

India – Tiger Marathon

Naturetrek Tour Report

26 January - 7 February 2012



Royal Bengal Tiger



Royal Bengal Tiger



Jungle Cat



Spotted Owlets

Report compiled by T Saravana Kumar
Images courtesy of John Leslie



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Day 1

Thursday 26th January

Fly from UK to India

Day 2

Friday 27th January

Guests arrived into Nagpur airport from Mumbai by around 5pm. We loaded our bags into our comfortable cars and soon hit the busy rush hour highway to Pench Tiger Reserve. We reached Tuli Tiger corridor resort in Pench by 8pm. We did see some Black Kites, Blue Rock Pigeons, Black Shouldered Kite, and Black Drongos on our drive to Pench. We quickly re-grouped for drinks and dinner and then retired to our comfy beds.

Day 3

Saturday 28th January

It was a weekend morning and our first drive to the location of the BBC's 'Spy of the Jungle' - Pench Tiger Reserve. We were up early and equally excited to get into the jungle. We were allotted two jeeps for our safaris. It was a slightly cloudy morning, with the sun just coming out around 8am. There were brief showers in the park, but not much to damage our safari spirit. We still managed to see the diversity of mammals and birds that Pench had to offer. Jackals were seen in good numbers along with Wild Pig, Sambar Deer, Common Grey Mongoose and the omnipresent Chital (Spotted Deer), which dotted the landscape.

We soon had a picnic breakfast in the park and exchanged information of any possible big cat sightings or whether the Elephants had tracked the Tigers. The weather seemed to play spoilsport with the cat sightings. Later, we were treated to close views of Long-billed, White-rumped and Red-headed Vultures feeding on the remains of a Sambar kill. It was also nice to see the camp Elephants with their young ones returning to their camp. We exited the park and headed back to our lodge. Today was a nice introduction to the Teak dotted forest and undulating beautiful landscapes of Pench.

In our afternoon drive, we ventured through the rocky terrain of beautiful 'Indian Ghost Trees' and stopped at regular intervals for photo opportunities of Common Langur and Chital. We were assigned different routes for our safari. Craig, Pat and John were in my jeep and as we were photographing a Chital stag, we heard a lone Langur suddenly giving an alarm call. We looked in the direction where the Langur was watching and behold! There was a Tiger around 100 metres away from our jeep. It was so still and camouflaged with the trees and bushes, it was difficult to notice at first glance. It was the "Badi Mada" (Big Mother, filmed by BBC) coming down the slope and between the rocks.

She was a big tigress (around 11-12 yrs old) and was en-route marking her territory. We were blessed to see her for few minutes, before she melted away through the nallah (dry river bed). We drove further to see a very calm and quietly posed Jungle Cat on a rock above our eye level and had enough time to get some nice snaps. We were also lucky to see two Malabar Pied Hornbills as well. Thanking our lucky stars on our first day in the Indian jungle, we retreated back to our lodge. We met soon for our fauna check-list and had sumptuous Indian cuisine for dinner. As we were retiring to our beds, we heard thunder above us and hoped the rain gods stayed away from our safaris.

Day 4

Sunday 29th January

We had a slightly early start to beat the Sunday crowd into the park. It was again a cold and cloudy morning. Last night's thunder and slight showers slowed down the bird and mammal movements. It was a quiet morning, with no alarm calls. We just saw a track of a female tiger. We managed to do well with raptors and other birds; Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Brahmany Kite and Vultures were seen. We saw the remains of a Langur (probably a Leopard kill) and the Wild Pig and Jungle Crows were fighting for the last bits of meat left around. We bid adieu to Pench and packed our bags and drove onto our next destination, Kanha Tiger Reserve. We had a picnic lunch en-route overlooking a scenic open country landscape.

We arrived by around 4pm at Tuli Tiger Resort (our lodge for the next 3 days). There had been heavy showers in Kanha in the last few days and the park had been closed for few safaris as well. We hoped the weather would improve for our next few days in Kanha. Pat, John and I went for a short stroll through the lodge premises to look for our birds. We did see some good birds, including Common Hawk Cuckoo (Brainfever bird) and Oriental White-eyes, Coppersmith Barbet etc. We did our check-lists and had an early dinner and the hot soup was very welcoming in the damp weather. We hoped for a sunny morning next day, as we retired to our beds.

Day 5

Monday 30th January

We started off our first morning in Kanha National Park with no rain. We got into the Kanha zone of the park and soon enough there was a moment of excitement. We heard a Sambar deer giving out a loud 'dhonk' call, giving good reason for the tiger to be around. It was a close-call and we waited for our chance and we soon were hearing alarm calls from both sides of the road of Sambar, Langur and Barking Deer. We drove back and forth and waited, but nothing turned out. Our cat and mouse hunt had ended.

We drove later through some thick vegetation and bio-diverse habitat of Kanha that included Bamboo thickets, Sal forest, grasslands and meadows. There were big termite mounds (close to 6-7 feet some of them) on our way; an ideal feeding ground for Sloth Bear, Peacock, Monitor Lizard etc. As we approached the centre point of Kanha, we got the news that the Elephant team of Mahouts had tracked a Tiger on the way to a plateau. It was a big male tiger called, 'Munna' (around 8 yrs old) and we were lucky to see him up-close from the Elephant back. The off-road journey of going on an Elephant back and watching a predator is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. As we were exiting the park, rain started pouring and weather gods were back to their thunder and showers!

The park authorities had to call off the afternoon drive to the park, as the roads were still holding water and non-navigable. We were very disappointed and had to get back to our rooms for a relaxing evening. Some of us opted to soothe into a rejuvenating Ayurveda massage in the lodge's spa. We did our species lists and had an early dinner with our fingers crossed for a sunny day tomorrow.

Day 6

Tuesday 31st January

We were spared from any further downpour last night. It was a cold and foggy morning as we entered into the Kanha zone of the park. But we were determined to face the elements of nature and do our safari. As we entered into the park along the main road, we had some lovely close-ups of the Spotted Owlet (6 of them) in a row in a hole of the branch of the Pipal tree. The other jeeps were lining up for the Spotted Owlets and seemed the owlets enjoyed the paparazzi. We were placing bets each time in our subsequent drives, as we crossed the same Pipal tree with the Spotted Owlets, of the possible numbers of them together in the tree hole. As we drove ahead, there was a brief excitement when we heard alarm calls of Sambar Deer and Common Langur. As more jeeps arrived at the scene, the alarm calls stopped and it was quiet again. We had to move on to register our jeeps for the Elephant ride token. On our way, we had some excellent close views of the endangered Hard-ground Barasaingha (this particular species is found only in Kanha and nowhere else in the world) stag and the entire family.

We soon heard that the mahouts had tracked the male tiger. It was 'Munna' again, but, by a small stream in a different area of the park. Nevertheless, we still wanted to see him and all of us got one more opportunity to take nice pictures of 'Munna'. We soon returned for a mouth-watering breakfast at the centre point, followed by a brief visit to the Kanha Museum and Interpretation Centre. It was a really impressive collection of data about the park, its history, conservation efforts and the life of its denizens. One of our jeeps (John and Pat along with the lodge's resident naturalist Pradip) scouted the Kanha meadows again and heard a Tiger growl. It was 'Munna' again, walking down from the bush we had seen him earlier from the Elephant back, to the meadows. He was walking right through all the jeeps and on the road, like a true King of the Jungle. It was a great sighting for nearly 40 minutes on and off, and John managed to get some excellent footage. Munna was definitely trying to locate the tigress and was in breeding mode. It was really a lovely morning with the Tiger sighting.

We had a good Indian lunch at the lodge and we were soon ready for our afternoon drive into the Kisli zone of the park. We heard some brief alarm calls of the Langur and Sambar Deer, but the cats seemed to be hiding in the thick bushes. As we were exiting the park, we saw three Jackals and a brief moment of enthusiasm, when a Chital gave an alarm call. But, we couldn't see any predator around. Overall, we had a good day with the sighting, though we couldn't see many birds owing to the bad weather in the last few days. We retired for the day, doing our species list, enjoying dinner and talking about our eventful safari day.

Day 7

Wednesday 1st February

We set out early, braving the cold morning for one more drive into Kanha. We took off to reach the centre point again to register ourselves for the Elephant token. As we were going on the 'Digdola' road along with a line of other jeeps, a courting pair of Leopards were spotted just on the road. Before we actually could see them, the Leopards dashed to the bushes close to the road. Some of us could still see the outline of the male Leopard mounting on the female.

There were a few other jeeps and the mating pair went further into the bushes. We parked our jeep just in the line of view of a ‘pugdundee’ (beaten single track) and to our delight; both the Leopards chose to walk through it briefly, before disappearing again to the thick undergrowth. We could hear the sawing call and the tension filled loud growls from the Leopard from far. But, after that the chances of seeing them seemed to be difficult.

We then drove further through the beautiful Kanha meadows and “Shravan Tal” waterhole. We did well with some new birds to the list and not much news on the Tiger front. We soon returned to our lodge as we had to move on to our next destination, Bandavgarh Tiger Reserve.

It took us nearly 6 hours to reach Bandavgarh. We checked into our lodge, Bandavgarh Jungle Lodge, and re-grouped soon for check-lists, followed by delightful inviting bowls of hot tomato soup and tasty Indian dishes. It was very cold in Bandavgarh, and we had to have extra blankets and hot water bottles to keep us warm through the night.

Day 8

Thursday 2nd February

We braved the elements with layers of warm clothing, blankets, scarves, mittens and hot water bottles to go for our first safari in Bandavgarh. We entered the ‘Tala’ (Lock, in Hindi) zone and were allotted two different routes for both of our jeeps. There were faint alarm calls heard in the distance, but proved to be not good enough to see the big cats. We did see some good birds like Malabar Pied Hornbill, Common Kestrel, White-naped Woodpecker, Small Minivet, endangered Lesser Adjutant Stork and Vultures. Good views of Sambar stags were seen in addition to Jackals and Wild Pig.

We returned to the Tala zone for our evening drive and to try our luck with the elusive big cats again. We did see some tracks of the tiger from mid-day and one of our jeeps saw fresh tiger scat. We also saw Jackals, Jungle Cat, Ruddy Mongoose, Lesser Adjutant Stork, some lovely photo-ops of Sambar Deer by the Chakradhara meadows in strong golden evening light. The Tigers seemed to be very smart the whole day avoiding us. We returned to our lodge and retired early to bed after doing our species lists and dinner.

Day 9

Friday 3rd February

Today we drove a little early to enter into Magdhi zone of the park. Here we had a free-hand in driving wherever we can within this zone. We entered through the ‘Bhadrashila’ gate and checked the possible waterholes where the ‘Patiha’ (name of area of the park) tigress frequently patrols. We found male tiger tracks leading ahead and a little later female tiger tracks going backwards. It was a hide and seek game with pugmarks leading in one direction and the alarm calls of Chital, Sambar and Common Langur in regular intervals at various pit stops leading in another direction. The tigers in this zone definitely were very smart!

Later, at the breakfast point, one of other jeeps from our lodge had sighted the same ‘Patiha’ tigress, that we were tracking and was eluding us. It was a big disappointment, as we followed every fresh pugmark, waited and listened to strong alarm calls of Sambar, Chital and Langur and still we missed seeing it. The rule of the jungle prevailed. Meanwhile, we saw Red-headed Vulture, Puff-throated Babbler, Red Junglefowl, Crested Tree Swift and Yellow-wattled Lapwing.

We returned to the lodge soon and later John and I went for a nature walk around the lodge grounds. We saw some new birds to list including, Blyth's Reed Warbler, Orange-headed Thrush (*centralis* spp.), Booted Warbler, Hume's Leaf Warbler etc.

After lunch, we went to Magdhi zone again, but through the Gohri (name of a village) gate. We went to the same area where the 'Patiha' tigress was last seen and then later followed her pugmarks leading to a network of Bamboo thicket roads (which were like a maze). Peter and Rosie were with Padam (resident naturalist from the lodge) and we were scouting one of the roads, when they saw pugmarks, which were soon followed by alarm calls of the Chital and Langur. Perfect timing landed them just in time to see the 'Patiha' tigress walking across the road with her two 18 month old cubs and then disappearing through a small hillock. We were really glad for them. For the rest of us, it was another disappointing endeavour to track the tiger. It was a mixed bag of sightings for us today and we soon returned to our lodge hoping to change our fortunes in the following morning. We did our check-list and finished our dinner and called it a day.

Day 10

Saturday 4th February

With one last drive left in Bandavgarh to redeem our chances of seeing the Tiger from a jeep, we left early from the lodge. We did well and were second in the queue to get into the park. We also got the news last night that a tigress had made a kill of a huge Sambar stag and the possibilities of seeing the tigress along with cubs seemed high. Just a few minutes after entering the park, we stopped by the place where the Tigress had killed the Sambar stag last evening. And by fortune, we parked our Jeep in the right angle and I saw the silhouette of a small animal quickly running through to the bamboo thickets. It was a Tiger cub. WOW!! The driver, the guide and I just saw a glimpse of it, and Pat, John and Craig, who were in my Jeep, could not catch the action. Argghh!! But there were two more cubs in the same place next to where the kill was. I could see in the faint light another cub looking towards us from between a big dead Sal tree. It was actually sitting near to the kill. I pointed it out to our members in the Jeep, but it was still difficult to see because, the sun had yet to come up. But Craig and a few of us managed to see the third cub running down from the tree to the nallah below and then it was gone in a flash. Again we had a glimpse of a Tiger silhouette. This time, the outline of the cub was much better. Wow! What an exciting start to the morning.

Our other Jeep with Peter and Rosie, who were not too far behind us, could not see the brief 'dark silhouette' encounter with the Tiger cubs. We had to complete our route and also had to register for the Elephant token, to give more chances to see the cubs and mother later in broad daylight. We quickly reached the Centre Point (Hardia gate), had our breakfast and drove back without stopping much anywhere, as today our priority was to see the same cubs and the mother Tiger in better light next to the kill. We reached the spot where we saw the cubs briefly in darkness earlier in the morning and waited in hope to see them again. After nearly 10 minutes or so, I could see a familiar pattern of stripes from the bamboo bushes, not far from the Sambar kill. It was the Mother tiger of the cubs, we saw in the morning. She is called as the 'Kankatti female' (Kankatti-the one with a torn ear) and has three 5-6 month old cubs. She walked out of the bamboo bushes and we could see her walking out towards the kill. She was very focused on guarding her kill, as her kill was constantly been visited by Jungle Crows and Indian Treepie and were eating pieces of meat from the kill. She quickly walked to the kill right in front of our excited eyes, and was very furious with the birds eating away at her hard won kill. She chased the birds away and took her guard next to the kill.

It was a wonderful 30 minutes with her eating her kill, trying to drag her kill stuck between the roots of the dead Sal tree. She then walked back to the bamboo bushes after having her hunger satisfied. Our other jeep had a longer allotted route to cover and could not see the Tigress in action. But, overall we all had our chances from Jeep to see a tiger in different drives in the trip so far...

We had now to exit the park, as we had to drive to our next destination, Panna Tiger Reserve. We returned to our lodge and packed our bags and were quickly on the road to Panna. On our way we stopped by a lovely catchment area by the highway, which has thousands of waterfowl of different species. Birds seen were Grey Heron, Lesser Whistling Duck, Garganey, Gadwall, Northern Pintail, Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark, Rufous-tailed Lark, Great & Intermediate Egret, Great, Little and Indian Cormorant, Darter, Asian Open-billed Stork etc. We also stopped by a nearby village for a picnic lunch.

We reached Panna by around 5pm and relaxed ourselves into Ken River Lodge. It was a lovely lodge just on the banks of the equally pristine Ken River. We could hear the lovely cackling call of Stork-billed Kingfisher as we sat on the Wooden Machaan (watch tower on a tree) dining area overlooking the river. There was a Marsh (Mugger) crocodile as well in water, pointed out in the scope. We walked to our rooms which were tucked away from the main dining area and reception through lovely trees and bushes. We were escorted back for dinner later, as there were resident Wild Pigs and Sloth Bear in the property and not far from our rooms.

We were also told that we could go on a night watch on the Machaan built especially for watching wildlife just by the fenced off area of the property over-looking a dry open country. There were two dead cows thrown by the villagers in this open land and close to our lodge's fence; a perfect place to see scavengers in the night. We were also told by the lodge people that there were Hyena, Jackals and Wild Pigs seen around the dead cows last night. I had never seen a Striped Hyena in my life and I wanted to see it as badly as the others! We regrouped for our logs and dinner and later were ready to do a night watch on the Machaan.

Around 9.30pm, we quietly walked to the tree and climbed up to the platform built on the Machaan. We hardly waited for around 10 minutes, when we spotted the unmistakable hunch-back shape of a Hyena walking quietly, sniffing and coming close to the dead cows. It was a 'lifer' for me and watching it through binoculars in the moonlight night was magnificent. Craig and I felt, it was the highlight of our tour apart from our Tiger sightings. We also watched a little later a Jackal joining the feast and later by a Wild Pig, who preferred to eat it all alone. It was a dramatic standoff between the Wild Pig and the Jackal and Hyena. The Wild Pig ultimately won, but the Hyena did a bit of hiding and soon came back. We then left the Hyena in peace to finish of its scavenging and returned back to our rooms after an eventful and exciting long day.

Day 11

Sunday 5th February

Our last day in the jungle on this tour, and we were all eager to visit Panna Tiger Reserve. We went through the Madla gate of the park with Trighun and Bijoy, the resident naturalists from the lodge. We soon met the park authority jeeps with their antenna pointing towards the direction, where one of the tigers had been radio-collared, deep in the bushes. Panna had been through a shocking period of tigers being poached from the park, and there is now a revival strategy and program in place to bring back the population of Tigers here.

Tigers were translocated from Pench, Kanha and Bandavgarh Tiger Reserves in the last few years to get a viable breeding population that can sustain and grow slowly over a period in this lovely park. In total, five tigers (one male and 4 female tigers) have been radio-collared for monitoring after they had been relocated. We also heard that this new batch of tigers had already given birth to young ones and doing well. We drove further, as there were no signs of Tiger movement, to look for the diverse bird life and mammals in this park. We drove through some lovely patches of forest and views and stopped at Dundhwa, overlooking the nesting Vultures, for our breakfast. We spotted many deer and antelopes along with some new birds for our list. A few well camouflaged Painted Sandgrouse, six different types of vultures, (Long-billed, Cinereous, Egyptian, White-backed, Red-headed, and Eurasian Griffon), Grey-headed Fishing Eagle etc

On the afternoon drive, we saw good numbers of Sambar stags, antelopes like Nilgai (Blue Bull) and Chinkara (Indian Gazelle), and stopped down at a few points to get some nice evening sunset landscape shots. We still tried at a few waterholes and intersection points for possible big cat movements. We heard a few alarm calls of Deer and Langur, but they were far off and could not possibly be seen. We did manage to see a lovely adult Marsh Muger Crocodile basking on a tiny islet in a waterhole.

We returned to our lodge at dusk and settle in for a nice dinner. Craig and I returned to do the night watch again, but this time we could only hear a sound of wild pig. We retired to bed soon after seeing a Black-naped Hare on our way back.

Day 12

Monday 6th February

After having a leisurely breakfast, we headed on our way to Khajuraho to see the ancient Chandela kings' temples. We had a nice interpretative walk and talk with our local guide on the history and importance of this group of temples. We visited both the western and eastern complex and managed to see more Parakeets, nearly tame Five-striped Palm Squirrels, Asian Koel, Coppersmith and Brown headed Barbet and Magpie Robins in the lawns of the temple.

We later had an early lunch at the luxurious Radisson hotel and departed to Khajuraho airport for our onward journey to New Delhi. We arrived in Delhi, with lot of traffic, lights and chaos on the road leading to Westin Park hotel in Gurgaon. We had a lovely feast of a dinner at the Hotel's Four Season restaurant that carried late into the night. I bid farewell to our guests one final time, before I travelled back home.

Day 13

Tuesday 7th February

Return to the UK

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Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February									
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓				✓	✓			✓	
2	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
3	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓				✓			✓		
4	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
5	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓						✓		
6	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
7	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
8	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
9	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓									
10	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓									
11	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>								✓		
12	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	✓			✓	✓					
13	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓	
14	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>							✓	✓		
15	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>								✓	✓	
16	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
17	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	✓									
18	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
19	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	✓	✓						✓		
20	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>		✓							✓	
21	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	✓	✓						✓		
22	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>		✓						✓		
23	Oriental Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>		✓			✓				✓	
24	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
25	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓								✓
26	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	✓	✓								
27	Pallas' Fish-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>										
28	White-tailed Sea-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>										
29	Grey-headed Fish-eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>		✓			✓				✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February									
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
30	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>						✓	✓		✓	
31	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
32	Long-billed Vulture	<i>Gyps indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	Eurasian Griffon	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>									✓	
34	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>									✓	
35	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>									✓	
36	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	✓					✓	✓		✓	
37	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>									✓	
38	Crested Serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
39	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	✓	✓	h	✓	✓	h				
40	Besra Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>					✓					
41	White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓	
42	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennatus</i>		□	✓		✓					
43	Changeable Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
44	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>							✓			
45	Grey Francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	h					h		✓	✓	
46	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
47	Painted Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix lunulata</i>						✓		✓	✓	
48	Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>		✓								
49	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	Brown Crake	<i>Amauornis akool</i>									✓	
51	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>	✓	✓		✓						
52	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								✓		
53	Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>					✓		✓			
54	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>									✓	
55	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓			
56	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
57	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>									✓	
58	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>									✓	
59	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓				✓					
60	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>	✓									
61	Painted Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles indicus</i>									✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February										
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
62	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>										✓	
63	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>					✓	✓					
64	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
65	Red Collared-dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>		✓									
66	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>		✓									✓
68	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>											
69	Yellow-footed Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
71	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
73	Common Hawk-cuckoo	<i>Cuculus varius</i>		✓	h	✓	✓	✓					
74	Sirkeer Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>										✓	
75	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Eurasian Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>										✓	
77	Indian Scops-owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓					
78	Brown Fish-owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>						h					
79	Mottled Wood-owl	<i>Strix ocellata</i>		✓									
80	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
81	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		h			
82	Savannah Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	✓									✓	
83	Asian Palm-swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>			✓	✓	✓					✓	
84	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>			✓	✓			✓				
86	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
87	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>										h	✓
88	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
89	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>					✓					✓	□
90	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
91	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
93	Indian Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	□	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February									
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
94	Malabar Pied-hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros coronatus</i>	✓					✓				
95	Brown-headed Barbet	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>	h	h	h	h	h	h	h			
96	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	h	✓	h	h	✓	h				h
97	Brown-capped Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis nanus</i>						✓				
98	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	✓	✓	h	✓	✓	✓	✓	h	✓	✓
99	White-naped Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>		✓	h		✓	✓	h	✓	h	
100	Heart-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Hemicircus canente</i>									✓	
101	Ashy-crowned Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>		✓						✓	✓	
102	Rufous-tailed Lark	<i>Ammomanes phoenicurus</i>									✓	
103	Dusky Crag-martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne concolor</i>									✓	
104	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓								
105	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
106	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			
107	Streak-throated Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon fluvicola</i>							✓			
108	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓			✓					
109	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla madaraspatensis</i>	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓
110	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	✓	✓								
111	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			
112	Oriental Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓	
113	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		✓					✓		✓	
114	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>							✓		✓	
115	Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
116	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>						✓				
117	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			✓		✓					
118	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
119	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>							✓			
120	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>							✓	✓	✓	
121	Tickell's Thrush	<i>Turdus unicolor</i>									✓	
122	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				✓					✓	
123	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>		✓	✓	✓						
124	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>							✓	✓	✓	
125	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>							✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February										
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
126	Booted Warbler	<i>Hippolais caligata</i>								✓			
127	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>		✓						✓		✓	✓
128	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>								✓		✓	
129	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>								✓			
130	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>		✓						✓		✓	✓
131	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
132	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>										✓	
133	Tickell's Blue-flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>						✓	✓	✓	□	✓	
134	Oriental Magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
135	Indian Robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
136	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓				✓	□	✓	✓	✓	✓	
137	Indian Chat	<i>Cercomela fusca</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
138	White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>										✓	
139	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>		✓	h								
140	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>								✓			
141	Indian Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>				h	h	h					
142	Large Grey Babbler	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>										✓	
143	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
144	Brown-cheeked Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe poiocephala</i>		✓	h	h	h						
145	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>					✓	✓	✓				
146	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	h					✓	✓				
147	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>		✓			✓		✓				
148	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
149	Bay-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>		✓					✓				
150	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>		✓	h	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
151	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>											
152	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>											
153	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>					✓	✓					
154	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
155	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>											
156	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caeruleus</i>										✓	
157	Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>				✓						□	

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February									
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
158	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
159	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>										
160	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
161	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	☐	✓	☐	✓	✓	☐	☐	✓	✓	✓
162	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
163	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>										
164	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	✓									
165	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>					✓			✓		
166	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
167	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓		
168	Brahminy Starling	<i>Temenuchus pagodarum</i>	✓	✓					✓	✓		
169	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	
170	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		☐								
171	Chestnut-shouldered Petronia	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>						✓	✓		✓	

Mammal Species

1	Royal Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓		
2	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>					✓					
3	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus kelaarita or kutas</i>	✓					✓			✓	
4	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Common Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Common Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>	✓									
7	Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Herpestes smithii</i>						✓			✓	
8	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	
9	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>					✓					
10	Indian or Black-naped Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>									✓	
11	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Gaur (Indian Bison)	<i>Bos guarus</i>	✓	✓			✓					
13	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
14	Barasingha (Swamp Deer)	<i>Cervus duvauceli branderi</i>			✓	✓	✓					
15	Chital (Spotted Deer)	<i>Cervus axis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer)	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>						✓			✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February									
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Black Buck	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>			✓	✓						
18	Khincara (Indian Gazelle)	<i>Gazella bennetti</i>									✓	
19	Nilgai (Blue Bull)	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	✓	✓							✓	
20	Indian Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
21	Indian Pipistrelle Bat	<i>Pipistrellus coromandra</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
22	Striped Hyena	<i>Hyaena hyaena</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Other fauna

1	Marsh Muggler Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>								✓	✓	
2	Funnel Web Spider	<i>Hippasa sp</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

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