

# India's Wildlife – A Photographic Tour

Naturetrek Tour Report

26th October – 10th November 2022

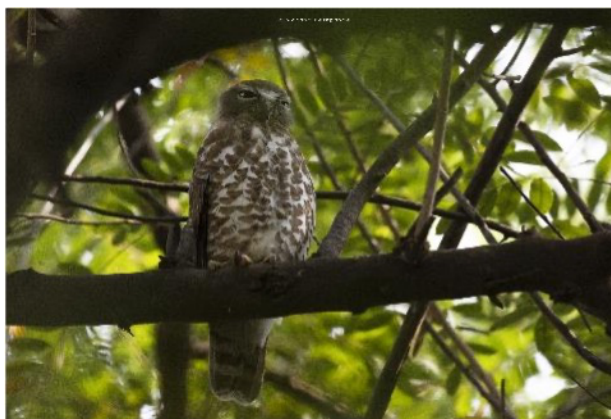
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Tigress with cubs in Bandhavgarh



Leopard in Bandhavgarh



Brown Hawk Owl in Chambal



Striped Hyena in Bharatpur

Tour report and images by Swanand Deshpande

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Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour participants: Swanand Deshpande (Leader) with seven Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

**Wednesday 26th October**

The group left Heathrow on an overnight flight to Delhi.

## Day 2

**Thursday 27th October**

Our flight from UK to Delhi was on time, but as Diwali season had just ended, there was a long queue for the visas. Soon as we stepped out of arrival, we were greeted by our tour leader Swan, and we headed straight towards our hotel - Pride Plaza, where we can freshen up and rest for a while. At lunch were briefed about the plan of action for the whole day. Post lunch we departed for Hazrat Nizamudding railway station to board overnight train leaving for Katni.

We had to wait for some time for the train to arrive. So, we used that to our advantage and took some pictures of the local life at the station. As the train arrived, our luggage was put in beneath our respective seats of the first class cabin by porters, before we settled down. Around 7 PM, we had our dinner which was packed and carried for us from Delhi. After a quick chat about history and Tigers of Bandhavgarh with Swan, we called it a day.

## Day 3

**Friday 28th October**

Early in the morning we arrived in Katni on time. The local representative and the porters helped us get to the transfer vehicle. We were in a comfortable air-conditioned traveller bus. On our way to Bandhavgarh, the countryside along the roads made it an interesting journey. We watched a lot of birds en-route, like the Red-rumped Swallows, Grey Francolins, Grey Hornbills and so on.

We reached the lodge around 9.15 am and were greeted by the lodge manager and his team. It was a busy day in Bandhavgarh so we had a lovely breakfast as the rooms were prepared. While having breakfast we also discussed about few tips related to photography that would be helpful on the safari.

Post lunch we were all energized for our first game drive in Bandhavgarh's famed Tala zone. And what could we say, the entire national park was under a blanket of greenery. With all the excitement we clicked whatever our eyes saw. Especially the composition of our pictures was centered around involving the gorgeous *Saccharum spontaneum*. A few kilometers into the park and we started to see fresh signs of a Tiger's presence. Signs after signs, we surely ended up seeing a Tiger, albeit a different one. A perineal stream cutting through the forest with tall bush on both the sides, the male Tiger had chosen the end of the stream for its slumber. Even though it was difficult to photograph, it was a beautiful sight to behold.

We decided to leave the Tiger in peace and explore other parts of the forest in search of birds and other animals. And sure enough, just as we started out, a Madras Tree Shrew darting out from a bush and crossed the road. A Sirkeer Malkoha gave us a wonderful photographic opportunity while being perched on the most clutter free branch, not something that is often experienced with this shy bird.

Well, that was our first Tiger and even though we could not manage any shots, everyone was happy seeing him.

On the way out of the park, it was near to dark, we saw a bunch of vehicles parked in the middle of the road. “It’s definitely some big game over there” Swan said. And yes, it happened to be another big male Tiger. The same Tiger that we were tracking earlier. Sadly, it was impossible to grab a picture. I suggested not to try photography and just enjoy the sight of this magnificent beast. They surely did enjoy that. There are many moments which our eyes will perceive better than our modern cameras.

An outstanding end to a day, and a great start. We reached our lodge around 6.30 PM to enjoy piping hot cup of tea and evening snacks. We began ticking boxes in our checklist, got briefed up about tomorrow, before hitting the pillow.

## Day 4

## Saturday 29th October

We woke up to the sounds of Tickell’s Blue Flycatcher and Mottled Wood Owl and after some refreshing tea/coffee, we left for the park. It was a clear, sunny morning and we were once again in the Tala zone of the park. We had heard from the local park guides about the same Tiger that we saw previously was seen in the same area by the forest guards, so we headed straight to that area.

Winter morning times in Tala are definitely a treat for bird watchers, as we saw lots of birds this morning. Including Taiga Flycatcher, pair of roosting Indian Scops Owls, Yellow-footed Green Pigeons and got some great shots of Indian Vultures. After a lovely breakfast inside the park, we started to drive back to the gate. On our way back we saw yet some more winter migrants, the Black Redstart and a Common Stonechat.

We came back to lodge for a little rest before meeting everybody at lunch. After the lunch it was time for our evening drive. As we drove through Tala gate, we saw a juvenile of Crested Hawk Eagle with beautiful pale morph, perched on a tree branch. We got some great shots, of the Indian Roller as well. Moving ahead, we felt like the forest was relatively silent in the first hours. But later there were so many alarm calls that everyone inside the park was trying to cover as much area as possible to pinpoint the location of the Tiger. However, we did not see one this evening. A great drive nonetheless.

Back at the lodge we finished our growing checklist and had our dinner.

## Day 5

## Sunday 30th October

Today, after three drives back-to-back in Tala, we had different zones to explore. Our other two jeeps had gone to Magadhi zone, while we went to Khitauli.

Our drive started out with welcoming sight of Tiger pugmarks, but we saw them entering the thickets, with no follow up ahead. Soon we stumbled upon a male Jackal strutting along the road in front of us. We got some fairly good shots, as it stopped occasionally to sniff things on the road and to mark its territory.

Moving ahead we ran across a jeep, who informed us that there is a female Tiger being sighted ahead. We started to head towards that area, hoping to catch the tTiger in time. And sure enough, the Tigress was there, inside the bamboo thickets, with beautiful morning light falling on her.

But to our surprise, two more tiny Tigers emerged out from behind her. This was Tigress, locally named Tara (a star) and those two toddlers were five months old. Even though it was far deep inside the thickets, Swan and the lodge naturalist managed to get some good positioning. We observed the family for a quite a long time. There was some leftover Sambar from previous day that the babies were practicing their skills on. It was a lovely sight, as the mother cleaned her babies, play with them, all for while being on a lookout.

Later as it got warm, she took her cubs and went further inside the forest. Perhaps to get a drink from a pool. The rest of our party did manage to get just a glimpse of a Tiger sleeping in the bush, but had a lovely morning nonetheless.

In the afternoon all of us were back in Magadhi area.

Based on information from the morning, we headed to a road where the male Tiger was sighted. And it was in the exact same spot as the other group had left him in. We decided to stay there, hoping that it would head towards the water. Hours went by and he did not wake up at all. We decided to take a quick round, explore the road where Tigress called Dotty and her three cubs have made their territory. Sure, we did have Chital calling a few meters inside the woods, but nothing promising. We decided to go back to the male. But perhaps he had decided to sleep in the entire day. I suppose all of us have those kinds of days, even Tigers! At the lodge we updated our checklist and then had our dinner.

## Day 6

## Monday 31st October

Bandhavgarh was cooling down day by day, so it was getting really chilly in the mornings. But that was not a problem as we covered ourselves in layers, with a lodge providing blankets also. We left for Khitauli zone, while one vehicle had gone to Magadhi. It was unusually quiet here in Khitauli and after several minutes wait, we decided to check some new areas out. As we were exploring the area, we had loads of alarm calls from multiple areas, but nothing conclusive. The drive through this area was beautiful with lots of Giant bamboo thickets and water bodies, where we had some good bird watching.

During our last half an hour in Khitauli zone, we got a trio of Golden Jackals. This trio was very easy about our presence and would often come close to our vehicle, benefitted by being the only vehicle around. Roger and Vernon got some amazing portrait shots of these Jackals. It was also interesting to see their behavior as a pack.

On the other side in Magadhi, our third vehicle had gotten a tremendous sighting of three of Dotty's cubs. They had them on road one by one and got some great shots of the cubs. They are quite bold, just like their mother. They enjoyed every moment of the sighting and took some beautiful shots.

On the afternoon safari, right after entering the park, there was a pair of Lesser Adjutant Stork, nicely feeding next to a water stream alongside the spotted deer. Alison enjoyed taking lots of pictures with this one as it helped her with experimenting with the camera.

News was that a few people in the morning had seen a pair of mating Tigers. So naturally we narrowed our safari route to one patch of the forest.

After exploring that area, inside of the dense bamboo thicket we heard multiple Tiger growls. There was a small waterhole right next to us. Knowing the location of the Tigers, about ten more trucks, including us, were patiently waiting for the Tiger's movement. Unfortunately, nothing came of those thickets. But just hearing the Tigers roar at each other and just hearing the 'interaction' was definitely a thrilling experience. The way Tiger's roars resonate and echo throughout the forest is quite chilling.

## Day 7

## Tuesday 1st November

After the much needed and the usual morning refreshments, we were back in the Tala zone of the park. Today we explored the hilly parts of Tala. This habitat has this grandness to it. It is a surreal drive above the massive sheets of volcanic rocks with a panoramic view of the Vindhya mountain ranges. There were tracks and alarm calls everywhere we drove, but none of our jeeps got any sightings of the Tiger. However, Richard and Alison managed to see not one, but two Sloth Bears around the same time. A rare sight indeed.

Almost near to the end of the safari, we heard some Chital calls which sounded very promising. One of the vehicles admitted having seen tiger pugmarks along with a drag mark running across on the sandy road. A kill, perhaps. Thinking that most of the jeeps would give up on the calls and head towards the exit, we patiently waited. And sure, enough there was a movement in the bushes. A Black-naped Hare darted out of it and disappeared on the other side of the road. There is no mistake, the reason why Hare had to sacrifice his shelter and run away was because of some predator had gotten close to it. The Tiger is coming, our naturalist said.

But what popped out of the bushes was not a Tiger, but a female Leopard! As soon as we saw her sit in the bushes, we took an opportunity to park our vehicles a bit further away, so that everybody could see the Leopard when she comes out. Swan recommended that Peter and Keith were ready with the right camera settings, as it was a game of light and shadows, and it would be quick. The Leopard was going to come out on the road and follow the shadow of the trees. That is what Leopards do. They will take every opportunity to be as stealthy as possible. She came out on the road, and crossed right in front of us in mere seconds. But everybody got great shots.

In the afternoon, once again in the laps of Tala zone, we parked ourselves next to a troop of Macaques and had a great time watching and photographing them. The entire afternoon we had great time watching birds, but still no luck with Tigers today.

## Day 8

## Wednesday 2nd November

This morning we were in the Magadhi zone of the park. As soon as we entered the gate, there were fresh tracks of both male and female Tigers on the road, so we started following it. The tracks went on for a few kilometres before disappearing near an anti-poaching camp. As we reached the camp, the guards told us that they heard the Tiger from nearby a few minutes ago. Hearing this, we searched every road in the area, but he had already moved away and was nowhere to be found. We did see few Wild Boars in great light. In this safari we photographed lots of birds like the Jungle Owlet, Crested Hawk Eagle, Shikra, multiple woodpeckers and the highlight was a Crested Goshawk, which is not a common sight.

In the afternoon today the park was closed for drives, so we went for a village visit to understand the lives of the locals and the tribals. We were invited at one of the forest guard's house, who also happened to own a small grocery

store in the front. After a wonderful chat with the house owner and seeing his unique back to nature house, we set out for watching birds around the village. Birds like Coppersmith Barbet, Jungle Babblers, Black-hooded Oriole, Pied Starlings, Racket-tailed Drongo, etc were seen.

## Day 9

## Thursday 3rd November

Just another lovely sunny morning, the golden light filtering through the canopy, painted the jungle in every warm shade, like a Candyland for wildlife photographers. Every subject looked stunning and the details came out really well.

Our first half was spent in tracking the Tiger tracks, ultimately leading to the spot where we could hear Tigress growling. There were about five more trucks parked alongside us. The Tiger growl started to become distant. In disappointment we decided to just wait for five more minutes, to see how it turns out. One of the jeeps came to us and said they saw a Tigress with three cubs just crossed the road and went into the foothills of the mountain. This was on the adjoining road just a few hundred meters behind us. We quickly hurried to the location, but there was no sign of the moving Tigers anywhere. They could have gone up the hill. This is indeed a very slippery Tigress, a shy one.

Or that is what we thought. But the Langurs and the Sambar said the otherwise. A cacophony of alarm calls gave us a bit of hope. Swan and the naturalists were keeping an eye in every direction. She is elusive after all. As soon as some of the trucks lost patience, started the engine and were about to go away, Keith spotted some movement in the grass. And as soon as Swan turned his head, the Tigress was coming out of the bush. We quickly got into the position as she was emerging out. And once she came out, the rest of the vehicles got the signal and arrived at the spot. A great reward for all the patience that we had. Tracking her for some more time, we also managed to see two of her three cubs hiding in the bamboo. While the second one fled as soon as it spotted us, but one cub was still there. At last, a great sighting!

In the afternoon we were yet again in the Khitauli zone. Tigers remained elusive but we had amazing views of a herd of Indian Gaur. A gigantic adult male gave us some wonderful photographic opportunities. It was great seeing this massive and gentle giant and everyone got excellent shots. Back at the lodge we finished our checklist and had a lovely dinner in a beautiful outdoor setting.

## Day 10

## Friday 4th November

For our last safari in Bandhavgarh, we went to Magadhi zone. All the vehicles strategically planned out the course of action, to maximize our chances. Despite of great sightings that we have had so far, one always wishes to have some more. We heard a few strong alarm calls at one stage, but it went cold. However, we enjoyed this morning because even if the big game didn't show up, whatever we saw was pleasing to the eyes due the beautiful setting of Sal tree backdrop.

At noon we had our lunch and after saying goodbye to the Bandhav Vilas staff we drove to Katni railway station. Our train arrived on time and we set off on our overnight journey to Agra.

## Day 11

## Saturday 5th November

In the morning our train pulled into Agra railway station on time. We were met by the local representative and then transferred to the Howard Plaza Hotel for breakfast and to wash and change. Our cultural guide met us at the hotel and then we went out for our sightseeing tour of Agra. We started with the mighty Taj Mahala which was a sight to behold, despite the hazy conditions. Later we also covered Baby Taj, Agra Fort where we were surprised by a Naked-rumped Tomb Bat hanging over one of the doorways, as well as very interesting marble workshop in Agra.

After the sights of Agra, the group split into two. Those going back to Delhi boarded their evening train and reached Delhi on time. After dinner at their hotel in the Aerocity, they were transferred to the Delhi airport for the flight back home. For them another memorable and very successful Naturetrek tour had come to an end.

The group doing the post-tour extension drove to the Chambal Safari Lodge.

## Day 12

## Sunday 6th November

Waking up to the cacophony of the Flying Foxes in the camp, we had our breakfast and left for our first river safari. It was slightly misty at the start but cleared as the day warmed up. We had beautiful views of the Marsh Muggers, Gharials and a few species of turtles. We also saw the dominant Gharial of that stretch of river. He is enormous and could be easily identified by a missing lower jaw. Birding highlights included Great Thick-knee, Kentish Plover, Temminck's Stint, Black-bellied Tern, Long-legged Buzzard, Streak-throated Swallows, River Lapwing etc.

Back at the lodge, we found one of the rarest owls of India, the Brown Hawk Owl, to be roosting inside the property itself. While it was challenging to get a good angle through all the foliage, we managed to get some really good images. After a lovely outdoor garden lunch, we left for a nature walk around the property. We photographed lots of Nilgai, Flying Foxes, a few prinias, etc .

## Day 13

## Monday 7th November

This morning after a sumptuous breakfast, we went for another morning boat safari seeing all the usual highlights. Gharials and Muggers were out in good numbers basking in the sun. We got really close to a baby Gharial who was very obliging. Today was not as hazy as yesterday so the photographs turned out to be a lot better, although this morning we could find some dolphins, we could not see any part of its body as the water level this year was quite high. The same reason why we didn't have any ducks flown in for the winter. We also photographed lots of Painted and Woolly-necked Storks, Egyptian Vultures, Sand Lark, and Pied Kingfishers. Nonetheless it was a great morning again.

Returning back to the lodge we had our lunch and then drove to Bharatpur. We checked in at the Birder's Inn Lodge which is just two minutes away from the Keoladeo National Park gate.

## Day 14

**Tuesday 8th November**

Post breakfast we left in four cycle rickshaws for the park. During the whole day in the park, we covered a lot of birds, both resident and migrants. Some of the highlights were Eurasian sparrowhawk, Greylag geese, Spot-billed Ducks, Greater Spotted Eagle, Indian Scops Owl and Jungle Nightjar. We also found a Painted Stork nesting colony as well as roosting of Asian Openbills. etc. There was no trace of the Sarus Cranes in the areas where we went.

We only heard some distant calls of them. It was very humid so we decided to go back to lodge for lunch.

After lunch we headed out for yet another trail by 3 PM. And as we entered the sanctuary, our guide spotted a pair of Sarus at some distance. They were on a mound of mud in the middle of open wetland. Even though it was far away, the sight was welcome. They were preening themselves. After clicking lots of pictures we decided to move ahead. Further down, there was a pair of Dusky Eagle Owl, prepping the nesting sight. These owls do not actively build nests, but instead pick one which has been abandoned by the Painted Storks. Again, a great sight.

While this was happening, the group was also able to witness a very unique behavior that the cuckoos are famous for, brood parasitism. A fledgling of Jacobin's Cuckoo was being fed by a Jungle Babbler.

What happened next would go down as one of the most memorable sightings in history of Bharatpur. We had a report of someone having glimpsed a Striped Hyena somewhere in the park. But that area was far from where we were. Hyenas are also shy creatures, so all things considered we decided to continue with our bird watching. Little did we know that the hyena was coming down on the same road as we are. Our naturalist spotted him coming down and quickly asked all of us to sit down or at least get inside the rickshaw just to avoid spooking it. And it did help. She came close enough to give all of us some great pictures before noticing us and then heading in other direction. This just made it to the top of the highlights, and everyone agreed.

With smiling faces and little bit of unannounced shower, we headed back and this evening we updated our checklist before having dinner.

## Day 15

**Wednesday 9th November**

This was our last morning in Bharatpur. We again got the usual bird species of the park.

Exiting the park, a little earlier, we returned back to the lodge and drove to the Bharatpur railway station for our train back to Delhi. We had also carried packed lunch for our train journey. The train was on time and we reached Delhi in four hours. At the railway station we were promptly met by a Naturetrek representative and were assisted by porters. We checked in at the Pullman Hotel near the airport, had our dinner and retired for the night.

## Day 16

**Thursday 10th November**

After breakfast we were transferred to the airport for the flight back home. It had been an incredible adventure with Naturetrek. A very rewarding photography trip through the heart of wild India had come to an end.



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## Species lists

### Birds

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				✓									✓
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>													
Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>											✓	✓	✓
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>												✓	✓
Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>											✓	✓	✓
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>											✓	✓	✓
Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓		✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>											✓	✓	✓
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					✓								
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>									✓	✓	✓		
Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓								
Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>											✓	✓	✓
Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	✓			✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>												✓	✓
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>												✓	✓
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>										✓	✓		
Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>												✓	✓

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>												✓	✓
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>												✓	
Oriental Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>		✓											
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>												✓	
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>											✓		
Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>		✓											
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>			✓			✓						✓	✓
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>												✓	
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>						✓							
White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>						✓							
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>										✓			
Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>												✓	✓
Crested Hawk-eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>		✓		✓			✓						
Grey Francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>												✓	✓
Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>		✓					✓						
Painted Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix lunulata</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sarus Crane	<i>Grus antigone</i>												✓	
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>						✓						✓	✓
Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>												✓	✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>												✓	✓
Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>												✓	✓
Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>										✓		✓	✓
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Thick-knee	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>										✓	✓		
River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>										✓	✓		

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>			✓	✓		✓		✓					
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>										✓	✓		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓									✓	✓		
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓		
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>										✓	✓		
Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>										✓	✓		
Common Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>				✓									
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>												✓	✓
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>						✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓
Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Pied cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>												✓	
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>												✓	
Southern Coucal	<i>Centropus {sinensis } parroti</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Dusky Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo coromandus</i>												✓	
Indian Scops-owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>		✓			✓							✓	
Brown Fish-owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	✓												
Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓						
Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>													
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			✓								✓	✓	
White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>				✓						✓	✓		✓

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>			✓								✓	✓	✓
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓	✓			✓					
Indian Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
Malabar Pied-hornbill	<i>Anthraceroceros coronatus</i>			✓										
Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>										✓		✓	
Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis nanus</i>					✓								
Lesser Goldenback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	
Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>											✓		
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>												✓	✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>										✓	✓		
White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla madaraspatensis</i>						✓				✓	✓	✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓						✓	
Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>											✓		
Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓							
White-eared Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucotis</i>												✓	✓
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>			✓										
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				✓									
Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓
Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>											✓		
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>										✓		✓	✓
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>		✓		✓		✓						✓	
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>		✓					✓						
Tickell's Blue-flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓							
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>													✓

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Oriental Magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>			✓		✓		✓						
Indian Robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochrurus</i>		✓			✓	✓							
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>		✓		✓									
Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>												✓	✓
White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>				✓		✓	✓						
Tawny-bellied Babbler	<i>Dumetia hypertythra</i>				✓									
Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>													✓
Large Grey Babbler	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>											✓		✓
Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>					✓		✓			✓			
Indian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>			✓										
Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>						✓						✓	✓
Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓					✓	
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>						✓							
Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>				✓								✓	✓
Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>												✓	
Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	✓			✓								✓	✓
Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>					✓								
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caeruleus</i>			✓		✓								
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓						✓
Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓		✓					✓		✓		✓	✓
Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus {macrorhynchos} culminatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>								✓		✓			✓

Common name	Scientific name	October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	✓				✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Brahminy Starling	<i>Temenuchus pagodarum</i>												✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>					✓					✓			
Chestnut-shouldered Petronia	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>												✓	
Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>													
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>												✓	✓
Silverbill	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>													✓

## Mammals

		October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Royal Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓						
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>					✓								
Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
'Northern Plains' Grey Langur	<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Common Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>				✓						✓			
Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Herpestes smithii</i>	✓			✓			✓	✓					
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓						✓
Sloth Bear	<i>Merursus ursinus</i>					✓								
Striped hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>												✓	
Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>												✓	
Indian Tree Shrew	<i>Anathana ellioti</i>		✓			✓			✓					
Indian or Black-naped Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>					✓					✓			
Three-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennarum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			
Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>		✓	✓			✓				✓		✓	✓
Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓

		October - November 2022												
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Chital (Spotted Deer)	<i>Cervus axis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer)	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>	✓												
Nilgai (Blue Bull)	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	✓	✓				✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	
Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>		✓					✓	✓					
Gangetic River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>										✓			

## Others

		October – November 2022												
Common name	Scientific name	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>										✓		✓	
Monitor lizard	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>		✓											
Gharial	<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>										✓	✓		
Marsh Mugger Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>										✓	✓		
Barred wolf snake	<i>Lycodon striatus</i>		✓											
House Gecko species	<i>Hemidactylus/Gehyra sp</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓			
Indian Tent Turtle	<i>Pangshura tentoria</i>										✓	✓		
Blister Beetle	<i>Mylabris pustulata</i>						✓	✓					✓	