

NORTHEAST INDIA TOUR REPORT 2025

6 - 30 April 2025

Hannu Jannes

This comprehensive, bird-filled 25-day tour of Northeast India proved to be a highly successful exploration of this remote corner of the Indian subcontinent on which we observed over 520 species of birds, including most of the region's specialties and other highly desired bird species. Our one-day pre-tour extension to Meghalaya rewarded us with the range-restricted Tawny-breasted Wren-Babbler and Dark-rumped Swift, whilst the Himalayan section of the trip amongst the snowy heights of the Dirang Region produced Snow Partridge, Blood Pheasant, Himalayan Monal, Temmink's Tragopan, Black-tailed Crake, Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, Brown Parrotbill and several splendid Grandalas. The magnificent Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary never disappoints, and we saw great birds including the rare and critically endangered Bugun Liocichla, Rufous-necked Hornbill, Ward's Trogon, Chestnut-breasted Partridge, Blue-naped Pitta, Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Beautiful Nuthatch, Large Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-throated and Long-billed Wren-babblers and Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler. The world famous Kaziranga National Park revealed Swamp Francolin, Greater Adjutant, Dusky Eagle-Owl and Finn's Weaver and a sidetrack into Nagaland rewarded us with Naga Wren-Babbler, Black-breasted Thrush, Mountain Bamboo Partridge and Spot-breasted, Brown-capped, Assam, White-browed and Striped Laughingthrushes. A new feature on this tour was a two night's stay in Jessami, a recently discovered birding site in the Manipur province, where we obtained great views of Yellow-throated and Moustached Laughingthrushes and an excellent male Mrs Hume's Pheasant at its roosting tree. On the Assam Plains along the Brahmaputra River, we discovered Bengal Florican, Marsh and Jerdon's Babblers and Black-breasted Parrotbill whilst the magnificent lowland forests of Assam held a great selection of quality birds including Black-backed Dwarf Kingfisher, a gorgeous Grey Peacock Pheasant, Western Hooded Pitta and Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush. In the remote Mishmi Hills, we tracked down many of the eastern Himalayan specialties with an amazing Blyth's Tragopan, Wood Snipe, Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler, Mishmi Wren-babbler, Gould's Shortwing, Collared Treepie and Green and Purple Cochoas. The Scaly Laughingthrush seen there was our 22nd species of laughingthrush of the tour! Mammals are an important part of the tour and in Kaziranga, we enjoyed great views of Asian Elephant, Indian Rhinoceros, Swamp Deer, and Asian (or wild Water) Buffalo. This year we were guided by the master himself Dr Peter Lobo, assisted by excellent local guides Micah Rai and Rohit Goorng with local experts when required.

Our epic journey began in Guwahati, the capital of Assam province, with a one-day pre-tour extension to the hills of Meghalaya, where our main objective was to try and find the restricted range Tawny-breasted Wren-babbler and Dark-rumped Swift, both of which we managed to see well. Other interesting species seen during the day included Crested Finchbill, Mountain Tailorbird, an excellent, Brown-flanked Bush Warbler, the only Himalayan Prinias of the tour, Rufous-crowned Prinia, Rusty-capped Fulvetta, Grey Sibia, White-tailed Robin and Lesser Shortwing. We drove back to Guwahati (a long day!) for the night, where the main tour commenced.

The first full day of the main tour involved a drive from Guwahati to Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh. Despite the long drive we made time for roadside birding seeing River Lapwing, Black-throated Prinia, Himalayan Swiftlet, Green-billed, Malkoha, Long-billed Plover, Black Eagle, Oriental Dollarbird, Scarlet Minivet, Black-hooded Oriole, Hair-crested Drongo, Mountain Bulbul, Nepal House Martin, Grey-cheeked Warbler, Black-throated Prinia, Golden Babbler and Grey-throated Babblers, Rusty-fronted Barwing, Silver-eared Mesia, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, many mynas, Small Niltava and Little Spiderhunter.

The first birding destination in the Dirang region was the lofty Se La pass at 4170m asl. Birding at this altitude is hard work but we persevered in the thin air till early afternoon and were very successful in seeing most of the target birds. The magnificent male Himalayan Monal was soon found, and we were lucky enough to observe its amazing display flight. We were also able to get close to showy Blood Pheasants and a pair of tame Snow Partridges. Other interesting birds in this very scenic area included twenty or so Grandalas, many stunning Snow Pigeons, a Bearded Vulture (a scarce bird here), Red-billed Chough, Coal and Grey-crested Tits, White-browed Tit-warbler,

Brown-throated Fulvetta, Black-faced Laughingthrush, Eurasian Wren, a singing Alpine Thrush, several White-collared Blackbirds, White-browed, Golden and Rufous-breasted Bush Robins, Himalayan Bluetail, Blue-fronted Redstart, Fire-tailed Sunbird, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Rosy Pipit, Collared and White-winged Grosbeaks, Dark-breasted and Himalayan White-browed Rosefinches and Plain Mountain Finch. Unfortunately, the Solitary Snipe that had been seen here earlier in the season was not found despite an extensive search. In the afternoon we visited Sangti Valley stopping en route for a good lunch and a showy Black-tailed Crake, where we were also entertained by three Long-billed Plovers.

The next morning found us at Mandala and Phudung Roads, with their wide elevational range and associated habitats, where we birded for the whole day. The cool upper levels with mixed oak, Rhododendron and coniferous forests produced a number of quality birds including Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, an unusual find here, Rufous-bellied and Darjeeling Woodpeckers, Southern Nutcracker, a confiding Spotted Laughingthrush, showy Black-faced Laughingthrushes, Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, Brown Parrotbill, a small group of cute Rufous-fronted Bushtits, two Hume's Bush Warblers, White-tailed Nuthatch, and Sikkim Treecreeper, Grey-headed and Red-headed Bullfinches, small flocks of Crimson-browed Finches, Red Crossbills and Tibetan Serins. Commoner species feeding on the numerous flowering Rhododendrons included Bar-throated Minla, Stripe-throated and Rufous-vented Yuhinas, Buff-barred, Lemon-rumped and Ashy-throated Warblers, Green-tailed Sunbirds and Beautiful Sibias. One of our main objectives was to find a Temminck's Tragopan, and we spent a fair amount of time in the morning with a bird that gave its magical call every now and then but refused to show itself. In the afternoon, on the way down towards Dirang, we unexpectedly located another calling male tragopan, which, after a lot of hard work, showed well, but rather briefly, on several occasions. What a bird! The afternoon was spent in the lower altitude forests, which yielded us with Black-chinned Yuhinas, Bhutan Laughingthrush, a small flock Black-faced Warblers, Himalayan Thrush, Blue-capped and Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrushes, Mrs Gould's Sunbird, two different Buff-throated Warblers and two excellent Russet Bush Warblers.

Our last morning in the Dirang area saw us back on the Mandala Road, where we managed to see a pair of copulating Speckled Piculets, Short-billed Minivets, Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush, Tickell's Thrush, another Lesser Shortwing and Pale Blue, Blue-throated Blue, Ultramarine and several Little Pied, Flycatchers and Scarlet Finch. From Dirang we drove to Lamacamp in the Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary for a two-night stay, stopping on route at a big river, where we spent time scanning for Ibisbill, but had to make do with Hodgson's Redstart, Black-faced Bunting and White-browed Wagtail (a rarity in this part of India) and three forms (ocularis, alboides and leucopsis) of White Wagtail. After lunch and shopping (beer, chocolate and water!) in Tenga, we entered the famous Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, where a late afternoon birding session below Lama camp produced a brief White-breasted Parrotbill and a showy Rufous-throated Wren-babbler. After dinner we still had enough energy left for an owling session, which produced a Grey Nightjar, a heard only Hodgson's Frogmouth and Mountain Scops Owl.

The first morning at Lamacamp was spent searching for the relatively recently (in 2006) described, and extremely rare, Bugun Liocichla, which was first heard a couple of times before having had prolonged views of a feeding bird. After last year's struggle it was a big relief to find this critically endangered (only 12-14 pairs are known to exist) bird so quickly and easily. Other birds seen during the morning in this very birdy area included Black Eagle, Crimson-naped and Bay Woodpeckers, Green Shrike-babbler, Striated Bulbul, Yellow-browed and Yellow-cheeked Tits, Striated Laughingthrush, a flock of Himalayan Cutias, a single Spot-winged Grosbeak and Golden-naped Finches. The afternoon was spent birding areas above Lama camp all the way up to the Eaglenest pass, where new birds included White-spectacled Warbler, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Streak-throated Barwing (of the form *daflaensis*) and a Mongolian Lark, a migrant that had been forced down by foul weather.

Next morning, on the way to Bompou camp, we stopped at a beautiful hill side forest, where, after a short uphill walk, our main target, a pair of amazing Ward's Trogon, put up a great show. We also saw two Black-headed Shrike-babblers and our first Sapphire Flycatchers. The rest of the day was spent travelling to Bompou camp with a number birding stops en route. New birds seen during this partly rainy day included a beautiful Golden-breasted Fulvetta, a tame Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Bar-winged Wren-babbler, Yellow-throated Fulvetta, Grey-sided Laughingthrush, Blue-fronted Robin (allowing only brief views, which seems to be the norm) and Snowy-browed Flycatcher. It was also good to have another encounter with a flock of Tibetan Serins.

The first day in Bompou found us on the forested slopes above and below the camp, where one of our main targets, the bulky and often extremely skulking Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler showed very well for once. Other important target birds seen included a Chestnut-breasted Partridge, a very co-operative Long-billed Wren-babbler, a smart Broad-billed Warbler, a very close Blue-naped Pitta and an obliging Scaly Thrush, plus a selection of commoner Himalayan species, seen for the first time on the tour including Crested Goshawk, Barred Cuckoo-dove, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Grey-chinned Minivet, Black-eared Shrike-babbler, Sultan Tit and Orange-bellied

Leafbird. In the evening, we had a short owling session below Bompou camp, but the hoped for Mountain Scops Owl didn't co-operate.

The next day was spent birding the forests between Bompou (1900m asl) and Doimara camp (300m asl), just outside the wildlife sanctuary. Thanks to the wide altitudinal range we covered many different forest habitats including some bamboo and encountered many new species of birds. Our first target bird, Beautiful Nuthatch, was found easily along the main road just below Bompou and showed well. Rufous-necked Hornbill, the other important target bird proved a bit more difficult, but in the end, we saw a total of six birds. Further down, in the mid-elevation forests around Sessni we saw a number of new birds including a fine Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, Greater Yellownappe, Long-tailed Broadbill, Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo, Black-naped Monarch, another Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler, an Eye-browed Wren-babbler, Long-tailed and Rufous-backed Sibias, White-crested Laughingthrush, White-naped Yuhina and Grey-throated Babbler. Further down the road in the bamboo zone and in the lowland forest and scrub we encountered a co-operative individual of the little known Large Blue Flycatcher, had our first Banded Bay Cuckoo, Pin-tailed Green Pigeon, Crested Honey Buzzard, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Large Woodshrike, Black-naped Monarch, Grey-backed Shrike, Grey-treepie, Black-throated Sunbird, Striated Yuhina, Rufous-fronted and two singing Spot-throated Babblers, which unfortunately, refused to show.

The next morning, we headed back to Eaglenest WLS, where we spent couple of hours in the bamboo zone above Khellong and also checked the riverine habitat. New birds included Kalij Pheasant for some of the group, two Asian Emerald Cuckoos, Fulvous-breasted and Pale-headed Woodpeckers, Black-crested Bulbul, Yellow-bellied, Rufous-faced and Yellow-vented Warblers, Grey-headed Parrotbill, Red-billed and White-browed Scimitar Babblers, Nepal Fulvetta and Spotted Forktail. We then drove back to Doimara for lunch and the rest of the day was spent travelling through the Assam lowlands to Kaziranga for a two-night stay. On the way we bypassed the northern edge of the Kaziranga National Park and saw our first Asian Elephants and Great Indian One-horned Rhinoceros, Black-necked Storks, and first, and only, River Tern and Bar-headed Geese for the tour.

We now had one full day in the world-famous Kaziranga National Park visiting the tourist infested Central Range both in the morning and in the afternoon in our open topped jeeps. This year the park authorities had closed access to one of the watchtowers, which greatly limited our chances to try and see the many wetland and grassland birds of this excellent area. Despite the limitations we did see a good selection of Kaziranga's birds including Swamp Francolin, a sizeable flock, including some breeding plumage males, of the rare Finn's Weavers, the usual array of storks, including Black-necked and Asian Woolly-necked Storks, Greater and Lesser Adjutants and Spot-billed Pelicans, while raptors included Pallas's and Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Crested Serpent Eagle and Changeable Hawk-Eagle. Other interesting birds in the mixed forest and grassland habitats included Dusky Eagle-Owl, a single Great and two Oriental Pied Hornbills, several Red Junglefowls, Green Imperial Pigeons, numerous colourful Indochinese Rollers, Blue-tailed, Asian Green and Chestnut-headed Bee-eaters, Lineated Barbet, Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, and a good selection of parakeets including the only Blossom-headed Parakeets of the tour and Lesser Coucal, Green-billed Malkoha, Indian Cuckoo, Red-collared Dove, Eastern Yellow and Citrine Wagtails, Striated Grassbird, Ashy and Plain Prinia (of the form fusca, a possible future split), Chestnut-capped Babbler, Greenish Warbler, White-rumped Shama and Pale-chinned Flycatcher. Mammals are a prominent feature of this World Heritage Site, and we had no difficulty in getting multiple sightings of the 'big four': Asian Elephant, Indian Rhinoceros, Barasingha (or Swamp Deer) and Asian Buffalo. Other interesting mammals included several Smooth-coated Otters, Hog Deer, a single Sambar and Wild Boars.

Leaving Kaziranga behind we drove to Nagaland arriving at our comfortable accommodation (we stayed in two different homestays) in Khonoma in time for lunch. After lunch we did some roadside birding along the Dzuleki road, where the main target species was Spot-breasted Laughingthrush, and we eventually managed to see a pair quite well sat inside a large bush.

The following morning saw us back on the Dzuleki road and the Tragopan Sanctuary, where we climbed several hundred meters up a steep and treacherous trail into the habitat of the range restricted Naga Wren-Babbler, which we located after a search and had good views of it. To find the other target species this 'trail' has on offer we had to climb a bit more but in the end we had good views of three of the restricted range Brown-capped Laughingthrushes. Other birds seen during the day included our first Mountain Bamboo Partridges, Striped, Rufous-necked and White-browed Laughingthrushes, Spotted Elachura, Black-breasted Thrush, Ferruginous Flycatcher, Indian Blue Robin and Yellow-breasted Greenfinch. In the evening, thanks to Rohit's perseverance, we finally laid our eyes on the Collared Scops Owl that kept calling outside our dinner place.

Next morning we were back at the sanctuary area, where a short morning birding session produced many of the same species as the previous day plus Speckled Wood Pigeon, Black-tailed Crake, Blue-winged, Assam and Grey-sided Laughingthrushes, a very showy Brown Bush Warbler, Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler, Red-faced Liocichla and Scarlet Finch. We then travelled further into the state of Manipur

and the village of Jessami for a two a night stay. In Jessami, we still had enough energy to go out after dark to look out for Hodgson's Frogmouth, which we heard well, but failed to see.

Jessami in Manipur is a brand-new birding location, which is rapidly becoming a popular destination amongst visiting birders as it holds the many of the same special birds as the more traditional sites in Manipur, but is completely safe to visit. The main reason for our visit to Jessami was the range restricted Yellow-throated Laughingthrush, which occurs here in good numbers and is generally rather easy to find. For us it took more time than expected, but in the end, we had brilliant views of a flock of about 35 birds. The afternoon was dedicated to finding the Moustached Laughingthrush, another range restricted and scarce bird in India, which we accomplished after much hard work. After dark we visited a wonderful roosting male Mrs Hume's Pheasant that had been tracked down by local ex-hunters. Other birds encountered during our full day in this little studied, and very interesting area, included Plaintive Cuckoo, our first Common Emerald Dove, Cinnamon Bittern, Lesser Yellownappe, Rufous Woodpecker, Rufescent Prinia, Yellow-eyed Babbler, another pair of Spot-breasted Scimitar Babblers and Scaly-breasted and White-rumped Munias.

A travelling day followed, but we managed roadside birding which included a couple of mid-morning hours near Pftusero seeing White-browed Piculet, a pair of Grey-bellied Tesias, our first Ashy Bulbuls and Dusky Warbler of the trip and yet another Striped Laughingthrush. We arrived at our nice hotel in Dimapur early in the evening and really enjoyed our warm showers and the good restaurant with even beer on offer.

Leaving Dimapur early the next morning our first stop was at a roadside dhaba for a decent breakfast accompanied by a Blue-eared Barbet just outside. Then we spent a couple of hours doing roadside birding in a fine lowland reserve forest, where good birds included Green-billed Malkoha, Asian Emerald Cuckoo, Thick-billed and Ashy-headed Green Pigeons, Ruddy Kingfisher, another White-browed Piculet, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, several White-throated Bulbuls, a Yellow-browed Warbler, Dark-necked Tailorbirds, Abbott's Babbler, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler, Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush and White-rumped Shama. Another stop at a rice paddy yielded us with the much-needed Bengal Bush Lark and we also saw Indian Cuckooshrike, Zitting Cisticola and Paddyfield Pipit here. The rest of the day was spent driving to Tinsukia, but a brief stop at a promising looking roadside marsh added Cotton Pygmy Goose, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and Purple Heron to the birdlist. The next morning we headed for the Dihing-Patkai National Park, a large area of wet lowland forest with lots of birding potential, where we spent the whole day with Bijay, an excellent local bird guide. The new habitat brought us many new birds with a very tame male Grey Peacock-Pheasant, a splendid Chestnut-winged Cuckoo, several Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoos (a species we had only heard earlier), Red-headed Trogon, Ruddy Kingfisher, three Black-backed Dwarf Kingfishers, Western Hooded Pitta, a rather brief Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush, Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher, Thick-billed Warbler, Black-backed Forktail, Golden-fronted Leafbird, Yellow-vented and Scarlet-backed Flowerpeckers and, as an unexpected bonus, a flock of four Grey-lored Broadbills (a recent split from Silver-breasted Broadbill).

The following morning, we returned to Dihing-Patkai's forests to get a better look at the elusive Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush, achieving partial success, and added Greater Flameback and Blue-eared Kingfisher (for Dale only) to our birdlist. Then we drove to Roing at the base of the Mishmi Hills, stopping en route at the Brahmaputra bridge where we enjoyed relaxed late morning birding seeing an Osprey, a pair of Oriental Hobby and singles of White-rumped and Slender-billed Vultures, when suddenly a female Bengal Florican flew past us and landed on one of the islands in the Brahmaputra. How lucky you can get! In Roing, after check-in and lunch at our hotel, there was more birding in the extensive roadside bamboo of the lower Mishmi Hills, where we were rewarded with a small flock of Black-throated Parrotbills, two Pale-billed Parrotbills moving with a flock of White-hooded Babblers, Collared Treepie, Hill Blue Flycatcher, Blyth's Pipit (a transient migrant here), Eurasian Wryneck (another migrant) and a Barred Buttonquail.

For the next three and a half days we explored the seemingly endless forests between 600 and 2700m elevation along the remote Roing to Hunli road, spending much of our time beyond the Mayodia pass at almost 2500m asl. The Mishmi Hills are famous for rain, and this year was no exception. We missed one morning and one afternoon birding due to bad weather, though some other teams faced even more rain during their stay. The highlights included the range restricted Mishmi Wren-Babbler, a few Cachar Wedge-billed Babblers, two Gould's Shortwings, an excellent male Blyth's Tragopan, a roadside Wood Snipe and Purple and Green Cochoas. Other species worth a mention included Eurasian Jay, Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Large-billed Leaf Warbler, Manipur Fulvetta, Black-crowned Scimitar Babbler, Scaly Laughingthrush (our 22nd species of laughingthrush on this tour), Red-throated Thrush, Himalayan Shortwing, Pygmy Flycatcher, Dark-rumped Rosefinch and many other species seen previously. During brief visits to the floodplain near Roing — one in the morning (interrupted by a massive thunderstorm) and one in the afternoon — we saw Black-breasted Parrotbill, Swamp Francolin, a pair of Jerdon's Babblers, several Striated Babblers, Rosy Minivets, a skulking Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler, two heard-only Marsh Babblers

and Chinese Rubythroat.

Leaving Mishmi hills behind, we headed back to Tinsukia for our last night stopping first by the Brahmaputra River crossing and later at a large marsh, where we added Chinese Pond Heron, Garganey, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Ferruginous and Tufted Ducks, Watercock, Eastern Marsh Harrier and Common Redshank to our bird list and also sighted decent numbers (15 of each species) of the critically endangered White-rumped and Slender-billed Vultures plus a single Himalayan Vulture there.

Next morning saw us on the shores of the mighty Brahmaputra, from where we were taken by a canoe to one of the nearby islands for birding. Our main target was the Marsh Babbler, a scarce denizen of the Assamese grasslands, which we saw well with the help of our local guide. Other good birds seen here and along the edge of the Maguli wetland during the morning included Small Pratincole, Whiskered Tern, another Chinese Pond Heron, Black Bittern (a write-in), Brown Shrike, Sand Lark, Sand Martin, Baikal and Spotted Bush Warblers, Delicate Prinia and Chestnut Munia. Back at the hotel it was time to pack, have lunch, do the bird list and then drive to the airport, where it was time to say our goodbyes, and to thank everyone for their excellent company, which, together with all the wonderful birds and exciting places, combined to make such a memorable trip.

'BIRDS OF THE TRIP' WINNERS:

1st: Himalayan Monal

2nd: Blyth's Tragopan

3rd: Purple Cochoa

4th: Greater Adjutant

5th: Bugun Liocichla

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

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).

The species names and taxonomy used in the bird list follow Gill, F., Donsker, D., & Rasmussen, P.(Eds). **2025. IOC World Bird List (v15.1)**. Where the subspecies seen is/are known, these are often given in the species comment.

BIRDS

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

Garganey *Spatula querquedula*

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

Gadwall *Mareca strepera*

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*

Ferruginous Duck (F Pochard) *Aythya nyroca*

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Common Merganser (Goosander) *Mergus merganser*

Hill Partridge (Common H-P) *Arborophila torqueola* Heard only.

Chestnut-breasted Partridge ♦ (C-b Hill-P) *Arborophila mandellii* Endemic (or nearly so). One was seen at Eaglenest WLS. In addition, several birds were heard there.

Rufous-throated Partridge ♦ (R-t Hill-P) *Arborophila rufogularis* Heard only, ssp *rufogularis*.

White-cheeked Partridge ♦ *Arborophila atrogularis* Heard only in the lowland forests of Assam.

Snow Partridge ♦ *Lerwa lerwa* A confiding pair at Sela pass.

Blood Pheasant *Ithaginis cruentus* ssp *tibetanus*. Great views at Sela pass, where a total of four birds were seen.

Blyth's Tragopan ♦ *Tragopan blythii* A brilliant male in the Mishmi Hills. Ssp *molesworthi*.

Temminck's Tragopan ♦ *Tragopan temminckii* Good views of a male along the Mandala road. In addition, another male was heard there.

Himalayan Monal ♦ *Lophophorus impejanus* Brilliant displaying male near Sela pass.

Mrs Hume's Pheasant ♦ *Syrnaticus humiae* A roosting male tracked down by local ex-hunters was a thrill to watch.

Kalij Pheasant *Lophura leucomelanos* Seen at Eaglenest, Nagaland and Dihing Patkai. Ssp *lathamii*.

Grey Peacock-Pheasant ♦ *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* Brilliant walk away views of a male at Dihing-Patkai NP. Also heard at Eaglenest WLS.

Mountain Bamboo Partridge *Bambusicola fytchii* Rather common in Nagaland. Ssp *hopkinsoni*

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus* ssp *murghi*

Swamp Francolin ♦ *Ortygornis gularis* Seen on three days in the lowlands.

Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka* ssp *hazarae*.

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* Seen well at Doimara camp. Ssp *bimaculatus*.

Savanna Nightjar *Caprimulgus affinis* Heard only at Doimara camp.

Hodgson's Frogmouth ♦ *Batrachostomus hodgsoni* Heard only at Eaglenest WLS and in Manipur. Ssp *hodgsoni*.

Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris* Quite widespread in the mountains. Ssp *brevirostris*.

White-throated Needletail (S) *Hirundapus caudacutus* ssp *nudipes*

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis* ssp *infumatus* Widespread in small numbers in the lowlands.

Blyth's Swift *Apus leuconyx*

Dark-rumped Swift ♦ *Apus acuticauda* 20 or so near their breeding cliffs in Meghalaya.

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Bengal Florican ♦ *Houbaropsis bengalensis* One female in flight by the Brahmaputra!. Critically endangered.

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis* ssp *sinensis*

Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis* ssp *bengalensis*

Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis* ssp *tristis*

Chestnut-winged Cuckoo ◊ *Clamator coromandus* Excellent views in Dihing Patkai.

Asian Koel (S) *Eudynamys scolopaceus* Widespread in the lowlands. Ssp *malayanus*.

Asian Emerald Cuckoo (S) *Chrysococcyx maculatus* A total of five seen.

Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii* ssp *sonneratii*

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus* ssp *querulus*.

Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo (S) *Surniculus lugubris* Fairly widespread in small numbers in the lowlands.

Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx sparverioides* Widespread and vocal.

Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo ◊ *Hierococcyx nisicolor* One was seen at Eaglenest WLS. In addition, a few birds were heard during the tour.

Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus Micropterus* ssp *micropterus* Widespread in the lowlands.

Lesser Cuckoo (S) *Cuculus poliocephalus* Heard only.

Indian Cuckoo (S) *Cuculus micropterus* Widespread in the lowlands.

Himalayan Cuckoo (S) *Cuculus saturatus* Heard only

Common Cuckoo (Eurasian C) *Cuculus canorus* Widespread in the mountains. Ssp *bakeri*.

Rock Dove (introduced) (Feral Pigeon) *Columba [livia] var_domestica*

Snow Pigeon ◊ *Columba leuconota* 30 or so at Sela Pass.

Speckled Wood Pigeon ◊ *Columba hodgsonii* A flock of six in Khonoma.

Oriental Turtle Dove (Rufous T D) *Streptopelia orientalis* ssp *agricola*

Red Collared Dove (Red Turtle D) *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis* ssp *tigrina*

Barred Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia unchall* ssp *tusalia*

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* ssp *indica*

Ashy-headed Green Pigeon *Treron phayrei* Small numbers were seen on two days in the Assam lowlands.

Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra* ssp *nipalensis*

Yellow-footed Green Pigeon *Treron phoenicopterus* ssp *phoenicopterus*

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon ◊ *Treron apicauda* ssp *apicauda*

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus* Heard only.

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea* ssp *sylvatica*

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia* ssp *griseicapilla*

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Grey-headed Swamphen *Porphyrio poliocephalus* ssp *poliocephalus*

Black-tailed Crake ◊ *Zapornia bicolor* Great views of one near Dirang and another in Khonoma.

Watercock *Gallixrex cinerea* One on the way from Roing to Tinsukia.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus* ssp *phoenicurus*

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator* One on the lower slopes of Mishmi Hills was a nice surprise.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* Two sightings.

Long-billed Plover ♦ *Charadrius placidus* One in Tenga and three in the Sangti Valley.

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* Five at a roadside marsh in Assam.

Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus* Noted on three days.

Wood Snipe ♦ *Gallinago nemoricola* A roadside bird in the Mishmi Hills.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea*

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

River Tern *Sterna aurantia*

Black-headed/Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus/brunnicephalus* A distant flock at a reservoir on the pre-tour extension.

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

Greater Adjutant ♦ *Leptoptilos dubius* Only two, both in flight, in Kaziranga NP.

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* ssp *asiaticus*

Asian Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

Little Cormorant *Microcarbo niger*

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus*

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Black Bittern *Botaurus flavicollis* One at the Brahmaputra on our last morning. A write-in.

Cinnamon Bittern *Botaurus cinnamomeus* A few were seen.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus* Two in the Assam lowlands. Scarce but regular visitor to Assam plains in late spring-summer.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Medium Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Ardea coromanda*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* ssp *manilensis*

Spot-billed Pelican ♦ *Pelecanus philippensis*

Osprey (Western O) *Pandion [haliaetus] haliaetus*

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* ssp *vociferus*

Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier) *Gypaetus barbatus* One at Sela pass. A rare bird on this itinerary.

Crested Honey Buzzard (Oriental H B) *Pernis ptilorhynchus* ssp *ruficollis*

White-rumped Vulture *Gyps bengalensis* Noted on two days (one and 15 birds) near the Brahmaputra river crossing. Critically endangered.

Slender-billed Vulture ♦ *Gyps tenuirostris* Noted on two days (one and 15 birds) near the Brahmaputra river crossing. Critically endangered.

Himalayan Vulture (H Griffon V) *Gyps himalayensis* Only one was identified.

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* ssp *cheela*

Mountain Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus nipalensis* ssp *nipalensis*

Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* ssp *limnaeetus*

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malaiensis* ssp *perniger*

Crested Goshawk *Lophospiza trivirgata* ssp *indicus*

Shikra *Tachyspiza badia* ssp *poliopsis*

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus*

Black Kite (Black-eared K) *Milvus [migrans] lineatus* Great encounter with Black Kites (including this form) on Mishmi Hills on 28th, where we estimated around 500 migrating birds.

Black Kite (Pariah K) *Milvus [migrans] govinda*

Pallas's Fish Eagle ◊ *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* A few in Kaziranga.

Grey-headed Fish Eagle ◊ *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus* A few in Kaziranga.

Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo refectus* One along the Mandala road.

Collared Owlet *Taenioptynx brodiei* Heard only. Ssp *brodiei*

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*

Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus* Heard only. Ssp *spilocephalus*.

Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* Heard only.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia*

Dusky Eagle-Owl ◊ *Ketupa coromanda*

Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* Heard only

Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus* ssp *erythrocephalus*

Ward's Trogon ◊ *Harpactes wardi* Brilliant sighting of a pair near Lama camp in Eaglenest WLS.

Eurasian Hoopoe (Common H) *Upupa epops*

Great Hornbill (Great Pied H) *Buceros bicornis* Good views of a singleton in Kaziranga.

Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoseros albirostris* ssp *albirostris* Seen on four days.

Rufous-necked Hornbill ◊ *Aceros nipalensis* A total of six at Eaglenest WLS.

Indochinese Roller *Coracias affinis*

Oriental Dollarbird (S) *Eurystomus orientalis* ssp *cyanicollis* Three birds in the lowlands on the way to Dirang.

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis* ssp *capensis*

Ruddy Kingfisher (S) *Halcyon coromanda* ssp *coromanda*

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* ssp *perpulchra*

Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata* One roadside bird for Dale.

Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting* One for Dale in Dihing Patkai.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Black-backed Dwarf Kingfisher ◊ *Ceyx [erithaca] erithaca*

Pied Kingfisher (Lesser Pied K) *Ceryle rudis* ssp *leucomelanurus*

Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni* ssp *athertoni*

Asian Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis* ssp *ferrugeiceps*

Blue-tailed Bee-eater (S) *Merops philippinus* A few in Kaziranga.

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti* ssp *leschenaulti* A handful of birds noted.

Great Barbet *Psilopogon virens* ssp *magnifica* and apparently ssp *clamator* in Nagaland

Lineated Barbet *Psilopogon lineatus* ssp *lineatus* and *hodgsoni*

Golden-throated Barbet *Psilopogon franklinii* ssp *franklinii*

Blue-throated Barbet *Psilopogon asiaticus* ssp *asiaticus*

Blue-eared Barbet *Psilopogon cyanotis* ssp *cyanotis*

Coppersmith Barbet *Psilopogon haemacephalus* Heard only.

Yellow-rumped Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator xanthonotus* One along the Mandala road and another one at Eaglenest WLS:

Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*

Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus* ssp *innominatus*

White-browed Piculet *Sasia ochracea* ssp *ochracea*

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus canicapillus*

Crimson-naped Woodpecker (C-n Pied W) *Dryobates cathpharius* ssp *catpharius*

Rufous-bellied Woodpecker *Dendrocopos hyperythrus* ssp *hyperythrus*

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker (F-b Pied W) *Dendrocopos macei*

Darjeeling Woodpecker (D Pied W) *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

Greater Yellownappe *Chrysophlegma flavinucha* ssp *flavinucha*

Lesser Yellownappe *Picus chlorolophus* ssp *chlorolophus*

Grey-headed Woodpecker (G-faced W) *Picus canus* ssp *hessei*

Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus* ssp *guttacristatus*

Pale-headed Woodpecker ♦ *Gecinulus grantia* ssp *grantia* Two with good views at Eaglenest WLS.

Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* ssp *pyrrhotis*

Rufous Woodpecker *Micropternus brachyurus* ssp *phaiiceps*

Oriental Hobby ♦ *Falco severus* A pair showed well by the Brahmaputra bridge.

Blossom-headed Parakeet (Rosy-h P) *Psittacula roseata* ssp *juneae* Four in Kaziranga.

Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri* ssp *fasciata*

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria* ssp *avensis*

Rose-ringed Parakeet (Ring-necked P) *Psittacula krameri* ssp *borealis*

Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarismus dalhousiae* ssp *dalhousiae*

Grey-lored Broadbill ♦ *Serilophus rubropygius* A group of four birds in Dihing Patkai was a nice surprise and a tour write-in.

Blue-naped Pitta ♦ *Hydrornis nipalensis*

Western Hooded Pitta (S) *Pitta sordida* ssp *cucullate*

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike (Pied F-s) *Hemipus picatus* ssp *capitalis*

Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis virgatus* ssp *pelvicus*

Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus*

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia* ssp *tiphia*
Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris* ssp *solaris*
Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris*
Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus* ssp *semiruber*
Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus speciosus*
Rosy Minivet ◊ *Pericrocotus roseus*
Indian Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei*
Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Lalage melaschistos*
Green Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus* ssp *xanthochlorus*
Black-eared Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius melanotis* ssp *melanotis*
Black-headed Shrike-babbler ◊ *Pteruthius rufiventer*
White-browed Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus* ssp *validirostris*
Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii* ssp *traillii*
Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus* ssp *xanthornus*
Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus* ssp *aeneus*
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer* ssp *tectirostris*
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus* ssp *grandis*
Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* ssp *hottentottus*
Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus* ssp *hopwoodi*
Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus* ssp *albirictus*
White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis* ssp *stanleyi*
Black-naped Monarch (B-n Blue M) *Hypothymis azurea* ssp *stanyi*
Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone affinis*
Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*
Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach* ssp *tricolor*
Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus*
Eurasian Jay (Plain-crowned J) *Garrulus [glandarius] bispecularis*
Yellow-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa flavirostris* ssp *flavirostris*
Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythroryncha*
Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis* Heard only. Ssp *chinensis*
Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda* ssp *vagabunda*
Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae* ssp *himalayensis*

Collared Treepie ♦ *Dendrocitta frontalis* One in the Mishmi Hills.

Southern Nutcracker *Nucifraga hemispila*

Red-billed Chough *Pyrhacorax pyrrhacorax* ssp *himalayanus*

House Crow *Corvus splendens* ssp *splendens*

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos* ssp *tibetosinensis*

Eastern Jungle Crow *Corvus levaillantii*

Yellow-bellied Fantail (Y-b Fairy Flycatcher) *Chelidorhynch hypoxanthus*

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis* ssp *calochrysea*

Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus* ssp *modestus*

Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanea* ssp *sultanea*

Coal Tit (Himalayan C T) *Periparus [ater] aemodius*

Grey-crested Tit *Lophophanes dichrous*

Cinereous Tit (Grey T) *Parus cinereus* ssp *nipalensis*

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus* ssp *yunnanensis*

Yellow-cheeked Tit (Black-spotted Y T) *Machlolophus spilonotus* ssp *spilonotus*

Bengal Bush Lark ♦ *Plocealauda assamica*

Mongolian Short-toed Lark *Calandrella dukhunensis*

Sand Lark ♦ *Alaudala raytal* ssp *raytal*

White-throated Bulbul ♦ *Alophoixus flaveolus* ssp *flaveolus*

Striated Bulbul *Alcurus striatus* ssp *striatus*

Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos flavala* ssp *flavala*

Mountain Bulbul (Northern M B) *Ixos [mcclellandii] mcclellandii*

Black Bulbul (Himalayan B B) *Hypsipetes leucocephalus* ssp *nigrescens*

Black-crested Bulbul *Rubigula flaviventris* ssp *flaviventris*

Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons*

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus* ssp *monticola*

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer* ssp *bengalensis*

Grey-throated Martin (Plain Martin, G-t Sand M) *Riparia chinensis*

Sand Martin (Bank Swallow) *Riparia riparia*

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* ssp *gutturalis*

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus* ssp *cashmeriense*

Nepal House Martin *Delichon nipalense* ssp *cutting*

Eastern Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*

Scaly-breasted Cupwing (S-b Wren-Babbler) *Pnoepyga albiventer* Heard only. Ssp *albiventer*.

Pygmy Cupwing (P Wren-Babbler) *Pnoepyga pusilla* ssp *pusilla*

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris* ssp *flaviventris/drasticus*

Rufous-faced Warbler ◊ *Abroscopus albogularis* ssp *albogularis*

Black-faced Warbler ◊ *Abroscopus schisticeps* ssp *flavimentalis*

Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cucullatus* ssp *coronatus*

Broad-billed Warbler ◊ *Tickellia hodgsoni* ssp *hodgsoni*

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (Strong-footed B-w, Brownish-f B-w) *Horornis fortipes* ssp *fortipes*

Hume's Bush Warbler *Horornis brunescens*

Grey-bellied Tesia (Yellow-browed T) *Tesia cyaniventer*

Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivea* ssp *olivea*

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler ◊ (Large B-w) *Cettia major*

Chestnut-headed Tesia *Cettia castaneocoronata* ssp *castaneocoronata*

White-browed Tit-warbler *Leptopoeile sophiae* One at Sela pass. A new bird for this itinerary.

Black-throated Bushtit *Aegithalos concinnus* ssp *rubricapillus & manipurensis*

Rufous-fronted Bushtit ◊ *Aegithalos iouschistos*

Buff-barred Warbler (Orange-b W) *Phylloscopus pulcher*

Ashy-throated Warbler (A-t Leaf W, Grey-faced L W) *Phylloscopus maculipennis* ssp *maculipennis*

Yellow-browed Warbler (Y-b Leaf-W) *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Lemon-rumped Warbler (L-r Leaf W) *Phylloscopus chloronotus*

Tickell's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis*

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* ssp *fuscatus*

Buff-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus subaffinis* Two along the Mandala road. This species, a former rarity, seems to be getting commoner in NE India, or perhaps birders have learned to identify it.

Common Chiffchaff (Siberian C) *Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis* One at KM 65 in Mishmi Hills was seen well.

White-spectacled Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus intermedius* ssp *zosterops*

Grey-cheeked Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus poliogenys*

Grey-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus tephrocephalus*

Whistler's Warbler *Phylloscopus whistleri* ssp *nemoralis*

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

Large-billed Leaf Warbler ◊ (S) *Phylloscopus magnirostris* Scarce this year, but eventually we managed good views in Mishmi Hills.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus castaniceps* ssp *castaniceps*

Yellow-vented Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus cantator* ssp *cantator* Rather common in the lower reaches of Eaglenest WLS. Also heard on the way to Dirang on the first day of the main tour.

Blyth's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides* ssp *assamensis*

Grey-hooded Warbler *Phylloscopus xanthoschistos* ssp *flavogularis/tephrodidas*

Thick-billed Warbler *Arundinax aedon* A few were noted.

Brown Bush Warbler ◊ (S) *Locustella luteoventris* One in Khonoma.

Baikal Bush Warbler ◊ *Locustella davidi* One was seen and another one was heard at the Brahmaputra island.

Spotted Bush Warbler *Locustella thoracica* One was seen at the Brahmaputra island

Russet Bush Warbler ◊ *Locustella mandelli* Commonly heard in the Dirang area, where we also managed brilliant views of two birds.

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris* ssp *toklao*

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

Himalayan Prinia *Prinia crinigera*

Black-throated Prinia *Prinia atrogularis*

Rufous-crowned Prinia ◊ *Prinia khasiana*

Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens*

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii* ssp *rufula*

Delicate Prinia *Prinia lepida*

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris* ssp *flaviventris*

Ashy Prinia *Prinia socialis* ssp *stewarti*

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata* The form encountered (*fusca*) is a potential split from Plain Prinia.

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis* ssp *nitidus*

Golden-breasted Fulvetta ◊ (Himalayan G-b F) *Lioparus [chrysotis] chrysotis* Two encounters with this beauty.

Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense*

Jerdon's Babbler ◊ *Chrysomma altirostre* ssp *griseigulare* of NE India differs rather markedly from the more western *scindicum*. A future split?

Brown-throated Fulvetta ◊ *Fulvetta ludlowi*

Manipur Fulvetta ◊ (Streak-throated F) *Fulvetta manipurensis*

Black-breasted Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis flavirostris*

Brown Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis unicolor*

Grey-headed Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis gularis*

White-breasted Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis ruficeps*

Black-throated Parrotbill ◊ (Grey-breasted P) *Suthora [nipalensis] poliotis*

Pale-billed Parrotbill *Suthora atrosuperciliaris*

Striated Yuhina *Staphida castaniceps* ssp *rufigenis*

Black-chinned Yuhina ◊ *Yuhina nigrimenta*

Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis*

White-naped Yuhina ◊ *Yuhina bakeri*

Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis* ssp *gularis*

Rufous-vented Yuhina *Yuhina occipitalis* ssp *occipitalis*

Indian White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus* ssp *palpebrosus*

Chestnut-capped Babbler *Timalia pileata* ssp *bengalensis*

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler (Striped T-B) *Mixornis gularis* ssp *rubicapilla*

Golden Babbler *Cyanoderma chrysaeum* ssp *chrysaeum*

Rufous-capped Babbler *Cyanoderma ruficeps* ssp *ruficeps*

Rufous-fronted Babbler (Buff-chested B) *Cyanoderma [rufifrons] ambiguum*

Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis caudatus*

Mishmi Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis badeigularis* Good views of one in Mishmi Hills. Endemic.

Bar-winged Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis troglodytoides* ssp *sherriffi*

Naga Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis chokolatinus* Endemic.

Tawny-breasted Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis longicaudatus* Endemic.

Black-crowned Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus ferruginosus* ssp *ferruginosus*

Red-billed Scimitar Babbler ◊ (Orange-b S B, Long-b S B) *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps*

Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler ◊ (Sickle-b S B) *Pomatorhinus superciliaris* ssp *superciliaris*

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* ssp *godwini* & *bakeri*

White-browed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus schisticeps* ssp *salimali*

Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Erythrogenys mccllelandi*

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps* ssp *nigriceps*

Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler ◊ (Blackish-breasted B) *Stachyris humei* Great encounter at Eaglenest with four birds seen and one heard only bird.

Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler ◊ (Chevron-breasted B) *Stachyris roberti* Brilliant views in Mishmi Hills.

White-hooded Babbler ◊ (Indian W-h B) *Gampsorhynchus rufulus*

Yellow-throated Fulvetta ◊ *Schoeniparus cinereus*

Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Schoeniparus castaneiceps* ssp *castaneiceps*

Rufous-throated Fulvetta ◊ *Schoeniparus rufogularis* Heard only.

Rusty-capped Fulvetta ◊ *Schoeniparus dubius* ssp *mandellii*

Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps* ssp *pectorale*

Marsh Babbler ◊ *Pellorneum palustre* Endemic. Struggled at first with this vocal, but often skulking species, but in the end we had great views on one of the islands of Brahmaputra.

Spot-throated Babbler ◊ *Pellorneum albiventre* Heard only.

Abbott's Babbler *Malacocincla abbotti*

Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler *Napothera epilepidota*

Long-billed Wren-Babbler *Napothera malacoptila*

Nepal Fulvetta ◊ *Alcippe nipalensis* ssp *nipalensis*

Striated Laughingthrush *Grammatoptila striata* ssp *brahmaputra*

Himalayan Cutia *Cutia nipalensis* ssp *nipalensis*

Scaly Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron subunicolor*

Brown-capped Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron austeni* Near-endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar.

Blue-winged Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron squamatum*

Bhutan Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron imbricatum*

Striped Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron virgatum* Near-endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar.

Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron affine* ssp *bethalae*

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum* ssp *godwini*

Assam Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron chrysopterum* Near endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar.

Long-tailed Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia picaoides* ssp *picaoides*

Beautiful Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia pulchella* ssp *pulchella* in the Mishmi Hills and ssp *nigroaurita* in the west.

Grey Sibia ◊ *Heterophasia gracilis*

Streak-throated Barwing ◊ (Grey-breasted B) *Actinodura [waldeni] daflaensis*

Blue-winged Minla *Actinodura cyanouroptera* ssp *cyanouroptera* & *aglae*

Bar-throated Minla *Actinodura strigula* ssp *strigula* & *yunnanensis*

Rusty-fronted Barwing ◊ *Actinodura egertoni*

Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea* Heard only, ssp *calipyga*.

Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argenteauris*

Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotincta* ssp *ignotincta*

Rufous-backed Sibia *Leioptila annectens*

Bugun Liocichla ◊ *Liocichla bugunorum* Endemic, and with only 12-14 known pairs critically endangered. We had brilliant views of a singleton below Lama camp in Eaglenest WLS.

Red-faced Liocichla ◊ (Crimson-f L) *Liocichla phoenicea* ssp *phoenicea* & *bakeri*

Striated Babbler ◊ *Argya earlei* ssp *earlei*

Spot-breasted Laughingthrush ◊ *Garrulax merulinus*

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger*

White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus* ssp *leucolophus*.

Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla rufogularis*

Moustached Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla cineracea*

Spotted Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla ocellata* ssp *ocellata*

Yellow-throated Laughingthrush ◊ *Pterorhinus galbanus* Near-endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar.

Rufous-necked Laughingthrush ◊ *Pterorhinus ruficollis*

Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush ◊ *Pterorhinus nuchalis* Near-endemic, occurs also in N Myanmar.

White-browed Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus sannio*

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus pectoralis* ssp *pectoralis*

Grey-sided Laughingthrush ◊ *Pterorhinus caerulatus* ssp *caerulatus*.

Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella* ssp *sikkimensis*

Spotted Elachura ◊ (Spotted W-b) *Elachura formosa* One was seen in the Khonoma area. In addition, five birds were heard during the tour.

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* ssp *nipalensis*

Beautiful Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta formosa* Three birds with some decent views at Eaglenest WLS:

White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis*

Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *Sitta cinnamoventris* ssp *koelzi*

Sikkim Treecreeper (Brown-throated T) *Certhia discolor*

Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa* ssp *intermedia*

Great Myna (White-vented M) *Acridotheres grandis*

Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus* ssp *fumidus*

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* ssp *tristis*

Indian Pied Myna (Asian Pied Starling) *Gracupica contra* ssp *superciliaris*

Chestnut-tailed Starling (Grey-headed S) *Sturnia malabarica* ssp *malabarica*

Grandala ◊ *Grandala coelicolor* 20 or so at Sela pass.

Purple Cochoa ◊ *Cochoa purpurea* Two sightings including a very showy male in Mishmi Hills.

Green Cochoa ◊ *Cochoa viridis* One male in Mishmi Hills.

Alpine Thrush *Zoothera mollissima*

Himalayan Thrush *Zoothera salimalii*

Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma*

Grey-winged Blackbird *Turdus boulboul*

Tickell's Thrush ◊ *Turdus unicolor*

Black-breasted Thrush ◊ *Turdus dissimilis*

Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis*

White-collared Blackbird *Turdus albocinctus*

Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis* ssp *erimelas*

White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus* ssp *macrourus*

Dark-sided Flycatcher (S) *Muscicapa sibirica* ssp *cacabata*

Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa ferruginea*

Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara*

Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae* ssp *signata*

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis* ssp *grandis*

Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus* ssp *thalassinus*

White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Anthipes monileger* ssp *leucops*

Pale Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis unicolor* ssp *unicolor*

Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher (S) *Cyornis rubeculoides* ssp *rubeculoides*

Large Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis magnirostris* One obliging female in the bamboo at Eaglenest WLS.

Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis whitei*

Pale-chinned Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis poliogenys*

White-tailed Robin (W-t Blue R) *Myiomela leucura*

Chinese Rubythroat ◊ *Calliope tschebaiewi*

Black-backed Forktail ◊ *Enicurus immaculatus*

Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*

Spotted Forktail *Enicurus maculatus*

Blue-fronted Robin ◊ *Cinclidium frontale* ssp *orientale*

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* ssp *temminckii*

Himalayan Shortwing ◊ *Brachypteryx cruralis*

Rusty-bellied Shortwing ◊ *Brachypteryx hyperythra* Heard only.

Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophris* ssp *nipalensis*

Indian Blue Robin ◊ *Larvivora brunnea*

Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor* ssp *tricolor* and ssp *cerviniventris*.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra* ssp *hyperythra*

Pygmy Flycatcher ◊ *Ficedula hodgsoni*

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher (Orange-g F) *Ficedula strophinata* ssp *strophinata*

Sapphire Flycatcher ◊ *Ficedula sapphira*

Ultramarine Flycatcher ◊ *Ficedula superciliaris* ssp *aestigma*

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni* ssp *australorientis*

Taiga Flycatcher (Red-throated F) *Ficedula albicilla*

White-browed Bush Robin ◊ *Tarsiger indicus* ssp *indicus*

Golden Bush Robin *Tarsiger chrysaeus* ssp *chrysaeus*

Rufous-breasted Bush Robin *Tarsiger hyperythrus*

Himalayan Bluetail (Orange-flanked Bush-robin) *Tarsiger rufilatus* ssp *rufilatus*

Gould's Shortwing ◊ *Heteroxenicus stellatus* Two seen in Mishmi Hills.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*

Plumbeous Water Redstart *Phoenicurus fuliginosus* ssp *fuliginosus*

White-capped Redstart (River Chat) *Phoenicurus leucocephalus*

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*

Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*

Blue-capped Rock Thrush ◊ (B-headed R-t) *Monticola cinclorhyncha*

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*

Grey Bush Chat *Saxicola ferreus* ssp *haringtoni*

Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus*

Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons* ssp *aurifrons*

Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii* ssp *hardwickii*

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum* ssp *chrysochlore*

Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum minullum* ssp *olivaceum*

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus* ssp *ignipectus*

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum* ssp *cruentatum*

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*

Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus*

Mrs. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae* ssp *gouldiae*

Green-tailed Sunbird ◊ *Aethopyga nipalensis* ssp *koelzi*

Black-throated Sunbird (B-breasted S) *Aethopyga saturata* ssp *assamensis*

Crimson Sunbird (Greater C S) *Aethopyga siparaja* ssp *labecula*

Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda* ssp *ignicauda*

Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra* ssp *longirostra*

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna* ssp *magna*

Russet Sparrow (Cinnamon S) *Passer cinnamomeus* ssp *cinnamomeus*

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus* ssp *burmanicus*

Finn's Weaver ◊ *Ploceus megarhynchus* A flock of 25 birds including several breeding plumaged males in Kaziranga.

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata* ssp *subundulata*

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla* ssp *atricapilla*

Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophiate* ssp *strophiate*

Eastern Yellow Wagtail (form unidentified) *Motacilla tshutschensis*

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* ssp *calcarata* and *citreola*

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

White Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] alba*

White Wagtail (East Siberian W) *Motacilla [alba] ocularis*

White Wagtail (Amur W) *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis*

White Wagtail (Himalayan W) *Motacilla [alba] alboides*

White-browed Wagtail ◊ *Motacilla maderaspatensis*

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus*

Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii*

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* ssp *hodgsoni*

Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseatus*

Collared Grosbeak ◊ *Mycerobas affinis*

Spot-winged Grosbeak ◊ *Mycerobas melanozanthos*

White-winged Grosbeak ◊ *Mycerobas carnipes* ssp *carnipes*

Red-headed Bullfinch ◊ *Pyrrhula erythrocephala*

Grey-headed Bullfinch *Pyrrhula erythaca*

Golden-naped Finch ◊ *Pyrrhoplectes epauletta*
Dark-breasted Rosefinch *Procarduelis nipalensis*
Plain Mountain Finch *Leucosticte nemoricola*
Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* ssp *roseatus*
Scarlet Finch ◊ *Carpodacus sipahi*
Dark-rumped Rosefinch ◊ *Carpodacus edwardsii*
Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch ◊ *Carpodacus thura*
Crimson-browed Finch *Carpodacus subhimachalus*
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch (Himalayan G) *Chloris spinoides*
Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*
Tibetan Serin ◊ (T Siskin) *Spinus thibetanus*
Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*
Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*

MAMMALS

Asian Elephant *Elephas maximus* Numerous in Kaziranga.
Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula* One in Mishmi Hills.
Greater One-horned Rhinoceros *Rhinoceros unicornis* Numerous in Kaziranga.
Eurasian Wild Pig (Wild Pig, Indian W P) *Sus scrofa* Small numbers in Kaziranga.
Hog Deer *Axis porcinus* Common sight in Kaziranga.
Northern Red Muntjac (Indian M) *Muntiacus vaginalis*
Barasingha (Swamp Deer) *Rucervus duvaucelii* Common in Kaziranga.
Sambar *Rusa unicolor* One in Kaziranga.
Asian Wild Buffalo (Wild Water B) *Bubalus arnee* Common in Kaziranga.
Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*
Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta*
Western Hoolock Gibbon *Hoolock hoolock* Heard only.
Large-eared Pika *Ochotona macrotis* One at Sela pass.
Irrawaddy Squirrel (Hoary-bellied S) *Callosciurus pygerythrus*
Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel *Dremomys lokriah*
Red Giant/ Indian Giant Flying Squirrel *Petaurista petaurista/philippensis* One was seen by some on Mishmi Hills.
Black Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*
Himalayan Striped Squirrl *Tamiops macclellandii*