

# India - Assam, Darjeeling & Bhutan

With Sunderbans extension

Naturetrek Tour Report

4 - 22 November 2018

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Report compiled by Sujan Chatterjee



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Tour participants:        Sujan Chatterjee (leader) with 16 Naturetrek clients

## Summary

The India – Assam, Darjeeling & Bhutan tour has always been my most favourite trip for Naturetrek. This trip has the most variety in habitat, in temperature and in altitude. Some of the highlights in Bhutan were the fantastic mountains, the superb metallic-blue Himalayan Monal pheasant on Chele La Pass, the trek to the Tiger’s Nest Monastery, and some of the best Bhutanese hospitality. We also had unbeatable views of some of the most enigmatic birds like the White-bellied Heron which was seen on the Fortune River. Darjeeling of course, has its own sense of time; the Kanchenjunga give us a brief view, but the Toy Train give us lot of joy. Assam as usual, was fantastic: the grasslands of Kaziranga gave us lots of Indian One-horned Rhinos; Smooth-coated Otters, fantastic views of Asiatic Water Buffaloes; Pallas’s Fish Eagles, and Lesser and Greater Adjutant Storks. Driving along the highway in Kaziranga gave some superb views of Black Giant Squirrel and Capped Langurs, but what we loved best were the families in the jungle of Hoolock Gibbons. We had three great sightings: a single male, a family of three and a couple.

And the last but not the least was the Sundarbans extension. This vast mangrove is a home of several species of kingfisher; the glorious gems of Common Kingfisher, Pied Kingfisher, White-throated Kingfisher, Black-capped Kingfisher, and the fantastic Brown-winged Kingfisher were all seen. Amongst the reptiles, we saw the Spot-tailed Pit Viper, Water Monitor and the mega Saltwater Crocodile. And although we do not expect to see a Tiger on this trip, we were very lucky to have a fantastic Tigress sitting on the muddy banks of river. Amazing!

### Day 1

**Sunday 4th November**

In flight to Kolkata

### Day 2

**Monday 5th November**

The group met up: 12 arrived today, four had already arrived a day earlier. Thereafter we drove to our Hotel Hyatt and a then everyone had a leisurely day.

### Day 3

**Tuesday 6th November**

We left the hotel at 6am and headed for the airport. We boarded our Druk Airline flight and flew one-and-a-half hours to Paro in Bhutan. On the way we were thoroughly thrilled to see Mt Everest and Kanchenjunga. The craft nearly tilted when we all rushed to one side to get a glimpse of the rare sight! We had the most amazing landing in Paro, when the aircraft flew along the valley to eventually touch down on the runway.

We were received by Pema, Pasang and our driver, Jigme. We drove few minutes and checked into Hotel Olathang, which incidentally is the oldest hotel in Paro, with huge grounds. Then we went off for lunch. After a very nice buffet, we walked around the Paro Dzong (a Buddhist monastery and fortress) for some time, seeing Plumbeous Redstart. We then drove to the river and stopped at a location to try for Black-tailed Crake. It was a no show... so we headed off and found a pair of Ibisbills resting on the river island. A few Daurian Redstarts

gave us some great views. We again tried for the crake after the sun went behind the mountain, and this time, we got success. As the temperature dropped, we called it a day and returned to our warm rooms.

## Day 4

## Wednesday 7th November

An early start today: we left the hotel at 4.30am and drove up the Ha road towards Chele La Pass. It took us nearly two hours to reach a point where we saw a glorious sunrise on the Mt Jumalhari. We were greeted by Nutcrackers as we got off the bus. A Himalayan Buzzard looked down at us from his lofty perch, and as the wind picked up at the pass, a flock Snow Pigeons graced the skies above us. Black-faced Laughingthrush, White-browed Rosefinch, White-winged Grosbeak all showed well. Two pairs of Himalayan Monals were the stars of the morning, giving us cracking scope views. The field-kitchen team drove up with a superb breakfast and set it out on a road bend. We watched the Snow Pigeons sweep over our heads while we savoured our food in such an amazing location.

We then drove back to Paro and then drove to the base of the hill from where the Tiger's Nest Monastery walk starts. After another super meal in the conifer forest, most of us headed for the Monastery hike. Two went up to the view point and several reached the café. Some of us drove over to the Drugyel Dzong. We took a dirt road next to it and added a few birds to our list: large flocks of very obliging White-throated Laughingthrush, Tickell's Leaf Warbler, Rufous-fronted Bushtits to name a few. We then headed back to collect the hikers and called it a day.

## Day 5

## Thursday 8th November

We left Paro for Punakha at 6am. The two-hour drive took us past Thimpu and up the beautiful Dochula Pass. The incredible mountain awaited us when we reached the car park. After a few photos we went into the restaurant for breakfast. The large glass windows gave us opportunity to look at the view while we had our breakfast. We visited the Botanical Gardens and added several birds to our list: Crested Goshawk, Red-billed Leiothrix, hundreds of Yuhinas, and three species of laughingthrushes.

After a few hours in the park we drove down to a roadside location for an outdoor lunch. Yet again, the guys chose the most scenic location, not only did we have great views, we had some good birds here. While looking at Green Shrike-Babblers, we spotted a Collared Owlet. This tiny owl was the centre of attention for everyone for a long time. We had to be torn from it as we had to leave for Punakha. On the way we had a few very playful Assam Macaques and a fantastic eye-level view of a majestic Black Eagle. We reached Punakha, and after checking in, we headed for Mochu for the White-bellied Heron. We found it sitting on a tree trying to get away from rafters. Rafting is a nuisance for this rare and shy species. After the last raft had passed, it glided down to the river bank to feed. Brown Dipper, White-throated Kingfisher, Ruddy Shelduck and Great Cormorants were seen on the river too. In the rice fields, Russet Sparrows, Scaly-breasted Munias and Long-tailed Shrike gave us super views. We finished off the day with a soaring Eurasian Sparrowhawk.

## Day 6

## Friday 9th November

We started early and headed for the Jigme Dorji National Park along the Mochu River. The first bird we got was the fantastic, rare, Long-billed Thrush and then saw a Spotted Forktail. We carried on, stopping at various places,

and saw large mixed feeding flocks of warblers, yuhinas and fulvettas. Big flocks of Grey-chinned Minivets flew over, dotting the sky with orange. We then reached our breakfast location, where our field-kitchen crew waited for us with another fabulous buffet breakfast. Close to the breakfast place, first we saw a pair of Wallcreepers, and then a large noisy flock of Nepal Fulvettas, Rufous-winged Fulvettas, Golden and Rufous-capped Babblers and Chestnut-crowned Warblers fed their way through the scrub nearby, giving us great views. After breakfast we walked more and ticked off two very skulking Wren Babblers. After lunch we headed back to Punakha and visited the Dzong. Punakha Dzong is setup in the most picturesque location. In the afternoon light, it gave us some great photos.

## Day 7

## Saturday 10th November

This morning we left early for Nobding. As usual, our kitchen crew found the most amazing place to serve us breakfast. After some breakfast and some birds, we carried onwards. We stopped to see a Yellow-rumped Honeyguide at a known location. It was thankfully the easiest-to-find bird and it sat like a statue for all of us to get great views. We then reached Nobding hotel, dropped off our bags and headed for another lovely roadside lunch. We dined as Long-tailed Minivets swirled over our heads.

We then drove over the pass into Phobjika valley. The first stop was of course, for the shaggy Yaks. They sat on the slopes chewing cud and posed for photos....still chewing cud. We then dropped down into the vast valley and reached a café, which had the best view of Black-necked Cranes. We counted about 150 of them, in the valley floor. We watched the small families of threes and fours feeding in the marshes, sometimes chasing off unwanted intruders. The Red-billed Choughs flew over the valley formation in big clusters, for which someone coined the phrase 'a churning of Choughs'! We then drove down a track to the valley and photographed a few cranes flying along the forest before heading back to Nobding for dinner and sleep.

## Day 8

## Sunday 11th November

We left the hotel and drove up to Pele La. The pass had a promise of the Blood Pheasant. We heard it but unfortunately did not see it. Instead, we got a huge flock of Red-throated and Black-throated Thrushes. We also got a few Himalayan Vultures, possibly migrating down south to the foothills. After another wonderful breakfast with the most wonderful backdrop, we headed to the Gangtey Monastery. The crane festival was in full swing. The locals were selling daily wares along the side of the road: second-hand clothes, kids' toys, religious paraphernalia and smelly dry fish. The monastery ground was crowded, and the dances were on. Some of us slunk behind the governor and got good a place to sit. After an hour or so, the crane dance happened, and we headed back to our bus.

We drove down to the valley where the kitchen crew had set up tables for us inside the grounds of a monastery. Well sheltered from the wind, we devoured our lunch while we were surrounded by dogs of various size and shape and a billy goat. We then drove down the valley and saw few more cranes and decided to wait for some flight shots. Unfortunately, the cranes had other plans, so we left for Nobding, as it got too windy and cold.

## Day 9

## Monday 12th November

Today, after breakfast at the hotel, we drove a few kilometres, then turned off the main highway into a well-forested side road. We got some good views of Great Barbet, Rufous-bellied Woodpeckers, and some of the common species. We then started to drive back to Thimpu. At one point we stopped when we saw some tourists looking up at something. It turned out to be the Nepal Grey Langur. A family group was perched on the rock wall on the side of the road. They were eating clay from rocks. The whole troop gave us great views and the best possible photos.

We arrived at Thimpu at midday and tried to look for the vagrant Mandarin Duck, but with no success. Our next stop was the Takin reserve at Motithang; a large enclosure holds a small herd of this strange creature. It is an ungulate, related to sheep, and lives in the high-altitude mountains of Bhutan. The chances of seeing them in the wild are very slim, so we had to satisfy ourselves with these captive animals. Our last stop of the day was a visit to the 51-metre-tall bronze Great Buddha Dordenma Statue. This towering statue sits on the high slopes looking down at Thimpu.

We called it a day after the tour and settled down with a large IPA at the hotel.

## Day 10

## Tuesday 13th November

We had a really relaxed breakfast and we left the hotel at 9am. We first visited the Post Office to buy a few post cards. Our next stop was at the Paper-manufacturing centre. The bark of the *Daphne* plant is used to make this fine craft. Next, we headed for border town of Phuntsholing. The road took us through some beautiful mountain landscape. And lo and behold, we had the kitchen team again ... waiting for us with our final meal of roast chicken and pizzas. After this amazing lunch, we said goodbye and drove down the road, losing altitude quickly to reach Phuntsholing. Also, we ticked off the Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle during our drive.

## Day 11

## Wednesday 14th November

Naresh Gurug, our guide from Darjeeling came to meet us with six cars. After breakfast we loaded our bags and headed out from Bhutan saying goodbye to our two great guides Jigme and Pasang. We crossed over into the border town of Joygaon, which was quite chaotic and very different from what we had seen in Bhutan. There were dogs, goats and cows everywhere on the streets, as India should be. We drove straight for the immigration counter and after waiting a while, we cleared immigration. We headed for the highway and drove through beautiful tea gardens and a few national parks. After a couple of hours, we stopped at a restaurant in Mal Bazar for some tea. After tea and some coffee, we drove through the dusty roads along the Teesta river. We stopped at the beautiful Coronation Bridge which was built in the memory of King George VI's coronation. We then started climbing fast up the hill along the zigzag mountain roads towards Darjeeling. The weather was a bit gloomy and there was cloud in the sky, so we did not see any mountains on our way up.

We finally drove into the busy town of Darjeeling and finally to the beautiful old Maharaja's bungalow, the Hotel Elgin. A fantastic lunch awaited us. After lunch we went for a little walk led by Naresh to give us an idea of Darjeeling layout. We walked along The Mall and into the market area and finally stopped at the Glenary's Cake shop. Everyone had agreed to the idea of cake and tea for the evening. So, we more or less filled up the whole

restaurant and enjoyed their cakes. Then we all headed back to hotel Elgin to update the checklist and have dinner, along with some beautiful, background, live piano.

## Day 12

## Thursday 15th November

Most of us woke up early and walked 10 minutes to The Mall, but unfortunately it was all cloudy so there was no sunrise or mountain view for us. Therefore, we took a short walk along The Mall and returned to the hotel for breakfast.

After breakfast we drove up to the Tiger Hill. Tiger Hill is the highest point of Darjeeling, at about 8000 feet. There used to be an old observatory to look out to the mountain and sunrise but, unfortunately, it is being rebuilt. The sky was still cloudy but as we reached the top, for a few seconds the mountains appeared from behind the clouds and we got some views of Kanchenjunga. Not the greatest of views, but some views, nonetheless. After 10 minutes everything was covered with mist and cloud, and we started walking down the road in the cold misty conditions. However, because there were no birds being seen, we headed instead for a Tea-tasting session. Various kinds of tea processing were explained to us, and samples were laid out in front of us for tasting. White-tip, Oolong, Green, First and Second flush were offered.

After lunch we drove down the very winding road to the Happy Valley tea estate. Even though tea processing was not in taking place, as tea picking season was over, we were taken around by the factory guide and shown all the machinery for the processing of tea.

## Day 13

## Friday 16th November

Today we left early, with some packed breakfast, and headed for the Mongpu road. We had a nice bird walk for a few hours. We were able to see some new birds: Black Bulbul; Redstarts; Striated Laughingthrush; several warblers; Spotted Forktail, etc. not a huge number but nice to see.

We then returned to Darjeeling and headed for the Toy Train ride. The century-old Toy Train, of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway, is the pride and joy of Darjeeling and for many train-lovers across the world. The steam engine is now used only for tourist rides for a short period of time. After we boarded the train, it started chugging with the whistle squealing loudly, through the middle of the busy town of Darjeeling, almost through people's courtyards, through peoples' shops and petrol pumps, and then ended up at Batasia Loop for 10 minutes. And then finally to Ghoom station. After half an hour, we boarded the train back to Darjeeling where we had some lunch.

After lunch we drove down to the Darjeeling Himalayan zoo, which also has the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute museum inside. We walked around the zoo looking at Red Pandas, Snow Leopards, Himalayan Black Bear and lots of breeding Himalayan ungulates, and then headed for the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute museum. This was the last activity of the day.

## Day 14

### Saturday 17th November

Some of us headed back to The Mall to look for Kanchenjunga, but unfortunately, it was still very cloudy. So, after breakfast we packed our bags and headed for Bagdogra Airport. At one point the mountain suddenly appeared over the Darjeeling town, so we stopped to take a few pictures before it disappeared again. En route to the airport, we stopped at Kurseong for a cup of tea. Bagdogra Airport was busy as usual but, thankfully, we had some local help to get ourselves checked in. After some lunch we flew to Guwahati in Assam, and hit the highway. After few hours of driving we stopped at a local roadside restaurant for some dinner and beer and then reached the Hotel Infinity in Kaziranga, at 10.30 at night.

## Day 15

### Sunday 18th November

We had a 6.30am breakfast and we met our local guide Palash. We had four jeeps and we drove along the highway to the Central Range. Kaziranga as always was amazing, with plenty of birds and mammals, including Pallas's Fish Eagle; Crested Serpent Eagle; Grey-headed Fish Eagle; storks; egrets; herons; kingfishers and of course the Rhinos and Buffaloes and Hog Deer. We saw our Smooth-coated Otters very quickly; they were far away but in the open.

After having a full morning loaded with birds and animals, we came back for a short lunch and quickly went back to the Eastern Range. Eastern Range is a longer drive and we stopped at the big Sohola lake. The lake was full of migrating ducks and geese, plovers, lapwings and cormorants. It took us long time to scan through all the birds. We then ticked of trio of Spotted Owlets on a tree. We then saw a family of three Smooth-coated Otters hunting for fish. They hunted in unison with a strategy to chase the fish, but when one caught a large fish, it was reluctant to share the fish with its mates. At one point we had alarm calls of Hog Deer, so we all waited expectantly, hoping to see a big cat but unfortunately, after some time the call died down. As the sun set the Buffalo started gathering close to the water; some Buffaloes crossed the water. We would have liked to stay longer, but we had to exit at sundown, and so we did.

## Day 16

### Monday 19th November

We started very early in the morning; at 5am we left the hotel for the Elephant ride. It was very misty to start with, but later cleared up. The ride through the mist and wet grass was absolutely magical. As we went plodding through the grass, slowly deer and Rhinos began to appear through the mist. An elusive Bengal Florican was flushed by the Elephants in the mist too. Several Tiger pug marks were pointed out by our mahuts in the wet grassland. After the ride we came back to the base.

Today we went to the Burrapahar Range which is the farthest western range of Kaziranga. Along the highway we stopped at a known location where we spotted the rare Hoolock Gibbon. Hoolock Gibbon is India's only ape, and to see them so close on the highway is always amazing. A solitary male Gibbon gave great views and swung around the branches before disappearing. We then found two more families of Hoolock gibbons, females with young, feeding on fruits, during our drive. We then spotted a Malayan Giant Squirrel; they are twice the size of Grey Squirrel. And lastly, we found the Capped Langur. This is one of our most beautiful of the langurs. We then stopped on the edge of a tea garden to have some breakfast.

Next, we headed for the Burapahar Range and did the short drive to the forest up to the banks of the Brahmaputra. Our afternoon drive was in the Western or Bagori Range. This range is famous for his large mammals. The photographers who were missing some mammal shots had their fill here. As the sun slowly set the Rhinos then the Buffalo started coming close to the road to give some great photos. We also saw some distant Swamp Francolins. On our drive back, we encountered masses of small bats, Flying Foxes and a Large-tailed Nightjar.

## Day 17

**Tuesday 20th November**

We visited the Eastern Ranges. We started off with Streak-breasted Woodpecker and Hoopoe. Some of us later added Falcated Duck, Blue-tailed Bee-eater and several eagles. A fruiting tree give us fantastic views of the Yellow-footed Green Pigeon. There were scores of them feeding from the little berries, that was growing all over the tree. In the afternoon we went back to the Central Range. We finished the day at the donga tower with a glorious sunset and and Himalayan Rubythroat in the grassland.

## Day 18

**Wednesday 21st November**

Today we took a short walk through the very thick mist in the tea gardens. Unfortunately, the mist only started lifting when we were on our way back. We manage to add a few birds to our list, namely, of flock of Blossom-headed Parakeet; Purple Sunbird in moulting plumage and a pair of Grey Bush Chat. Later, after breakfast, we packed our bags and go to the vehicles and headed for Guwahati. Near the airport we took a detour to have a quick look at the wetland of Deepor Beel. A few hundred Lesser Whistling Ducks and Gadwalls were there. After a 1-hour flight we were back in home in the Hyatt Regency Hotel, in the Salt Lake City region of Kolkata.

## Day 19

**Thursday 22nd November**

Those not taking the extension tour flew back to the UK, after an amazing trip.

### Sundarbans Extension Day 1

We said goodbye to some of our friends and six of us carried on with our journey towards Sundarbans. It was a three-hour drive in our bus. This was our most exciting road ever. It was bustling with life: people ferrying vegetables, fish, goods and large bales of straw. Various shops lined some sections of the road: street food, fish wholesalers, car and motorbike repairs, hardware stores etc. At 11am we reached our destination at Godkhali River Jetty. Here we met our boat captain. We loaded our bags on our boat and we set sail. One hour's ride on the boat, and some tea and biscuits later, we landed at the most peaceful and pretty Sundarban Jungle Camp on Bali island. We checked in, had our customary coconut water and headed for lunch.

After lunch we headed out on our boat to Sajnekhali. On the way we spotted Pied, Common and Black-capped Kingfishers. The tide had run out and we saw Wild Boar and Rhesus Macaques rummaging in the mud for food. Sajnekhali is the headquarters of Sundarban Tiger Reserve; here we met our guide Krishna. He took us through the museum and explained the ecosystem of Sundarban. Outside the museum there was an Orange-headed Thrush which we all wanted to see. This beautiful orange bird kept flicking through the leaves in the undergrowth near the old forest lodge.

## Extension Day 2

Friday 23rd November

We left the camp early and boarded our boat. We enjoyed a fantastic Peregrine Falcon, which kept flying alongside our boat for a while. We got off at Sajnekhali tower for an hour. We located the resident Spot-tailed Pitt Viper resting under a sign board. We then walked up the tower and spotted a few Large Water Monitors swimming around in the freshwater pond. Strangely enough, there were no deer or Wild Boar in sight. Then we were told a pair of Tigers had been there all night and had caused mayhem, and that caused all the other animals to disappear. After ticking off Dusky and the Greenish Warblers, we set sail while having breakfast. We had several Black-capped Kingfishers, Common Sandpipers, Red Junglefowls etc.

In the afternoon, we spotted a distant Crocodile basking on the mud bank. We started heading towards it for better views. As we kept going, another tourist boat went too close and the Crocodile slipped down the slope and disappeared. We turned the boat and headed in another direction. One of us suddenly shouted "Tiger!"- but it was gone in a flash, and no one else saw it. We went close to the shore and saw fresh pug marks. The tiger was heading towards a fishing boat which was moored very close to the shore. We quickly warned them about the presence of the animal and they moved away. The tension was high... we looked and looked and looked... but there was nothing moving. We sailed downstream, hoping it would cross a creek...but still no Tiger. We went back again but we drew a blank. We sailed downstream again with anticipation and a calculation in mind, about how long it might take a Tiger to come to the clearing, if at all. And there it was... sitting on the shore, all muddy! She was peering from below the branches. We inched up close and got fantastic views. She then decided to walk along the bank, partly hidden by the mangroves, then she disappeared. What a moment! The light was fading, and the tide was running out fast. After a bit of sailing as we tried to get out of the reserve, we got stuck in the mud for some time. Eventually as the tide turned, we floated up and sailed back to base in the dark. But what a wonderful sighting!

## Extension Day 3

Saturday 24th November

Today we headed south towards the Dobanki Camp. Before we reached there, we recorded a Crocodile and a leucistic Collared Kingfisher perched inside a creek. We then reached the watchtower and saw several Water Monitors feeding along the banks of the freshwater pond. Blyth's Reed Warbler and several Greenish Warblers were seen from here. After a while we sailed again. Our guide, Krishna, found a Buffy Fish Owl sitting inside the mangrove. It was so well camouflaged, that only some of us got a view before it disappeared. We then found the fantastic Brown-winged Kingfisher. This is a really great bird, and we got excellent views. During the day we also saw Greater Flameback, Brahminy Kites, Lesser Adjutants, Shikra etc. The Bono Bibi theatre was ready for us when returned to base. This one-hour folk play, presented by the villagers, mesmerised the group.

## Extension Day 4

Sunday 25th November

Today was our last of the trip, here. After a late breakfast we decided to walk around the idyllic village and look at birds and daily life. We added a few birds like Pale-billed Flowerpecker, Brown Shrike and Purple-rumped Sunbird. After a couple hours of strolling along the village path, we came back to the lodge to pack our bags for the last time. After an early lunch, we said goodbye to the Sunderban team and headed for Kolkata airport to catch the evening flight back to the UK.

## Extension Day 5

Monday 26th November

We landed back in the UK, and another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

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	Common name	Scientific name	Bhutan										Darjeeling					Kaziranga				Sunderbans				
			November																							
			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25				
91	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>															✓	✓	✓							
92	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>																		✓						
93	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>															✓		✓							
94	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓			✓												✓	✓	✓						
95	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>									✓						✓	✓	✓							
96	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>																	✓	✓						
97	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>																✓	✓							
98	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>															✓	✓	✓							
99	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>																	✓							
100	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>															✓	✓								
101	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus</i>				✓												?		✓						
102	Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus</i>																	✓							
103	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>																	✓							
104	Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>				✓																				
105	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓												
106	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>											✓							✓	✓					
107	Red Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>															✓	✓	✓							
108	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>											✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
109	Barred Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>				✓																				
110	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>																✓	✓	✓						
111	Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sphenurus</i>														✓										
112	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>																	✓							
113	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>																✓	✓	✓		H				
114	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>																		✓						
115	Common Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>																			✓					
116	Buffy Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>																				✓				
117	Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>				✓																				
118	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>																		✓						
119	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>																✓		✓	H	✓	✓			
120	Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>																		✓	✓					
121	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>					✓	✓																		

	Common name	Scientific name	Bhutan										Darjeeling					Kaziranga				Sunderbans					
			November																								
			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25					
122	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>															✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	
123	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>																			✓						
124	Ward's Trogon	<i>Harpactes wardi</i>			H																						
125	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis affinis</i>										✓					✓	✓	✓	✓							
126	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>																H									
127	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis amauroptera</i>																					H	✓			
128	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>			✓							✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
129	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>																				✓	✓	✓			
130	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>																					✓	✓			
131	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>																✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
132	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>																✓	✓	✓		✓					
133	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>																✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
134	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>																			✓						
135	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓															✓	✓					
136	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>																✓		✓							
137	Great Barbet	<i>Psilopogon virens</i>				✓				✓	✓			✓	✓												
138	Lineated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon lineatus</i>																	H	✓							
139	Golden-throated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon franklinii</i>								✓																	
140	Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>					✓																				
141	Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>								✓																	
142	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>																	✓								
143	Darjeeling Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>								✓																	
144	Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>				✓													✓								
145	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>																				✓					
146	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>																	✓								
147	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus</i>																			H			✓			
148	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓		✓						✓						✓	✓								
149	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>																✓	✓			✓					
150	Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>																		H	✓						
151	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>																	✓								
152	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>										✓							✓	✓	✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	Bhutan											Darjeeling				Kaziranga				Sunderbans											
			November																														
			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25											
153	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>																						✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
154	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>																									✓						
155	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>																													✓		
156	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>																									✓	✓	✓				
157	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>																							✓			H					
158	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>																												✓			
159	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>																										✓					
160	Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>						✓																									
161	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>							✓			✓																					
162	Saclet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>																								✓							
163	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>																														✓	
164	Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>							✓																								
165	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach tricolor</i>					✓	✓																		✓			✓				
166	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓																			✓	✓	✓						
167	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>					✓																										
168	Green Shrike-Babbler	<i>Pteruthius xanthochlorus</i>				✓																											
169	Black-eared Shrike-Babbler	<i>Pteruthius melanotis</i>					✓	✓																									
170	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>																							✓			✓	✓		✓		✓
171	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓										✓											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
172	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>																													✓	✓	
173	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>					✓																							✓	✓	✓	
174	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>				✓																											
175	Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>			✓	✓					✓	✓																					
176	Common Green Magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>															✓																
177	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>												✓											✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
178	Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>					✓	✓									✓																
179	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>			✓	✓					✓	✓																					
180	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	✓					✓	✓																								
181	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓		✓								✓																				
182	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓																	
183	Eastern Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus leuallantii</i>																								✓	✓	✓					





	Common name	Scientific name	Bhutan										Darjeeling				Kaziranga				Sunderbans			
			November																					
			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
246	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>				✓																		
247	Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	<i>Certhia nipalensis</i>			✓																			
248	Sikkim Treecreeper	<i>Certhia discolor</i>				✓																		
249	Great Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>											✓	✓										
250	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>											✓	✓	✓									
251	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>											✓											
252	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
253	Pied Myna	<i>Gracupica contra</i>									✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
254	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>													✓	✓	✓							
255	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>																	✓					
256	Long-billed Thrush	<i>Zoothera monticola</i>				✓																		
257	White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>		✓					✓	✓														
258	Black-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus atrogularis</i>							✓															
259	Red-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>							✓															
260	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>			✓	✓	✓				✓				✓		✓	✓	✓					
261	Himalayan Rubythroat	<i>Calliope pectoralis</i>															✓							
262	Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>				✓																		
263	Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>				✓	✓							✓										
264	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓											
265	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophiatea</i>			✓	✓	✓																	
266	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>																✓						
267	Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>		✓																				
268	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓									
269	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓															
270	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓																	
271	White-capped Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus leucocephalus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓															
272	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>					✓				✓													
273	Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>				✓	✓			✓														
274	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>			✓										✓	✓	✓							
275	Grey Bush Chat	<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>									✓								✓					
276	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasi</i>			✓	✓				✓														



