

ULTIMATE NORTHEAST INDIA TOUR REPORT

2026

12 April - 4 May 2026

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This comprehensive 23-day tour of Northeast India proved to be another highly successful exploration of this remote corner of the Indian subcontinent. We recorded nearly 550 species of birds, including most of the region's specialties and many other highly sought-after species. The world-famous Kaziranga National Park produced Finn's Weaver, Pallas's and Grey-headed Fish Eagles and the Critically Endangered Slender-billed Vulture. The snowy heights of the Dirang region revealed Snow Partridge, Blood Pheasant, Himalayan Monal, a day-roosting Himalayan Owl, Tibetan Blackbird, Alpine Thrush, the splendid Grandala, White-browed Tit-warbler and a gorgeous pair of Bird of the Trip Fire-tailed Myzornis. The lower-altitude forests and agricultural areas around Mandala gave us Black-tailed Crake, Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, Crimson-browed Finch, Blanford's Rosefinch, Buff-throated Warbler, Black-headed Shrike-Babbler and Red-throated Thrush. In the magnificent Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary we saw such gems as the rare and Critically Endangered Bugun Liocichla, Blyth's Tragopan, Rufous-necked and Wreathed Hornbills, an amazing male Ward's Trogon, Chestnut-breasted, Rufous-throated and Hill Partridges, Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, two Purple Cochoas, Large Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler and Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler. On the Assam plains along the Brahmaputra River, we found the range-restricted Marsh Babbler, while a nocturnal boat trip rewarded us with Eastern Grass Owl. The magnificent lowland forests of Dihing-Patkai held a fine selection of quality birds including a splenid Grey Peacock-Pheasant, Austen's Brown Hornbill, Grey-lored Broadbill, Rufous-throated Fulvetta and Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush. In the remote Mishmi Hills, we tracked down many eastern Himalayan specialties including Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler, Mishmi and Long-billed Wren-Babblers, Gould's and Rusty-bellied Shortwings, Beautiful Nuthatch, Western Hooded Pitta, Collared Treepie and Green Cochoa. The grasslands at the base of the Mishmi Hills produced an amazing 11 Bengal Floricans, Jerdon's Babbler and Black-breasted Parrotbill, while a sidetrack into Nagaland rewarded us with Naga Wren-Babbler, Black-breasted Thrush, Mountain Bamboo Partridge and Brown-capped, Assam, White-browed and Striped Laughingthrushes. A one-night stay at Jessami, a recently discovered birding site in Manipur, gave us great views of an excellent male Mrs Hume's Pheasant at its roosting tree. Mammals are always an important part of this 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 excellent local guide Micah Rai (assisted by Bukhey Rai in Mishmi Hills and Nagaland), with additional help from local experts where required. The increasing difficulty of obtaining permits for some of the Northeast Indian hill states, such as Nagaland and Manipur, forced us to change our itinerary completely at rather short notice. This also meant that the timing of our visits to some sites was perhaps less than optimal and probably cost us a couple of species.

Our epic journey began in Guwahati, the capital of Assam, from where we travelled through the Assam lowlands to Kaziranga, arriving just in time for a late lunch. En route we stopped at the Guwahati landfill to admire the magnificent Greater Adjutants that gather here in impressive numbers. Our count of over 200 individuals may have represented as much as a quarter of the world population of this Endangered species.

We then spent one and a half days in the world-famous Kaziranga National Park, visiting the tourist-infested Central Range and the more peaceful Eastern and Western Ranges in our open-topped jeeps, with additional birding around our comfortable resort. The best birds here were a male Finn's Weaver, the usual array of storks, including Black-necked and Asian Woolly-necked, Greater and Lesser Adjutants and Spot-billed Pelicans. Raptors included Pallas's and Grey-headed Fish Eagles, Crested Serpent Eagle, Changeable Hawk-Eagle, Himalayan and the Critically Endangered Slender-billed Vultures, Pied and Eastern Marsh Harriers, Spotted Owlet, Asian Barred Owlet, Oriental Scops Owl and, as a nice surprise, a pair of Brown Fish Owls. Waterfowl included Cotton Pygmy Goose, Bar-headed Goose,

Garganey, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Indian Spot-billed Duck and Green-winged Teal. Other interesting birds in the mixed forest and grassland habitats included Great and Oriental Pied Hornbills, several Red Junglefowls, Green Imperial Pigeons, numerous colourful Indochinese Rollers, Asian Green and Chestnut-headed Bee-eaters, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Lineated Barbet, Lesser Yellow-nape and a good selection of parakeets, including the only Blossom-headed Parakeets of the tour. We also saw Green-billed Malkoha, Red-collared Dove, Indian Cuckooshrike, Ashy Woodswallow, Common Iora, Black-hooded Oriole, Eastern Yellow and Citrine Wagtails, Striated Grassbird, Puff-throated and Abbott's Babbler, a heard-only Slender-billed Babbler, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Common Hill Myna, White-rumped Shama, Ruby-cheeked, Purple and Crimson Sunbirds, two Richard's Pipits and several Rosy Pipits. Mammals are a prominent feature of this World Heritage Site, and we had no difficulty obtaining 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, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, a troop of Capped Langurs and Wild Boars.

After Kaziranga we headed for Dirang in Arunachal Pradesh. Despite the long drive, we made time for roadside birding and saw, among other things, around 15 Dark-rumped Swifts at a recently discovered breeding colony, Rufous-bellied Eagle and Jerdon's Baza, always a good bird on this itinerary, as well as our first Black-throated Prinias. In the bamboo zone above Bhalukpong we found Rufous-faced and Yellow-bellied Warblers and, best of all, a flock of three Pale-billed Parrotbills and a singing Large Blue Flycatcher. In the late afternoon we made a detour to a rocky stretch of river, which produced a total of four Long-billed Plovers.

Our first birding destination in the Dirang region was the lofty Se La Pass at 4,170 meters above sea level. Birding at this altitude is hard work, but we persevered in the thin air until early afternoon and saw a number of good birds including a magnificent male Himalayan Monal and, after a lengthy search, three pairs of Blood Pheasants. Other interesting birds in this very scenic area included Snow Pigeons, a Bearded Vulture (a scarce bird here), Himalayan Buzzard, Red-billed Chough, Coal and Rufous-vented Tits, Black-faced and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes, Eurasian Wren, Tibetan Blackbird, several White-collared Blackbirds, White-browed Bush Robin, Himalayan Bluetail, Blue-fronted and White-throated Redstarts, Fire-tailed Sunbird, Alpine Accentor, Rosy Pipit, White-winged Grosbeak, Himalayan Beautiful, Dark-breasted and Himalayan White-browed Rosefinches and Plain Mountain Finch. In the afternoon we visited Sangti Valley and other lower-altitude areas, finding another Long-billed Plover and adding Brown Dipper, Hodgson's and Black Redstarts, Yellow-breasted Greenfinch and Crested Bunting to our bird list.

Although the previous day at high altitude had been productive, we still needed several high-altitude species, and the following morning saw us back in the Se La Pass area. Here we were successful in finding several important targets, including a beautiful day-roosting Himalayan Owl, a party of three Snow Partridges, a single male Grandala, a breeding pair of cute White-browed Tit-warblers, a pair of confiding and gorgeous Fire-tailed Myzornis, a singing Alpine Thrush, Black-browed Bushtit, Lemon-rumped Warbler, Goldcrest, Hodgson's Treecreeper, White-throated Dipper and Golden Bush Robin.

The next morning found us on the Mandala and Phudung roads, where we birded for the first half of the day. The cool upper slopes, with their mixed oak, rhododendron and coniferous forests, produced a number of quality birds, including Mountain Hawk-Eagle, Black Eagle, Crimson-naped Woodpecker, Black-headed Shrike-Babbler, Yellow-browed Tit, Southern Nutcracker, several Spotted Laughingthrushes, showy Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, Long-tailed, Chestnut and several Red-throated Thrushes, Hume's Bush Warbler, Buff-throated Warbler, Sikkim Treecreeper, Red-headed Bullfinch, a small flock of Crimson-browed Finches, three Blanford's Rosefinches and Tibetan Serins. Commoner species feeding on the numerous flowering rhododendrons included Bar-throated Minla, Stripe-throated and Rufous-vented Yuhinas, Whistler's, Lemon-rumped and Ashy-throated Warblers, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Green-tailed Sunbird and Beautiful Sibia. One of our main objectives was to find Temminck's Tragopan, and we spent a fair amount of the morning at a spot where the bird was supposed to cross the road, but it refused to show itself. In the afternoon, on our way towards Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, we made a detour via Shergaon, birding lower-altitude forest along the way. The best birds of the afternoon were several Black-tailed Crakes, a single Paddyfield Warbler, Collared Owlet, Grey-headed Bullfinch, Russet Bush Warbler, a couple of Tickell's Leaf Warblers, a single Large-billed Leaf Warbler, Tickell's Thrush, Slaty-backed Flycatcher and a couple of Ultramarine Flycatchers. Driving up the track to our accommodation at Lama Camp after dark, we saw a Grey Nightjar and had unexpectedly good views of a Mountain Scops Owl.

The main target of our first morning at Lama Camp was the relatively recently described Bugun Liocichla, discovered only in 2006 and still known from just 12-14 pairs. Rumour had it that several groups visiting the area before us had failed to find this Critically Endangered species, but fortunately our guide knew exactly where to go and, after a short wait, we saw a pair leaving their roosting area and crossing the road before disappearing into dense hillside vegetation. Later in the morning we heard another Bugun Liocichla calling below us but failed to see it. Other birds seen during the morning in this very birdy area included Asian Emerald, Lesser, Himalayan and Common

Cuckoos and Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, Striated Bulbul, Yellow-browed and Yellow-cheeked Tits, Striated Laughingthrush, a flock of Himalayan Cutias, White-breasted Parrotbill, Mountain Tailorbird, Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler, many Rusty-fronted and a few Streak-throated Barwings of the form *daflaensis*, Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler, Large and Rufous-bellied Niltavas, White-tailed Robin, Yellow-throated Fulvetta, Golden-naped Finch and Dark-rumped Rosefinch. The afternoon was spent birding the areas above Lama Camp all the way up to Eaglenest Pass, where new birds encountered were Greater Yellownappe, White-spectacled Warbler, a singing female-type Purple Cochoa, Green Shrike-Babbler, Sapphire Flycatcher, Blue-winged Laughingthrush and Red-tailed Minla.

The next morning, we revisited the areas below Lama Camp, where new birds were Bay Woodpecker, Grey-cheeked Warbler, White-tailed Nuthatch, Bhutan Laughingthrush, Lesser Shortwing and Grey-winged Blackbird. It was also good to enjoy fine scope views of another Purple Cochoa, this time a singing adult male. Later in the day we travelled to our next camp at Bompou, making numerous birding stops en route and seeing some good birds, including a tame Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, yet another Fire-tailed Myzornis, Blue-fronted Robin, which allowed only brief views as seems to be the norm, Broad-billed Warbler and a singing Aberrant Bush Warbler.

The morning of our first day at Bompou found us on the forested slopes between the camp and Sunderview, where our main targets, the amazing Blyth's Tragopan and Ward's Trogon, took some finding. The tragopan, a curious male, was scurrying through dense bamboo, but eventually gave good views to all, while the male trogon gave an excellent performance. Other birds seen during the morning included a confiding Eurasian Woodcock, great views of Slaty-bellied Tesia and Pygmy Cupwing, and a Brown Bullfinch, our third bullfinch of the tour. The foggy afternoon was spent around Bompou camp, where key species included two Black-crowned Scimitar Babblers in a mixed flock with White-breasted Parrotbills, Himalayan Thrush and White-gorgeted Flycatcher. We also heard Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler but failed to tease it into view.

The next morning, we began around Bompou camp, where we still had unfinished business with Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler and Chestnut-breasted Partridge, both of which we saw relatively easily. Additional delights included Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon, Grey-sided Laughingthrush, Silver-eared Mesia, Golden-breasted Fulvetta, Black-throated Parrotbill, White-naped Yuhina and Golden Babbler. The rest of the day was spent birding the forests between 1,000 and 1,900 metres above sea level. Thanks to the wide altitudinal range, we covered many different forest habitats and encountered several new species with Rufous-necked Hornbill, Rufous-throated Partridge, Golden-throated Barbet, which we had only heard earlier, Mountain Bulbul, Little Pied and Ferruginous Flycatchers, Black-throated Sunbird and Long-tailed Sibia. After dark we checked a couple of sites for Hodgson's Frogmouth but only managed to hear one individual. It was rather late in the evening when we arrived at our tented camp at Doimara at about 300 metres above sea level, just outside the wildlife sanctuary.

The next morning, we headed back into Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary, where we spent a couple of hours in the bamboo zone above Khellong and searched roadside habitat farther down the road. Highlights of this very birdy morning included Kalij Pheasant, Fulvous-breasted, Grey-capped Pygmy and Pale-headed Woodpeckers, Fork-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo, Wreathed Hornbill, Ruddy Kingfisher, Blue-eared Barbet, Large Scimitar Babbler, Long-tailed Broadbill, Bronzed Drongo, White-throated and Ashy Bultuls, Asian Fairy-bluebird, White-browed Scimitar Babbler, White-hooded Babbler, White-crested and Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes and Pale Blue Flycatcher, all of which were new for us. It was also good to see two more males of the scarce Large Blue Flycatcher and to improve our views of Yellow-vented Warbler and Black-crested Bulbul. Unfortunately, the Blue-naped Pitta that was already in my thermal imager never materialized into an acceptable view for the participants. 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 one-night stay.

The new day saw us birding close to our accommodation before taking a jeep ride in the Central Range of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. As we had already covered this area well on our earlier visit, there was not much new to see, but we still managed to find a few additions, including Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Greater Flameback, Common Woodshrike, Bengal Bushlark, Striated Babbler and Pale-chinned Flycatcher. Leaving Kaziranga behind, we drove to Tinsukia, arriving there in the evening. A roadside stop at a wetland yielded the only Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, Little Grebe and Common Coot of the tour.

The next morning we headed for Dihing-Patkai National Park, a large area of wet lowland forest with tremendous birding potential, where we spent the whole day accompanied by Bijay, an excellent local bird guide. The new habitat brought us many new birds, with highlights including a very tame male Grey Peacock-Pheasant, an adult and young Austen's Brown Hornbill outside a nest hole, a pair of Chestnut-backed Laughingthrushes, Rufous-throated Fulvetta, which eventually allowed good views and brilliant photo opportunities, a

showy pair of Grey-lored Broadbills, a recent split from Silver-breasted Broadbill, and a brief Pied Falconet. Other new birds seen on this excellent day included Chestnut-winged Cuckoo, Red-headed Trogon, Brown Needletail, Thick-billed and Pin-tailed Green Pigeons, Barred Cuckoo-Dove, Rufous Woodpecker, Large Woodshrike, Vernal Hanging Parrot, White-crowned Forktail, Sultan Tit and Yellow-vented and Plain Flowerpeckers. Unfortunately, we could not tease out a singing Hainan Blue Flycatcher, which was singing on the wrong side of a lake, and Streaked Wren-Babbler was seen only by Paul.

The new day began with an Eastern Barn Owl at our hotel in Tinsukia before we headed to the shores of the mighty Brahmaputra, from where we were taken by canoe to one of the nearby islands. Due to recent high-water levels, access to the main birding area, where two of our principal targets, Marsh Babbler and Swamp Grass Babbler, were supposed to occur, was blocked, and we had to bird other parts of the island. Birds seen included Lesser Coucal, Eurasian Curlew, Small Pratincole, Sand Lark, Little Heron, Blyth's Reed Warbler, Chestnut Munia, Yellow-bellied and Delicate Prinias and, finally, good views of Chestnut-capped Babbler, a bird we had heard several times before. A brief stop on the mainland at Maguli Bheel produced Watercock and Rufescent Prinia. Soon after leaving the Brahmaputra behind, we were hit by a massive tropical storm that lasted until the afternoon. We then drove to Roing at the base of the Mishmi Hills, where, after checking in to our hotel, we headed for the lower part of the hills for more birding. First, however, we had to visit the office of the Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, where we all had to sign a waiver releasing the authorities from all responsibility regarding two man-eating tigers roaming the higher reaches of the Mishmi Hills! The rest of the day produced a brief Collared Treepie for some, Hill Blue Flycatcher, Black-backed Forktail and an excellent Western Hooded Pitta.

During the next two days we concentrated on the higher reaches of the Mishmi Hills, spending most of our time in the areas beyond Mayodia Pass, where some of the most important target birds were lurking, while also doing some roadside birding lower down along the road towards Roing. The main targets, some of which put up determined resistance before finally surrendering were Gould's Shortwing, Rusty-bellied Shortwing, Mishmi Wren-Babbler and Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler, but we also added Darjeeling Woodpecker, Green Cochoa, Grey-sided Bush Warbler, Green-crowned Warbler, Sichuan Leaf Warbler, Chestnut Thrush, Bar-winged Wren-Babbler and Brown-throated and Manipur Fulvetas to the bird list. The morning of our third day in the Mishmi Hills was spent lower down, where we found our main target, a cooperative Beautiful Nuthatch, after a search. We also called in a brilliant Long-billed Wren-Babbler, another new bird for us, and had great views of a showy pair of Ward's Trogons. Other birds included White-throated Needletails, a pair of Rufous-necked Hornbills, Crested Goshawk, Rufous-backed Sibia, Grey-bellied Tesia and Snowy-browed Flycatcher. After lunch we visited grasslands by the Dibang River, where we had great views of Black-breasted Parrotbill and Jerdon's Babbler. Later in the afternoon we revisited bamboo habitat in the lower Mishmi Hills, seeing Buff-breasted Babbler, Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher and Little Spiderhunter.

On our last morning in Roing we headed for Elopa Grassland, an hour's drive away, an amazing place to see the Critically Endangered Bengal Florican. During our short visit we estimated a total of eleven birds, including two females. Totally mind-boggling! Other birds included Zitting and Golden-headed Cisticolas, Blyth's Pipit and Eastern Marsh Harrier. Later we headed back to Tinsukia and Maguli Bheel, stopping en route for the Critically Endangered White-rumped Vulture. An afternoon birding at Maguli produced both Cinnamon and Yellow Bitterns, Osprey, Swamp Francolin and a singing Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler. Later, after nightfall, we took two boats out onto the bheel. It took some time to find our main target, an Eastern Grass Owl sitting on a pole, a write-in and a lifer for the leader. During the search we also saw Large-tailed Nightjar and Eastern Barn Owl, enjoyed the clunking song of a couple of Watercocks, and heard Spotted Owlet, Brown Hawk-Owl, Asian Barred Owlet, Oriental Scops Owl and Collared Scops Owl.

The heavy rain that had started the previous evening was still falling when we reached the shores of the Brahmaputra the next morning, but eventually it eased off and we were soon back on one of the river islands. This time we were able to access the birding sites and soon located a Marsh Babbler, but Swamp Grass Babbler could not be found despite an intensive search. Other birds included Swamp Francolin, Chinese Rubythroat, and Paddyfield and Thick-billed Warblers. The rest of the day was spent travelling to the town of Khonoma in Nagaland, where we settled into two different homestays.

The following morning saw us on the Dzuleki road and in the Tragopan Sanctuary, where we climbed a few hundred metres up a rather steep slope into the habitat of the range-restricted Naga Wren-Babbler, which we located quite easily and enjoyed excellent views of a confiding pair. To find the restricted-range Brown-capped Laughingthrush we had to climb considerably higher, including sections of a treacherous trail, but in the end we had acceptable views of a skulking bird. Other birds seen during the morning included our first Mountain Bamboo Partridges, Black-headed, White-browed and Black-eared Shrike-Babblers, Rufous-crowned Prinia, Nepal House Martin, Grey-crowned and Grey-hooded Warblers, Crested Finchbill, Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler, Grey Sibia, Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, Indian Blue Robin and Pygmy Flycatcher. During the lunch break some of us saw a pair of Yellow-bellied Flowerpeckers in

flowering trees just outside their homestay. In the afternoon we visited agricultural areas below Khonoma, where, despite rather heavy rain, we found new birds with a pair of Spot-breasted Parrotbills, three White-browed Laughingthrushes, several Yellow-eyed Babblers and Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher.

The next morning, we were back in the sanctuary area, where a short birding session produced many of the same species as the previous day, plus Rusty-capped Fulvetta, the much-needed Striped Laughingthrush and Black-breasted Thrush. It was also good to get everyone onto a showy Large Hawk-Cuckoo, a species we had heard so many times during the tour. We then travelled farther into the state of Manipur and the village of Jessami for a two-night stay. After nightfall at Jessami, we visited a wonderful roosting male Mrs Hume's Pheasant that had been tracked down by local ex-hunters, and afterwards still had enough energy to go out looking for Hodgson's Frogmouth, which we heard well but failed to see.

Jessami, in Manipur, is a new birding location that has rapidly become popular among visiting birders, as it holds many of the same special birds as the more traditional sites in Manipur but is completely safe to visit. Unfortunately, the authorities here and in neighbouring Nagaland are tightening their grip on visiting permits, and it currently looks as though Jessami, despite being completely safe, is going to be off-limits to visiting birders for the foreseeable future. The main reason for our visit to Jessami was the range-restricted Yellow-throated Laughingthrush, which occurs here in deep valleys and is generally rather easy to find in winter, when the birds move around in large flocks. Unfortunately for us, spring had arrived early this year, the flocks had broken up, and the birds had dispersed widely through the valleys to prepare for breeding; we could not locate them in the short time, just one morning, that we had available. Birds we did see in this interesting area included Barred Buttonquail, Cinnamon Bittern, Rufous, Fulvous-breasted, Grey-headed and Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers, a pair of Rosy Minivets, a good bird here, many Burmese and Brown Shrikes, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Asian House Martin and several Blyth's Pipits. In the afternoon we drove to Pfutsero for a one-night stay. The next morning, before driving to Dimapur, we had a couple of hours of roadside birding near Pfutsero, where, after many heard-only encounters, sightings of Blue-winged Laughingthrush, Red-faced Liocichla and Rusty-capped Fulvetta were especially welcome. Back at the hotel it was time to pack and then drive to the airport, where we said our goodbyes and thanked 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: Fire-tailed Myzornis

2nd: Blyth's Tragopan

3rd: Bengal Florican, Bar-headed Goose & Eastern Grass Owl

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 **AviList: The Global Avian Checklist, v2025b**.

<https://doi.org/10.2173/avilist.v2025b>

Where the subspecies seen is/are known, these are often given in the species comment.

BIRDS

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus* Ten in Kaziranga's Eastern Range.

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus* 25 in Kaziranga's Western Range.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Garganey *Spatula querquedula*

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

Gadwall *Mareca strepera*

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* A pair at Sela pass on both visits. A rare bird on this itinerary.

Green-winged Teal *Anas crecca*

Hill Partridge (Common H-P) *Arborophila torqueola* A few sightings and several heard only in the Dirang-Eaglenest area and again in the Mishmi Hills.

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* A few sightings in the Eaglenest area. Also heard in Nagaland. Ssp *rufogularis*.

Snow Partridge ♦ *Lerwa lerwa* Good views of a group of three birds at Sela pass.

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

Blyth's Tragopan ♦ *Tragopan blythii* A brilliant male at Eaglenest WLS. Also heard in Mishmi Hills. Ssp *molesworthi*.

Himalayan Monal ♦ *Lophophorus impejanus* A total of three males near Sela pass.

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

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

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

Mountain Bamboo Partridge *Bambusicola fythii* Fairly common in Nagaland. Ssp *hopkinsoni*

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus* ssp *murghi*

Swamp Francolin ♦ *Ortygornis gularis* Seen on two days in the lowlands along the Brahmaputra. Also heard in Kaziranga.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* One enroute to Tinsukia.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* A singleton at Sela pass on both visits.

Bengal Florican ♦ *Houbaropsis bengalensis* An amazing morning with an estimated 11 individuals at Elopa grassland near Roing. 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* Good views in Dihing Patkai. A few more were heard elsewhere.

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

Asian Emerald Cuckoo (S) *Chrysococcyx maculatus* A total of four 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 sparveriioides* Widespread and vocal. It took quite some time before we had visual contact with this bird.

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

Lesser Cuckoo (S) *Cuculus poliocephalus* One was seen at Eaglenest WLS. In addition, ten or so were heard during the tour.

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

Himalayan Cuckoo (S) *Cuculus saturatus* Widespread in the mountains.

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

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

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis* ssp *tigrina*

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

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

Snow Pigeon ♦ *Columba leuconota* 20-30 birds at Sela Pass on both visits.

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

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* ssp *indica*

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

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

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon ♦ *Treron apicauda* Ten or so in Dihing-Patkai. Ssp *apicauda*

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus* One at Bompu camp, Eaglenest WLS.

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea* Rather common in the lowlands, ssp *sylvatica*.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia* Fairly common in the Eaglenest area, ssp *griseicapilla*.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Eurasian Coot (Common C) *Fulica atra*

Purple Swampfen (Grey-headed S) *Porphyrio [porphyrio] poliocephalus*

Watercock *Gallicrex cinerea* Brief views of one at Maguli Beel on our first visit and two calling birds in the darkness on our second visit.

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

Black-tailed Crike ♦ *Zapornia bicolor* Several birds in and around Shergaon. Also heard in Dirang.

Long-billed Plover ♦ *Charadrius placidus* Four near Tenga and one in the Sangti Valley.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* Two sightings.

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*

Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus* Two enroute to Kaziranga on our first day.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* Two sightings of two birds in Assam.

Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus*

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* One by the Brahmaputra.

Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* Brilliant views of a confiding bird at Eaglenest WLS.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* One non-leader bird at the Guwahati dump.

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator* One in Manipur was a good surprise.

Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea* One by the Brahmaputra.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* Six in Kaziranga and a flock of three on the way to Nagaland.

Black-headed Gull (Common B-h G) *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* A flock of 26 birds by the Brahmaputra.

Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus* Two sightings.

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

Greater Adjutant ♦ *Leptoptilos dubius* 200 or so at the Guwahati dump and small numbers in Kaziranga NP.

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus* Small numbers were noted on four days.

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* Small numbers in Kaziranga, ssp *asiaticus*.

Asian Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

Little Cormorant *Microcarbo niger*

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus*

Spot-billed Pelican ♦ *Pelecanus philippensis* Small numbers in Kaziranga.

Cinnamon Bittern *Botaurus cinnamomeus* A few were seen.

Yellow Bittern *Botaurus sinensis* Two at Maguli Bheel.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Little Heron *Butorides atricapilla*

Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Medium Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Ardea coromanda*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* ssp *manilensis*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka* ssp *hazarae*.

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* Seen at Doimara camp by some and at Maguli Beel by all, ssp *bimaculatus*.

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

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

Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*

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

Dark-rumped Swift ♦ *Apus acuticauda* Great views of a flock of 15 at a newly discovered site on the way to Dirang. In addition a singleton near Khonoma in Nagaland.

Fork-tailed Swift (Blyth's S) *Apus [pacificus] leuconyx*

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris* Quite widespread in the mountains from Mishmi Hills to Nagaland. Ssp *brevirostris*.

Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris* One at Maguli Beel on our nocturnal boat trip.

Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica* One at the hotel in Tinsukia and another one at Maguli Beel.

Brown Boobook (B Hawk Owl) *Ninox scutulata* One was seen at our accommodation in Kaziranga and another one near Maguli Bheel. In addition, a handful of birds were heard.

Collared Owlet *Taeniopteryx brodiei* Commonly heard in the mountains and good views of one in the Dirang region. Ssp *brodiei*

Spotted Owlet *Athene brama*

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*

Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus* Good views of one at Eaglenest WLS. Ssp *spilocephalus*.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia* Heard only.

Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* One was seen at our accommodation in Kaziranga.

Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis* A roadside pair in Kaziranga.

Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* One at Lamacamp on our first morning there.

Himalayan Owl ♦ (H Wood O) *Strix nivicolom* Brilliant views of a roosting individual near Sela pass.

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

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

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

Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni* One at Bhalukpong, one near Khellong at Eaglenest WLS and two at Dihing-Patkai.

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

White-rumped Vulture *Gyps bengalensis* Two adult birds near the Brahmaputra river crossing. Critically endangered.

Himalayan Vulture (H Griffon V) *Gyps himalayensis* Small numbers in Kaziranga and at Sela Pass.

Slender-billed Vulture ♦ *Gyps tenuirostris* A few in Kaziranga. Critically endangered.

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* ssp *cheela*

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

Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus cirrhatus* Just two, both in Kaziranga, ssp *limnaeetus*.

Rufous-bellied Eagle *Lophotriorchis kienerii* One near Bhalukpong and another one near Elupa grassland.

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malaiensis* Noted on five days in the mountains, ssp *perniger*.

Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* Two sightings.

Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* Two near Bhalukpong.

Crested Goshawk *Lophospiza trivirgata* Surprisingly scarce this year, only one seen. Ssp *indicus*.

Shikra *Tachyspiza badia* ssp *poliopsis*

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos* A female on the way to Kaziranga on the first day and the next day a male there.

Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* Two sightings.

Black Kite (Black-eared K) *Milvus [migrans] lineatus*

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

Pallas's Fish Eagle ♦ *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* A total of five including two juveniles in Kaziranga.

Grey-headed Fish Eagle ♦ *Ichthyophaga ichthyaeus* A few in Kaziranga.

Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo refectus* A few in the Dirang area..

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

Ward's Trogon ♦ *Harpactes wardi* Brilliant sighting of a male at Eaglenest WLS and equally good observation of a pair at Mishmi Hills..

Common Hoopoe (Common H) *Upupa epops*

Great Hornbill (Great Pied H) *Buceros bicornis* A few with good views in Kaziranga.

Austen's Brown Hornbill ♦ *Anorrhinus austeni* An adult and a recently fledged juvenile at nest in Dihing-Patkai. Great views.

Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris* ssp *albirostris* Seen in Kaziranga.

Rufous-necked Hornbill ♦ *Aceros nipalensis* A total of four at Eaglenest WLS and two in Mishmi Hills.

Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulatus* One at Eaglenest WLS.

Indochinese Roller *Coracias affinis* Widespread in the Assam lowlands.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni* A singleton in Kaziranga, ssp *athertoni*.

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

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

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Crested Kingfisher (Himalayan Pied K) *Megaceryle lugubris* One in the Mishmi Hills.

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

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

Ruddy Kingfisher *Halcyon coromanda* ssp *coromanda*.

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

Coppersmith Barbet *Psilopogon haemacephalus*

Blue-eared Barbet *Psilopogon cyanotis* Good views of one near Khellong at Eaglenest WLS. In addition, a handful of were heard during the tour. Ssp *cyanotis*.

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*

Yellow-rumped Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator xanthonotus* One male in Eaglenest WLS:

Rufous Woodpecker *Micropternus brachyurus* ssp *phaiiceps*

Pale-headed Woodpecker ♦ *Gecinulus grantia* ssp *grantia* One at Eaglenest WLS.

Black-rumped Flameback *Dinopium benghalense* Two in Guwahati.

Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus* ssp *chlorolophus*

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

Greater Yellownape *Chrysophlegma flavinucha* ssp *flavinucha*

Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* ssp *pyrrhotis*

Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus* ssp *guttacristatus*

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus canicapillus*

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

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

Darjeeling Woodpecker (D Pied W) *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

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

Pied Falconet *Microhierax melanoleucos* One in Dihing Patkai.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* One in Kaziranga.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* One in the Dirang region.

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria* ssp *avensis* A few in Kaziranga.

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

Blossom-headed Parakeet (Rosy-h P) *Psittacula roseata* ssp *juneae* A total of 16 in Kaziranga.

Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri* ssp *fasciata* This lowland parakeet was common in Kaziranga.

Vernal Hanging Parrot *Loriculus vernalis* Good views of one at Dihing Patkai. A tour write-in!

Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae* ssp *dalhousiae*

Grey-lored Broadbill ♦ *Serilophus rubropygius* A confiding pair gave good views in Dihing Patkai. A recent split from Silver-breasted Broadbill.

Blue-naped Pitta ♦ *Hydrornis nipalensis* Heard only.

Western Hooded Pitta (S) *Pitta sordida* ssp *cucullate* Great views of one at Mishmi Hills.

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* A pair in Manipur was a nice surprise. Apparently, a scarce bird in this corner of NE India.

Indian Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei* Seen in the lowland forests of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Lalage melaschistos*

Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus*

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

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

Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis virgatus* ssp *pelvicus* A few in Dihing Patkai.

Common Woodshrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus* One in Kaziranga.

Black-headed Shrike-babbler ♦ *Pteruthius rufiventer* Single birds were seen along the Mandala road, Eaglenest WLS and Khonoma.

White-browed Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus* ssp *validirostris* Fairly widespread in the higher altitude forests.

Green Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus* ssp *xanthochlorus* Some excellent views in the Eaglenest area.

Black-eared Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius melanotis* ssp *melanotis* A few birds were noted at Eaglenest, Mishmi Hills and Nagaland.

White-bellied Erpornis (W-b Yuhina) *Erpornis zantholeuca* A handful of birds in the lowland forests.

Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii* ssp *traillii* Noted on nine days in the mountains.

Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus* ssp *xanthornus* Regular in Kaziranga, a few elsewhere.

Slender-billed Oriole *Oriolus tenuirostris* Heard only in Dirang.

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis* ssp *stanleyi*

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*

Black-naped Monarch (B-n Blue M) *Hypothymis azurea* ssp *stanyi*

Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone affinis*

Burmese Shrike *Lanius collurioides* Ten or so near Jessami. Interestingly we didn't see any there on our previous visit in 2025.

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius Schach* ssp *tricolor*

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* Ten or so near Jessami. A few elsewhere.

Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus*

Red-billed Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* ssp *himalayanus* Only noted around Sela pass, where common.

Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda* ssp *vagabunda*

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae* ssp *himalayensis*

Collared Treepie ♦ *Dendrocitta frontalis* One was seen and another one heard in the Mishmi Hills.

Yellow-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa flavirostris* ssp *flavirostris* This handsome high altitude magpie was sighted along the Mandala road, at Eaglenest and in the Mishmi Hills.

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythroryncha* One in Jessami, Manipur.

Eurasian Jay (Plain-crowned J) *Garrulus [glandarius] bispecularis* This very distinct looking subspecies of Eurasian Jay was sighted in the Mishmi Hills.

Southern Nutcracker *Nucifraga hemispila* A handful of birds in the Dirang area.

House Crow *Corvus splendens* ssp *splendens*

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos* ssp *tibetosinensis* This high-altitude form of Large-billed Crow was seen on three days in the Dirang area.

Large-billed Crow (Eastern Jungle C) *Corvus [macrorhynchos] levaillantii* This form of Large-billed Crow was a regular sight in the lowlands.

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* A few birds were noted in Dihing Patkai and in the Mishmi Hills.

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

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

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

Coal Tit (Himalayan C T) *Periparus [ater] aemodius* Small numbers in the Dirang area.

Rufous-vented Tit *Periparus rubidiventris* A few sightings in the Sela pass area.

Grey-crested Tit *Lophophanes dichrous* Seen in the conifer zone beyond Sela pass.

Bengal Bush Lark ♦ *Plocealauda assamica* Three with good views in Kaziranga.

Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

Sand Lark ♦ *Alaudala raytal* ssp *raytal* A pair on the Brahmaputra island on both visits.

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis* ssp *nitidus* Two in Dihing Patkai. Also heard in Kaziranga.

Black-throated Prinia *Prinia atrogularis* A few birds with good views in the western Arunachal.

Rufous-crowned Prinia ♦ *Prinia khasiana* Rather common in Nagaland.

Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens* Few sightings in Assam and in Nagaland.

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

Delicate Prinia *Prinia lepida* Seen along the grasslands of Brahmaputra.

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris* ssp *flaviventris* Seen along the grasslands of Brahmaputra.

Ashy Prinia *Prinia socialis* ssp *stewarti*

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

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* A few at Elopa grassland.

Golden-headed Cisticola (Bright-capped C) *Cisticola exilis* Five or so at Elopa grassland.

Thick-billed Warbler *Arundinax aedon* One was seen and another one heard at Maguli Beel.

Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* One at Shergaon and another at Elopa grassland.

Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* One at Bhaghjan grassland.

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler (Rusty-rumped W) *Helopsaltes certhiola* One singing bird at Maguli Beel.

Spotted Bush Warbler *Locustella thoracica* Heard only on the Brahmaputra island

Russet Bush Warbler ♦ *Locustella mandelli* Seen at Shergaon and several heard in the Dirang area.

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris* ssp *toklao* Rather common around the lowland wetlands.

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

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

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

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* ssp *gutturalis*

Nepal House Martin *Delichon nipalense* ssp *cutting*

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus* ssp *cashmeriense*

Eastern Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*

White-browed Tit-warbler *Leptopoeile sophiae* A pair at Sela pass.

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

Black-browed Bushtit ♦ *Aegithalos iouschistos* Excellent views in the Sela pass area.

Pale-footed Bush Warbler *Hemitesia pallidipes* Heard only in Manipur.

Grey-bellied Tesia (Yellow-browed T) *Tesia cyaniventer* Commonly heard in the Mishmi Hills, where we also sighted this species.

Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivea* ssp *olivea* Commonly heard at Eaglenest, where also seen.

Grey-sided Bush Warbler *Cettia brunnifrons* Good views of one in the Mishmi Hills.

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

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* A few sightings at the Eaglenest WLS.

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

Hume's Bush Warbler *Horornis brunescens* A few along the Mandala road and in the Mishmi Hills.

Aberrant Bush Warbler *Horornis flavolivaceus* A calling bird was teased out at Eaglenest WLS.

Buff-barred Warbler (Orange-b W) *Phylloscopus pulcher* Scarce this year, only a few birds were noted.

Ashy-throated Warbler (A-t Leaf W, Grey-faced L W) *Phylloscopus maculipennis* ssp *maculipennis* Ten or so in the higher altitude forests.

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

Sichuan Leaf Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus forresti* Three in the Mishmi Hills.

Lemon-rumped Warbler (L-r Leaf W) *Phylloscopus chloronotus* Ten or so in the western Arunachal (Dirang region and Eaglenest).

Tickell's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis* Good showing including even some small flocks of wintering birds in the lowlands.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* ssp *fuscatus* Small numbers were noted.

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.

Green-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus burkii* One in the Mishmi Hills.

Grey-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus tephrocephalus* Noted in Nagaland.

Grey-cheeked Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus poliogenys*

White-spectacled Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus intermedius* ssp *zosterops* Several birds at Eaglenest.

Whistler's Warbler *Phylloscopus whistleri* ssp *nemoralis* Fairly common at Eaglenest and in the Mishmi Hills.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides* A handful of wintering birds.

Large-billed Leaf Warbler ♦ (S) *Phylloscopus magnirostris* Noted in the Dirang region and again in Mishmi Hills.

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

Yellow-vented Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus cantator* ssp *cantator* A handful of birds in the lower reaches of the Bhalukpong-Eaglenest area. Also heard in Jessami in Manipur.

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

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

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

Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons* Common in Nagaland.

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

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

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*

Fire-tailed Myzornis ♦ *Myzornis pyrrhura* A gorgeous pair along the road below Sela pass and a singleton at Eaglenest pass.

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* Good views of one at a grassland near Roing. The subspecies *griseigulare* of NE India differs quite markedly from the more western *scindicum*. A future split?

Brown-throated Fulvetta ♦ *Fulvetta ludlowi* A few in the Mishmi Hills.

Manipur Fulvetta ♦ (Streak-throated F) *Fulvetta manipurensis* A few in the Mishmi Hills.

Black-breasted Parrotbill ♦ *Paradoxornis flavirostris* Good views of one at a grassland near Roing.

Spot-breasted Parrotbill ♦ *Paradoxornis guttaticollis* Two below Khonoma in Nagaland.

White-breasted Parrotbill ♦ *Paradoxornis ruficeps* Moderate numbers with brilliant views at Eaglenest.

Black-throated Parrotbill ♦ (Grey-breasted P) *Suthora [nipalensis] poliotis* Small numbers at Eaglenest, Mishmi Hills and Nagaland.

Pale-billed Parrotbill *Suthora atrosuperciliaris* Three in the bamboo above Bhalukpong enroute to Dirang.

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-fronted Babbler (Buff-chested B) *Cyanoderma [rufifrons] ambiguum* Heard only.

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

Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler ♦ *Spelaeornis caudatus* Good views at Eaglenest where relatively common.

Mishmi Wren-Babbler ♦ *Spelaeornis badeigularis* Brilliant views of one in Mishmi Hills. Endemic.

Bar-winged Wren-Babbler ♦ *Spelaeornis troglodytoides* ssp *sherriffi* Acceptable views of a single bird on Mishmi Hills.

Naga Wren-Babbler ♦ *Spelaeornis chocolatinus* Great views of a pair in Khonoma. Endemic.

Black-crowned Scimitar Babbler ♦ *Pomatorhinus ferruginosus* ssp *ferruginosus* Two below Lamacamp at Eaglenest.

Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler ♦ (Sickle-b S B) *Pomatorhinus superciliaris* ssp *superciliaris* Excellent views of an interacting group of six along the Mandala road. Also noted in Mishmi Hills.

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* ssp *godwini* & *bakeri* Common in the Dirang-Eaglenest area.

White-browed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus schisticeps* ssp *salimali* Three in the Khellong area in Eaglenest.

Large Scimitar Babbler *Erythrogenys hypoleucos* A pair below Khellong at Eaglenest WLS.

Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler ♦ *Erythrogenys maclellandi* Fairly common in Nagaland and Manipur.

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps* ssp *nigriceps* Heard only.

Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler ♦ (Blackish-breasted B) *Stachyris humei* A pair below Bompu camp at Eaglenest.

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

White-hooded Babbler ♦ (Indian W-h B) *Gampsorhynchus rufulus* Three in the Khellong area in Eaglenest.

Yellow-throated Fulvetta ♦ *Schoeniparus cinereus* Noted daily at Eaglenest and in Mishmi Hills.

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

Rufous-throated Fulvetta ♦ *Schoeniparus rufogularis* Brilliant views in Dihing Patkai.

Rusty-capped Fulvetta ♦ *Schoeniparus dubius* ssp *mandellii* A few in Nagaland with good views.

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

Marsh Babbler ♦ *Pellorneum palustre* Endemic. Struggled at first with this vocal, but often skulking species, but eventually we had acceptable views on one of the islands of Brahmaputra.

Buff-breasted Babbler *Pellorneum tickelli* One was seen in Mishmi Hills.

Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler *Napothera epilepidota* One at Eaglenest WLS.

Long-billed Wren-Babbler *Napothera malacoptila* After couple of heard only birds, we had great views of one in Mishmi Hills.

Abbott's Babbler *Malacocincla abbotti* Two in Kaziranga.

Streaked Wren-Babbler *Gypsophila brevicaudata* Non-leader. One for Paul in Dihing Patkai.

Nepal Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe nipalensis* ssp *nipalensis* Seen in Dihing Patkai and Mishmi Hills.

Striated Laughingthrush *Grammatoptila striata* ssp *brahmaputra*

Himalayan Cutia *Cutia nipalensis* ssp *nipalensis* Several good sightings at Eaglenest and in Mishmi Hills.

Brown-capped Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron austeni* Near-endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar. Poor views of one in Nagaland.

Blue-winged Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron squamatum* Often heard but only seen on our last morning in Pfutsero.

Bhutan Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron imbricatum* A few were sighted in the Dirang-Eaglenest area.

Striped Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron virgatum* Near-endemic, occurs also in W Myanmar. Good views of a pair in Nagaland.

Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron affine* ssp *bethalae* Good views around Sela pass and in Mishmi Hills.

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum* ssp *godwini* Fairly common at Eaglenest and in Mishmi Hills.

Assam Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron chrysopterum* Heard only. Near endemic.

Long-tailed Sibia ♦ *Heterophasia picaoides* ssp *picaoides* Good views at Eaglenest WLS:

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

Grey Sibia ♦ *Heterophasia gracilis* Commonly encountered in Nagaland.

Streak-throated Barwing ♦ (Grey-breasted B) *Actinodura [waldeni] daflaensis* Noted on four days at Eaglenest.

Streak-throated Barwing ♦ (Rufous-breasted B) *Actinodura [waldeni] waldeni* A pair in Mishmi Hills.

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 argentauris*

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

Rufous-backed Sibia *Leioptila annectens* One in Mishmi Hills.

Bugun Liocichla ♦ *Liocichla bugunorum* Endemic, and with only 12-14 known pairs critically endangered. We saw a pair and heard a third individual below Lama camp in Eaglenest WLS.

Red-faced Liocichla ♦ (Crimson-f L) *Liocichla phoenicea* We heard a few birds in Mishmi Hills (ssp *phoenicea*) and sighted ssp *bakeri* in Nagaland.

Slender-billed Babbler ♦ *Argya longirostris* Heard only in Kaziranga.

Striated Babbler ♦ *Argya earlei* ssp *earlei*

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

Spotted Laughingthrush ♦ *Ianthocincla ocellata* ssp *ocellata*

Rufous-necked Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus ruficollis*

Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus nuchalis* Near-endemic, occurs also in N Myanmar. Two seen and one more heard at Dihing Patkai.

White-browed Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus sannio* Three in Khonoma, Nagaland.

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus pectoralis* ssp *pectoralis* Good views near Khellong at Eaglenest. A few were heard elsewhere.

Grey-sided Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus caerulatus* ssp *caerulatus*. Good views at the dump at Bompou camp. A few were heard elsewhere.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus* ssp *sikkimensis* One in the conifer forest beyond Sela pass. Rather scarce bird on this itinerary.

Beautiful Nuthatch ♦ *Sitta formosa* Great views of one in Mishmi Hills.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis* A few were noted in Kaziranga, Nagaland and Manipur.

White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis*

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch *Sitta nagaensis* ssp *nagaensis* Two sightings in Khonoma, Nagaland.

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

Hodgson's Treecreeper *Certhia hodgsoni* One in the conifer forest beyond Sela pass.

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

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes* ssp *nipalensis* Fairly common around Sela pass.

Spotted Elachura ♦ (Spotted W-b) *Elachura formosa* One was seen below Lamacamp at Eaglenest. In addition, a handful of birds were heard during the tour.

Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa* ssp *intermedia* Small numbers in Kaziranga and in Dihing Patkai.

Indian Pied Myna (Asian Pied Starling) *Gracupica contra* ssp *superciliaris* Rather common and widespread in the lowlands.

Chestnut-tailed Starling (Grey-headed S) *Sturnia malabarica* ssp *malabarica* Fairly common and widespread in the lowlands.

Bank Myna ♦ *Acridotheres ginginianus* A flock of four en route to Kaziranga on the first day of the tour.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* ssp *tristis*

Great Myna (White-vented M) *Acridotheres grandis* Rather common and widespread in the lowlands.

Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus* ssp *fumidus* Common and widespread in the lowlands.

White-throated Dipper *Cinclus cinclus* ssp *przewalskii*. Two beyond Sela pass.

Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii* ssp *dorjei* Three sightings.

Grandala ♦ *Grandala coelicolor* One male at Sela pass.

Long-tailed Thrush ♦ *Zoothera dixonii* One for some of the group along the Mandala road.

Alpine Thrush *Zoothera mollissima* One was seen and another one heard at Sela pass.

Himalayan Thrush *Zoothera salimalii* One below Bompou camp at Eaglenest WLS:

Purple Cochoa ♦ *Cochoa purpurea* Two singing birds giving good scope views in Eaglenest. Also heard in Khonoma.

Green Cochoa ♦ *Cochoa viridis* Two were seen in Mishmi Hills and few others were heard.

Tibetan Blackbird ♦ *Turdus maximus* Three birds at Sela pass.

White-collared Blackbird *Turdus albocinctus*

Chestnut Thrush *Turdus rubrocanus* First one non-leader bird along the Mandala road and later two showy individuals in Mishmi Hills.

Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* Good views of two birds along the Mandala road.

Grey-winged Blackbird *Turdus boulboul* A handful of birds at Eaglenest and Mishmi Hills combined.

Tickell's Thrush ♦ *Turdus unicolor* One at Shergaon.

Black-breasted Thrush ♦ *Turdus dissimilis* One co-operative individual near Khonoma in Nagaland. In addition, Pierre saw one in Mishmi Hills.

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

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

Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa ferruginea* One at Eaglenest and a total of three near Khonoma.

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

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis* ssp *grandis*

Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae* ssp *signata*

Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara*

Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus* ssp *thalassinus*

White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Anthipes monileger* ssp *leucops* A few were sighted at Eaglenest. Also heard in Mishmi Hills.

Pale-chinned Flycatcher ♦ *Cyornis poliogenys* This lowland flycatcher was seen near Kaziranga.

Pale Blue Flycatcher ♦ *Cyornis unicolor* ssp *unicolor* A few at Eaglenest.

Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher (S) *Cyornis rubeculoides* ssp *rubeculoides* A few sightings near Khonoma in Nagaland.

Hainan Blue Flycatcher ♦ *Cyornis hainanus* Heard only. Two birds were heard in Dihing Patkai, but we couldn't tease them out. This form, *dialilaemus*, formerly treated as a lowland form of Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher, is now considered to be part of the Hainan Blue Flycatcher complex.

Large Blue Flycatcher ♦ *Cyornis magnirostris* First one on the way to Dirang and later two at Eaglenest WLS.

Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis whitei* Relatively common in the lower parts of Mishmi Hills, but more often heard than seen.

Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica* One on the island of Brahmaputra.

Chinese Rubythroat ♦ *Calliope tschebaiewi* A few birds with some excellent views on the Brahmaputra island.

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

White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaulti* Two birds in Dihing Patkai.

Black-backed Forktail ♦ *Enicurus immaculatus* One at Sally Lake, Mishmi Hills.

Blue-fronted Robin ♦ *Cinclidium frontale* ssp *orientale* Typically brief views of one at Eaglenest where this species is rather commonly heard. Also heard in Mishmi Hills.

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* ssp *temminckii*

Indian Blue Robin ♦ *Larvivora brunnea* Rather common and easy to see in Khonoma.

Rusty-bellied Shortwing ♦ *Brachypteryx hypertyra* Variable views of one in Mishmi Hills where we also heard two birds.

Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophris* ssp *nipalensis*

Himalayan Shortwing ♦ *Brachypteryx cruralis* One was seen at Eaglenest. In addition, a handful of birds were heard at various high-altitude forests.

Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula erithacus* One in Shergaon.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra* ssp *hyperythra* A pair on Mishmi Hills.

Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor* ssp *tricolor*

Pygmy Flycatcher ♦ *Ficedula hodgsoni* A male in Khonoma.

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*

Himalayan Bluetail (Orange-flanked Bush-robin) *Tarsiger rufilatus* ssp *rufilatus* Two below Sela pass and one at Eaglenest.

White-browed Bush Robin ♦ *Tarsiger indicus* ssp *indicus* Two singing males below Sela pass.

Golden Bush Robin *Tarsiger chrysaeus* ssp *chrysaeus* Excellent male below Sela pass.

Gould's Shortwing ♦ *Heteroxenicus stellatus* It took some searching but in the end we had good views of one in Mishmi Hills.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*

White-throated Redstart *Phoenicurus schisticeps* 2-3 birds on both visits to Sela pass.

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

Plumbeous Water Redstart *Phoenicurus fuliginosus* ssp *fuliginosus*

Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni* One en route to Dirang and another one in Sangti Valley.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* Two in the Dirang area.

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*

Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata* Two in Manipur. Common bird in more arid areas of Indian, but rare in the northeast corner of the country. A write-in!

Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus*

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum* ssp *chrysochlore* Great views of one in Dihing Patkai.

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker *Pachyglossa melanozantha* Two non-leader birds (a pair) in Khonoma.

Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum minullum* ssp *olivaceum* Several birds in Dihing Patkai.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus* ssp *ignipectus* Noted on five days.

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum* ssp *cruentatum* Small numbers with excellent views in the lowlands.

Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra* ssp *longirostra* Couple of birds in Mishmi Hills.

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna* ssp *magna* Widespread in small numbers.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis* Two in Kaziranga.

Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda* ssp *ignicauda* This gorgeous high-altitude sunbird was sighted in the Sela pass area and in Mishmi Hills.

Black-throated Sunbird (B-breasted S) *Aethopyga saturata* ssp *assamensis* Only noted at Eaglenest WLS.

Mrs. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae* ssp *gouldiae* Noted on five days with good views.

Green-tailed Sunbird ♦ *Aethopyga nipalensis* ssp *koelzi* This was the commonest sunbird, noted almost daily at Eaglenest and in Mishmi Hills, and also sighted in Nagaland.

Crimson Sunbird (Greater C S) *Aethopyga siparaja* ssp *labecula* This widespread low-elevation sunbird was noted on nine days.

Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus* Two sightings, both in Kaziranga.

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

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

Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella* Four in the Khellong area at Eaglenest and two in Dihing Patkai.

Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus* ssp *burmanicus*

Finn's Weaver ♦ *Ploceus megarhynchus* A breeding plumaged male in Kaziranga.

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

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla* ssp *atricapilla*

Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris* Two at Sela pass.

Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophiatea* ssp *strophiatea* A total of four in the Sela pass area.

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

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* ssp *citreola*

Eastern Yellow Wagtail (Alaska W) *Motacilla [tschutschensis] tschutschensis* One in Kaziranga.

White Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] alba* One in Kaziranga.

White Wagtail (Amur W) *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis* A few, all in the lowlands.

White Wagtail (Himalayan W) *Motacilla [alba] alboides* The commonest subspecies of White Wagtail. Encountered on eight days.

Blyth's Pipit *Anthus godlewskii* One at Elopa grassland near Roing and six in Jessame.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* Two in Kaziranga.

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus* Only a few were noted.

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* ssp *hodgsoni* Small numbers were noted on eight days.

Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseatus* Noted on seven days.

White-winged Grosbeak ♦ *Mycerobas carnipes* ssp *carnipes* A total of ten at Sela pass.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrurus* ssp *roseatus* Only a few, all in Nagaland, were noted.

Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch ♦ *Carpodacus pulcherrimus* Four beyond Sela pass.

Dark-rumped Rosefinch ♦ *Carpodacus edwardsii* One below Lamacamp at Eaglenest and 15 or so with brilliant views in Mishmi Hills.

Crimson-browed Finch *Carpodacus subhimachalus* Three along the Mandala road and two at Eaglenest.

Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch ♦ *Carpodacus thura* Ten or so on both visits to Sela pass.

Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis* One seen and a few more heard at Eaglenest.

Red-headed Bullfinch ♦ *Pyrrhula erythrocephala* One male along the Mandala road.

Grey-headed Bullfinch *Pyrrhula erythaca* Three birds on the way to Shergaon.

Blanford's Rosefinch ♦ *Agraphospiza rubescens* Three, two males and a female, along the Mandala road.

Golden-naped Finch ♦ *Pyrrhoplectes epauletta* Two at Eaglenest and three in Mishmi Hills.

Dark-breasted Rosefinch *Procarduelis nipalensis* Seen on four days in high-altitude forests.

Plain Mountain Finch *Leucosticte nemoricola* Good numbers at Sela pass but also a flock of 50 along the Mandala road.

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch (Himalayan G) *Chloris spinoides*

Tibetan Serin ♦ (T Siskin) *Spinus thibetanus* A flock of ten at Mandala.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

Crested Bunting *Emberiza lathami* One male in Dirang.

MAMMALS

Asian Elephant *Elephas maximus* Numerous in Kaziranga.

Smooth-coated Otter *Lutra perspicillata* Two encounters, both in Kaziranga.

Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula* Seen on three days.

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* Two in Kaziranga. Also heard at Eaglenest.

Barasingha (Swamp Deer) *Rucervus duvaucelii* Common in Kaziranga.

Sambar *Rusa unicorn* A total of three in Kaziranga.

Asian Wild Buffalo (Wild Water B) *Bubalus arnee* Common in Kaziranga.

Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*

Assamese Macaque *Macaca assamensis* Two in Dihing Patkai.

Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta* Rather common in the lowlands.

Arunachal Macaque *Macaca munzala* A troop of ten at Eaglenest.

Capped Langur *Trachypithecus pileatus* A troop of 12 on the way to Kaziranga and ten in Dihing Patkai.

Western Hoolock Gibbon *Hoolock hoolock* Two good sightings in Mishmi Hills.

Forrest's Pika *Ochotona forresti* One in Mishmi Hills.

Pallas's Squirrel *Callosciurus erythraeus*

Irrawaddy Squirrel (Hoary-bellied S) *Callosciurus pygerythrus*

Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel *Dremomys lokriah*

Black Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*

Himalayan Striped Squirrel *Tamias maclellandii*