

India - Tiger Direct!

Naturetrek Tour Report

25th January – 6th February 2026



Spotted Dove



Tiger



Sloth Bear



Tickell's Blue Flycatcher

Tour report by Sneha Sundaram
Photos by Laura McLarnon and Susan Dillon



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Tour participants: Snehaa Sundaram (leader) with six Naturetrek clients

Summary

After an early arrival in Nagpur, we left the city behind and drove towards the forests of Pench National Park, watching the landscape transition from quiet farmlands to stretches of teak and grassland alive with bird calls. Our first safaris set the tone for the days ahead: quiet anticipation, sudden alarm calls, and then the reward. Among many other great sightings, we saw a Leopard and her cub resting near a kill, Dholes moving with purpose, and a magnificent male Tiger pausing along the road before melting back into the forest.

From Pench, we travelled deeper into central India to the sweeping grasslands and towering Sal forests of Kanha National Park. Mornings began in mist-draped meadows, where Barasingha grazed in soft golden light. The forest revealed itself slowly: Jungle Cats slipping through the grass, Gaur standing watchfully near waterholes, and Tigers appearing with quiet authority, leaving behind pugmarks and silence long after they had disappeared. Evenings were unhurried, filled with warm food, stories from the day, and the steady rhythm of the forest settling into night.

The journey then unfolded into the rugged hills and river valleys of Satpura National Park, where the experience became more intimate and exploratory. Crossing the Denwa River by boat each morning, we entered forests that felt raw and less travelled. Here, we tracked wildlife on foot, watched Sloth Bears dig patiently for termites, saw Leopards resting among sunlit rocks, and followed the movement of a dominant male Tiger along a hillside. Boat safaris brought us close to river birds and crocodiles, while quiet walks revealed the smaller details: tracks, calls, and signs which made the forest come alive.

On the final drive towards Bhopal, we stopped at the ancient Bhimbetka Rock Shelters, where prehistoric paintings echoed stories of humans and wildlife sharing these landscapes for thousands of years.

Over eleven days, the journey moved through changing habitats and moods of the forest: misty mornings, golden grasslands, river crossings, and long drives through rural India. We gained not just memories of wonderful sightings, but also a deeper sense of connection to the wild heart of the country.

Day 1

Sunday 25th January

Clients flew from the UK to India.

Day 2

Monday 26th January

Clients arrived at Nagpur Airport at 6.20am, where Snehaa received them and proceeded to the Radisson Blu Hotel, Nagpur, to freshen up and have breakfast. After a brief introduction, Snehaa outlined the day's programme, following which we departed for Pench National Park.

En route to Pench, we made two birding stops (at an open meadow and a wetland) and recorded several notable species, including Brahminy Starling, Black Redstart, Purple Sunbird, Common Myna, Grey-headed Swamphen, Purple Heron, and Bronze-winged and Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, to name a few. Clients were delighted to capture photographs of rural life, colourful vehicles and the birds along the way.

We reached Tuli at around noon, checked into the hotel, and had lunch. Later in the afternoon, we headed out for our first game drive. Each vehicle was assigned a different route as we entered the park. Soon after, we encountered a pair of Golden Jackals, along with Chital, Sambar and Bengal Sacred Langurs.

In one of the vehicles, the guide informed us about a Leopard had made a kill, and had been sighted with her cub along our route earlier that morning. We proceeded in that direction and, after careful scanning through the foliage, spotted the Leopard resting on a rock amid the thickets. After a while, the cub also appeared, and eventually fell asleep nearby. Although visibility was challenging due to the dense vegetation, we were fortunate to catch glimpses of the magnificent cats.



Chital



Spotted Owllet



White-throated Kingfisher



Leopard

Several bird species were also recorded during the drive, including Indian Nightjar, White-browed Wagtail, Rufous Treepie, Indian Scops Owl, and Spotted Owlets roosting in tree holes. After returning from the safari, we wrapped up the day with a checklist session, followed by dinner and a good night's rest.

Day 3

Tuesday 27th January

Our first full day in Pench started with the kind of excitement that the forest delivers without warning. Just as we were talking about the wonder of Tigers, we were welcomed almost immediately by a beautiful male Tiger, calmly seated by the roadside! We watched as he yawned a couple of times, observing us with quiet curiosity. Slowly, he got up, spray-marked the tree beside him, crossed the road, and disappeared into the forest.

The rest of the morning was spent listening to the forest and observing a wonderful array of birds. Later in the day, we heard distress calls from a Sambar. As we waited, a pack of seven Dholes emerged, walking in a line along

the forest fringe. We gave them ample space as they sniffed around and crossed the road multiple times, at an unhurried pace. They appeared well-fed, moving together with visibly full bellies.

Birding in the grasslands was rewarding, with sightings of Indian Roller, Siberian Stonechat, Yellow-throated Sparrow and Paddyfield Pipit. At a wetland, we observed a herd of Gaur grazing nearby, along with forest department Elephants engaged in their daily patrolling activities. Other notable sightings included Mottled Wood Owl, Eurasian Hoopoe, Indian Grey Hornbill and White-throated Kingfisher.

The Leopard family was still present at the kill site, this time joined by a male. Once again, we managed brief glimpses through rocks and thickets of the male, female and cub resting lazily in the bushes.

After lunch, we took a walk to the lake within the property, to observe roosting Indian Flying Foxes. Hundreds of them were perched upside down on trees overlooking the water, filling the air with constant vocalisations.

In the afternoon, we returned to Turia Gate, where we observed a Chital with an unusual cyst-like growth near its antlers, a Golden Jackal, and a touching interaction between a baby langur and its mother, before it suckled. Bird sightings continued in beautiful golden light, including Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Shikra, Red-wattled Lapwing, Indian Pond Heron, Greater Coucal and Indian Peafowl.

After a day filled with remarkable encounters, we concluded the evening by going through maps of the travels ahead, followed by a checklist session and dinner.

Day 4

Wednesday 28th January

Today marked our final day in Pench National Park, and it turned out to be a wonderful one. Out in the meadows, we heard repeated Chital distress calls, strongly indicating the presence of a big cat in the vicinity. While we waited, we spent time observing birds such as Isabelline Shrike, Asian Green Bee-eater, Lesser Whistling Duck, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Indian Spotted Eagle and Pied Kingfisher. Plum-headed Parakeets were particularly active, and a flock of Small Minivets flew past us, flashing their striking red-and-yellow plumage.

We soon spotted a Golden Jackal by the roadside, intently gnawing on a bone. On closer observation, we could see that it was chewing on a langur limb, with remarkable focus. A little further on, we witnessed interesting behaviour from another Golden Jackal that appeared wary and cautious in its movements. It soon became clear why: five Dholes were in close proximity. The Golden Jackal carefully altered its path, likely attempting to scavenge from the remains of the Dholes' kill, while avoiding direct confrontation.

We managed one last look at the Leopard at the kill site before exiting the park. Clients spent some time shopping for souvenirs near the park gate, and then we made our way back to the lodge. After lunch, we said farewell to the team at Tuli, and proceeded towards our next destination, Kanha.

The four-and-a-half-hour drive through scenic rural landscapes and forested stretches brought us to Kanha Jungle Lodge by 6.00pm. After a briefing on the rooms, we checked in, and later reconvened for a checklist session followed by dinner.

Day 5

Thursday 29th January

Today was our first day in Kanha National Park, in the Mukki zone. The air was crisper and colder than at Pench, and we were welcomed by towering Sal forests and a blanket of fog draped over the grasslands. We spent the early hours tracking the big cats, during which time we came across an Northern Red Muntjac quietly standing by the path. A little later, as we drove on, a Jungle Cat crossed from the forest into the grassland: our first small cat sighting of the trip. We had a clear view as it walked into the fog, eventually disappearing into the tall grasses.

Herds of Chital and the magnificent Barasingha were seen grazing in the distance. As we continued our drive, crossing streams and forest tracks, we watched a Green Sandpiper and Grey Wagtails along the riverbank. We also observed a pair of Indian Scops Owls roosting together in a tree hollow, and an Indian Flapshell Turtle basking in the sun near a waterhole. After a sumptuous breakfast inside the park, we continued the safari, watching Barasingha grazing and feeding on aquatic plants.

By afternoon, the day had warmed up, under bright sunshine. We headed straight to an area where a male Tiger had moved earlier in the morning. Around 4.00pm, the Tiger emerged into a meadow, sitting relaxed and unhurried. We observed him from a distance, as Chital gave alarm calls around him. Slowly, he rose and walked past the vehicles, spray-marking along the way before disappearing into the forest. Clients enjoyed an excellent view as the Tiger crossed and moved away. We found some Gaur by a waterhole as the sun was setting.

In addition to the remarkable mammal sightings, the day also yielded some special bird observations, including Cotton Pygmy Goose, Gadwall, Pintail, Red Junglefowl, White-throated Kingfisher and Alexandrine Parakeet, to name just a few.

Content with a fulfilling day in the park, we returned to the lodge for our checklist session, followed by dinner. The chef's live *jalebi* demonstration was a highlight of the evening, and the dessert was a big hit with the group, before we retired for the day.

Day 6

Friday 30th January

Today, we explored a new area (the Kanha Zone) where the history of Kanha Tiger Reserve began. We drove through the Mukki Zone to reach Kanha, pausing along the way to listen for distress calls in the hope of glimpsing another cat. En route, we passed a beautiful river bed where forty to fifty Little Cormorants were perched on a tree, drying their wings. Red-wattled Lapwings and Rose-ringed Parakeets were also seen in the area.

We soon reached the vast Kanha meadows, which were alive with activity: flocks of Red Avadavats feeding in the grass, Indian Peafowls displaying, and Barasingha grazing across the open landscape. Although we heard Chital distress calls in the meadows, and waited patiently, there was no predator movement.

We then headed to the canteen area for breakfast, coffee, and tea. The group also took a short visit to the museum, learning about Kanha's conservation history and the indigenous communities which have long lived within the landscape, enriching the ecosystem as a whole. On our way back, we spotted an Indian Monitor Lizard basking high up in a tree. On our way out, we were fortunate to spot an Indian Blackbuck, a male displaying its striking dark coat and elegant spiral horns.

As we exited, we came across a group of village women selling fresh vegetables from their gardens. We stopped to see what they had: fresh green peas, which they warmly offered us to taste. They were incredibly fresh and sweet. There were also other greens on display, including spinach, fenugreek leaves and coriander.

During the afternoon drive, we returned to the Mukki Zone, having received information about subadult Tigers in the grasslands. With the afternoon still warm, one vehicle proceeded towards a pond often frequented by Tigers, settling in to wait and watch. While waiting, we observed an array of birds, including a Stork-billed Kingfisher swooping down in an attempt to catch a fish, White-throated Kingfisher, and a Greater Racket-tailed Drongo repeatedly dropping to the forest floor in search of insects.

We also witnessed an interesting interaction between two Rufous Treepies and a Chital: the birds perched on the deer's head, likely feeding on ticks and cleaning its ears, while the deer appeared to cooperate by tilting its head. On our return towards the gate, one vehicle was fortunate to spot a male Tiger approaching a stream bed and crossing over to the other side.

After an eventful day in the park, we returned to the lodge. In the evening, before the checklist session, we enjoyed a fun, hands-on activity learning to prepare vegetable *pakodas*. We snacked, completed the checklist, had dinner, and retired for the day.

Day 7

Saturday 31st January

Today was colder than the previous morning (9°C), with clear skies and the winter air truly settling in. We headed back into Kanha once again, deciding to make fewer stops en route so that we could spend more time exploring the forests of the Kanha Zone, characterised by mixed deciduous woodland, Sal forests and expansive meadows.

The morning turned out to be especially rewarding. As we reached the meadows while the mist still lingered, we encountered a flock of White-rumped Munias moving through the grasslands. A magnificent Crested Serpent Eagle perched nearby, keeping a watchful eye on the ground below, while a pair of Alexandrine Parakeets sat out in the open, gently cleaning each other's beaks: they made for a beautiful and intimate sight.

We soon heard Chital alarm calls and received information from the park's Elephant patrol team that a Tiger was present in the area. We waited quietly, listening intently. At intervals, we heard langur alarm calls, and even a Barasingha distress call. However, it was time to exit the park, and the Tiger chose not to move into view.

As we began heading back, we spotted a small yet striking Common Kingfisher along the river, along with Little Cormorants, Red-wattled Lapwing and Indian Pond Heron. We also saw the Indian Monitor Lizard once again, basking on the same tree. With winter setting in, reptiles (being cold-blooded) are known to brumate. During brumation, their metabolism slows significantly; they stop feeding and remain inactive for long periods, occasionally waking to drink or move slightly. We were also fortunate to spot a Greater Painted-snipe scurrying through marshes near a pond.

After lunch, some clients opted for a walk along the river behind the lodge. We found Tiger tracks and signs of recent movement, which added to the excitement. Bird sightings during the walk included Indian Scops Owl, Grey Wagtail and White-throated Kingfisher. We also discussed some significant trees of the landscape and their

medicinal uses, and observed *Oecophylla smaragdina* (weaver ants) up close, funnel-web spiders and several butterflies. It felt good to stretch our legs after back-to-back safaris. We returned to the lodge for a pleasant outdoor lunch.

During the afternoon drive, we recorded Siberian Stonechat, Indian Peafowl, White-breasted Waterhen, a flock of Common Snipes, Common Redshank, Red-naped Ibis, and Red-headed and Indian Vultures. As we approached a quieter corner of the park, guides informed us that a female Tiger had moved into the area. We waited, and soon a beautiful young Tiger emerged into the open. She walked slowly and deliberately, scanning the forest, placing each paw with precision as she stalked Chital hidden within the trees. We watched in awe as she paused to rest, then rose, glanced once more towards the forest, and melted back into the undergrowth. Clients had excellent opportunities to photograph her and observe her behaviour in the open.

As we exited the park, we spotted a Golden Jackal walking past us, followed by a delightful sighting of a pair of Dhols playing and cajoling each other. We left the park with full hearts, reflecting on our experiences in Kanha National Park. Back at the lodge, the evening brought some light-hearted fun as the ladies of the group dressed up in colourful *sarees*. This was followed by dinner and a short documentary, *Tigerland*, focusing on Tiger conservation and the role of Kanha Jungle Lodge in protecting the animals over the decades.

It had been a long and fulfilling day, so we decided to complete the checklist the following morning, before breakfast and check-out.

Day 8

Sunday 1st February

We had a bit of a lie-in today before our long drive to our next destination, Satpura National Park. We were ready by 8.00am, and gathered to do the checklist for the previous day. We had a good breakfast and said farewell to the wonderful team of Kanha Jungle Lodge. We left for Satpura, which is a nine-hour drive away in central Madhya Pradesh. We drove through scenic landscapes: rural life, cattle grazing, and people busy in their fields harvesting paddy. This quickly transitioned to fields with wheat, mustard, sugarcane, and then teak forests. We made three stops on the way for restrooms and having our lunch.

On the way, clients also got to experience the warm hospitality of a family celebrating their mother's retirement party! We reached Reni Pani Jungle Lodge just as the sun set, around 6.00pm. We were greeted by their team, checked in and met again for dinner. We were briefed on the plan for the next morning and we retired early for the night, excited to see what this new forest had to offer us.

Day 9

Monday 2nd February

In the morning, we departed from the lodge at 5.30am in two vehicles, and drove into the buffer forests of Satpura, an area known for wildlife movement. We remained alert for any signs of activity, and were rewarded early on with an Indian Nightjar flushing off the road, and three Great Thick-knees walking quietly through the forest.

We soon reached the Denwa riverbed. Access to the core area of Satpura National Park requires crossing the river by boat, so we made our way down, put on our life jackets, and crossed to the opposite bank. Once ashore, we

boarded our safari vehicles, along with a park guide and driver. Almost immediately upon entering, we heard Sambar distress calls, heightening our anticipation.

A short while later, as we reached a hilly stretch, we noticed several jeeps. Moments later, we were treated to an incredible sight: a magnificent male Tiger walking along the hillside right beside our vehicle. The dominant male moved unhurriedly, spray-marking his territory as he crossed the track and continued along the slope. We watched in awe, clicking photographs as he eventually walked into the grassland towards the river.

As we continued the drive, we encountered our first Sloth Bear of the trip. A large male was busy digging into termite mounds, its nose close to the ground as it foraged for ants and termites. With its shaggy black coat and deliberate movements, it was a wonderful sight to observe as it moved about the forest floor. Bird sightings during the morning included Brown-headed Barbet, Plum-headed Parakeet, Red-collared Dove and Yellow-footed Green Pigeon. The morning safari was full of surprises!

In the afternoon, we crossed the river once again for our next safari. We spotted a Rose-ringed Parakeet peeping out from a tree hollow, and later, an Indian Giant Squirrel resting on a fig tree branch, its bushy tail hanging down elegantly. As evening set in, we were graced with yet another Sloth Bear, busily foraging through the forest.

As we were exiting the park, another vehicle stopped to inform us of a Leopard sighting among the rocks. Scanning carefully through the thickets and up the rocky slope, we spotted a beautiful male Leopard lounging among the boulders. He soon moved into a small clearing, giving us a clear view, before climbing a Fig tree and settling down on a branch. Though only parts of him were visible thereafter, it was a wonderful and unexpected sighting.

Delighted with our first full day in the park, we returned to the lodge, completed our checklist, enjoyed a delicious dinner, and retired for the night.

Day 10

Tuesday 3rd February

In the morning, we set out once again for a safari. As we drove towards the boating point, we caught the putrid smell of a carcass nearby, likely a recent kill made by a Leopard or a Tiger. We began the safari with a sighting of a juvenile Changeable Hawk-Eagle perched high in a tree. Along the river, we observed a large flock of Lesser Whistling Ducks calling from a small island, along with an equally impressive gathering of Great Cormorants.

One of the most striking birds of the morning was the Indian Paradise Flycatcher. We also came across a large herd of Gaur, including two young fawns. The massive, muscular males stood watch as the youngsters moved playfully around the herd. One vehicle had a good sighting of a Leopard and cubs crossing the road. Bird sightings continued to be rewarding, with Yellow-throated Sparrow, White-bellied Drongo, Common Sandpiper, Grey Junglefowl and Stork-billed Kingfisher all recorded. As we exited the park, we were bidden farewell by a Malabar Pied Hornbill perched high in a tree.

While driving back through the buffer forest towards the lodge, we spotted several White-rumped and Indian Vultures soaring overhead, with many gathered on the ground, competing over a cattle carcass. At a distance, a few Wild Boars attempted to edge closer, hoping for a chance to feed.

In the evening, we went on a boat safari along the Denwa River. On our way to the boating point, we encountered a pair of Dhohes resting quietly in the forest. The boat safari offered a peaceful change of pace and allowed us to observe waterbirds up close. Highlights included Great Cormorants, Common Redshank, Black-winged Stilt, Temminck's Stint and Great Thick-knee. We also saw Painted Storks and Asian Openbills, with River Terns both resting on river islands and flying overhead.

New sightings for the trip included Small Pratincoles on the river islands, and an Asian Woolly-necked Stork. We also observed a large Marsh Crocodile basking on the riverbank with its jaws open. As the light softened, a sizeable flock of Bar-headed Geese arrived, glowing beautifully in the golden light. We spent time watching two Common Kingfishers fishing at close range, along with a Pied Kingfisher hovering above the water. Little Ringed Plovers scurried briskly across the river islands.

We enjoyed a relaxed high-tea on the boat while taking in the views, before returning to the lodge. The day concluded with our checklist session, followed by dinner and a well-earned rest.

Day 11

Wednesday 4th February

Today was our last full day in Satpura, and our last safari in the core area of the park. We started the safari with a Changeable Hawk-Eagle, and suddenly there came Chital distress calls. To our surprise, there was a Dhole running across the meadow. We watched it as it made the Chital and Indian Peafowls uncomfortable by its presence.

We proceeded further and received information that a Leopard had been sighted. We waited at the spot and saw a beautiful cinnamon-morph Indian Paradise Flycatcher by the rocks. We went up to a pond and saw a Stork-billed Kingfisher. As we were driving through, we came across a Sloth Bear feeding on termites. Being the only spectators watching this bear at ease was a delight for the clients. We ended the drive by visiting a temple ruin inside the park, to see the rugged yet beautiful stone architecture.

In the afternoon, we went to the buffer gate. This is a very dry deciduous habitat with rocky cliffs and a beautiful viewpoint. We took pictures of four Greater Racket-tailed Drongos swooping down to eat insects disturbed by Jungle Babblers searching the forest floor. We saw a juvenile Marsh Crocodile by a pond bank and Ashy Woodswallow, and got a good glimpse of a White-eyed Buzzard. We went up to a viewpoint for some cake and tea or coffee. We searched some roosting spots of the Indian Eagle-Owl and started moving towards the exit. As we were exiting, one vehicle spotted a Leopard in the thicket, cautiously watching them and walking away, while the other was delighted to spot a mother Sloth Bear with her two ten- to eleven-month-old cubs digging for food and following their mother. We watched them disappear as the sun set.

It had been yet another eventful day, and we prepared for our last night in Satpura, sharing stories over the checklist and dinner. We had a buffer walk planned for the next morning and two clients were keen to join, while others chose to lie in and enjoy the forest around the property.

Day 12

Thursday 5th February

Around 6.00am, we set out to drive towards the buffer gate to begin our guided walk when, unexpectedly, our vehicle broke down! While waiting for assistance, we observed fresh Leopard tracks along the pathway, likely from

the previous night. An alternate vehicle soon arrived, and we proceeded to another buffer where we met our park guide.

We began our walk, observing a variety of forest life including funnel-web spiders, Common Tailorbird, Rufous Treepie, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, White-throated Kingfisher, Jungle Bush Quail, Small Minivets and Black-hooded Oriole.

As we were heading back towards the gate, a large bird flew across our path. To our delight, it turned out to be an Indian Eagle-Owl, which perched nearby and allowed us time to admire its impressive presence before we returned to the lodge.

Back at the lodge, we quickly finished packing and joined the rest of the group for breakfast. Afterward, we said farewell to the Reni Pani team and proceeded towards the airport. En route, we stopped at the Bhimbetka Caves to witness the remarkable prehistoric rock paintings. We reached Bhopal Airport by 3.00pm, where the group said their goodbyes, parting ways with memories of a truly memorable journey. Clients reached Mumbai later that evening and checked into a hotel for the night.

Day 13

Friday 6th February

Clients caught their flights back home in the afternoon.

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Species lists

Birds (H=heard only)

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		
Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>									✓		
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>									✓		
Cotton Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>				✓							
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>				✓							
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>				✓		✓					
Indian Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>								✓			
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				✓	✓	✓					
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					✓						
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓										
Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Red Spurfowl - E	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>					✓	✓					
Painted Spurfowl - E	<i>Galloperdix lunulata</i>						✓					
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>				✓	✓	✓					
Grey Junglefowl - E	<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>									✓		
Jungle Bush Quail - N	<i>Perdica asiatica</i>											✓
Indian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>	✓	✓							✓		
Savanna Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>										✓	
Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>	✓	✓									
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓										
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>		✓									
Common Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>		✓									
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>					✓						
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓							✓		
Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicinctus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓										
Grey-headed Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>	✓										
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>						✓			✓		
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓			✓	✓				✓		
Great Stone-curlew	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>	✓							✓	✓		
Indian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>								✓			
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓										
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>									✓		
Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>								✓			
River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>							✓		✓		
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>					✓						
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	✓										
Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	✓							✓			

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>						✓					✓
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					✓						
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>									✓		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>									✓		
Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>									✓		
Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>									✓		
River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>		✓						✓	✓		
Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>									✓		
Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>		✓						✓	✓		
Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>									✓		
Asian Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>					✓				✓		
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓	✓						
Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>								✓	✓		
Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>						✓			✓		
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>								✓	✓		
Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>		✓						✓	✓		
Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>		✓			✓	✓					
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	
Medium Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea coromanda</i>	✓		✓				✓		✓		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>									✓		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	✓								✓	✓	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>					✓						
Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>						✓					
White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>					✓			✓		✓	
Indian Vulture - N	<i>Gyps indicus</i>						✓		✓		✓	
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓	
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>					✓			✓	✓	✓	
Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga hastata</i>			✓								
Shikra	<i>Tachyspiza badia</i>		✓									✓
Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>	✓										
White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>										✓	
Eastern Barn Owl	<i>Tyto javanica</i>								✓			
Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓			✓				✓			
Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>		✓			✓	✓					
Indian Scops Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓					
Indian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bengalensis</i>											✓
Mottled Wood Owl - E	<i>Strix ocellata</i>	✓	✓									
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓					
Malabar Pied Hornbill - N	<i>Anthracoseros coronatus</i>									✓		
Indian Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyroceros birostris</i>		✓							✓		

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>					✓				✓	✓	
White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smymensis</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						✓			✓		
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	✓		✓								
Asian Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Brown-headed Barbet	<i>Psilopogon zeylanicus</i>			✓		✓	✓			✓		
Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Yungipicus nanus</i>			✓								
Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	
White-naped Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>		✓									
Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>					✓						
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓										
Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>									✓	✓	
Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>			✓	✓							✓
Indian Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>							✓				
Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Lalage melanoptera</i>			✓								
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>					✓					✓	✓
Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>								✓			
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>		✓		✓					✓		
White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓			✓				✓		
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>								✓	✓		
Indian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>						✓			✓		
Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>			✓								
Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>						✓					
Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>		✓			✓			✓	✓		
Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓		✓			✓					
Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus culminatus</i>	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓			
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>									✓		
Cinereous Tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>								✓			✓
Rufous-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes phoenicura</i>								✓			
Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>			✓								
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓							✓			
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	✓										
Eastern Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>									✓		

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>		✓									
Sulphur-bellied Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>									✓		
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>					✓						
Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>									✓		
Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>					✓						
Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>					✓						
Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>									✓		
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>											✓
Indian White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>								✓			
Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>										✓	
Brown-cheeked Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>					✓						
Jungle Babbler	<i>Argya striata</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>											✓
Indian Pied Myna	<i>Gracupica contra</i>					✓						
Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>	✓										
Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>								✓			
Indian Blackbird - N	<i>Turdus simillimus</i>						✓					
Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓		
Indian Robin	<i>Copsychus fulicatus</i>	✓										
White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>					✓	✓					
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>					✓						
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>						✓			✓		
Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>				✓	✓					✓	
Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>					✓				✓		
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓								✓		
Blue-capped Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola cinclorhyncha</i>				✓							
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>				✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Jerdon's Leafbird - N	<i>Chloropsis jerdoni</i>							✓				
Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>			✓								
Pale-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>	✓		✓								
Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	✓						✓			✓	
Yellow-throated Sparrow	<i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>			✓					✓	✓	✓	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>											✓
Tricolored Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>						✓					
Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>					✓						
Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>				✓							
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>					✓						
White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>	✓							✓	✓	✓	
Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>					✓						
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	✓										

Mammals

E=Endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓
Bengal Sacred Langur - E	<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Indian Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>									✓		
Indian Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus palmarum</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Indian Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa indica</i>								✓	✓		
Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus medius</i>		✓	✓					✓			
Sloth Bear	<i>Melursus ursinus</i>	✓							✓	✓	✓	
Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>		✓	✓			✓					
Dhole	<i>Cuon alpinus</i>		✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	
Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>				✓							
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	✓							✓	✓	✓	
Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓			
Indian Gray Mongoose	<i>Urva edwardsii</i>				✓							
Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Urva smithii</i>							✓				
Blackbuck	<i>Antelope cervicapra</i>					✓						
Nilgai	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>								✓	✓	✓	
Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Chital	<i>Axis axis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Barasingha	<i>Rucervus duvaucelii</i>				✓	✓	✓					
Sambar	<i>Rusa unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Northern Red Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus vaginalis</i>					✓	✓					
Eurasian Wild Pig (Boar)	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	

Reptiles

E=Endemic		January - February 2026										
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Marsh Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>								✓	✓	✓	
Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Indian Bengal Monitor	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>					✓	✓					
Peninsular Rock Agama	<i>Psammophilus dorsalis</i>										✓	