This was the eighth Birdquest tour to the remote, wonderfully bird rich north-east corner of the Indian subcontinent, and the fifth to take in the rugged Mishmi Hills. This year the weather was exceptionally fine and sunny, and there was no sign of the "pre-monsoon" rains that can last for days and ruin birding completely. However, there were man made safety issues that made it impossible for us to visit the tea gardens at Kaziranga and the Digboi Oilfields near Tinsukia, both of which are important birding sites, but thanks to the group being both keen and physically fit we were able, for the first time, to trek the whole 25 kilometres to the Firm Base camp in Namdapha, THE place to see the enigmatic White-bellied Heron in India. Some of the more memorable bird highlights of the tour included White-bellied Heron, Greater Adjutant, Jerdon's Baza, Changeable, Mountain and Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagles, the critically endangered Slender-billed and White-backed Vultures, Pied Harrier, Pallas's and Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Oriental Hobby, a heard only Sclater's Monal, Swamp Francolin, White-cheeked Partridge at its roost, Grey Peacock-Pheasant, Watercock, great views of a male Hodgson’s Frogmouth, memorable encounters with Dark-rumped Swifts, five species of hornbill including some really obliging Rufous-necked Hornbills, a lovely male Ward’s Trogon, Yellow-rumped Honeyguide (a new bird for the tour), Long-tailed and Silver-breasted Broadbills, Long-billed and Plain-backed Thrushes, Pygmy Blue, Sapphire, Pale-chinned, Snowy-browed,
Pale Blue, White-tailed, White-gorgeted and the very little known Large Blue Flycatchers, Siberian Rubythroat, Rufous-breasted Bush Robin, Rufous-necked, Black-faced, Grey-sided, Chestnut-crowned and Assam Laughingthrushes, amazing views of Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, Rusty-throated, Bar-winged, Long-billed, Streaked, Eye-browed, Tawny-breasted and, the very special, Spotted Wren-babbler, which is now known to belong to a new single species bird family Elachuridae, a very obliging Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler, Jerdon’s, Marsh and White-hooded Babblers, Streak-throated Barwing, Golden-breasted, Yellow-throated, Manipur, Brown-throated, Rusty-capped, and Rufous-throated Fulvettas, Grey, Beautiful, Rufous-backed and Long-tailed Sibias, White-naped Yuhina, Rufous-headed and Black-breasted Parrotbills, all three tesias, Collared Treepie, Smoky Leaf-, Yellow-vented, Buff-throated, White-spectacled, Grey-cheeked, Rufous-faced, Black-faced, and Sichuan Leaf Warblers, which is apparently the standard “lemon-rumped warbler” in this part of NE India. Mammals were a big deal on this tour of course, and we had some great encounters with Hoolock Gibbon, Asian Elephant, Asian One-horned Rhinoceros, Swamp Deer, wild Water Buffalo and many others.

Arriving at Dibrugarh airport, we were met by our vehicles and, after a bit of shopping and lunch in a local dhaba, headed off towards Namdapha Tiger Reserve. Because of our late arrival at Miao we were not allowed to enter the park, but had to stay in the town instead. Next morning we travelled to Deban with birding stops en route that produced a couple of Red-headed Trogons, Greater Flameback, Rufous Woodpecker, Large Woodshrike, Grey-chinned and Scarlet Minivets, Blyth’s Shrike-babbler, Black-hooded and Maroon Orioles, a heard only Blue-naped Pitta, Sultan Tit, Ashy and Himalayan Black Bulbuls, Buff-chested Babbler (a split from Rufous-fronted Babbler), Striated Babbler and Rufous-necked Laughingthrush. Soon after arriving in Deban it became clear that our plan to embark on our mini expedition into the forested depths of the park that day was not going to happen, as the crew was not ready. Instead we spent the day birding along the track to Vijaynagar seeing, among other birds, Oriental Hobby, Pin-tailed Green Pigeon, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Banded Bay Cuckoo, two distant Rufous-necked Hornbills, one of the several heard-only Pale-headed Woodpeckers of the trip, Yellow-bellied and Rufous-faced Warblers, Slaty-bellied Treia, Yellow-vented Warbler, Grey-throated Babbler, Rufous-throated and Nepal Fulvettas, Long-tailed Sibia, and good numbers of Streaked Spiderhunters. After dusk a short spotlighting session at Deban produced great views of two different Red Giant Flying Squirrel and much briefer views of a smaller, unidentified species of flying squirrel.
Next morning we were ready to begin our trek with a team that included our kitchen crew of three, plus 25 porters, who had to be hired to carry all the supplies as the two elephant teams, which we normally use, was not available. We crossed the fast-flowing Noa Dihing River by a new bamboo bridge, and then waded up to our knees across the smaller Deban River, before joining the main track to Haldibari (475m asl). Best birds during the morning's walk were Striated Heron, Brown Dipper, Mountain Hawk-Eagle, a displaying pair of Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Speckled and White-browed Piculets, two heard only Green Cochoas, Blue-winged and Red-tailed Minlas, Silver-eared Mesia, Rufous-backed Sibia and a small flock of Long-tailed Minivets. After lunch at Haldibari, we plodded on to Hornbill (610m asl), where we camped for the night, seeing a flock of Austen's Brown Hornbills and a confiding Eye-browed Wren-babbler on the way, and spending quite some time trying to locate a hooting Brown Wood Owl in very tall, hopelessly dense forest. After dark we went frogmouthing, but only managed to hear the species, despite a lot of hard work. However, it proved worth the effort, as we had great close-up views of a pair of roosting Rufous-necked Hornbills, Large Hawk Cuckoo, and heard a number of calling owls. Next morning, after birding around the Hornbill camp, we continued our trek as we still had a long way to go to our final destination, Firm Base and its White-bellied Herons, where no Birdquest group had been before. During the morning we walked seven kilometres to Ranijheel finding en route a singing Spotted Wren-babbler (or Spotted Elachura), which, to my amazement, gave great views to us all, Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker, several Greater Yellownapes, few Golden Babblers, a big flock of White-crested Laughingthrushes, our first Rusty-fronted Barwings, a few Himalayan Cutias and three species of sibia. Our local guide also glimpsed a Beautiful Nuthatch, but unfortunately it got away before anyone else managed to get on it. We also watched a pair of Large Indian Civets copulating high in a tree! After lunch at Ranijheel we walked six more kilometres, including a 400 metre vertical descent, before we finally reached the Firm Base, a beautifully situated camp site on the shores of the Noa Dihing River. When we arrived there, our crew had already put up camp, and all we had to do was to enjoy a refreshing dip in the river before afternoon tea and/or beer, and our first scope views of a magnificent White-bellied Heron sitting in a distant tree. During the last couple of years Firm Base area has become THE place in Namdapha (and India!) to see this very rare bird, which, according to BirdLife International, currently has a world population of around 70-400 birds. A flock of 11 Great Hornbills at dusk on the other side of the river was also a memorable sight.

Camp Firm Base, the place to see the enigmatic White-bellied Heron in India (Gerry Richards)
Next morning we were up early to scan the area for more herons, and saw one fly by that showed well to all of us. Other birds found here included Small Pratincole and Crested Kingfisher. Unfortunately the lack of elephants meant that we were not able to cross the Noa Dihing River and visit the sure-fire area for Blyth's Kingfisher, another avian attraction of this remote part of the park. During the morning we walked back to Ranijheel seeing a small flock of Silver-breasted Broadbills, many Grey-headed Parrotbills, Red-billed Scimitar Babbler, Black Eagle and Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle, White-spectacled Warbler and Striated Roosting White-cheeked Partridge.

Yuhina en route. In the afternoon we birded the 'nuthatch ridge' and other adjacent areas, but failed to find anything worth mentioning. At dusk we spent some time trying to locate a Brown Wood Owl, which I had heard hooting earlier, but it was a no show. After the dinner some of us continued frogmouthing, which again produced couple of calling birds but they were hiding high in hopelessly dense foliage, and we were unable to make visual contact.

Before breakfast next morning we took a walk along the ridge which produced, after using playback, the hoped for Grey Peacock-Pheasant, but only brief views were had of this inveterate skulker of the Namdapha forests. After breakfast we began the walk back to Hornbill spending quite a lot of time in the bamboo zone, which is the key area for the enigmatic Snowy-throated Babbler, but without success. However, on the 'nuthatch ridge' we saw several Rufous-necked Hornbills, Speckled and White-browed Piculet, a confiding Collared Treetie, Red-billed Scimitar Babbler, White-hooded Babbler, Rufous-headed Parrotbill, and Large and Small Niltavas. In the evening we did more night birding around Hornbill, but the only species worth mentioning was a roosting White-cheeked Partridge, which was found near the camp by our guides while we were in the middle of the log call.

We awoke next day to an approaching thunderstorm, which reached us just as we were beginning the walk back to Deban. Luckily the rain didn't last long, and when we reached the Haldibari camp, our lunch spot, the sun was shining. A birding session at Haldibari produced a pair of Spot-throated Babblers and a singing Blue-throated Flycatcher, both new species for us. After lunch we continued walking, spending quite a bit of time in an area of bamboo for our last chance for the Snowy-throated Babbler, but failed to find it. Instead we located a singing White-tailed Flycatcher, which was very well hidden and gave us only briefest of glimpses. Back at Deban it was time for a well-earned (but cold!) bucket wash and to say goodbye and tip all the 25 porters that had worked for us in the previous five days.
Our last morning in windy Deban started with a pre-breakfast outing, which produced great views of a Chestnut-headed Tesia and a male Asian Fairy-bluebird, both new birds for our list. After breakfast we headed back to the Vijaynagar road and tried to locate some of the species we still needed and saw another Collared Treepie, three Slaty-backed Forktails, Pygmy Flycatcher, Little Spiderhunter, Streaked Wren-babbler, a pair of Oriental Hobbies, and Mountain Tailorbird. In the afternoon we drove to Tinsukia, where the wondrous delights of civilization, minus a hot shower, awaited us at the remarkable Hotel Centrepoint!

We had great views of a pair of Black-breasted Parrotbills at Dibru-Saikhowa (Hannu Jännes)

Our day's birding at Dibru Saikhowa started with good news as the Black-breasted Parrotbill habitat, and its birds, was back, and, after crossing the Brahmaputra, followed by a rather long walk, we had great views of a pair of these magnificent birds. Then another long walk took us to a site, where the normally invisible Marsh Warbler behaved out of character and provided us with reasonable views! We then took a boat to the other side of the river, where we had a good sit-down lunch before taking a short boat trip around a Water Hyacinth clogged wetland, which held the largest variety of freshwater birds to date, including Ferruginous Pochard. During the late afternoon walk our first attempt to see a calling Jerdon's Babbler was interrupted by a crazy wild Water Buffalo, which we gave a wide berth to, but at the second site we managed to secure good views of the babbler for all. On the way back, just before dusk, we located a pair of Swamp Francolins and a Watercock, a write-in, at a small pool. Other birds seen during a very successful day included two Pied Harriers, Hen Harrier, Peregrine Falcon, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Red-crested Pochard (a write-in), White-rumped and Slender-billed Vultures, Sand Lark, Striated Babbler, Chestnut-capped Babbler, many Bluethroats, Blue Rock Thrush, Chestnut Munia, Richard's and many Rosy Pipits, Smoky and Paddyfield Warblers, Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler and Black-faced Bunting.

Leaving civilization behind once more, off we headed for the Mishmi Hills. On this occasion we crossed the Brahmaputra River at Saikhowa Ghat, on what must be one of the world's most primitive ferries. The waterway was narrow and deep, which meant that the crossing was a quick and smooth operation, taking no more than twenty minutes. The river wasn't as birdy as it usually is, but we still managed to see couple of Pallas's Gulls, a new bird for us. Our initial plan was to stay in Roing for the first night, but due to possible unrest caused by the approaching elections, it was deemed better to stay away from civilisation, and we decided to drive directly to the guesthouse at Mayodia pass for a four nights stay. En route we did have several birding stops which produced a total of 310 migrating Black/Black-eared Kites, really good views of the Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler hopping about on the road side, a very confiding Long-billed Wren-babbler in one of the road side gullies, male Blyth's Tragopan crossing the road right in front of our first vehicle and a flock of Speckled Wood Pigeons.
The next morning was spent birding along the main road on both sides of the Mayodia pass, where the most exciting discovery was a distant Sclater's Monal that responded couple of times to our play-back, but stayed out of sight despite our efforts. Other new and interesting birds during our morning's birding included Streak-throated Barwing, Green Shrike-babbler, many Yellow-browed and Yellow-cheeked and two Coal Tits, Ashy-throated Warbler, Bar-winged Wren-babbler, Brown-throated, Yellow-throated, Rufous-winged, Golden-breasted, and Manipur Fulvetas, Bar-throated Minla, Stripe-throated Yuhina, White-tailed Nuthatch, Rusty-flanked Treecreeper, Blue-fronted Redstart, Green-tailed Sunbird and Dark-rumped Rosefinch. In the afternoon we searched various roadside spots below 2200 meters, and found some first-class East Himalayan birds including a male Yellow-rumped Honeyguide (a write-inn) guarding a beehive, and a pair of Ward's Trogons. There were thunder and couple of rain showers this and the following afternoon and some rain during couple of the nights, but all in all the weather stayed very pleasant during our stay and the feared Mishmi weather, with continuous rain for days, didn't come to our way this year.

Excited by the previous day's encounter with the monal we returned to the pass the next morning. During the night it had rained quite heavily and the road to the north side of the pass was covered with 10 cm layer of fresh snow. It was pretty cold and the birds stayed quiet, so after a picnic breakfast in the snow, we moved to the south side of the pass and walked all the way down to our accommodation. Best birds during morning were a splendid group of Slender-billed Scimitar Babblers, Fire-tailed Sunbird, a flock of confiding Black-faced Laughingthrushes and a Hume's Bush Warbler. In the afternoon we did some roadside birding at lower altitudes seeing, among other things, a flock of ten Grey-sided Laughingthrushes, a new bird for us.

A Himalayan Owl had been calling a lot during the night around our guesthouse and in the morning those who were brave enough to abandon their warm sleeping bags half an hour before the actual wake-up time, managed to see the bird. After a quick, unproductive early visit to the monal area we spent the morning chasing Blyth's Tragopan amongst others, had lunch at Tewarigaon, and then birded our way back to the guesthouse for our last night there.

After an early breakfast, it was time to say good bye to the Mayodia Guesthouse (aka. 'the big freezer') and head down for the lowlands. Our first birding stop was at the tragopan site, where, after some hard work, all of us had at least passable views of a surprisingly tape responsive male. Two other Blyth's Tragopans were...
also heard in the same area. Unfortunately the Black-headed Shrike-babbler and Broad-billed Warbler heard in the area were much less responsive to our playback attempts. Lower down we finally connected with Rusty-throated Wren-babbler, which gave us reasonable views. Down at Roing in the evening we enjoyed the pleasantly warm lowland air, electricity and dinner at a homestay, before hitting the hills again in an attempt to try and see the Hodgson's Frogmouth, a bird that had already eluded us several times during the trip. As always it was hard work but in the end we all had great views of this magnificent bird.

Next morning we were up early and headed back to the lower slopes of the Mishmi Hills exploring the bamboo zone for anything of interest that we still needed to see. The start was slow, but work on interesting sounding, but very skulking flycatchers, finally paid off, and we had decent views of one or two Large Blue Flycatchers. This very little known species, a recent split from Hill Blue Flycatcher, is known to occur in NE India, but there are very few recent observations. All in all we saw one, maybe two, individuals, and heard few more, in a narrow altitudinal range. Later it was time to head back to Roing, and continue our journey towards Tinsukia. After crossing the Brahmaputra we had time for birding, which produced our first Changeable Hawk-Eagle and Baya Weaver of the trip. Back in Tinsukia and Hotel Centerpoint we enjoyed the first (lukewarm) shower of the trip!

The following morning we were supposed to visit the famous Digboi Oilfields, about an hour’s drive away from Tinsukia, but the place remains closed to visitors, as it has been for the last couple of years, and we had to find ourselves a bit of similar habitat to try and find the elusive Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush. Eventually we did find an approachable vocal pair, and spent quite a lot of time with them but failed to get any views of the birds. Other birds in the area included Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, heard only Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo and big flock of Brown-backed Needletails. Later we headed off to Dibrugarh Airport, where Chris had to leave us, before continuing to Kaziranga National Park and arriving there at sunset.

During our stay at Kaziranga, we spent two days driving around the Central and Western Range in our open-topped vehicle. As all of us had seen Bengal Florican earlier, we didn't need to worry too much about seeing this often tricky to find species, and concentrated on other targets. We had great views of the ‘big four’ mammals, Asian Elephant, Asian One-horned Rhinoceros, Swamp Deer, wild Water Buffalo, and in addition we heard the roaring of a big male Tiger and saw a group of nine Smooth-coated Otters. There was the usual array of wetland birds in good numbers including many Black-necked Storks and both the Lesser and Greater Adjutant, Bar-headed Goose, Spot-billed Pelican, Grey-headed and Northern Lapwings, River Terns, and, to our surprise, a dowitcher, which was unfortunately too distant for species specific identification. Raptors also made a generally good showing including Pallas’s and Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Changeable Hawk-Eagle, Western Osprey and Cinereous Vulture, a write-in. In the shady riparian woodland we had great views of many Red Junglefowl, Common Emerald Doves, Green Imperial Pigeons, Green-billed Malkohas, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Blue-bearded, Blue-tailed, Green and Chestnut-headed Bee-eaters, Crimson Sunbird, Taiga, Pale-chinned Blue, Pale Blue and Saphire Flycatchers, Grey-crowned
Pygmy Woodpecker, Black-rumped Flameback, a flock of three Common Woodshrikes, a write-inn and apparently outside the range maps in our bird books, Abbott's Babbler, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch and White-rumped Shama. The grasslands produced a few new birds for us including Ashy Prinia and a heard only Slender-billed Babbler. The tea gardens, normally an excellent place for some quality birds, including Blue-naped Pitta, were off-limits this year due to security issues, but on our last morning we headed for another part of the low hills which produced a calling female pitta. Other birds seen during the last morning included Siberian Rubythroat, Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush and two Kalij Pheasants.

From Kaziranga we had a long drive to Shillong, for the last leg of the tour. We arrived there in pretty good time considering the major road improvements that are going on all along the way. The next day saw us heading off for Cherrapunjee, one of the wettest places on earth. On the way, we spent the morning hours birding at Duwan Sing Syiem View Point. It took quite some time before we even heard our main target, the endemic Tawny-breasted Wren-babbler, and even longer before we found an individual that agreed to play ball with us. Other birds seen in this good area included Long-billed Thrush, our first Grey-bellied Tesia, several Crested Finchbills, a couple of Flavescent Bulbuls, Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, Orange-barred Leaf Warbler, Black-throated Prinia, and a very brief Golden Bush Robin. Later during the morning we had a stop at a very scenic gorge area, which produced great views of many Dark-rumped, and some Blyth’s, Swifts. Lunch was enjoyed in a new restaurant at Cherrapunjee, and then it was time to pay a visit to the Nohkallikai Falls, which in the unusually clear and sunny weather were a breath-taking sight. During the late afternoon we searched another valley near the Duwan Sing Syiem View Point, and had another go with the Tawny-breasted Wren-babbler, and also saw Striated Prinia, a new bird for us.

On our second day in Meghalaya we headed up to the forested ridge above the town (“Shillong Ridge”), at just under 1800m. It is a very birdy area, and we enjoyed a full day there. After some effort the forest edge gave up Assam Laughingthrush, Grey Sibia, Russet Sparrow and Rusty-capped Fulvetta. In the afternoon, after a picnic lunch, we checked open areas with scrub, trying to find the Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler, which we had seen before here but drew a blank this time. However, it was great to see a Jerdon’s Baza in flight and hear cuckoos calling everywhere.

On our last morning we briefly revisited the scrub covered valley at Shillong Ridge in order to try and find the scimitar babbler, but only managed to see a Lesser Coucal, Eurasian Wryneck, White-crowned Forktail and two Buff-throated Warblers, all new birds for us. After this all that was left was to drive down to Guwahati through the many road works. A brief visit to Baragaon landfill on the outskirts of Guwahati was an experience as usual with all the people, waste, smell and Greater Adjutants. In addition we saw many Black, and a handful of Black-eared Kites, the last additions to our bird list. There is surely no other place for birding like India, and may it always be such a fantastic haven for birds.
Elephants in Kaziranga (Hannu Jännes)

Golden-breasted Fulvetta on Mishmi Hills (Hannu Jännes)
SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). **IOC World Bird Names.** This list is updated several times annually and is available at [http://www.worldbirdnames.org](http://www.worldbirdnames.org).

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).
Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).
Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered ‘special’ birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

**Lesser Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*
**Bar-headed Goose** *Anser indicus* Common in Kaziranga.
**Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna* Two in Kaziranga.
**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*
**Gadwall** *Anas strepera*
**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*
**Indian Spot-billed Duck (Spot-billed D)** *Anas poecilorhyncha*
**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*
**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*
**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*
**Eurasian Teal** *Anas crecca*
**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina* A pair at Dibru-Saikhowa.
**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*
**Ferruginous Duck (F Pochard)** *Aythya nyroca*
**Common Merganser (Goosander)** *Mergus merganser*

**Swamp Francolin** ◊ *Francolinus gularis* A pair seen at Dibru-Saikhowa.
**Hill Partridge** (Common Hill-P) *Arborophila torqueola* (H) Commonly heard on Mishmi Hills.
**White-cheeked Partridge** ◊ (W-c Hill-P) *Arborophila atrogularis* Great views of a roosting bird in Namdapha.
**Chestnut-breasted Partridge** ◊ (C-b Hill-P) *Arborophila mandelli* (H) A singleton was heard on Mishmi Hills.
**Blyth’s Tragopan** ◊ *Tragopan blythii* One male was seen and two more were heard on Mishmi Hills.
**Sclater’s Monal** ◊ *Lophophorus sclateri* (H) One distant bird responded to our playback on Mishmi Hills.
**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus*
**Kalij Pheasant (Kaleej P)** *Lophura leucomelas*
**Grey Peacock-Pheasant** ◊ *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* One was sighted, and many were heard in Namdapha.
**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*
**Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans*
**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra* One in flight by the Brahmaputra on the way to Mishmi Hills.
Woolly-necked Stork  *Ciconia episcopus*  
Black-necked Stork  *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*  Fairly common in Kaziranga.
Lesser Adjutant  *Leptoptilos javanicus*
Greater Adjutant  *Leptoptilos dubius*  This remarkable species was sighted in Kaziranga and at Baragaon.
Black-crowned Night Heron  *Nycticorax nycticorax*
Striated Heron (Little H, Little Green H)  *Butorides striata*  A total of three birds in Namdapha.
Indian Pond Heron  *Ardeola grayii*
Eastern Cattle Egret  *Bubulcus coromandus*
Grey Heron  *Ardea cinerea*
White-bellied Heron  *Ardea insignis*  Two individuals at Firm Base in Namdapha. Magnificent!!!
Purple Heron  *Ardea purpurea*
Great Egret  *Egretta alba*
Intermediate Egret  *Egretta intermedia*
Little Egret  *Egretta garzetta*
Spot-billed Pelican  *Pelecanus philippensis*
Little Cormorant  *Phalacrocorax niger*
Great Cormorant  *Phalacrocorax carbo*
Oriental Darter  *Anhinga melanogaster*
Western Osprey  *Pandion haliaetus*
Black-winged Kite (B-shouldered K)  *Elanus caeruleus*
Crested Honey Buzzard (Oriental H-B)  *Pernis ptilorhyncus*
Jerdon’s Baza  *Aviceda jerdoni*  One in flight near Shillong.
White-rumped Vulture  *Gyps bengalensis*  Seen at Dibru-Saikhowa and in Kaziranga.
Slender-billed Vulture  *Gyps tenuirostris*  One at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Himalayan Vulture (H Griffin)  *Gyps himalayensis*
Griffon Vulture  *Gyps fulvus*
Cinereous Vulture  *Aegypius monachus*  One in Kaziranga was a write-inn.
Crested Serpent Eagle  *Spilornis cheela*

Changeable Hawk-Eagle  *Nisaetus limnaeetus*
Mountain Hawk-Eagle  *Nisaetus nipalensis*
Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle  *Lophotriorchis kienerii*
Black Eagle  *Ictinaetus malaiensis*
Booted Eagle  *Hieraaetus pennatus*
Crested Goshawk  *Accipiter trivirgatus*
Shikra  *Accipiter badius*
Eurasian Sparrowhawk  *Accipiter nisus*
Hen Harrier  *Circus cyaneus*  Male at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Pied Harrier  *Circus melanoleucos*  Two birds, adult female and juv, at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
Black-eared Kite *Milvus [migrans] lineatus*
Pallas’s Fish Eagle ◊ *Haliaeetus leucoryphus*  Great views of several birds in Kaziranga.
Grey-headed Fish Eagle ◊ *Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*
Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo burmanicus*  A handful of migrants on Mishmi Hills.
White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
Watercock *Gallicrex cinerea*  One at Dibru-Saikhowa was a write-inn.
Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*
Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*
Eurasian Coot (Common C) *Fulica atra*
Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*
River Lapwing *Vanellus duvauceli*
Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*
Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*
Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*
Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus*
Unidentified Dowitcher *Limnodromus sp*  One in a flock with some Spotted Redshanks in Kaziranga.
Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*  One in Kaziranga was a write-inn.
Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*
Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*
Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Greater Adjutants and people at Baragaon dump near Guwahati (Hannu Jännes)

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
Temminck’s Stint *Calidris temminckii*
Small Pratincole *Glaerola lacteal*  One in Namdapha.
Pallas’s Gull (Great Black-headed G) *Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus*
River Tern *Sterna aurantia*
Rock Pigeon (R Dove) *Columba livia*
Speckled Wood Pigeon  ◊  *Columbia hodgsonii*  A flock of four on Mishmi Hills.
Oriental Turtle Dove (Rufous T D)  *Streptopelia orientalis*
Red Turtle Dove (Red-collared D)  *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
Spotted Dove  *Spilopelia chinensis*
Barred Cuckoo-Dove  *Macropygia unchall*  Only one, on Mishmi Hills, was noted.
Common Emerald Dove  *Chalcophaps indica*
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon  *Treron phoenicopterus*
Pin-tailed Green Pigeon  ◊  *Treron apicauda*
Green Imperial Pigeon  *Ducula aenea*
Mountain Imperial Pigeon  *Ducula badia*
Greater Coucal  *Centropus sinensis*
Lesser Coucal  *Centropus bengalensis*  A singing bird near Shillong in Meghalaya.
Green-billed Malkoha  *Phaenicophaeus tristis*  A few were noted in Kaziranga.
Asian Koel  *Eudynamys scolopaceus*
Banded Bay Cuckoo  *Cacomantis sonneratii*
Plaintive Cuckoo  *Cacomantis merulinus*
Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo  *Surniculus lugubris*  (H)  A singleton at Digboi.
Large Hawk-Cuckoo  *Hierococcyx sparverioides*  Widespread and commonly heard.
Whistling Hawk-Cuckoo (Hodgson’s H-C)  *Hierococcyx nisicolor*  (H)  One distant individual near Cherrapunjee.
Himalayan Cuckoo  *Cuculus saturatus*  Several in Meghalaya.
Eurasian Cuckoo (Common C)  *Cuculus canorus*  Several in Meghalaya.
Mountain Scops Owl  *Otus spilocephalus*  (H)
Oriental Scops Owl  *Otus sunia*  (H)
Brown Wood Owl  *Strix leptogrammica*  (H)  Two were heard in Namdapha, and one on the Mishmi Hills.

**Great Hornbill and Stork-billed Kingfisher (Hannu Jännes)**

Himalayan Owl  ◊  (H Wood Owl)  *Strix nivicolum*  One was seen on Mishmi Hills.
Collared Owlet  *Glaucidium brodiei*  (H)
Asian Barred Owlet  *Glaucidium cuculoides*
Brown Hawk-Owl (Brown Boobook)  *Ninox scutulata*  (H)
Hodgson’s Frogmouth  ◊  *Batrachostomus hodgsoni*
Large-tailed Nightjar  *Caprimulgus macrurus*  (LO)(H)  Heard near our accommodation in Kaziranga.
Himalayan Swiftlet  *Aerodramus brevirostris*
Brown-backed Needletail (Brown-throated N, Brown N)  *Hirundapus giganteus*
Asian Palm Swift  *Cypsiurus balasiensis*
Blyth’s Swift  *Apus leuconyces*
Dark-rumped Swift  ◊  *Apus acuticauda*
House Swift  *Apus nipalensis*
Red-headed Trogon  *Harpactes erythrocephalus*
Ward’s Trogon  *Harpactes wardi*  Great views of a male, and briefer views of a female, on Mishmi Hills.
Indian Roller  *Coracias benghalensis*
Oriental Dollarbird (Dollarbird)  *Eurystomus orientalis*
Stork-billed Kingfisher  *Pelargopsis capensis*
White-throated Kingfisher  *Halcyon smyrnensis*
Common Kingfisher  *Alcedo atthis*
Crested Kingfisher (Himalayan Pied K)  *Ceryle lugubris*
Pied Kingfisher (Lesser Pied K)  *Ceryle rudis*
Blue-bearded Bee-eater  *Nyctyornis athertoni*
Green Bee-eater (Little Green B-e)  *Merops orientalis*
Blue-tailed Bee-eater  *Merops philippinus*
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater  *Merops leschenaulti*
Common Hoopoe (Eurasian H)  *Upupa epops*
Austen’s Brown Hornbill  *Anorrhinus austeni*  Flock of seven and a singleton in Namdapha.
Oriental Pied Hornbill  *Anthracoceros albirostris*  A handful of birds were noted in the lowlands.
Great Hornbill (Great Pied H)  *Buceros bicornis*  Small numbers at Namdapha and Kaziranga.
Rufous-necked Hornbill  *Aceros nipalensis*  Recorded daily at Namdapha.
Wreathed Hornbill  *Rhyticeros undulatus*  Only a singleton at Namdapha.
Great Barbet  *Megalaima virens*
Lineated Barbet  *Megalaima lineata*
Golden-throated Barbet  *Megalaima franklinii*
Blue-throated Barbet  *Megalaima asiatica*

Green Bee-eater and Golden-fronted Leafbird (Hannu Jännes)
Grey-headed Woodpecker (G-faced W)  *Picus canus*
Black-rumped Flameback  *Dinopium benghalense*
Greater Flameback  *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*
Pale-headed Woodpecker  *Gecinulus grantia* (H)  Heard in Namdapha and on Mishmi Hills.
Bay Woodpecker  *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*
Rufous Woodpecker  *Micropterus brachyurus*  Two in Namdapha.
Common Kestrel  *Falco tinnunculus*
Oriental Hobby  *Falco severus*  A pair in Namdapha.
Peregrine Falcon  *Falco peregrinus*
Alexandrine Parakeet  *Psittacula eupatria*
Rose-ringed Parakeet (Ring-necked P)  *Psittacula krameri*
Blossom-headed Parakeet (Rosy-headed P)  *Psittacula roseata*
Red-breasted Parakeet  *Psittacula alexandri*
Long-tailed Broadbill  *Psarisomus dalhousiae*  Great views of one on Mishmi Hills.
Silver-breasted Broadbill  *Serilophus lunatus*  A flock of six in Namdapha.
Blue-naped Pitta  *Hydrornis nipalensis* (H)  Four were heard in Namdapha and one in Kaziranga.
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike (Pied F-s)  *Hemipus picatus*
Large Woodshrike  *Tephrodornis gularis*
Common Woodshrike  *Tephrodornis pondicerianus*  A flock of three in Kaziranga was a surprise.
Ashy Woodswallow  *Artamus fuscus*
Common Iora  *Aegithina tiphia*
Large Cuckoo-shrike  *Coracina macei*
Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike  *Coracina melanochistos*

Small Minivet  *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*
Grey-chinned Minivet  *Pericrocotus solaris*
Long-tailed Minivet  *Pericrocotus ethologus*
Short-billed Minivet  *Pericrocotus brevirostris*
Scarlet Minivet  *Pericrocotus speciosus*
Brown Shrike  *Lanius cristatus*  A total of three in the lowlands.
Long-tailed Shrike  *Lanius schach*
Grey-backed Shrike  *Lanius tephronotus*
White-bellied Erpornis (W-b Yuhina)  *Erpornis zantholeuca*
Black-headed Shrike-babbler  *Pteruthius rufiventer* (H)  Two were heard on Mishmi Hills.
Blyth’s Shrike-babbler (White-browed S-b)  *Pteruthius aeralatus*
Green Shrike-babbler  *Pteruthius xanthochlorus*  Several were seen north of Mayodia Pass on Mishmi Hills.
Black-eared Shrike-babbler  *Pteruthius melanotis*
Black-hooded Oriole  *Oriolus xanthornus*
Maroon Oriole  *Oriolus trailii*
Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*
Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*
Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer*
Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*
White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicolis*
Black-naped Monarch (B-n Blue Monarch) *Hypothymis azurea*
Yellow-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa flavirostris*
Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda*
Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae*
Collared Treepie *Dendrocitta frontalis* Two in Namdapha and one on Mishmi Hills.
House Crow *Corvus splendens*
Eastern Jungle Crow *Corvus levillantii*
Yellow-bellied Fairy-flycatcher (Y-b Fantail) *Chelidorhynx hypoxantha*
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*
Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus*
Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanaea*
Coal Tit *Parus ater* Two on Mishmi Hills.
Cinereous Tit (Grey Tit) *Parus cinereus*
Green-backed Tit *Parus monticulus*
Yellow-cheeked Tit (Black-spotted Yellow T) *Parus spilonotus*
Sand Lark *Alaudala raytal*
Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

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Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons*
Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus striatus*
Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*
Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*
Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens* Two in Meghalaya.
White-throated Bulbul *Alophoixus flaveolus*
Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mclelandii*
Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos flavala*
Himalayan Black Bulbul (Black B) *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*
Grey-throated Martin (Plain Martin, G-t Sand-martin, Brown-throated Sand M) *Riparia chinensis*
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
Striated Swallow *Cecropis striolata*
Pygmy Wren-babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla* Mostly heard, but one was seen briefly at Namdapha.
Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*
Rufous-faced Warbler ◊ *Abroscopus albogularis*
Black-faced Warbler ◊ *Abroscopus schisticeps*
Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cuculatus*
Broad-billed Warbler ◊ *Tickellia hodgsoni* (H) Two were heard on Mishmi Hills, but they refused to show.
Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (Strong-footed B-w, Brownish-flanked B-w) *Horornis fortipes*
Hume’s Bush Warbler *Horornis brunnescens* A few on Mishmi Hills.
Grey-bellied Tesia (Yellow-browed T) *Tesia cyaniventer* Only noted in Meghalaya where we had views of two birds.
Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivacea* Common in Namdapha.
Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler ◊ (Large B-w) *Cettia major* A singing bird at Dibru-Saikhowa was a bonus.
Chestnut-headed Tesia *Cettia castanecoronata* Good views of one at Deban. See Note.
Black-throated Bushtit (Black-throated T, Red-headed T) *Aegithalos concinnus*
Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*
Smoky Warbler ◊ (Smoky Leaf-w) *Phylloscopus fuliginivent *
Tickell’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis*
Buff-throated Leaf Warbler (B-t Warbler) *Phylloscopus subaffinis* Two calling birds near Shillong.
Orange-barred Leaf Warbler (Buff-b Warbler) *Phylloscopus pulcher* Common in Meghalaya.
Sichuan Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus forresti* A flock of three in Namdapha. See Note.
Yellow-browed Warbler (Y-b Leaf-warbler, Inornate W) *Phylloscopus inornatus*
Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* A few, including a singing bird, in Kaziranga.
Blyth’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides* Common in Meghalaya.
Yellow-vented Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus cantator*
Grey-hooded Warbler *Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*
White-spectacled Warbler ◊ *Seicercus affinis* Small numbers in Namdapha.
Grey-cheeked Warbler ◊ *Seicercus poliogenys*
Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaneiceps*
Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* A total of five at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Spotted Bush Warbler *Locustella thoracica* (H) One was heard at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris*
Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*
Striated Prinia *Prinia crinigera* A few in Meghalaya.
Black-throated Prinia *Prinia atrogularis*
Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsoni*
Yellow-bellied Prinia  *Prinia flaviventris*
Ashy Prinia  *Prinia socialis*
Plain Prinia  *Prinia inornata*
Common Tailorbird  *Orthotomus sutorius*
Dark-necked Tailorbird (Black-n T)  *Orthotomus atrogularis*  (H)  A few were heard in Namdapha.
Large Scimitar Babbler  *Pomatorhinus hypoleucus*  (H)  Several were heard in Namdapha.
White-browed Scimitar Babbler  *Pomatorhinus schisticeps*
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler  *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*
Red-billed Scimitar Babbler  ◊  (Orange -b S-b, Long-billed S-b)  *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps*  
Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler  ◊  (Sickle-b S-b)  *Pomatorhinus superciliaris*  Great views of three on Mishmi Hills.
Rusty-throated Wren-babbler  ◊  (Mishmi W-b)  *Spelaeornis badeigularis*  Fairly common on Mishmi Hills.
Bar-winged Wren-babbler  ◊  *Spelaeornis troglodytoides*  Great views on Mishmi Hills.
Tawny-breasted Wren-babbler  ◊  *Spelaeornis longicaudatus*  Fairly common in Meghalaya.
Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler  ◊  (Chevron-breasted B)  *Sphenocichla roberti*  Great views of one on Mishmi Hills.
Grey-throated Babbler  *Stachyris nigriceps*
Buff-chested Babbler  *Stachyridopsis ambigua*  A recent split from Rufous-fronted Babbler  *S. ruffrons*.
Rufous-capped Babbler  *Stachyridopsis ruficeps*
Golden Babbler  *Stachyridopsis chrysaea*
Pin-striped Tit-Babbler (Striped Tit-babbler)  *Macronus gularis*  (H)
Chestnut-capped Babbler  *Timalia pileata*
Yellow-throated Fulvetta  ◊  *Alcippe cinerea*  
Rufous-winged Fulvetta  *Alcippe castaneiceps*
Rufous-throated Fulvetta  ◊  *Alcippe rufogularis*  Several birds were seen in Namdapha.
Rusty-capped Fulvetta  ◊  *Alcippe dubia*  A few birds were seen in Meghalaya.

Nepal Fulvetta  ◊  *Alcippe nipalensis*
Streaked Wren-babbler  *Napothera brevicaudata*  Great views of one in Namdapha.
Eyebrowed Wren-babbler  *Napothera epilepidota*  Good views of one in Namdapha.
White-hooded Babbler  ◊  (Indian W-h B)  *Gampsorhynchus rufulus*  
Long-billed Wren-babbler  *Rimator malacoptilus*  Excellent views of one on Mishmi Hills.
Abbott's Babbler  *Malacocincla abbotti*
Spot-throated Babbler  ◊  *Pellorneum albiventre*  A pair in Namdapha plus a singing bird on Mishmi Hills.
Marsh Babbler  ◊  *Pellorneum palustre*  Pretty good views of one at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Puff-throated Babbler  *Pellorneum ruficeps*
Striated Babbler  ◊  *Turdoides earlei*
Slender-billed Babbler  ◊  *Turdoides longirostris*  (H)  One was heard in Kaziranga, but it refused to show.
White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus*
Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax pectoralis*
Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush ◊ *Garrulax nuchalis* (H)
Rufous-necked Laughingthrush ◊ *Garrulax ruficollis*
Grey-sided Laughingthrush ◊ *Garrulax caerulatus*  A flock of ten on Mishmi Hills gave us reasonable views.
Striated Laughingthrush *Garrulax striatus*
Blue-winged Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron squamatum* (H)
Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron affine*  Great views of a small flock at Mayodia Pass.
Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush ◊ (Red-headed L) *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*
Assam Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron chrysopterum*  A few with good views in Meghalaya.
Himalayan Cutia *Cutia nipalensis*  Seen in Namdapha and on Mishmi Hills.
Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera*
Bar-throated Minla *Minla striigula*
Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotincta*
Rusty-fronted Barwing ◊ *Actinodura egertoni*
Streak-throated Barwing ◊ *Actinodura waldeni*  A few at Mayodia Pass.
Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argentauris*
Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea*
Rufous-backed Sibia *Heterophasia annectans*
Grey Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia gracilis*  Fairly common in Meghalaya.
Beautiful Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia pulchella*
Long-tailed Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia picaoides*
Golden-breasted Fulvetta ◊ *Lioparus chrysotis*  Excellent views on Mishmi Hills.
Brown-throated Fulvetta ◊ (Ludlow’s F) *Fulvetta ludlowi*  Excellent views on Mishmi Hills.

![Taiga Flycatcher (Hannu Jännes)](image)

Manipur Fulvetta ◊ (Streak-throated F) *Fulvetta manipurensis*  Regularly encountered on Mishmi Hills.
Jerdon’s Babbler ◊ *Chrysomma altirostre*  Good views of one at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Black-throated Parrotbill ◊ *Suthora nipalensis* (H)(NL)  A flock was heard only.
Rufous-headed Parrotbill ◊ (Blue-spectacled Parrotbill) *Psittiparus bakeri*  Ten birds in Namdapha.
Grey-headed Parrotbill ◊ *Psittiparus gularis*  Noted in Namdapha and Mishmi Hills.
Black-breasted Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis flavirostris*  Great views of a pair at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Striated Yuhina *Yuhina castaniceps*
White-naped Yuhina ◊ *Yuhina bakeri*  Not uncommon on Mishmi Hills.
Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis*
Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis*
Rufous-vented Yuhina *Yuhina occipitalis*
Black-chinned Yuhina ♀ Yuhina nigrimenta
Oriental White-eye Zosterops palpebrosus
Asian Fairy-bluebird Irena puella One male at Deban in Namdapha.
Spotted Elachura (Spotted W-babbler) ♦ Elachura formosa Great views in Namdapha. See Note.
Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch Sitta cinnamoventris
White-tailed Nuthatch Sitta himalayensis
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch Sitta frontalis A handful of birds in Kaziranga.
Rusty-flanked Treecreeper ♦ Certhia nipalensis Two were noted on Mishmi Hills.
Common Hill Myna (Hill Myna) Gracula religiosa
Great Myna (White-vented M) Acridotheres grandis
Jungle Myna Acridotheres fuscus
Common Myna Acridotheres tristis
Pied Myna (Asian Pied Starling) Gracupica contra
Chestnut-tailed Starling (Grey-headed S) Sturnia malabarica
Plain-backed Thrush Zoothera mollissima Two on Mishmi Hills. A write-in.
Long-billed Thrush ♦ (L-b Ground-thrush) Zoothera monticola Good views of one in Meghalaya.
Green Cochoa ♦ Cochoa viridis (H) Four distant birds were heard, but they refused to show.
Lesser Shortwing Brachypteryx leucophrrys (H) A few were heard in the Shillong area.
Bluethroat Luscinia svecica
Siberian Rubythroat Luscinia calliope One nice male in Kaziranga.
Rufous-breasted Bush Robin Tarsiger hyperythrus A young male on Mishmi Hills.
Golden Bush Robin Tarsiger chrysaeus One bird was glimpsed in Meghalaya.
Oriental Magpie-Robin Copsychus saularis
White-rumped Shama Copsychus malabaricus

Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros
Daurian Redstart Phoenicurus auroreus Two on Mishmi Hills.
Blue-fronted Redstart Phoenicurus frontalis Small numbers on Mishmi Hills and in Meghalaya.
Plumbeous Water-redstart Rhacornis fuliginosa
White-capped Redstart (W-c River-chat, River Chat) Chaimarrornis leucocephalus
White-tailed Robin (W-t Blue Robin) Myiomela leucura (H)
Blue Whistling Thrush Myophonus caeruleus
Slaty-backed Forktail Enicurus schistaceus A few in Namdapha and on Mishmi Hills.
White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaultii*  One in Meghalaya.
Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus*  See Note.
Grey Bush Chat *Saxicola ferreus*
Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*
Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*  One gorgeous male in Meghalaya.
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher (Orange-g F) *Ficedula strophiata*
Taiga Flycatcher (Red-throated F) *Ficedula albicilla*
Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*
Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermannii*
Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor*
Sapphire Flycatcher ◊ *Ficedula sapphira*
Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus*
Pale Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis uniclor*
Pale-chinned Blue Flycatcher ◊ (Pale-chinned F) *Cyornis polioegenys*  One in Kaziranga.
Large Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis magnirostris*  Several birds on Mishmi Hills. See Note.
Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher (B-t Flycatcher) *Cyornis rubeculoides*  One in Namdapha.
White-tailed Flycatcher ◊ (White-tailed Blue F) *Cyornis concretus*  One in Namdapha.
White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Anthipes monileger*  Several birds with reasonable views on Mishmi Hills.
Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara*
Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*
Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigorae*
Pygmy Flycatcher ◊ (Pygmy Blue F) *Muscicapella hodgsoni*
Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii*  One in Namdapha.
Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinthensis*  A pair in Namdapha.
Golden-fronted Leafbird (Gold-f L) *Chloropsis aurifrons*
Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii*
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus*
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum*
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*  Two near Digboi, and one in Kaziranga.
Green-tailed Sunbird ◊ *Aethopyga nipalensis*
Black-throated Sunbird (B-breasted S) *Aethopyga saturata*
Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*  Two in Kaziranga.
Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda*  Two near the Mayodia Pass on Mishmi Hills.
Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra*  Two in Namdapha.
Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna*
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
russet Sparrow (Cinnamon S) *Passer rutilans*
Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*  Locally common in Kaziranga. Also one near Digboi.
White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*  Handful of birds near Digboi.
Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla*  A few at Dibru-Saikhowa.
Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophiata*  One on Mishmi Hills.
Grey-headed Wagtail *Motacilla [flava] thunbergi*  One was identified in Kaziranga.
Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*
Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*
White Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] alba*
Himalayan Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] alboides*
Amur Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis*
Richard’s Pipit *Anthus richardi*
Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulous*
Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*
Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseatus*
Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis*  A flock of five on Mishmi Hills.
Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*
Dark-rumped Rosefinch ◊ *Carpodacus edwardsii*  Fairly common on Mishmi Hills.
Little Bunting  *Emberiza pusilla*
Chestnut Bunting  *Emberiza rutile*  One with Little Bungtings at Tewarigaon on Mishmi Hills.
Black-faced Bunting  *Emberiza spodocephala*

MAMMALS
Black Giant Squirrel  *Ratufa bicolor*  A few in Namdapha.
Pallas’s Squirrel  *Callosciurus erythraeus*  The common, medium-sized, arboreal squirrel.
Irrawaddy Squirrel (Hoary-bellied Himalayan S)  *Callosciurus pygyerthrus*  Common in Kaziranga.
Himalayan Striped Squirrel  *Tamiops mcclellandii*
Red Giant Flying Squirrel  *Pterurista petaurista*  Several were seen in Namdapha.
Small unidentified Flying Squirrel  One was spotlighted in Namdapha.
Yellow-throated Marten  *Martes flavigula*  One on Mishmi Hills and one in Kaziranga.
Smooth-coated Otter  *Lutra perspicillata*  A group of nine in Kaziranga.
Masked Palm Civet (Himalayan P C)  *Paguma larvata*  Two high up in a tree in Namdapha
Golden Jackal  *Canis aureus*  A small group at Shillong ridge.
Tiger  *Panthera tigris*  (H)  A roaring male was heard in Kaziranga.
Indian Flying Fox  *Pteropus giganteus*
Assamese Macaque  *Macaca assamensis*
Rhesus Macaque  *Macaca mulatta*
Hoolock Gibbon  *Hylobates hoolock*
Wild Boar (Indian W B)  *Sus scrofa*
Swamp Deer  *Cervus duvaucelli*  Common in Kaziranga.
Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer)  *Muntiacus muntjak*
Hog-Deer  *Axis porcinus*  Common in Kaziranga.
Water Buffalo (Wild B)  *Bubalus arnee*
Asian One-horned Rhinoceros (Indian R, Great Indian O-h R)  *Rhinoceros unicornis*
Asian Elephant (Indian E)  *Elephas maximus*
NOTES TO THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

**Chestnut-headed Tesia** *Cettia castaneocoronata*
This handsome species is now placed within Bush Warblers *Cettia* by IOC.

**Sichuan Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus forresti*
The group of three 'lemon-rumped warblers' seen in Namdapha belonged, after all, on this species. The identification is based on the analysis of a sound recording made on the spot. Although this species was first identified in India (also in Namdapha) as recently as 2012 by Craig Robson, it seems possible that all records of 'lemon-rumped warblers' in the extreme NE India actually refer to this species.

**Spotted Elachura (Spotted Wren-babbler)** *Elachura formosa*
Spotted Wren-Babbler is now known to belong a relict lineage of passerine birds not related to babblers at all. It is now assigned to a new monotypic family Elachuridae, genus Elachura.

**Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maurus*
Stonechats were common in the lowlands. Stejneger's Stonechat *Saxicola stejnegeri*, a recent split form Siberian Stonechat, should also occur in the area, but its status and identification features are not yet fully resolved.

**Large Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis magnirostris*
This species is often lumped in Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas*. 
Border Roads Organisation’s road side slogans on Mishmi Hills (Hannu Jännes)