was hot (this was to be a hot sort of tour, all things considered) but our lodge was very attractive and welcoming and each room came with hot and cold running water and Blackbuck just outside the back door. In a tank behind reception the reeds burst with Indian Baya Weavers and Blyth's Reed Warblers, while Common and White-throated Kingfishers dropped in to feed, and nearby acacias were busy with Lesser Whitethroats and Ashy Prinias.

But the real wildlife-watching had yet to begin. In the afternoon (what a long day this was proving to be) we visited the park's golden grass for the first time and were rewarded by seeing three charismatic, big-eared carnivores. For there to be carnivores, of course, there must be abundant herbivores (clever thing, ecology) and these we saw in great numbers: herds of beautiful Blackbuck all over the grassy plain (including, close to the lodge, the park's only Whitebuck) and sheltering in the acacias' shade, muscular Nilgai. There were Boar too, trotting through the tall grass with tails raised.

As we drove along a dirt track in the afternoon's solid heat our brilliant driver Haider pulled to a standstill and pointed to a dot on the bank of a distant waterhole. Through binoculars we could just see that the dot had very big ears. Then it turned its face and we could just see that it had a long square snout. This dot was an Indian Wolf, one of only thirteen individuals believed to inhabit Velavadar.

From another road, with the sun behind us, we could see somewhat better. Here were three wolves, including a well-grown pup. They were rangy and spare, Jackal-like, though clearly powerful, even at distance.

We left the Wolves and drove to a well-known den where, some fifty metres from the road, a four-month-old Striped Hyena cub was ambling through the grass. It slumped to the den, with its unseen siblings, and was lost; almost immediately, however, most of us glimpsed an Indian Fox trotting by, bright-eyed and mischievous. A superb end to a long, wonderful day.

Day 3

Tuesday 31st March

Having left the Hyena cubs in their den last night, this morning we went to them as soon as the park gates opened at seven. It seemed at first as though they had already gone to earth for the day, but soon a pair of great ears twitched above the light grasses and one cub, an exquisite faded gold with soft charcoal stripes, padded home. Soon it was joined by another and our three jeeps watched in silence as these two young animals raised their blunt big noses at the coming day and took to their den.

The rest of the morning we spent with Wolves. The first was seen not far from the track, in the edge of a patch of thornscrub on which Greater Spotted Eagles perched. Inside it seemed was a kill. Long-legged and lean, this Wolf moved through the front of the scrub and inside, seen and unseen between and behind acacias.

Then it was lost and, sadly, a feral dog came to the kill, so we left. But, stopping at a tower to scan the grass, one of you found a second Wolf, distant but coming closer. Across the plain and over a short-grass fireline we saw it pass: big tan ears and brindled flanks and a gait that looked easy, lazy even, but which covered ground with deceptive speed. Frightening speed if you are the Wolf's prey.

This Wolf left the park in the distance. Amazingly the first reappeared, visiting a waterhole to our left; we had unwittingly disturbed its course to another waterhole in the early morning. Behind the bank it drank, then emerged to follow the same path as the first, languidly crossing the fireline and the park's grass before us.

We saw much more in Velavadar this morning: Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse coming to waterholes, Wild Boar bashing through the small trees, Montagu's Harriers over the plains, and Larks - Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark, Crested, Greater Short-toed, Rufous-tailed - filling the day's heat with the purr of their wings and the chime and chatter of their throats.

In the afternoon we saw three Hyena cubs at the den and, leaving the park, met a Jungle Cat beside the road. Another superb day in a beautiful park.

Day 4

Wednesday 1st April

This morning we travelled from Velavadar to the far south-west of Gujarat and the world-famous Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary. In the ferocious heat of the afternoon we headed to the beautiful forest. It was full of life - Chital, Sambar, Grey Nightjar, Indian Peafowl, Brahminy Starling, Five-striped Palm-Squirrel, Northern Plains Grey Langur - but our focus was on finding Gir's most celebrated inhabitant: the Asiatic Lion.

Thanks to Manisha's remarkable knowledge and her network of loyal contacts we did find a Lion, in the form of Shyam an eight or nine-year-old male who, with his brother Ram (both of them named after incarnations of the righteous deity Vishnu), shares a range in Gir with several females and their cubs. All three of our jeeps saw this calm, powerful cat very well and everyone took great photos.

It was a splendid introduction to the beauty and diversity of Gir.

Day 5

Thursday 2nd April

This morning our drive took us to the village of Shirvan Jhambur, one of three Gir settlements of the Sidis - black people of African origin who speak in Gujarati but maintain their own culture, including dances portraying the jungle's animals. One fanciful story tells that they are Maasai people (though it is clear from their physiques and faces that they are not) and that they followed their friend and foe the Lion in distant history as it colonised India. It is also said that some centuries ago their enslaved ancestors were brought here by the Nawab of Junagadh, whose family history weaves through the recent story of the Lion in India too.

We saw no Lions this morning. It was beautiful, all the same, to be in the Gir forest as the birds sang their songs to the new day and velvet-coated Chital picked through the fallen leaves of teak on the jungle floor. Under scrubby trees by the uneven road lustrous Indian Robins hopped and a White-breasted Waterhen jerked nervously across a riverbed. The chime of Coppersmith Barbets and the happy chatter of Grey Francolins filled the warming morning air and Plum-headed Parakeets tore at the green fresh seeds of *Butea monosperma*, the flame of the forest.

There were no Lions but many mammals. A Grey Mongoose, sharp eyes and sharp nose alert to movement in the crisp litter. Nilgai and Sambar, long legs ready to bolt at the sight of one of Gir's great cats. Five-striped Palm-Squirrels chiding passers-by with their harsh chinks and flicking their nervous tails in the trees. All these jungle creatures, and more, we met this morning.

This afternoon we went back to the Lions. Not far into the park a male, aged around five, sat in the shade of tangled trees, with Jungle Crows fussing round him and his Chital kill. As we watched two frightened Chital calls came from the jungle, then excitement pulsed through the jeeps behind us. The Lion's brother had emerged; he walked to a water tank to drink, then slowly to the shade to join his sated sibling.

Past Peacocks, Oriental Magpie-Robins, Chestnut-shouldered Petronias and Red-vented Bulbuls we went until, rounding a corner, our guide Akshay called out that he had seen a Lion. How he had seen this Lion I cannot think. A young male with the bare beginnings of a mane was lying behind a water trough, with only his head partly visible. Once we had stopped we could see that close by, flat to the ground, was his sleeping sister.

We knew that ahead was a second kill but, reaching it, all we could see were the skull and backbone of what not long ago had been a Chital. Near here, as we made for the park gate and our home at Lion Safari Camp, we came to a sudden standstill, churning up dust. Dozing right by the road was a Lioness, one of the pride females in the range of Ram and Shyam.

This great cat panted, droopy-eyed, in the heat, ten metres from us. Then she raised her head and began to look around before - to our amazement and delight - roaring, her belly pumping as she blasted her pride's possession of this forest patch across the whole of Gir.

Day 6

Friday 3rd April

This morning's highlights included Mugger Crocodiles by the dam and, for Manisha (and many of us too) a Rat Snake high in a tree, searching for the nests of Rose-ringed Parakeets. The Parakeets, needless to say, were ferocious and noisy in their defence of their tree and eventually forced the snake to slip to the ground at speed.

This afternoon we again saw Asiatic Lions: the two two-year-old subadults we had seen the day before. With them were another sister and their mother (whom we had seen roaring the previous evening).

Day 7

Saturday 4th April

This morning we saw the two young male Lions who had been at a kill on our second afternoon, though today they were dozing under quite distant bushes. We loved all of the Lions we saw in Gir and felt especially lucky to see them interacting with one another so often and so fascinatingly, apparently unconcerned by our presence. It was with great thanks to the people of Gir and to the forest that we left that wonderful place at lunchtime today, in the hope of more adventures in the Rann of Kutch.

After a long drive north through the afternoon we spent the night in a very smart hotel in Rajkot.

Day 8

Sunday 5th April

A seven hour journey from Rajkot brought us to Nakhatrana in the late afternoon today. Approaching Nakhatrana, in the Great Rann of Kutch, landscape and life change: wild dusty heat and straggling spiny vegetation, thin thirsty livestock and handsome straight-backed people in startling colours. It is half-desert places where sun and shade command the comings, goings and doings of people and animals.

In the night, once the heat of the day began to die, we spent three hours, trundling over a dried-out pan of silt and salt, lamping for wildlife. Before we reached the pan we had the great fortune to see an Indian Hedgehog in the roadside, though, somewhat antisocially, it chose to curl into a ball at our approach. In the pan there were Golden Jackals and numerous Indian (Black-naped) Hares. There were also Indian Nightjars, two magnificent Indian Eagle-Owls, two Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and a sprinkling of Red-wattled Lapwings. It proved a long, demanding day and night but it was a rare privilege to see this wild place by night and witness the lives of its nocturnal wildlife.

Day 9

Monday 6th April

This morning we went again to the pan. However, last year the rains had failed so, where usually there are waterbirds, and eagles preying on them, for us there was dust. A lot of dust. A Tawny Eagle hunched in the top of a scrawny bush and a Steppe Eagle circled above, hungry and lonely. Grey Francolins scurried for cover and dust-coloured Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse dropped to the road beside us.

This afternoon, once the heat of the day had waned, we headed for the bush again, to a wild patch of scrub along a road where Chinkara scampered over distant slopes, Sykes' Larks hunkered by the roadside, a White-naped Tit sang in the scrubby acacias above us and we made friends with some very lovely puppies.

Day 10

Tuesday 7th April

Today we moved from the Great Rann of Kutch to the Little Rann, retracing our steps towards Ahmedabad. We broke our journey with a visit to the charming museum in Bhuj and to the fantastic tank outside it, which bristled with terns, pelicans, herons and ducks. Our base in the Little Rann was the very attractive Rann Riders lodge.

Day 11

Wednesday 8th April

This morning, most enjoyably, we lurched through ruts in the muddy plain of the Little Rann of Kutch and - quite literally - through spine-laden bushes of *Prosopis juliflora*.

The key animal to see in the Little Rann is the Asiatic Wild Ass. These beautiful toffee-and-white horses had largely moved into adjacent farmland for the summer, but in the salty plain we met several, including families with well-grown foals. They are highly-strung and cantered into the spiky scrub at our approach but soon settled to graze, socialise and bicker when followed by such skilled, intelligent drivers as ours from Rann Riders.

As thrilled as we were to see these rare creatures, they were not the highlight of our morning in the semi-desert of the Little Rann of Kutch. An Indian Fox, the soft grey of a smudge of eye-liner, lay panting in the shade of a *Prosopis*, its black tail-tip a hard point in the edgeless wash of the plain, the sky and the sun.

Nor though was the Indian Fox the highlight of our morning. At a sandy den by straggling bushes sat a two-month-old Desert Red Fox cub, while an older, warier cub skirted this same stand of *Prosopis*, keeping a safe distance from our vehicles. Such cute, pretty animals as a baby Desert Red Fox owe more, one feels, to Disney than to evolution. Our hearts were quite lost to this livewire of life in the desert's morning cool.

On our route back to Rann Riders there were many wetland birds: Garganey, Spotbill, Shoveler, Cotton Pygmy-Goose, Lesser Whistling-Duck, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and Purple Swamphen. In the lodge's shady gardens, there were tanks with lilies and Indian Bullfrogs, tail-wagging Rottweilers, an Emu (somewhat quixotically), and a very fluffy cat.

In the afternoon we visited splendid sites around the village of Gavana. At the first, down a seemingly endless series of dusty lanes, we were thrilled to watch Indian Eagle Owls at their nest. Nearby we searched a wide open plain for Indian Coursers and found several of these exquisite birds trotting across the sun-parched grass.

Day 12

Thursday 9th April

On our last morning we visited a splendid wetland which throbbled with life. Here were Greater and Lesser Flamingos, Great White Pelicans, Purple Herons, Greater Painted Snipe, Yellow Wagtails and countless more beautiful wetland birds. However, by mid-morning the time had come for us to head back to Rann Riders and from here to Ahmedabad, ahead of your flight to the UK in the wee small hours.

Thanks

Gujarat is relatively little visited and it therefore has less in the way of tourist infrastructure than some other areas of North India. As a result a tour's success is dependent more on people, their goodwill, their contacts and

their influence, than almost anywhere else. We could not have been blessed with a better hostess, fixer, naturalist and friend than Manisha. She is welcomed wherever she goes in Gujarat and all the stops are pulled out to help her groups have a good time. Travelling with her is a true delight.

Big thanks are also due to all of our drivers, to lodge staff and naturalists, to restaurant staff, and to the tireless staff of our ground agency in Delhi who work behind the scenes to make our tours in India the success that they are. We loved visiting Gujarat and this is due in large part to you all.

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Purple Sunbird

Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; h = heard only)

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April											
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							✓					
2	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>											✓	✓
3	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</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	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓		✓			✓					✓	
9	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
10	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	
11	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓						
12	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
13	Western Reef Egret	<i>Egretta gularis</i>		✓						✓			✓	
14	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
15	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
16	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>			✓			✓	✓					
17	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>									✓		✓	
18	Yellow Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>			✓	✓			✓					
19	Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	
20	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>						✓					✓	
21	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>				✓								
22	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
23	Red-naped (Black) Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
24	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓	✓	✓							
25	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	✓	✓									✓	
26	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>												✓
27	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	✓										✓	✓
28	Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>											✓	

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April											
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
29	Cotton Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>											✓	
30	Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	✓										✓	
31	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	✓											
32	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>		✓	✓								✓	
33	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	✓											
34	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	✓										✓	
35	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	✓	✓										
36	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>											✓	
37	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
38	Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓				
39	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>				✓		✓						
40	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>						✓			✓			
41	Indian Vulture	<i>Gyps indicus</i>						✓						
42	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>		✓										
43	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	✓	✓										
44	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
45	White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>			✓				✓					
46	Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓					
47	Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>				✓			✓					
48	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>		✓				✓						
49	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>									✓			
50	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>									✓			
51	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennata</i>			✓			✓						
52	Crested Hawk-eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓					
53	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓									
54	Grey Francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	
55	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	
56	Barred Buttonquail	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>	✓											
57	Sarus Crane	<i>Grus antigone</i>	✓											
58	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>	✓											
59	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April											
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
60	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>							✓					
61	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
62	Brown Crake	<i>Amaurornis akool</i>			✓		✓							
63	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
64	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>							✓				✓	
65	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓	
66	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	✓											
67	Indian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
68	Indian Courser	<i>Cursorius coromandelicus</i>								✓			✓	
69	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>				✓	✓							
70	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
71	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>								✓				
72	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>											✓	
73	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>							✓				✓	
74	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	✓										✓	
75	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓											
76	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓						✓				✓	
77	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓				
78	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	✓											
79	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓							✓			✓	
80	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	✓										✓	
81	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	✓							✓			✓	
82	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>											✓	
83	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>												✓
84	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Larus genei</i>								✓				
85	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>											✓	
86	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>								✓			✓	
87	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓					✓	
88	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>											✓	
89	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>	✓	✓						✓	✓			
90	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April										
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
91	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
92	Red Collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>		✓	✓						✓		
93	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
94	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
95	Yellow-footed Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
96	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
97	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
98	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
99	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		h		✓	
100	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
101	Indian Scops Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>			✓		✓	✓					
102	Mottled Wood Owl	<i>Strix ocellata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
103	Indian Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo (bubo) benghalensis</i>							✓			✓	
104	Brown Fish-Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylanica</i>			✓								
105	Grey Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>			✓	✓							
106	Indian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>							✓				
107	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>				✓	✓	✓					
108	Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
109	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
110	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
111	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>			✓	✓	✓						
112	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
113	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>			✓								
114	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓		✓			✓				✓	
115	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
116	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos mahrattensis</i>			✓		✓	✓					
117	Brown-capped Pygmy-Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i>					✓	✓					
118	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>			✓			✓					
119	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>								✓			
120	Indian Bushlark	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>								✓			
121	Ashy-crowned Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>	✓	✓			✓			✓		✓	

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April											
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
122	Rufous-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes phoenicurus</i>	✓	✓							✓		✓	
123	Sykes' Lark	<i>Galerida deva</i>									✓			
124	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓							✓			
125	Dusky Crag-martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne concolor</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
126	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	
127	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
128	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropsis daurica</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	
129	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>			✓				✓				✓	
130	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>												✓
131	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				✓			✓					
132	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	✓											
133	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		✓										
134	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>									✓			
135	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
136	White-eared Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓	
137	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
138	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	✓	✓										
139	Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>		✓		✓								
140	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>				✓	✓	✓						
141	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	✓	✓		✓					✓			
142	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
143	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓						
144	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>	✓											
145	Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>		✓										
146	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>				h								
147	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	✓							✓	✓		✓	
148	Indian Robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
149	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓					
150	Eastern Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura</i>		✓	✓									
151	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓						
152	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>						✓						

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April										
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
153	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			✓				✓				
154	Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>			✓	✓	✓						
155	White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
156	Common Babbler	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>		✓						✓	✓		✓
157	Large Grey Babbler	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>						✓					
158	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
159	Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>											
160	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
161	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓			✓				
162	Thick-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum agile</i>						✓					
163	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
164	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	✓	✓									
165	Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>			✓						✓		
166	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓							
167	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>						✓			✓		
168	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>				✓							
169	Black Drongo	<i>Dicurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
170	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
171	Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus culminatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
172	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓					
173	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
174	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	✓				✓						✓
175	Brahminy Starling	<i>Temenuchus pagodarum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
176	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	✓	✓						✓	✓		✓
177	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
178	Chestnut-shouldered Petronia	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
179	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	✓	✓									
180	Black-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>		✓									
181	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	✓	✓									
182	Indian Silverbill	<i>Lonchura malabarica</i>		✓							✓		✓

	Common Name	Scientific Name	March/April										
			30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mammals													
1	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2	Indian Gerbil	<i>Tatera indica</i>								✓			
3	Black-naped Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓			
4	Nilgai	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
5	Blackbuck	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	✓	✓	✓								
6	Chinkara	<i>Gazella bennettii</i>									✓		
7	Chital	<i>Axis axis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
8	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
9	Asiatic Wild Ass	<i>Eguus hemionus</i>											✓
10	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		
11	Indian Wolf	<i>Canis lupus pallipes</i>	✓	✓									
12	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓			
13	Desert Fox	<i>Vulpes pusilla</i>											✓
14	Indian Fox	<i>Vulpes bengalensis</i>	✓										✓
15	Jungle cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>		✓									
16	Asiatic Lion	<i>Panthera leo persica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
17	Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	✓	✓									
18	Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
19	Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Herpestes smithii</i>						✓	✓				
20	Northern Plains Grey Langur	<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
21	Indian Hedgehog	<i>Paraechinus micropus</i>								✓			
22	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>						✓					