

# Just Tigers!

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 - 22 January 2020



Royal Bengal Tiger 'Neelam'



Royal Bengal Tiger 'DJ'



Sloth Bear



Jackal with kill

Report & images compiled by Dhanya Venkatesh



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

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

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

Tour participants: Dhanya Venkatesh (leader) with six Naturetrek clients

## Highlights

This tour perfectly balances the wildlife and a visit to Taj Mahal. Twelve safaris into Kanha with a seven-night stay at Tuli Tiger Resort gave us all the chance to relax and enjoy the holiday to the fullest.

Kanha, as always, left an impressive and unforgettable mark on all our hearts. We had several highlights starting from seeing the cranes at Sultanpur, our first Tigress among several other Tigers which we saw later in the tour at Kanha NP, the Wild Dogs were special too, not forgetting the amazing Sloth Bear!!!

The tour ended with us visiting the Taj and few other monuments which definitely were the cherry on the cake for one and all.

### Day 1

Friday 10th January

Group members departed from the UK by flight to India.

### Day 2

Saturday 11th January

The flight landed ahead of time at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi where Dhanya met David, Pauline, Sarah, Clive, Jules and Mike. The drive to the hotel Pullman was very pleasant and we started our birding right the airport where we saw a couple of Collared Doves, Common Mynas and Red-wattled Lapwings. The Pullman hotel managed to provide us the rooms immediately which gave us a chance to freshen up and get some rest.

We met again at 12 noon to go to Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary. We left after a quick discussion about the overall tour plan.

After almost a two hour drive, we reached Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary where the weather was clear and with it being a weekend there were quite a lot of people around. Once inside the park, we realised that the birds didn't seem to mind the crowd at all. We saw lots of birds including all three Egrets, Pond Herons, Painted and Black-necked Stork, Glossy, Black and Black-headed Ibises, Eurasian Wigeon, Common Pochard and Spot-billed Duck. Our raptor sightings included Steppe Eagle, Marsh Harrier, Kestrel and a Shikra. The highlight however was definitely the Eurasian Wryneck and the pair of Sarus Cranes that flew overhead and then landed on a small island showing really well.

Back at the hotel we had a briefing about the next day's programme and decided to call it a day quite early, as everyone was fairly tired after all the travelling.

## Day 3

## Sunday 12th January

We left the comforts of the Pullman hotel after a lovely and sumptuous breakfast at 7:30am to get our Spice Jet flight to Jabalpur at 10am. The flight was very pleasant and we looked down on the landscape of forests with scattered hills and villages. Once at Jabalpur we went to the Narmada Jackson hotel for lunch, after which we continued our four-hour drive to Kanha, which was very interesting driving through the villages and the buffer forests. We stopped several times as we spotted birds, being lucky to see a Red-headed Vulture, Pied Harrier and a few more common birds like the Indian Roller, Drongos etc. We arrived at Tuli Tiger Resort, our home for the next week at around 7pm. All of us were a little bit exhausted so we decided to head to dinner straightaway and then get to our rooms.

Plans for tomorrow was discussed before we all headed to our rooms to get the much-needed rest.

## Day 4

## Monday 13th January

Today was the last day of the Tiger Census and hence the park was opening a little later than normal. We left the resort after a nice hot cup of tea at 6:15am. We were fairly well forward in the queue at the gate. We started our day by hearing a Jungle Owlet calling as he was going to roost. This was our first drive in the park and both jeeps were in Kanha Zone, driving off in different directions looking for wildlife and birds. The park came alive when the sun's rays penetrated through the foliage and we could see the birds had become very active. We saw a number of new birds like the Great Racket-tailed Drongo, Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Black-hooded Orioles, Ioras and many more.

We met at a central point for breakfast as we had seen no footprints of cats and heard no alarm calls either. We felt that the animals were a little disturbed with the presence of the humans on foot doing the census.

We drove off in different directions again and the jeep with Pramod, Clive, Sarah, David and Pauline saw a pair of Wild Dogs as they were on their way back to the gate. The jeep with Dhanya, Jules and Mike saw a lovely herd of Barasingha, - the iconic specie of Kanha. It was overall a very good first safari into the forests of Central India.

We were back at the lodge at 12:15pm and met for lunch at 1:30pm. After lunch we departed on the afternoon safari at 2:30pm.

Both the jeeps were in Kisli Zone and again we spread out looking for birds and other wildlife. We found some pugmarks but did not hear any alarm calls. We drove around watching more birds like the Brown-cheeked Fulvetta, White-rumped Shama, Velvet-fronted and Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch etc. We saw several Gaur with young and spent a considerable time watching them. As we drove on we heard from another jeep that a pair of Jackals had made a Spotted Deer kill, so we drove in that direction and saw the female trying to rip the hide of the deer. We could see that the Jackals were quite tired from having just made the kill as it was

a big deer. As we watched them, we heard alarm calls and saw a change in the Jackals' behaviour too!!!

We checked the Nullah nearby and waited for a while, but the calls seemed to be heading further into the forests and the Jackals decided to get back to their kill too. With limited time, we had to leave the Jackal pair and make our way back to the gate.

Back at the resort, we compared what we had seen and were glad that Pramod had managed to find Jules and Mike the Wild Dog pair that was seen in the morning. So now between the group, we had seen a pair of Golden Jackals with a Spotted Deer kill and a pair of Wild Dogs. What a lovely day!!

We met back at 7pm for checklist and some drinks, followed by dinner.

## Day 5

Tuesday 14th January

This morning we left at 5:45am since the park was back to normal opening timings. We were the second jeep in the queue and just waited at the gate listening to lovely Jungle Owlets as they called from the nearby trees. We were in Kanha Zone again this morning and once more we drove off in different directions. The jeep with Pramod, Clive, Sarah, David and Pauline drove straight towards the meadow area while the other jeep with Dhanya, Jules and Mike decided to check the area where the Jackals had made their kill last evening but there was no carcass to be seen, at least not from where we were parked. So we drove further and decided to check a few areas before heading to the meadow. We heard a Tiger calling quite close to the track but he was hidden in the forest, so we waited for a while and heard him a few more times before everything went quiet again. We carried on with the drive and reached the meadow where we saw a long line of jeeps and instantly knew that there had to be a Tiger! We drove on and found Neelam – the Tigress of the meadow resting under a ziziphus bush. A quick scan of the jeeps and we saw the jeep with Pramod and team, that's a relief!!! Our first Tiger !!!

Soon she got up and walked and we hear the jackals wailing in the distance, so we realise that they aren't very happy about the Tigress being so close. Pramod and his team drove on while we just waited to see what would transpire. We watched the Tigress, as did the adult Jackals, while the pups wailed nervously, very uncertain whether to follow her or not. We watched the Tigress just walk with confidence and disappear into the lantana bushes, and a Jackal pup that was following her just ran as fast it could away from the undergrowth when it saw the Tigress disappear. We took this as our cue and drove to the road on the other side; soon we saw the majestic animal walk out onto the road and cross behind our jeep, so the entire group sees the Tigress up close. An amazingly thrilling morning!!!

We headed off for breakfast and the drive back towards the resort continuing birding on the way. Among the group we saw quite a few interesting birds including Little Cormorant, Lesser Whistling Ducks, Brown -cheeked Fulvettas, White-rumped Shama, Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker, Green Sandpiper, Jungle Owlet, Oriental Honey Buzzards, Red and Yellow-wattled Lapwings among many more.

We met back for lunch at 1:30 and left for our drive at 2:30pm. This afternoon we were in Sarhi Zone, and we decided to split up and find things on our own. Dhanya was with the group of four while Pramod went with the other two. Our afternoon drive started with us finding a big herd of Gaur with young. We spent quite a while just watching them and getting some pictures and we also checked the area where the Jackal had made a kill earlier; we found the bones neatly ripped of every shred of meat, a job definitely well done. We heard a few alarm calls but did not see any predators. We watched the symbiotic relationship shared by the langurs and deer which was just so impressive. Our other jeep saw a Hoopoe!! The hoo-doo bird – as David had named it, which we were desperately trying to find for him. They also saw a Grey-headed Fish Eagle and heard the Scimitar Babblers again.

In the evening we met for the checklist at 7pm followed by dinner.

## Day 6

## Wednesday 15th January

This morning, Dhanya was with Clive, Sarah, David and Pauline and we did a little birding, however the park seemed very silent. We headed towards the meadow area to see if there were any jeeps but there were none. We saw a lovely herd of Blackbucks in the open and close to the road which was quite exciting as we could see the spiral horns of the male. Since there were no alarm calls, we decided to head over to central point for breakfast. En route we saw a small flock of Red Avadavats, with a male showing really well while the females were a little harder to see.

At breakfast we met Pramod, Jules and Mike and they seemed to have had a quiet day so far too!! They saw the Blackbucks and some Orioles and Racket-tailed Drongos really well. We just enjoyed the food and decided to visit the Interpretation Centre as this would be the last morning we had in this zone. The interpretation centre was really interesting and the map of Kanha with the zones and rivers highlighted really gave us an idea of the expanse of the park. We drove back stopping and listening, but the forest seemed quiet.

On our way to the resort we went to the village to look for the Spotted Owlet pair who roosted in one of the trees. We were lucky again and found three of them – looking down at us!! A great sighting!

This afternoon we had a slightly early lunch so that we could get a couple hours of rest before we went out birding in the evening. We walked out of the property, but it was very quiet and therefore we decided to bird the grounds instead. We saw Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, lots of Jungle Babblers, Fulvettas, Black-naped Monarch and a few regulars like the Coppersmith Barbet, Jungle Crows, Parakeets etc. The highlight was seeing the Common Hawk Cuckoo which we had hear calling the last couple of evenings and early mornings.

We met back for checklist at 6:30pm and had an early dinner. Some of us played a few games at the pool table before getting some rest.

## Day 7

Thursday 16th January

The morning we followed our usual routine and met at 5:30am for tea before leaving for a safari. We were in Mukki zone this morning, which was a long drive and we had decided to drive without there stopping unless we saw anything that we were unlikely to see again. Dhanya, Jules and Mike headed out via Nakti Ghati while Pramod, Clive, David, Sarah and Pauline took the Chimta Camp side. As we drove on we came across some tracks but Monu and Dhanya decided to carry on. Soon we came across a jeep who said a Tigress was sat on the road, got a little disturbed when their jeep came there and walked into the forest. We quickly decided to check the Fireline because that's her regular path. While waiting we saw Pramod and team drive up so we asked them to stay at the fireline while we moved on, when the tigress did cross the fireline. We literally missed it by a whisker this time. Now we had to re-think our tactics, so we drove towards Camp and waited, and soon the Tigress (DJ) appeared out of the bush right behind our jeep. She was scent marking and checking out the various other scents that she was picking up from her regular tree, and it was lovely to watch this behaviour. Our other jeep was right beside us and they managed to see and get some pictures of this beauty. She walked a little way along the road and then disappeared into the forest, but we heard her call a few times before everything went quiet again. We decided to leave her in peace and carry on with the drive. After a relaxed breakfast we continued birding and saw a pair of Fish Eagles, while Pramod and his team found a pair of Barasingha males sparring. Wow!! Yet another lovely morning!!

In the afternoon we went to Kisli zone and both the jeeps decided to do some birding and enjoy the evening. We decided to explore a new part of the forest. We drove to Indri and spent a long time at the lake watching the Pintail, Common and possibly Greater Painted snipes. We saw a Hoopoe again; however, it flew away before Dhanya could point it to David - the Hoo-doo bird managed to do the vanishing act again. However, we saw Crested Serpent Eagle, Cotton Pygmy Goose, some sandpipers and the lovely swallows coming down to the water for a dip. We drove on and scanned various areas for birds and listened to hear any warning calls. The jungle seemed really quiet until we reached the turning when we heard an alarm call, so we waited and soon we saw Pramod and team pull up behind us. They started frantically waving to us, so Monu reversed as quickly as he could (Dhanya and team still weren't convinced that the predator could have moved so far back unnoticed but decided to check). Upon reaching close to our other jeep we realised that they called us to help them as their jeep wouldn't start! Jules seemed quite amused on hearing that we had wondered if they called us tell us about a predator and they said that they hadn't even heard the alarm calls!!!

Back at the lodge, we met at 6:30pm for checklist and watched a documentary about Kanha followed by dinner.

## Day 8

Friday 17th January

This morning wasn't too cold, although it was very foggy. Both jeeps were in Mukki Zone, and as usual Dhanya, Jules and Mike set off with Monu after deciding that they would stop only for new birds. Soon we diverted from the main road and started looking for tracks but didn't find any. Minutes later, the guide

shouted “Sloth Bear”. Wow; there he was in front of us, reared up with his back against a tree having a scratch. We stopped to watch him, clicked off some pictures and then started following him. He found another tree and had a slightly longer scratch. We saw an opportunity to drive past him when he was looking for termites at the base of the tree. Soon we were in front of the bear and saw him walking straight towards the jeep. What a beast!!! A totally magical morning!!! He reared up against another tree, scratched and walked on again. He then found a rocky overhang that seemed to have bees/termites under it, so he sat down and started sniffing and eating whatever was there.

By this time, we saw Pramod’s jeep with Clive, David, Sarah and Pauline pull up and we pointed out the bear under the rock. Their jeep drove so fast that we thought they would run the bear over, they were looking around for a Tiger and didn’t expect a Bear. We were so glad that they saw the bear too!! The bear got up and walked towards us and scratched himself again on a tree before disappearing into the bamboo nearby. Sarah did a small dance quiet similar to that of the bear only she had to stay in the jeep!

We decided to drive on but before we had gone far, saw a set of fresh Tiger tracks, and heard alarm calls from the jungle fowl in the nearby bamboo. Pramod and team decided to wait and see if the bear would come out again. We checked the area briefly before carrying on with the drive. When we got to meadow area, we saw a line of jeeps indicating a sighting. On getting closer we saw the two Tiger cubs sat next to each other in the grass. Some people said there was a third one but we couldn’t see it. Soon Pramod, Clive, David, Sarah and Pauline arrived and they managed to see bits of the Tiger cubs who had by now decided to sleep. The cubs kept getting up and moving about in the grass but it was very hard to say if it was the same cub that moved or if it was a different cub. Since we saw two together to start with we know there were two for sure. We were simply amazed by the camouflage.

We met at Khapa centre point for breakfast, and luckily just as we were leaving we found a pair of Brown Hawk Owls perched on one of the tall Sal trees. The other guide who had shown it to us said that they were always roosting there. Back at the lodge we met for lunch followed by the afternoon drive.

This afternoon we were in Kanha Zone and the jeeps decided to go out in different directions. There was information that two Tigresses, one with cubs, were seen this morning close to the meadows. So we decided to check that area and see if we were going to be lucky again. Pramod, Jules and Mike explored one of the tracks that had opened today. They saw fresh tracks of a Tiger and soon saw the Tiger in the woods walking away from them towards the forest. They drove on and checked the meadows too! Dhanya and team drove straight to where the Tigress with cubs were seen and waited in the line of jeeps but there seemed to be a deafening silence which filled the air. After a few minutes of waiting we carried on and headed towards the gate. Upon getting back to the lodge we heard that Jules and team had seen a Jungle Cat quite close to the gate and a single Wild Dog too!! Wow!! What an amazing evening.

In the evening we did the checklist followed by yet another delicious dinner.

## Day 9

Saturday 18th January

This morning we were once again in Mukki Zone where it was chilly and colder than yesterday. The forest seemed very different today as it was covered in a misty haze. We had very few birds but heard the Fulvettas and the Babblers. Both jeeps decided to check the fenced area for the cubs first but the other vehicles from Mukki Zone told us that the Elephant Mahouts had informed them earlier about the Tigress having moved her cubs last evening to a different area. With that being a dead end, we drove on and decided to check the other areas too! No tracks whatsoever but there were few alarm calls although all seemed to be further away from the track we were on. Both our jeeps found few other jeeps who said that the Tigress DJ was glimpsed by one of the jeeps heading towards Kanha Zone, so we decided to wait. Pramod, Clive, Sarah, David and Pauline continued to wait close to the Nullah, but the guide with Dhanya and team suggested that we should check the parallel road to see if she was heading in that direction.

We drove ahead and saw a jeep come towards us, so we stopped to ask if they had heard anything, but before the other driver could answer, the guide in our jeep yelled "Tiger". There she was, walking totally unconcerned through the woods. We waited for her to walk towards us and hoped she would continue right but on seeing some Spotted Deer she moved left and walked on, stopping often to spray mark on various trees. Dhanya looked to see if Pramod was around but their jeep was nowhere to be seen. We watched her as she walked a few feet, stopped and seemed to be looking for the right chance to make a kill. After a long walk she disappeared into the bushes and Dhanya suggested we head back and look for our other jeep and send them here before she gets out again. We met Pramod and team near the grassland and sent them straight to where we had seen her last. We drove on and decided to check if there were any other Tigers on the move, but the forest was very quiet.

We then headed to centre point for a quick comfort stop and it started raining. Monu put the soft cover of the jeep and we drove back towards Kanha. The rain didn't last too long so we were able to see and removed the cover too. As we came up the Kanha Ghat we heard alarm calls, this time very close, so we decided to wait. Soon Pramod and team came round the bend and we drove ahead to check movement and asked them to stay back. As luck would have it a Tigress shot out of the bush and crossed the road in front of their jeep. Well, at least they managed so see a Tiger this morning as they had missed the earlier one who did not come out from the bushes. It was definitely another thrilling morning!!

In the afternoon we were in Kisli and while Dhanya and team decided to go back to Indri to see some more waders, Pramod and team took the regular route. We saw a few birds but not the Greater Painted Snipe. However we managed to spot the elusive Hoopoe and this time David saw it too!!! David pulled a fast one by rattling off the features of the birds with absolute accuracy which impressed Clive and Dhanya, but David hadn't seen the bird yet, but as soon as it flew he saw it well. Later he produced a little piece of paper in which he had written down all the features. Well done David! Our other jeep did some birding too and saw the Paradise Flycatcher which they had missed earlier. Overall it was a quiet evening and the morning rains seemed to have made it quieter still. In the evening we did the checklist followed by dinner.

## Day 10

## Sunday 19th January

It was a very hazy and cold this morning due to the unexpected rains yesterday. We checked all the tracks for signs and tracks but all seemed very quiet. Since this was our last drive in the park, we decided to take it easy and just enjoy the park which had donned a completely different feel due to the hazy meadows. We were all in Mukki zone and even birdlife seemed very scarce, and we must admit it was really very chilly. Both the jeeps ate some snacks instead of a fully-fledged breakfast. We just listened to the forest and felt the freshness in the pure air one last time before we headed outside the park.

We got back to the lodge at 10:30am and had enough time to have a shower and have our last sit down lunch and cups of Chai at this lovely lodge. We drove to Jabalpur to catch our overnight train to Agra, but this time we didn't stop en route to bird. We reached Jabalpur in time and after some more Chai at a local Hotel we went the station which was just a minute's drive from there. We boarded the train with a packed dinner from the hotel. Once we all settled we started being our normal chirpy selves and were wondering if the train driver could hear us laughing at our funny conversations. The attendant was pleasantly amused on seeing us all have Chai from almost every station. By 9.00pm we all settled into our bunks for the night.

## Day 11

## Monday 20th January

The train reached Agra at 11:30 after a four-hour delay due to fog. It was fascinating to see the porters carry the luggage on their heads this time. We got onto the coach and headed straight to the Hotel. We managed to get a small, quick breakfast and a proper cup of tea/coffee. The rooms were ready and we decided to quickly freshen up and get changed for the afternoon sightseeing.

We met back for lunch and left for our sightseeing. After a quick chat with the guide we decided to visit the Taj Mahal this evening as the sun was out and also Baby Taj. We drove for about 10 minutes through the city of Agra. The queue to get the tickets was so long that it took more than half an hour. Our local guide PK explained the monument at great length and in the greatest detail. The birders in the group were still distracted occasionally by Great Pelicans, Egyptians Vultures and a falcon that sat on the Taj Mahal. Since it was nearly 4.00pm, PK suggested that we wouldn't be able to do Baby Taj today and instead we should just enjoy the Taj Mahal. We were really very happy to have had some time by ourselves to explore and take in this impressive monument.

After reaching the hotel, we discussed plans for tomorrow and decided that we would meet up at 8:30am at the lobby.

## Day 12

## Tuesday 21st January

We had a relaxed morning, had a peaceful sit-down breakfast and left for our sightseeing at 8:30am. Thankfully we had seen the Taj Mahal yesterday because there was dense fog this morning. We drove for a couple of hours and reached Fatehpur Sikri. PK explained the place and we were amazed with the spectacular

workmanship of this place. We stopped at a local dhaba for some Chai and Vedai – the local breakfast. We continued our drive towards the city of Agra and drove through the old town and saw the dhobiwalas doing the washing on the river Yamuna. We now were going to see the Baby Taj, yet another beautifully crafted building. We headed to lunch and then a visit to Agra Fort. After spending time looking around the fort we re-grouped and said our goodbyes, as Jules and Mike were heading to Chambal to begin the tour extension, while David, Pauline, Clive, Sarah and Dhanya went to the station to board their train to Delhi. The train was nearly on time and we reached Delhi at 7:40 pm. After a session of haggling with the porters we got into our bus and headed to the Hotel Pullman for an overnight stay.

## Day 13

Wednesday 22nd January

The main tour came to end and Pauline and David went to the airport in time to catch their flight to Heathrow while Sarah and Clive had left earlier to catch their onward flight to Colombo as they were doing an extension to Sri Lanka before heading back to UK.

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Taj Mahal



Eurasian Hoopoe

## Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	Royal Bengal Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>				✓		✓	2+1	✓			
2	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus kelaarita or kutas</i>							✓				
3	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>					✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Common Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
5	Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Herpestes smithii</i>						✓		✓			
6	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
7	Dhole (Asiatic Wild Dog)	<i>Cuon alpinus dukhunensis</i>			✓				✓	✓			
8	Sloth Bear	<i>Merursus ursinus</i>							✓				
9	Three-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennarum</i>				h	✓	✓		✓	h		
10	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓	✓									
11	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
12	Barasingha (Swamp Deer)	<i>Cervus duvauceli branderi</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
13	Chital (Spotted Deer)	<i>Cervus axis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
14	Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer)	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
15	Black Buck	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓				
16	Nilgai (Blue Bull)	<i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	✓										
17	Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
18	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
19	Indian Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus coromandra</i>					✓						
20	Blyths Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus lepidus</i>					✓						
21	Bat sp					✓							

Birds (? = probable)

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	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>										✓	
6	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	✓										

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓
8	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	✓										
9	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
11	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>	✓									✓	✓
15	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	?										
16	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
17	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>										✓	
18	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>	✓										
19	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	
20	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>	✓										
21	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
22	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	✓										
23	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	✓										
24	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
25	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	✓										
26	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>										✓	
27	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>										✓	
28	Comb Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>										✓	
29	Cotton Pygmy-goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>							✓		✓		
30	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	✓								✓		
31	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	✓						✓	✓			
32	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	✓							✓			
33	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓										
34	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>	✓										
35	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	✓							✓			
36	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>	?										
37	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	✓										
38	Oriental Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>				✓	✓		✓				
39	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		✓			✓				✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	January											
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
40	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓
41	Grey-headed Fish-eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓			
42	Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>											✓	✓
43	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>			✓		✓			✓				
44	Indian Vulture	<i>Gyps indicus</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓				
45	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>		✓	✓									
46	Short-toed Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	✓											
47	Crested Serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>			?		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
48	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>		✓										
49	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	✓	✓										
50	White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>				✓								
51	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	✓											
52	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennatus</i>												✓
53	Crested Hawk-eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>			✓	✓	✓							
54	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓				✓			✓				
55	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>											✓	
56	Painted Francolin	<i>Francolinus pictus</i>			h									
57	Grey Francolin	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	✓	✓									✓	
58	Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>									✓			
59	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	h	✓	✓			
60	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
61	Sarus Crane	<i>Grus antigone</i>	✓											
62	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	✓				✓	✓					✓	
63	Purple Swampfen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	✓											
64	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓										✓	✓
65	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓											
66	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>						✓						
67	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓									✓	✓
68	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>												✓
69	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>												✓
70	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
71	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
72	White-tailed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus leucurus</i>	✓											

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
73	Little -ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>								✓			
74	Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>							✓		✓		
75	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>							✓		✓		
76	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	✓									✓	✓
77	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>											✓
78	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>										✓	
79	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
80	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	✓							✓		✓	
81	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓	✓							
82	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>											✓
83	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>											✓
84	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>											✓
85	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>											✓
86	Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
87	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>				✓	✓	✓					
88	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓			✓	✓					✓	✓
89	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
90	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓
91	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
92	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
93	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>				h	h	✓	h				
95	Common Hawk-cuckoo	<i>Cuculus varius</i>			h	h	✓	h	h	✓	✓		
96	Southern Coucal	<i>Centropus {sinensis} parroti</i>	✓		✓		✓	h		✓			
97	Indian Scops Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>			✓								
98	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	h	✓	✓		
99	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	✓				✓						
100	Brown Hawk-owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>							✓	✓			
101	White-rumped Spinetail	<i>Zoonavena sylvatica</i>				✓							
102	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>				✓	✓						
103	Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>			✓	✓							
104	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
105	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
106	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	✓							✓			
107	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
108	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	✓										
109	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
110	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	✓					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
111	Indian Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyroceros birostris</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
112	Brown-headed Barbet	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>			h	h	h	h	h	✓	✓	✓	
113	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>			✓	✓	✓	h	h	✓	h		
114	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	✓										
115	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis nanus</i>			✓			✓	✓				
116	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos mahrattensis</i>				✓							
117	Lesser Goldenback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	h		
118	White-naped Woodpecker	<i>Chrysocolaptes festivus</i>			✓	✓	✓	h	h	✓	h		
119	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓										
120	Dusky Crag-martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne concolor</i>		✓									
121	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				
122	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>						✓					
123	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
124	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>							✓			✓	✓
125	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla madaraspatensis</i>		✓			✓						
126	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>										✓	✓
127	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
128	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
129	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>									✓		
130	Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>				✓				✓			
131	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			✓		✓						
132	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
133	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>				✓							
134	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>			✓				h				
135	Blue-capped Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola cinclorhynchus</i>								✓			
136	Blue Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>									✓		
137	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓					
138	Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>				✓					✓		

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
139	Jungle Prinia	<i>Prinia sylvatica</i>						✓					
140	Ashy Prinia	<i>Prinia socialis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓						✓
141	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	✓					✓					
142	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	✓				✓						
143	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓		✓		✓			h			
144	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	h	h	✓	h		
145	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	h	h	h	h		
146	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	✓					h					
147	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	✓										
148	Red-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	✓		✓	✓	h	✓	h	h			
149	Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>						✓					
150	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>						✓					
151	Tickell's Blue-flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>					✓		✓	✓			
152	Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>			✓	h	h	✓		h			
153	Oriental Magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
154	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>			✓	✓			h				
155	Indian Robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>	✓				✓						
156	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	✓										
157	Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	✓		✓				✓		✓		
158	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓			
159	Indian Chat	<i>Cercomela fusca</i>											✓
160	White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>					✓						
161	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>					✓	h	✓	h			
162	Asian Paradise-flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>						✓		✓			
163	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	✓		h	h	✓	✓	h	h			
164	Indian Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>				h	h	h	h	h	✓		
165	Tawny-bellied Babbler	<i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>									✓		
166	Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>					✓						
167	Large Grey Babbler	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>	✓	✓									
168	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
169	Brown-cheeked Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
170	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			✓		h				✓		
171	Indian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>			✓	h				h			

	Common name	Scientific name	January										
			11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
172	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>			✓		h		h				
173	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>	?										
174	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	✓				✓	✓			✓		
175	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>					✓						
176	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>			✓	✓	✓	h	✓		✓		
177	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
178	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓				✓	
179	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	✓										
180	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
181	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>			✓	✓	✓						
182	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caeruleus</i>			✓	✓		✓					
183	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>					✓	?		?			
184	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
185	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
186	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓								✓	✓
187	Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus {macrorhynchos}culminatus</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
188	Bank Myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	✓									✓	✓
189	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
190	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	
191	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		✓			✓					✓	
192	Red Avadavat	<i>Amandava amandava</i>					✓						
193	Nutmeg Mannikin	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>				✓			✓				
194	Indian Silverbill	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>				✓							

## Other fauna

## Scientific name

1	Indian Flapshell Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>			✓	✓		✓		✓			
2	House Gecko species	<i>Hemidactylus or Gehyra etc sp</i>						✓		✓	✓		

## Butterflies of note

Common Grass Yellow, *Eurema hecabe*Striped Tiger, *Danaus genutia*Common Indian Crow, *Euploea core*

## Significant Plants,

Teak, *Tectonia grandis*  
Tendu, *Diospyros melanoxylon*  
Peepal, *Ficus religiosa*  
Bel, *Aegle marmelos*  
Sal, *Shorea robusta*  
Camel foot vine, *Bahunia ??*

Mahua, *Madhua longifolia*  
Mango, *Mangifera indica*  
Banyan, *Ficus benghalensis*  
Ber, *Ziziphus mauritiana*  
Arjun, *Terminalia arjuna*  
Common Squirrel Tail,

Saj, *Terminalia elliptica*  
Flame of the forest, *Butea monosperma*  
Ghost gum, *Sterculia urens*  
Amla, *Phyllanthus emblica*  
Lendia, *Legestromia parviflora*  
Ban Tulsi, *Oncium santum*



Barasingha