Northern India Trip Report
30th November to 1st December 2015

Trip Report compiled by David Hoddinott

Top 10 Birds of the tour:
1. Cheer Pheasant
2. Ibisbill
3. Painted Spurfowl
4. Tawny Fish Owl
5. Black-throated Bushtit
6. Koklass Pheasant
7. Spotted Forktail
8. Collared Falconet
9. Pallas’s Fish Eagle
10. Red-billed Blue Magpie

Top 5 Mammals of the tour:
1. Tiger
2. Sloth Bear
3. Yellow-throated Martin
4. Indian Crested Porcupine
5. Dorcas Gazelle
Tour Summary

Our fabulous adventure started off in New Delhi, where some of the group had just arrived from a superb Sri Lanka tour while others had arrived on International Flights. Over dinner we discussed the plans for the following day and excitement mounted as we chatted about our first destination; the famous Tiger reserve of Ranthambore National Park.

After an early breakfast the following morning we set off to the train station. The train was only a little late to arrive and soon we were on our way to Ranthambore. After a fairly comfortable ride we arrived and made our way to the hotel, where we enjoyed lunch before checking into our rooms. Our first afternoon drive was simply amazing. First we notched up a wonderful selection of waterbirds including Lesser Whistling Duck, migrant Gadwall, Northern Shoveler and Northern Pintail plus White-throated Kingfisher and Yellow-footed Green Pigeon and then set off in search of Tiger. It wasn’t long before we were watching a male Tiger walking along the edge of a swamp. He gave superb views for about ten minutes, it wasn’t over yet and on our way out of the park we had fabulous views of two Sloth Bears. What a way to start the tour and I couldn’t have asked for better birthday presents!!! Elated we made our way to the hotel where we celebrated over a delicious dinner.

The following morning, we enjoyed two separate sightings of Tiger and then in the afternoon yet another sighting, this time of a fabulous male lazing on a tree branch right near the road (see photo above). So, having enjoyed amazing Tiger sightings on our first three game drives the pressure was off and we could focus on some wonderful birding. The star sightings during our time here included a family group of Jungle Bush Quail, finely patterned Painted Spurfowl, spectacular Indian Peafowl, Black Stork, rare Indian Vulture, Brown Crake, beautiful Painted Sandgrouse, Indian Scops Owl at a day roost, Common Kingfisher, Eurasian Wryneck, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, hundreds of exquisite Plum-headed Parakeet, Large Cuckoo Shrike, Small Minivet, White-browed Fantail, a host of babblers including Common, Large Grey, Jungle and Yellow-eyed, Indian Robin and Bluethroat.

During our time in Ranthambore we paid a visit to the nearby and very productive Lake Soorwal and en route found a wonderful flock of 45 Indian Stone-curlew and a male Asian Koel perched up in the open. The area around the lake was particularly productive and we were thrilled to have many fabulous sightings including our first Bar-headed Geese, Common Pochard, Great Crested Grebe, a lovely flock of Greater Flamingo, sought-after Dalmatian Pelican, Pied Avocet, fabulous Little Ringed Plover in cracking plumage, Black-tailed Godwit and Temminck’s Stint amongst a host of waders, splendid Indian Courser, wonderful flock of 57 Indian Skimmer, huge Pallas’s Gull, Indian Roller, beautiful Bay-backed Shrike, Ashy-crowned, Crested and Greater Short-toed Lark, Rufous-fronted and Jungle Prinia and Variable Wheatear. What a day!
From Ranthambore we took the train to yet another famous reserve, that of Bharatpur (Keoladeo National Park). On the way to our hotel we notched up great scope views of Greater Painted-snipe, Wire-tailed Swallow and Yellow-wattled Lapwing. With good water levels this year Bharatpur was fantastic and we marvelled at the staggering number of birds, during our rickshaw rides through the reserve. Some highlights of our time here include Greylag Goose, Knob-billed Duck, tiny Cotton Pygmy Goose, Gadwall, Indian Spot-billed Duck, Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Duck amongst a host of waterfowl, Grey Francolin, Painted and huge Black-necked Stork, Black Bittern, Indian Cormorant, Greater Spotted, Booted and Eastern Imperial Eagle, Western Marsh Harrier, Barred Buttonquail, Pheasant-tailed and Bronze-winged Jacana, Red Turtle Dove, Dusky Eagle-Owl, roosting Jungle Nightjar, Indian Grey Hornbill, Brown-headed Barbet, White-eared Bulbul, Rosy Starling, Tickell’s Thrush and cracking Siberian Rubythroat giving outstanding views for all.

Whilst in the area we also visited some dry country near Deeg and found Isabelline Shrike, Isabelline and Desert Wheatear and Tawny Pipit and enjoyed the most wonderful sighting of a pair of Sarus Cranes.

From Bharatpur we travelled to the historical town of Fatepur Sikri and then continued on to the famous Taj Mahal, where we marvelled at this incredible monument. After lunch we visited the vast Agra Fort and then made our way to the Chambal River where we overnighted. The following morning we enjoyed a super boat trip on the Chambal River and found good numbers of Bar-headed Geese, splendid Red-naped Ibis, a confiding Indian Spotted Eagle, pair of Bonelli’s Eagle, superb Eurasian Sparrowhawk, an unexpected Demoiselle Crane, several Great Stone-curlew, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and Black Francolin, Black-breasted Weaver and Chestnut Munia nearby. Thereafter we made our way back to Delhi and then took an overnight train to Ramnagar, the gateway to Corbett NP. Our first birding after arriving in Ramnagar, along the Kosi River, yielded two very sought after birds of monotypic families, the impressive Ibisbill and beautiful Wallcreeper.

Our time in Corbett National Park was very enjoyable as we notched up many new and interesting species whilst traversing the woodlands, grassland and wetland areas. Some of our notable sightings included Red Junglefowl, several Kalij Pheasant, Red-headed Vulture, Changeable Hawk Eagle – pleasantly common, Pallas’s Fish Eagle, River Lapwing, Pin-tailed
Green Pigeon, Lesser Coucal, Banded Bay Cuckoo, Brown Fish Owl and rare Tawny Fish Owl, Jungle Owlet, White-rumped Spinetail, Crested Kingfisher, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great, Lineated and Blue-throated Barbet, Fulvous-breasted, Streak-throated and Scaly-bellied Woodpecker, Himalayan Flameback, Collared Falconet, Slaty-headed Parakeet, Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, Large Woodshrike, Long-tailed and Scarlet Minivet, Black-hooded and Maroon Oriole, Common Green Magpie, Yellow-bellied Fantail, Himalayan Bulbul, Black-throated Bushtit, Black-chinned Babbler, Bar-tailed Treecreeper and Crested Bunting. Some of us also took the opportunity to do an Elephant ride in the park, a most enjoyable experience.

In the neighbouring area to Corbett we found splendid Alexandrine Parakeet, beautiful Chestnut-crowned Warbler, elusive Long-billed Thrush and Little and Spotted Forktail. Leaving Corbett we made our way to the foothills of the Himalayas to Nainital and en route enjoyed some wonderful sightings. These included an adult Cinereous Vulture, Brown-backed Needletail flying low overhead, Blue-bearded Bee-eater and Streak-throated Swallow.

With very pleasant mild conditions, the foothills around Nainital were a delight to bird; it can often be very cold at this time of year. Exploring the network of roads and trails around this highland town was most rewarding. Some of our star sightings included Common Merganser, amazingly confiding Hill Partridge, Koklass and Cheer Pheasant giving superb scope views, Bearded Vulture, a pair of Mountain Hawk-Eagle displaying, dozens of Steppe Eagles very close by giving outstanding views, a male Hen Harrier, Himalayan Buzzard, Oriental Turtle Dove, cute Collared Owlet, cryptic Grey Nightjar perched right alongside the road, cracking Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, beautiful Black-headed Jay, Yellow-browed Tit, handsome Black-faced Warbler, Striated Prinia, Rufous-chinned and Striated Laughtingthrush, Rufous Sibia, White-tailed Nuthatch, stunning male Himalayan Bluetail, Blue-capped Redstart, Brown Dipper, Green-tailed and Black-throated Sunbird, Altai and rare Black-throated Accentor and stunning Pink-browed Rosefinch.

Whilst in the area we also visited the lower lying area of Sattal and here we were delighted to find several Asian Barred Owlet, tiny Speckled Piculet, Himalayan Woodpecker after a concerted effort, Greater Yellownape, Greater Flameback at its nest, Grey-backed Shrike, Grey Treepie, beautiful Himalayan Black-crested Tit, splendid Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler, Blue-winged Minla,
smart Red-billed Leiothrix, Whiskered Yuhina, Chestnut Thrush, resplendent Rufous-bellied Niltava, superb male White-tailed Rubythroat, striking Slaty-blue Flycatcher and sought after Upland Pipit.

That evening we boarded the night train back to Delhi where, upon arrival, we enjoyed our final birding at Okhla. After three weeks birding we were still adding new species - such is the diversity of this wonderful country. Our new sightings included flocks of soaring Great White Pelican, gorgeous Green Bee-eater giving great photographic opportunities, Blyth’s Reed Warbler, Striated Grassbird, Yellow-bellied Prinia, localized Striated Babbler, Streaked Weaver, Scaly-breasted Munia and Western Yellow Wagtail. And so ended this great adventure and we headed off to the airport to connect with our international flights home.

This had been a most memorable trip and would not have been possible without such a wonderful group of enthusiastic participants and an excellent ground operations team. Thank you very much to everyone! I am greatly looking forward to sharing many more wonderful adventures with all of you!

**BIRD SPECIES LIST**

**Total recorded:** 391

*Note: Names and taxonomical order of the bird species list follows that of IOC 5.3 (International Ornithological congress), Birds of the World.*

E = Endemic, SE = Sub-continent endemic.

**Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae**

**Lesser Whistling Duck**
*Dendrocygna javanica*
A few birds were seen in Ranthambore NP before we recorded huge numbers of over 500 in Keoladeo NP and several along the Chambal River.

**Greylag Goose**
*Anser anser*
Small numbers were seen at scattered locations including 15 at Keoladeo NP and 1 in Corbett NP.

**Bar-headed Goose**
*Anser indicus*
This beautiful and interesting species was first recorded at Soorwal Lake with further good sightings along the Chambal River and two in Corbett NP.

**Knob-billed (Comb) Duck**
*Sarkidiornis melanotos*
Around 8 birds were seen in Keoladeo NP.

*NOTE: IOC splits S.melanotos into two species, Knob-billed Duck (S.melanotos) of the old world and Comb Duck (S.xylvicola) of the new world.*

**Ruddy Shelduck**
*Tadorna ferruginea*
Small numbers were found at scattered locations during the tour, some lovely views along the Chambal River and at Ramnagar Barrage.

**Cotton Pygmy Goose**
*Nettapus coromandelianus*
Two of these tiny geese were seen in Keoladeo NP.
Gadwall  
*Anas strepera*
Up to fifty were seen in Keoladeo NP, and a further four in Corbett NP.

**Eurasian Wigeon**  
*Anas penelope*
We had scope views of ten in Corbett NP, a few others at the end of the tour in Delhi some in great plumage.

**Indian Spot-billed Duck**  
*Anas poecilorhyncha*
This beautiful duck was found at Keoladeo NP with further views at the Ohkla Barrage near Delhi. **NOTE:** *A. poecilorhyncha* is split by IOC into two species, *Indian Spot-billed Duck* (*A. poecilorhyncha*) and *Eastern Spot-billed Duck* (*A. zonorhyncha*) of China and S.E. Asia.

**Northern Shoveler**  
*Anas clypeata*
Small numbers were found in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP with further views at Ohkla Barrage near Delhi.

**Northern Pintail**  
*Anas acuta*
Small numbers were found in Ranthambore and a large flock of 300 in Keoladeo NP with further views at Ohkla Barrage near Delhi.

**[Eurasian] (Green-winged) Teal**  
*Anas crecca*
Small numbers were commonly found in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP, up to 60 in Corbett NP and on the final day along the Yamuna River. **NOTE:** IOC splits *A. crecca* into two species, *Eurasian Teal* (*A. crecca*) of the old world and *Green-winged Teal* (*A. carolinensis*) of the new world.

**Red-crested Pochard**  
*Netta rufina*
Only four, including two stunning males were seen in Keoladeo NP.

**Common Pochard**  
*Aythya ferina*
Seen on 3 days, a flock of 30 at Soorwal Lake and a further 10 in Keoladeo NP with a final sighting of several at Ohkla.

**Ferruginous Duck**  
*Aythya nyroca*
We had good scope views of 2 in Keoladeo NP.

**Common Merganser**  
*Mergus merganser*
We had great views of 3 at the Kosi River near Ramnagar.

- **Pheasants & allies Phasianidae**

**Black Francolin**  
*Francolinus francolinus*
We enjoyed good scope views of two males near the Chambal River and a further male in Corbett’s grasslands.

**Grey Francolin**  
*Francolinus pondicerianus*
A common species that was often and well seen during the earlier part of the tour, especially good views in Ranthambore NP.

**Jungle Bush Quail**  
*Perdicula asiatica*
A flock of 10 was seen in Ranthambore NP.

**Hill Partridge**  
*Arborophila torqueola*
After only brief views of one near Nainital we enjoyed fabulous views of two, for all, on our final morning in the area, near Killbury. This is a very tricky species to see well and it was especially pleasing that the entire group got to enjoy this beautiful bird.

**Painted Spurfowl (E)**  
*Galloperdix lunulata*
Several birds including a lovely pair were seen very well over 3 days in Ranthambore NP.

**Koklass Pheasant**  
*Pucrasia macrolopha*
We had simply outrageous views of a stunning male which gave scope views for ten minutes, what a treat! A further male and female were both seen very briefly all above Nainital.

**Red Junglefowl**  
*Gallus gallus*
Only recorded in Corbett National Park where we had some good looks at males and females.

**Kalij Pheasant**  
*Lophura leucomelanos*
Seen on numerous occasions in the Himalayas, including best views of relaxed birds near Nainital.

**Cheer Pheasant**  
*Catreus wallichii*
In the Pangot Valley two males were scoped for a good while and we could watch this very sought-after species feeding in the tall grassland. Yet another fabulous highlight of this tour!

**Indian Peafowl**  
*Pavo cristatus*  
Common, widespread and one of the most famous birds in the world, it was wonderful to see this iconic species in its natural habitat, mainly at lower altitudes.

**Grebes Podicipedidae**

**Little Grebe**  
*Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
Small numbers were found at many waterbodies in the earlier part of the tour.

**Great Crested Grebe**  
*Podiceps cristatus*  
Uncommon on this tour, we recorded 3 at Lake Soorwal.

**Flamingos Phoenicopteridae**

**Greater Flamingo**  
*Phoenicopterus roseus*  
We had good scope views of a flock of 70 at Lake Soorwal.

**Storks Ciconiidae**

**Painted Stork**  
*Mycteria leucocephala*  
We found hundreds, of these colourful storks at their breeding colony in Keoladeo NP, with further sightings at scattered waterbodies, mainly around Ranthambore NP.

**Asian Openbill**  
*Anastomus oscitans*  
Recorded in small numbers in Ranthambore and in Keoladeo NPs.

**Black Stork**  
*Ciconia nigra*  
First recorded at Ranthambore where 16 seen, with further sightings of 10 in Corbett NP.

**Woolly-necked Stork**  
*Ciconia episcopus*  
Common in Ranthambore NP and Keoladeo NP; and in Corbett NP.

**Black-necked Stork**  
*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*  
A stunning species that was seen very well in Keoladeo NP, with a surprise sighting of a pair later in Corbett NP too.

**Ibises, Spoonbills Threskiornithidae**

**Black-headed Ibis**  
*Threskiornis melanocephalus*  
This species was first seen in Ranthambore NP and later at Keoladeo NP in small numbers.

**Red-naped Ibis**  
*Pseudibis papillosa*  
We had superb views of four along the Chambal River with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Glossy Ibis**  
*Plegadis falcinellus*  
Up to 60 were seen in Keoladeo NP and a couple at Ohkla.

**Eurasian Spoonbill**  
*Platalea leucorodia*  
Small numbers were found in Keoladeo NP and on the Yamuna River behind the Taj Mahal.

**Herons, Bitterns Ardeidae**

**Black Bittern**  
*Dupetor flavicollis*  
We had great views of two birds at Keoladeo NP.

**Black-crowned Night Heron**  
*Nycticorax nycticorax*  
Small numbers were seen in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NPs.

**Striated Heron**  
*Butorides striata*  
A single in Ranthambore NP and another in Keoladeo NP.  
**NOTE:** Controversial to some authorities, Clements includes a full twenty-nine subspecies under this species. The only split he recognizes is the Green Heron (B. virescens) of North and Central America. IOC splits B. Striata into three species, Striated Heron (B. striata), Green Heron (B.virescens) and Lava Heron (B. sundevalli)

**Indian Pond Heron**  
*Ardeola grayii*  
Common and seen almost daily in a variety of wetland habitats.
Eastern Cattle Egret  
*Bubulcus coromandus*
Commonly recorded throughout mainly the first portion of the tour.
*NOTE: B.coromandus is split by IOC according to the latest update but Clements does not accept this split as yet.*

Grey Heron
*Ardea cinerea*
As with the previous species, this heron was commonly encountered at most wetland sites.

Purple Heron
*Ardea purpurea*
We saw this beautifully-marked heron in very good numbers around Keoladeo NP, a few recorded earlier in Ranthambore NP.

Great Egret
*Ardea alba*
A fairly common sight during the first part of the tour.

Intermediate Egret
*Egretta intermedia*
Small numbers were seen at a few wetland sites at the start of the tour.
*NOTE: This group may be split into 3 species, the Africa Yellow-billed Egret (E. brachyrhyncha), Plumed Egret (E. plumifera) and the nominate Intermediate Egret. This split is as yet not recognised by Clements or IOC.*

Little Egret
*Egretta garzetta*
Commonly found in small numbers at many wetland sites on the tour.
*NOTE: Clements lumps Little, Western Reef (E. gularis) and Madagascar’s Dimorphic (E. dimorpha) Egret into a single species. This treatment is not widely accepted as IOC accepts all three splits.*

**Pelecanids Pelecanidae**

Great White Pelican
*Pelecanus onocrotalus*
On our final morning in Delhi we saw a flock of thirty flying over the city.

Dalmatian Pelican
*Pelecanus crispus*
We enjoyed good scope views of a flock of 33 at Lake Soorwal.

**Cormorants, Shags Phalacrocoracidae**

Little Cormorant
*Microcarbo niger*
We saw this diminutive cormorant at many wetland sites on tour.

Indian Cormorant
*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*
The least common of the subcontinent’s cormorants, we had good views of 25 at Keoladeo NP and a further one at Ohkla.

Great Cormorant
*Phalacrocorax carbo*
Seen almost daily at suitable wetland sites throughout the tour.
*NOTE: The white-breasted African subspecies of the widely distributed Great Cormorant P. carbo is sometimes considered a different species: P. lucidus. This split is recognized by IOC according to the latest update.*

**Anhingas, Darters Anhingidae**

[Oriental] Darter
*Anhinga melanogaster*
Best views were had at Keoladeo NP, with further sightings in Ranthambore NP and Ohkla.
*NOTE: The African form P. rufa is sometimes lumped with the Asian P. melanogaster and the enlarged species called Darter. Clements uses the latter treatment of lumping these forms, whereas IOC splits “Darter” into three species.*

**Ospreys Pandionidae**

[Western] Osprey
*Pandion haliaetus*
We had several in Ranthambore NP and a couple in Corbett NP.
*NOTE: P.haliaetus is now split into two species by IOC according to the latest update. Clements does not, however, recognize this split.*

**Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae**

Black-winged Kite
*Elanus caeruleus*
This widespread raptor was commonly seen at most lower-level locations during the tour.
*NOTE: Clements has split the two species Black-shouldered Kite (Elanus caeruleus) of the Old World and White-tailed Kite (Elanus leucurus) of the New World. This split is not universally accepted. IOC splits it into three species.*
Bearded Vulture \textit{Gypaetus barbatus} 
We had good but brief views of one at Pangot above Nainital.

Egyptian Vulture \textit{Neophron percnopterus} 
First views from the train on day 1, this attractive raptor was seen well at the Taj Mahal and around the Chambal River.

Crested Honey Buzzard \textit{Pernis ptilorhynchus} 
Several birds were seen flying over Ranthambore NP a number of times.

Indian Vulture \textit{Gyps indicus} 
Now something of a rarity due to rapidly declining numbers triggered by accidental poisoning, we were fortunate to see one of these birds in Ranthambore NP.

\textit{NOTE: IOC splits G.indicus into two species, Indian Vulture (G.indicus) in N, C & S India & Slender-billed Vulture (G.teriurostris) of the Himalayas and SE Asia.}

Himalayan Vulture \textit{Gyps himalayensis} 
Four birds were seen in Corbett NP and up to 15 daily in the Nainital area.

(Eurasian) Griffon [Vulture] \textit{Gyps fulvus} 
Two were seen in Corbett NP.

Red-headed Vulture \textit{Sarcogyps calvus} 
Great views of two birds in Corbett NP.

Cinereous Vulture \textit{Aegypius monachus} 
One bird was seen well during the drive from Corbett NP to Nainital.

Crested Serpent Eagle \textit{Spilornis cheela} 
A magnificent and unusual raptor that was wonderfully seen in Ranthambore NP, where we had a very relaxed juvenile, another later in Corbett NP.

Changeable Hawk-Eagle \textit{Nisaetus cirrhatus (linnaeetus)} 
We had great views of a few birds in Corbett NP, including both adult birds and juveniles.

Mountain Hawk-Eagle \textit{Nisaetus nipalensis} 
We had good sightings of 3 in the Bayoon area and a further one near Sattal.

\textit{NOTE: IOC splits N.nipalensis into two species, Mountain Hawk Eagle (N.nipalensis) and Legge’s Hawk Eagle (S.kelaarti) of S India and Sri Lanka).}

Indian Spotted Eagle \textit{Clanga hastata} 
A fabulous sub-adult was seen perched at the Chambal River where it gave stunning views.

\textit{NOTE: IOC splits pomarina into two species, Lesser Spotted Eagle (A.pomarina) and Indian Spotted Eagle (A.hastata) of India.}

Greater Spotted Eagle \textit{Clanga clanga} 
More commonly recorded than the above species where five birds showed well in Keoladeo NP.

Booted Eagle \textit{Hieraaetus pennatus} 
Both dark and light phase birds showed well in Keoladeo NP and another was seen above Nainital.

Steppe Eagle \textit{Aquila nipalensis} 
One seen in Corbett NP, very common around Nainital and Sattal, where numbers were highest near some trash heaps.

Eastern Imperial Eagle \textit{Aquila heliaca} 
We had fair views of one in Keoladeo NP.

Bonelli’s Eagle \textit{Aquila fasciata} 
We were fortunate with this sometimes tricky species – we had great views of a pair over the Chambal River.

Shikra \textit{Accipiter badius} 
We saw this widespread accipiter on a number of occasions during the first half of the tour.

Besra \textit{Accipiter virgatus} 
A single bird was seen well in Corbett NP by some participants and another was seen near Sattal.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk \textit{Accipiter nisus} 
Wonderful views of a male at the Chambal River with scattered sightings elsewhere.

Western Marsh Harrier \textit{Circus aeruginosus} 
Good views were had, mostly of females, in Keoladeo NP with further views at the Ohkla Barrage.
NOTE: IOC splits C.aeruginosus into two species, Western Marsh Harrier (C.aeruginosus) of Arica and India and Eastern Marsh Harrier (C.spilonotus) of E Asia.

**Hen (Northern) Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*
A male bird was seen quartering over the grasslands in Corbett NP, by some participants and another was seen above Nainital

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*
This raptor was common over urban settings where it was recorded at scattered locations.
*NOTE: M. migrans is sometimes split into two species. This split is not recognized by either Clements or IOC. We saw the breeding resident race/species, M.migrans.*

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliaster indus*
We had superb views of an adult in Ranthambore NP, a rare bird in Northern India

**Pallas’s Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucoryphus*
3 birds were seen very well over 2 days in Corbett NP.

**Lesser Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus humilis*
A single bird was seen in Corbett NP.

**[Himalayan Buzzard]** *Buteo burmanicus*
One bird was seen distantly in flight in Corbett NP and later we had great views of another near Sattal

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**Rails, Crakes & Coots** *Rallidae*

**Brown Crake** *Amaurornis akool*
We enjoyed views of these birds on 2 days in Ranthambore NP and a final sighting of one at Ohkla

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
This common, but pretty species was seen often at waterbodies in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NPs.

**Grey-headed Swamphen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus*
First seen near Ranthambore, with many further sightings at Keoladeo NP and the Ohkla Barrage on the Yamuna River.
*NOTE: This cosmopolitan species has recently been split into 6 species. The form we recorded is Grey-headed Swamphen (P. poliocephalus). Other forms recognised include African Swamphen (P. madagascariensis), Philippine Swamphen (P. pulverulentus) and Eastern Swamphen (P. melanotus).*

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*
Encountered in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NPs and at Ohkla Barrage.

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*
Seen at a handful of large waterbodies, with huge numbers in the Keoladeo NP.

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**Cranes** *Gruidae*

**Sarus Crane** *Grus antigone*
Several pairs were seen in Keoladeo NP and a stunning pair near Deeg with further sightings during the drive from Chambal to Delhi.

**Demoiselle Crane** *Grus virgo*
We had good views of one at the Chambal River, a wonderful surprise!

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**Buttonquail** *Turnicidae*

**Barred Buttonquail** *Turnix suscitator*
Several birds were seen well in Keoladeo NP

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**Stone-curlews, Thick-knees** *Burhinidae*

**Indian Stone-curlew (Thick-knee)** *Burhinus indicus*
A flock of 40 was seen during our drive to Lake Soorwal.

**Great Stone-curlew (Thick-knee)** *Esacus recurvirostris*
We encountered this fantastic heavy-billed wader in Ranthambore NP, at Lake Soorwal and along the Chambal River.
**Ibisbill** *Ibidorhynchidae*

Ibisbill *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*
We enjoyed saturation views of three of these attractive and unusual riverine waders on the Kosi River, Ramnagar.

**Stilts, Avocets** *Recurvirostridae*

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*
We saw this species often at various wetlands during the first half of the tour, especially at Keoladeo NP.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*
We had good views of 4 at Lake Soorwal.

**Plovers** *Charadriidae*

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*
We had good views of 6 birds in Corbett NP.

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*
This boldly patterned species was seen on a few occasions along large rivers in the region, particularly within Corbett NP and along the Chambal River.

Yellow-wattled Lapwing (SE) *Vanellus malabaricus*
Seen best in open dry fields near Keoladeo NP where we had great views of a pair.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*
A very common species that was encountered almost daily on tour.

White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus*
Uncommon species that was seen on the Yamuna River at the Taj Mahal.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
A stunning male was seen near Lake Soorwal.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*
Small numbers were seen at Lake Soorwal and in Corbett NP.

**Painted-snipes Rostratulidae**

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*
We enjoyed great views of this sought-after species in the town of Bharatpur.

**Jacanas** *Jacanidae*

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*
We had good views of non-breeding birds at Ranthambore NP and again in Keoladeo NP.

Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus*
This equally attractive jacana was seen at Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP.

**Sandpipers, Snipes** *Scolopacidae*

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*
A number of these birds were seen well in Ranthambore NP and at Lake Soorwal.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*
Our first sighting was in Ranthambore NP, with great further views of a flock of 50 at Lake Soorwal.

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*
Two birds were seen at the Yamuna River by the Taj Mahal.

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*
A fairly common species during the first few days of the tour

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*
We had good views of six at Lake Soorwal and several at Keoladeo NP.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*
As above, common around the wetlands during the first few days of the tour.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*
Also common around the waterbodies during the tour

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*
Small numbers were found in Keoladeo NP.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*
Small numbers seen along many waterbodies throughout.

**Temminck’s Stint** *Calidris temminckii*
First sighted near our hotel in Ranthambore NP with further sightings at Lake Soorwal and at Keoladeo NP with a few others later on.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*
We had great scope views of a flock of 30 at Lake Soorwal.

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*
This was a common species at Lake Soorwal where we saw 50 and a further 30 at Yamuna River by the Taj Mahal.

**Coursers, Pratincoles** *Glareolidae*

**Indian Courser** *Cursorius coromandelicus*
We were delighted to find a single bird that was seen in a fallow field near Lake Soorwal and a further five at Deeg.

**Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea*
Some of us saw three flying by at Lake Soorwal.

**Gulls, Terns & Skimmers** *Laridae*

**Indian Skimmer** *Rynchops albicollis*
A wonderful flock of 57 birds was encountered at Lake Soorwal – very sought-after.

**Brown-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*
At least 3 birds were seen at Lake Soorwal and several on the Yamuna River by the Taj Mahal.

**Pallas’s Gull** *Ichthyaeetus ichthyaeetus*
A huge gull that was seen very well at Lake Soorwal where we observed fifteen

**Caspian Gull** *Larus cachinnans*
One bird was seen flying overhead at Lake Soorwal.

**River Tern** *Sterna aurantia*
Brilliant views were had of these classy terns at Ranthambore NP, along the Chambal River and in Corbett NP.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*
We had good views of two at Lake Soorwal and five at the Yamuna River by the Taj Mahal.

**Sandgrouse** *Pteroclidae*

**Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles exustus*
A flock of 16 was seen near the Chambal River.

**Painted Sandgrouse** *Pterocles indicus*
A total of 14 birds were seen near our lodge near Ranthambore.

**Pigeons, Doves** *Columbidae*

**Rock (Dove) Pigeon** *Columba livia*
Common at every locality throughout the entire tour.

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*
Two birds were seen near Nainital.

**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*
Common during the first half of the tour, especially in the drier areas.

**Red [Turtle] (Collared) Dove**  *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
One male was seen in Keoladeo NP.

**Spotted Dove**  *Spilopelia chinensis*
A few birds were seen in Ranthambore NP, 2 more along the Kosi River and five near Nainital.

**Laughing Dove**  *Spilopelia senegalensis*
Commonly encountered at many localities throughout the drier plains of India.

**Yellow-footed [Green] Pigeon**  *Treron phoenicopterus*
This attractive species was seen on several days of the tour with good numbers in Ranthambore NP and around Keoladeo NP.

**Pin-tailed [Green] Pigeon**  *Treron apicauda*
An uncommon and irruptive species that was seen very well and in good numbers in and around Corbett NP

**Cuckoos**  **Cuculidae**

**Greater Coucal**  *Centropus sinensis*
This large coucal was seen during most days of the first half of the tour.

**Lesser Coucal**  *Centropus bengalensis*
This species is much scarcer and shyer than the above and we were fortunate to see two birds in non-breeding plumage in Corbett NP.

**Asian Koel**  *Eudynamys scolopaceus*
One male seen well near Lake Soorwal and a further male seen at the Taj Mahal.

**Banded Bay Cuckoo**  *Cacomantis sonneratii*
We had good views of two birds in the hotel grounds in Corbett NP, a very nice unexpected sighting!

**Common Hawk-Cuckoo**  *Hierococcyx varius*
An uncommon species, one was seen very well in Ranthambore NP.

**Owls**  **Strigidae**

**Indian Scops Owl**  *Otus bakkamoena*
These cute little owls were seen on day roosts in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NPs.

*NOTE: IOC splits O.bakkamoena into four species, Indian Scops Owl (O.bakkamoena) of India and Sri Lanka, Collared Scops Owl (O.lettia) of Himalayas and E. Asia, Japanese Scops Owl (O.semitorques) of N.E. Asia and Sunda Scops Owl (O.lempiji) of S.E. Asia.*

**Dusky Eagle-Owl**  *Bubo coromandus*
We had good views of a single bird in Ranthambore NP, another two in Keoladeo NP.

**Brown Fish Owl**  *Ketupa zeylonensis*
A single bird was seen very well along a river in Corbett NP.

**Tawny Fish Owl**  *Ketupa flavipes*
Cracking views of a pair were had of this sought-after species in Corbett NP.

**Collared Owlet**  *Glaucidium brodiei*
We had fantastic views of one in the woodland above Nainital.

**Asian Barred Owlet**  *Glaucidium cuculoides*
Several birds showed very well near Sattal.

**Jungle Owlet**  *Glaucidium radiatum*
A single bird showed well in Corbett NP.

**Spotted Owlet**  *Athene brama*
First found at Ranthambore NP with further sightings at Keoladeo NP.

**Brown Hawk-Owl**  *Ninox scutulata*
Two birds were seen in the Chambal River area and a further one in Corbett NP.

**Nightjars**  **Caprimulgidae**
Jungle Nightjar \( Caprimulgus \) indicus
A single bird was seen very well on a day roost in Keoladeo NP.

Grey Nightjar \( Caprimulgus \) jotaka
We enjoyed great looks at a bird next to the road before dawn near Nainital.

**Treeswifts** Hemiprocnidae

Crested Treeswift \( Hemiprocnus \) coronata
This distinctive species was encountered in small numbers in the Corbett area.

**Swifts** Apodidae

Himalayan Swiftlet \( Aerodramus \) brevirostris
We had distant but fairly good views of six above Nainital.

White-rumped [Spinetail] (Needletail) \( Zoonavena \) sylvatica
Birds were seen on 3 consecutive days in the Corbett NP area.

Brown-backed Needletail \( Hirundapus \) giganteus
We had superb views of one at the Ramnagar Barrage whilst en route from Corbett to Nainital.

Little Swift \( Apus \) affinis
Six were seen at Fatepur Sikri, a further two over woodland above Nainital and two near Sattal.

*NOTE: IOC splits \( A.\)affinis into two species, Little Swift (\( A.\)affinis) of Africa & India and House Swift (\( A.\)nepalensis) of Asia.*

**Rollers** Coraciidae

Indian Roller \( Coracias \) benghalensis
This flashy species was seen on most days in the Ranthambore and Keoladeo areas.

**Kingfishers** Alcedinidae

White-throated Kingfisher \( Halcyon \) smyrnensis
The region’s most common Kingfisher, we recorded this species on almost every day.

Common Kingfisher \( Alcedo \) atthis
A stunning and quite common species that was seen at most water-bodies throughout the country.

Crested Kingfisher \( Megaceryle \) lugubris
This magnificent kingfisher of large mountainous rivers was seen on several occasions in the Kosi River and Corbett areas.

Pied Kingfisher \( Ceryle \) rudis
The world’s most widespread kingfisher was seen at Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP, along the Chambal and Kosi Rivers and in Corbett NP.

**Bee-eaters** Meropidae

Blue-bearded Bee-eater \( Nyctyornis \) athertoni
One bird was seen in Corbett NP and another whilst en route from Corbett to Nainital.

Green Bee-eater \( Merops \) orientalis
Several of these delightful birds were seen near Lake Soorwal and a further three in Keoladeo NP with our best sightings coming on the final morning at Ohkla.

**Hoopoes** Upupidae

[African] Hoopoe \( Upupa \) epops
A striking species that was encountered daily during the first half of the tour.

*NOTE: The Hoopoe complex has had a confusing taxonomic history, with one to four species being recognised by various authorities. Clements splits the group into two forms, Madagascar (\( U. \)marginalis) and Eurasian (\( U. \)epops) as does IOC. The white-winged African form is often split by other authorities as West African Hoopoe (\( U. \)senegalensis) with the fourth species being African Hoopoe (\( U. \)africana). However, the most generally accepted treatment is that of three species, Madagascar, Eurasian and African.*
Hornbills  Bucerotidae

Oriental Pied Hornbill  Anthracoceros albirostris
Five birds showed well in Corbett NP.
Indian Grey Hornbill (SE)  Ocyceros birostris
Recorded a few times, mainly around the Bharatpur area.

Asian Barbets  Megalaimidae

Great Barbet  Psilopogon virens
Good views were had of these huge, gaudy barbets in the Nainital and Sattal areas. Our first sighting came in Corbett NP.
Brown-headed Barbet (SE)  Psilopogon zeylanicus
Two birds were seen in the Bharatpur area.
Lineated Barbet  Psilopogon lineatus
Up to a dozen were seen daily in the Corbett area around fruiting trees.
Blue-throated Barbet  Psilopogon asiaticus
Excellent views were had of this colourful bird in and around Corbett and Sattal areas.
Coppersmith Barbet  Psilopogon haemacephalus
Our first sighting was of one on the edge of Bharatpur town. A further four seen in Keoladeo NP and one in Corbett NP.

Woodpeckers  Picidae

Eurasian Wryneck  Jynx torquilla
We enjoyed two sightings in Ranthambore NP.
Speckled Piculet  Picumnus innominatus
We had brief views of one in the Sattal area.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker  Dendrocopos hyperythurus
Four of these great birds were seen well in the forests around Nainital.
Grey-capped [Pygmy] Woodpecker  Dendrocopos canicapillus
Fairly commonly seen around the Himalayan foothills.
Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker  Dendrocopos macei
Two birds were seen well in the woodlands of Corbett NP.
Brown-fronted Woodpecker  Dendrocopos auriceps
Several birds were seen in the Sattal and Nainital areas, a denizen of higher-lying areas.
Yellow-crowned Woodpecker  Dendrocopos mahrattensis
A well-marked species that was seen in Ranthambore NP.
Himalayan Woodpecker  Dendrocopos himalayensis
A very attractive and boldly patterned woodpecker, which we saw in the Nainital area.
Greater Yellownape  Chrysophlegma flavinucha
After brief views in several places we finally had good views of one near Sattal.
Lesser Yellownape  Picus chlorolophus
We enjoyed good views of several in Corbett NP with a further good sighting near Sattal.
Streak-throated Woodpecker  Picus xanthopygaeus
This species was seen in Corbett NP, best views of one bird in Dhikala camp.
Scaly-bellied Woodpecker  Picus squamatus
Good views of this bird were had in Corbett NP and at Nainital.
Grey-[headed](faced) Woodpecker  Picus canus
Another large and attractive woodpecker that was seen commonly during the second half of the tour in the forests of the Himalayas.
Black-rumped Flameback  Dinopium benghalense
Seen frequently in small numbers during the first half of the tour in low-lying wooded areas.
Greater Flameback  Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus
A single bird showed well near Corbett NP and a further pair was seen at their nest hole near Sattal.
Rufous Woodpecker  
*Micropternus brachyurus*
A single bird showed well for some in Corbett NP.

**Caracaras, Falcons  Falconidae**

Collared Falconet  
*Microhierax caerulescens*
We first saw this gorgeous little raptor in the Ramnagar area. A total of 7 birds was seen in and around Corbett NP.

Common Kestrel  
*Falco tinnunculus*
Small numbers were observed at widely scattered localities.

NOTE: *M.caerulescens* is split into two species by IOC according to the latest update, Common Kestrel (*F.tinnunculus*) and Rock Kestrel (*F.rupicolus*) in S. Africa.

Peregrine Falcon  
*Falco peregrinus*
A single bird was seen in Corbett NP.

**Old World Parrots  Psittaculidae**

Slaty-headed Parakeet  
*Psittacula himalayana*
Good numbers were seen mainly in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

Plum-headed Parakeet (SE)  
*Psittacula cyanocephala*
These gaudy birds were present in good numbers in Ranthambore NP with further sightings near the Chambal River and in Corbett NP.

Alexandrine Parakeet  
*Psittacula eupatria*
A pair of these large parakeets was scoped near Corbett NP.

Rose-ringed Parakeet  
*Psittacula krameri*
Encountered almost daily throughout northern India, particularly numerous in the lower lying areas.

**Woodshrikes and allies  Tephrodornithidae**

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike  
*Hemipus picatus*
A commonly seen species associated with mixed flocks in the Himalayan foothills.

Large Woodshrike  
*Tephrodornis virgatus*
A flock of ten was seen well in Corbett NP.

Common Woodshrike  
*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*
We had good views of one in Ranthambore NP, another in Keoladeo NP and a final sighting in Corbett NP.

**Cuckooshrikes  Campephagidae**

Large Cuckooshrike  
*Coracina macei*
A pair showed well around our accommodation in the Ranthambore area before we had some further good views in Corbett NP.

Small Minivet  
*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*
Around 8 birds were seen over two days in Ranthambore NP.

Long-tailed Minivet  
*Pericrocotus ethologus*
These great birds were seen fairly commonly in the Corbett NP area.

Scarlet Minivet  
*Pericrocotus speciosus*
Even more vividly coloured than the previous species, seen commonly around Corbett NP.

NOTE: Orange Minivet, *P.flammeus* is the species that is split from Scarlet Minivet and is endemic to South India and Sri Lanka. This is not split by Clements but is regarded as a full species by IOC according to the latest update.

**Shrikes  Laniidae**

[Isabelline] (Rufous-tailed) Shrike  
*Lanius isabellinus*
Three showed well in the drier area around Deeg.

Bay-backed Shrike  
*Lanius viitatus*
We had really great views of a single bird near Lake Soorwal.
Long-tailed Shrike  
*Lanius schach*
A very common species that was seen frequently throughout the tour, except at very high elevations.

Grey-backed Shrike  
*Lanius tephronotus*
We had great scope views of several near Nainital.

Southern Grey Shrike  
*Lanius meridionalis*
This species showed well and in good numbers, mainly in drier areas around Ranthambore NP.

*NOTE*: There is a split of this species into two species, Southern Grey Shrike (*L.*meridionalis) of Europe, N Africa and India and Steppe Grey Shrike (*L.*pallidirostris) of C Europe. This split is recognized by IOC.

**Figbirds, Orioles  Oriolidae**

Black-hooded Oriole  
*Oriolus xanthornus*
Several birds were seen daily in Corbett NP.

Maroon Oriole  
*Oriolus traillii*
Three birds were seen fairly well in Corbett NP.

**Drongos  Dicuridae**

Black Drongo  
*Dicrurus macrocercus*
The most common drongo in India that was seen daily, particularly in low-lying areas.

Ashy Drongo  
*Dicrurus leucophaeus*
A forest-dwelling drongo, which we saw well at our accommodations in Corbett NP.

White-bellied Drongo (SE)  
*Dicrurus caerulescens*
This species was regularly seen in Ranthambore NP.

Bronzed Drongo  
*Dicrurus aeneus*
This handsome species was found in the Corbett area as well as in the Sattal area.

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo  
*Dicrurus remifer*
A scarce forest species in this area; brief but fairly good views of one in Corbett NP.

Hair-crested Drongo  
*Dicrurus hottentottus*
A forest species that was seen well at our accommodation in Corbett NP.

**Fantails  Rhipiduridae**

White-throated Fantail  
*Rhipidura albicollis*
A species that was fairly common at higher elevations in the foothills.

*NOTE*: IOC splits *R.*albicollis into two species, White-throated Fantail (*R.*albicollis) and White-spotted Fantail (*R.*albogularis) of S. India.

White-browed Fantail  
*Rhipidura aureola*
Replaces the previous species at lower altitude and was seen commonly at Ranthambore NP.

**Crows, Jays  Corvidae**

Eurasian Jay  
*Garrulus glandarius*
This attractive species was seen well in the Pangot area on a number of occasions.

Black-headed Jay  
*Garrulus lanceolatus*
This beautiful, restricted species was seen exceptionally well in the highlands, our first sighting at Nainital with many more sightings around Sattal.

Red-billed Blue Magpie  
*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*
An extravagant bird that always provided great entertainment whenever seen, we found small groups near Ramnagar and then in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

Common Green Magpie  
*Cissa chinensis*
We had good views of two in Corbett NP.

Rufous Treepie  
*Dendrocitta vagabunda*
This common and beautiful species was seen at most lower-lying localities.

Grey Treepie  
*Dendrocitta formosae*
Sometimes tricky, we had good views of a pair at the Kosi River and then a few birds around the Sattal area.

**House Crow** *Corvus splendens*
An often abundant species, especially around people throughout the flat country

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*
A common species at higher altitudes in the mountains.

**NOTE:** *C. macrorhynchos* is split into three species by IOC according to the latest update, Eastern Jungle Crow (*C. levaillanti*), Large-billed Crow (*C. cacrorrhynchus*) and Indian Jungle Crow (*C. culminatus*). Clements does not accept these splits.

**Indian Jungle Crow** *Corvus culminatus*
Another common corvid – this time in the lower-lying portions of the tour.

**Fairy Flycatchers** *Stenostiridae*

**Yellow-bellied Fantail** *Chelidorhynx hypoxanthus*
A striking bird that was seen occasionally during our time along the Kosi River.

**Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*
Small numbers were seen at Ranthambore NP, Keoladeo NP and along the Kosi River/Corbett area.

**Tits, Chickadees** *Paridae*

**Yellow-browed Tit** *Sylviparus modestus*
Our only sighting was of a few birds in a mixed flock in the Pangot area.

**Coal (Spot-winged) Tit** *Periparus ater*
This highland forest species was seen on numerous occasions in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

**[Cinereous] (Great) Tit** *Parus cinereus*
A common species that was regularly encountered throughout much of the lower-lying portion of the tour.

**Green-backed Tit** *Parus monticolus*
A common species that was found mainly in forest around the towns of Nainital and Sattal.

**[Himalayan] Black-lored Tit** *Machlolophus xanthogenys*
This good-looking species was seen very well near Ramnagar and again in the Sattal area.

**NOTE:** *P. xanthogenys* is split into two species, Himalayan Black-lored Tit (*P. xanthogenys*) and Indian Black-lored Tit (*P. aplonatus*) of South India. Clements does not accept this split.

**Larks** *Alaudidae*

**Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark** *Eremopterix griseus*
Three birds including a superb male showed well near Lake Soorwal and a further two near Deeg.

**Oriental Skylark** *Alauda gulgula*
We enjoyed good views of two in Corbett NP.

**Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata*
Three were seen near Lake Soorwal and a further three near Deeg.

**Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla*
A small flock of five was seen flying overhead near Lake Soorwal and later a superb 30 birds showed well near Deeg.

**Bulbuls** *Pycnonotidae*

**Black-crested Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flaviventris*
Eight birds were seen in and around Corbett NP, where they occur in thickets.

**NOTE:** *P. melanicterus* is split by IOC into six full species, Black-capped Bulbul (*P. melanicterus*) of Sri Lanka, Black-crested Bulbul (*P. flaviventris*) of N. India to S.E. Asia, Ruby-throated Bulbul (*P. dispar*) of Sumatra, Java & Bali, Flame-throated Bulbul (*P. gularis*) of S. India, Bornean Bulbul (*P. montis*) of Borneo & Andaman Bulbul (*P. fuscoflavescens*) of the Andaman Islands. Clements does not recognize these splits.
Red-whiskered Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus jocosus*  
At least ten daily were seen in Corbett NP and several birds were seen in the vicinity of the Kosi River area, Ramnagar and at Ohkla Barrage.

[Himalayan] (White-cheeked) Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus leucogenys*  
A very common species that we found every day in the highlands of the country.

White-eared Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus leucotis*  
Fair numbers were found in the dry areas of the tour in Keoladeo NP.

Red-vented Bulbul  
*Pycnonotus cafer*  
An extremely common bird that was seen in all habitats and on nearly every day of the tour.

Mountain Bulbul  
*Ixos mcclellandii*  
Two birds were seen well by some at Nainital.

Ashy Bulbul  
*Hemixos flavala*  
A few of these birds were seen very well around fruiting trees near Corbett NP and at Ramnagar.

Black Bulbul  
*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*  
A good number of these birds were encountered around Nainital and Sattal.

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**Swallows, Martins  Hirundinidae**

Grey-throated (Plain) Martin  
*Riparia chinensis*  
Recorded at water-bodies at Ranthambore, Keoladeo NP and the Chambal and Kosi Rivers.

Barn Swallow  
*Hirundo rustica*  
A few birds were seen around Dhikala grasslands and the Sattal area.

Wire-tailed Swallow  
*Hirundo smithi (filifera)*  
Several great views at Baratpur and Corbett NPs.

**NOTE:** This species complex is likely to be split based on the African nominate form that would become African Wire-tailed Swallow and the Asian Wire-tailed Swallow that would be *H. filifera*. Clements nor IOC recognise this split.

Eurasian Crag Martin  
* Ptyonoprogne rupestris*  
A few were seen near Pangot.

Dusky Crag Martin  
* Ptyonoprogne concolor*  
A few birds were seen around the drier rocky areas at the start of the tour and two whilst en route from Ramnagar to Nainital.

Asian House Martin  
*Delichon dasypus*  
A large flock of 50 were seen near Kathgodam.

Nepal House Martin  
*Delichon nipalense*  
Several birds were seen in flight around Nainital – this race has very little black on the throat.

Red-rumped Swallow  
*Cecropis daurica*  
Three were seen at Lake Soorwal and twenty were seen at Ramnagar Barrage en route from Corbett to Nainital.

**NOTE:** IOC splits *C. daurica* into three species, Red-rumped Swallow (*C. daurica*), Sri Lanka Swallow (*C. hyperythra*) of Sri Lanka and West African Swallow (*C. domicella*) of W. Africa. Clements does not yet recognize these splits.

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**Wren-babblers  Pnoepygidae**

Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler  
*Pnoepyga albiventer*  
A single bird was seen exceptionally well in the Sattal area.

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**Cetia Bush Warblers and allies  Cettiidae**

Black-faced Warbler  
*Abroscopus schisticeps*  
We enjoyed great views of a small flock of six in a mixed species flock above Nainital.

Aberrant Bush Warbler  
*Horornis flavolivaceus*  
Two birds were seen in the Sattal area.

Grey-bellied Tesia  
*Tesi cyaniventer*  
A single bird was seen very briefly by some in Corbett NP.

Chestnut-headed Tesia  
*Cettia castaneocoronata*  

A single bird was seen dashing through the undergrowth near Corbett NP on a few occasions.

**Bushtits Aegithalidae**

Black-throated [Bush]Tit *Aegithalos concinnus*
This delightful tit was one of the commonest flock species in the Himalayan foothills.

**Leaf Warblers and allies Phylloscopidae**

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*
A common species that was seen mainly during the first half of the tour and a further 30 at Ohkla.

Tickell’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis*
We had good views of one below Nainital and another at Sattal.

Buff-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher*
We encountered this species on a number of occasions while in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis*
A single bird showed fairly well near Ramnagar.

[Lemon] (Pale)-rumped Warbler *Phylloscopus chloronotus*
Fairly commonly encountered throughout much of the second half of the tour in the Himalayan foothills.

Hume’s [Leaf] Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*
One was seen in Ranthambore NP.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*
Heard very widely, birds were seen at various scattered locations.

NOTE: IOC splits trochiloides into two species, Greenish Warbler (P.trochiloides) and Green Warbler (P.nitidus) of India.

Grey-hooded Warbler *Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*
A beautiful but extremely common species seen every day in the highland areas.

Whistler’s Warbler *Seicercus whistleri*
A few single birds were seen near the Kosi River and in Corbett NP.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaniceps*
We had superb views of one near Ramnagar, another very nice unexpected sighting!

**Reed Warblers & allies Acrocephalidae**

Blyth’s Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum*
We enjoyed good scope views of one at Ohkla.

Booted Warbler *Iduna caligata*
One bird showed very well near our accommodation at Ranthambore NP.

**Grassbirds & allies Locustellidae**

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris*
Two birds were seen in the tall grass and reeds along the Yamuna River in Delhi.

**Cisticolas & allies Cisticolidae**

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*
Two birds were seen well in the Dhikala grasslands in Corbett NP.

Striated Prinia *Prinia criniger*
This species was seen very well in thickets in the town of Pangot.

Rufous-fronted Prinia *Prinia buchanani*
Three showed well at Lake Soorwal.

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii*
Recorded mostly from the Kosi River and Corbett NP areas.

Jungle Prinia *Prinia sylvatica*
One showed well near Lake Soorwal.
Yellow-bellied Prinia
*Prinia flaviventris*
This is a fairly scarce bird that was seen well in the tall reeds along the Yamuna River in Delhi.

Ashy Prinia (SE)
*Prinia socialis*
A good-looking little species that was recorded often at the start of the tour and then again on the final day.

Plain Prinia
*Prinia inornata*
We had small numbers of these common and widespread prinias, mainly during the first half of the tour.

Common Tailorbird
*Orthotomus sutorius*
This species was fairly commonly seen in Ranthambore, Keoladeo NP and in the Himalayan foothills.

Babblers  *Timaliidae*

Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler
*Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*
Several of these highly active and striking birds were found near Nainital and Sattal.

Black-chinned Babbler (SE)
*Stachyridopsis pyrrhops*
Seen on 7 different days of the tour, with first views near Ramnagar, great views later in Corbett NP and Nainital.

Fulvettas, Ground Babblers  *Pellorneidae*

Puff-throated Babbler
*Pellorneum ruficeps*
Two birds were seen well at our hotel near Ramnagar.

Laughthingthrushes  *Leiothrichidae*

Common Babbler
*Turdoides caudata*
Fairly commonly seen in dry scrubby areas in the Ranthambore area and in Keoladeo NP.

Striated Babbler
*Turdoides earlei*
A flock of 5 were enjoyed at Ohkla Barrage Nature Reserve. This is a range restricted species.

Large Grey Babbler (SE)
*Turdoides malcolmi*
Seen on 5 days of the tour, mainly around Ranthambore, the Chambal River area and at Deeg.

Jungle Babbler (SE)
*Turdoides striata*
A very common species that was encountered on most days of the tour.

White-crested Laughthingthrush
*Garrulax leucolophus*
These outrageous birds were seen briefly a few times in Corbett NP and later we enjoyed good views of several near Ramnagar.

Rufous-chinned Laughthingthrush
*Garrulax rufogularis*
We had good but brief views of one near Nainital.

White-throated Laughthingthrush
*Garrulax albogularis*
Found in large flocks that we encountered in the Sattal area, where we had great views.

Striated Laughthingthrush
*Garrulax striatus*
Around 8 birds were seen, including splendid scope views of one below Nainital.

Streaked Laughthingthrush
*Trochalopteron lineatum*
A common species in the more open, bushy areas around Nainital and Sattal.  
NOTE: IOC splits *G.lineatus* into two species, Streaked Laughthingthrush (*G.lineatus*) and Blutan Laughthingthrush (*B.imbricatus*). Clements does not recognize this split.

Chestnut-crowned Laughthingthrush
*Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*
A beautiful laughingthrush that was seen quite well in various places around Nainital.

Blue-winged Minla
*Minla cyanouroptera*
We had some lovely views of two in the Sattal area.

Red-billed Leiothrix
*Leiothrix lutea*
Heard in Corbett NP and later seen very well on two occasions in the Sattal area.

Rufous Sibia
*Heterophasia capistrata*
We enjoyed great views of several daily around Nainital and Sattal.

**Sylviid Babblers  Sylviidae**

**Lesser Whitethroat**  *Sylvia curruca*
Fairly frequently recorded in drier areas during the start of the tour and near Delhi.

*NICE: IOC splits *S.carruca* into three species, Lesser Whitethroat (*S.carruca*), Desert Whitethroat (*S.minula*) and Hume’s Whitethroat (*S.althaeeae*).

**Yellow-eyed Babbler**  *Chrysomma sinense*
A few birds were seen very well in scattered locations that include Keoladeo NP and Corbett NP.

**White-eyes  Zosteropidae**

**Whiskered Yuhina**  *Yuhina flavicollis*
Four birds seen very well near Nainital

**Oriental White-eye**  *Zosterops palpebrosus*
A common species that was regularly and well seen at most localities on tour, largest numbers in the Himalayan foothills

**Nuthatches  Sittidae**

**Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch**  *Sitta cinnamoventris*
Small groups of these attractive nuthatches were encountered on several occasions in woodland in the Corbett area as well as around Nainital and Sattal.

*NICE: IOC splits *S.castanea* into three species, Indian Nuthatch (*S.castanea*) in N, C and S India, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch (*S.cinnamoventris*) in the Himalayas and across N and E Asia and Burmese Nuthatch (*S.neglecta*) from Burma to Vietnam. Clements does not recognize these splits.

**White-tailed Nuthatch**  *Sitta himalayensis*
Seen on 3 days around the Nainital area

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch**  *Sitta frontalis*
A gorgeous little bird that showed very well near the Kosi River as well as in the Corbett NP and in the Nainital area.

**Wallcreepers  Tichodromidae**

**Wallcreeper**  *Tichodroma muraria*
A highly sought-after monotypic family. A male was seen very well near Ramnagar along the Kosi River.

**Treecreepers  Certhiidae**

**Bar-tailed Treecreeper**  *Certhia himalayana*
Small numbers were found in feeding flocks around Corbett NP, Nainital and Sattal.

**Starlings  Sturnidae**

**Bank Myna (SE)**  *Acridotheres ginginianus*
A species that was encountered at most urban centres during the first half of the tour.

**Common Myna**  *Acridotheres tristis*
Common around urban centres throughout the country, seen most days.

*[Pied Myna] (Asian Pied Starling)*  *Gracupica contra*
A lovely starling that was a common species and seen at numerous localities.

**Brahminy Starling**  *Sturnia pagodarum*
A good looker that was encountered in and around Keoladeo NPs.

**Rosy Starling**  *Pastor roseus*
Up to thirty birds daily showed well in Keoladeo NP.

**Common Starling**  *Sturnus vulgaris*
We had good views of four in Corbett NP.

**Thrashes  Turdidae**

**Orange-headed Thrush**  *Geokichla citrina*
One bird was seen very well by Leo and myself at our accommodation near Keoladeo NP.

**Long-billed Thrush**  *Zoothera monticola*
This spectacular and secretive species was seen exceptionally well along a small river near Corbett NP.

**Tickell’s Thrush**  *Turdus unicolor*
Fantastic views of a single male in Keoladeo NP.

**Chestnut Thrush**  *Turdus rubrocanus*
Two birds were seen near Pangot.

**Mistle Thrush**  *Turdus viscivorus*
This scarce winter visitor was seen very well above Nainital, where we found two birds.

**Chats, Old World Flycatchers  Muscicapidae**

**Indian Robin (SE)**  *Copsychus fulicatus*
This attractive species was seen commonly in the lowlands.

**Oriental Magpie-Robin**  *Copsychus saularis*
A common species that was particularly widespread in the lowlands.

**Rufous-bellied Niltava**  *Niltava sundara*
A superb gem of tall forest in the Himalayan foothills; we had good views of one near Corbett NP and brilliant views of five in the Sattal area.

**Small Niltava**  *Niltava macgrigoriae*
Several of this beautiful species were seen, including good views in Corbett NP and near Ramnagar.

**Bluethroat**  *Luscinia svecica*
Several good views were had in waterside thickets in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP with our final sightings at Ohkla.

**White-tailed Rubythroat**  *Calliope pectoralis*
A splendid male showed at very close range in a rocky field near Sattal.

**Siberian Rubythroat**  *Calliope calliope*
We had magnificent views of a male at close range in Keoladeo NP.

**Himalayan Bluetail**  *Tarsiger rufilatus*
Two of these beautiful birds were seen near Nainital and Sattal, including a stunning male.

**Golden Bush Robin**  *Tarsiger chrysaeus*
We had glimpses of a male below the town of Nainital.

**Little Forktail**  *Enicurus scouleri*
We enjoyed splendid views of several near Ramnagar and another at Sattal.

**Slaty-backed Forktail**  *Enicurus schistaceus*
We had brief views of one near Sattal.

**Spotted Forktail**  *Enicurus maculatus*
This lovely species was seen along the Kosi River and later near Sattal.

**Blue Whistling Thrush**  *Myophonus caeruleus*
A very common species that was seen every day on the Himalayan portion of the tour.

**Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher**  *Ficedula strophiata*
A beautiful species that was seen in the lower-lying areas of the Himalayan section of the tour.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher**  *Ficedula parva*
This common wintering visitor was seen at several localities. First recorded at Ranthambore.

*NOTE: Clements considers F. albicilla to be a subspecies of F. parva and does not recognise the split. IOC does recognize this split.*

**Taiga Flycatcher**  *Ficedula albicilla*
Just a few birds were seen including one at our hotel near Bharatpur.
Slaty-blue Flycatcher  *Ficedula tricolor*
This secretive species was seen very well on one day near Sattal.

**Blue-capped Redstart**  *Phoenicurus coeruleocephala*
Fairly good numbers were seen in the Nainital area, a higher-altitude species.

**Black Redstart**  *Phoenicurus ochruros*
This species was seen on a number of occasions in the lowlands with great views of a male on our final morning at Ohkla.

**Blue-fronted Redstart**  *Phoenicurus frontalis*
Seen on 4 days of the tour in the higher-lying areas around Nainital and Sattal.

**Plumbeous [Water] Redstart**  *Phoenicurus fuliginosus*
Small numbers of these spunky little redstarts were seen along rivers in the highland areas.

**White-capped Redstart**  *Phoenicurus leucocephalus*
A beautiful species that is closely associated with water and was seen on most rivers in the Himalayan foothills.

**Blue Rock Thrush**  *Monticola solitarius*
A few birds were seen well in the area around our Ranthambore lodge.

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush**  *Monticola rufiventris*
A total of 7 birds were recorded around Nainital and Sattal, including male and female birds.

**Siberian Stonechat**  *Saxicola maurus*
This widespread species was seen on several occasions in grassland areas throughout the tour.

*NOTE: IOC splits S.torquatus into three species, African Stonechat (S.torquatus), European Stonechat (S.rubicola) and Siberian Stonechat (S.maurus).*

**Pied Bush Chat**  *Saxicola caprata*
This species was seen in drier grasslands, throughout the lowlands.

**Grey Bush Chat**  *Saxicola ferreus*
A common species that was found throughout the Himalayan portion of the tour.

**Isabelline Wheatear**  *Oenanthe isabellina*
Three birds were seen in some open fallow fields near Deeg.

**Desert Wheatear**  *Oenanthe deserti*
Three males were seen, some very well, again in fallow fields near Deeg.

**[Brown Rock] (Indian) Chat (SE)**  *Oenanthe fusca*
Birds were located around buildings at scattered localities with our first sightings at Bharatpur.

**Variable Wheatear**  *Oenanthe picata*
One male was seen very well in the dry open areas near Lake Soorwal and another near Deeg.

**Dippers Cinclidae**

**Brown Dipper**  *Cinclus pallasii*
A lovely pair was seen and scoped on the Kosi River and another seen near Kathgodam.

**Sunbirds Nectariniidae**

**Purple Sunbird**  *Cinnyris asiaticus*
A common sunbird that was encountered on several occasions, in non-breeding plumage at this time of year

**Green-tailed Sunbird**  *Aethopyga nipalensis*
A few birds were seen very well below Nainital, including a splendid male.

**Black-throated Sunbird**  *Aethopyga saturata*
We had superb views of a male near Ramnagar.

**(Eastern) Crimson Sunbird**  *Aethopyga siparaja*
This jewel was seen near the Kosi River, feeding on red flowers in the garden of our hotel.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae**

**House Sparrow**  *Passer domesticus*
Widespread and common in urban areas throughout India.

**Russet Sparrow**  
*Passer rutilans*  
This species prefers open areas at higher altitude and we observed several birds in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

**[Yellow-throated Sparrow]**  
*(Chestnut-shouldered Petronia)*  
*Gymnoris xanthocollis*  
We had numerous sightings over 5 days with up to 50 seen at Bharatpur.

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**Weavers, Widowbirds**  
*Ploceidae*

**Black-breasted Weaver**  
*Ploceus benghalensis*  
We had good views of three males near the Chambal River

**Streaked Weaver**  
*Ploceus manyar*  
Three were seen well in the tall reeds along the Yamuna River in Delhi.

**Baya Weaver**  
*Ploceus philippinus*  
Found in farmland near Lake Soorwal and again near the Chambal River.

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**Waxbills, Munias & allies**  
*Estrildidae*

**Red Avadavat**  
*Amandava amandava*  
We had some wonderful views of this stunning little bird near the Chambal River and at Ohkla.

**Indian Silverbill**  
*Euodice malabarica*  
Small groups were encountered on a few occasions at widely scattered localities, best views around Keoladeo NP.

**White-rumped Munia**  
*Lonchura striata*  
We had good views of a flock of 5 whilst en route from Nainital to Kathgodam.

**Scaly-breasted Munia**  
*Lonchura punctulata*  
We had great looks at 2 at Ohkla.

**Chestnut Munia**  
*Lonchura atricapilla*  
We had good views of 3 juveniles near the Chambal River.

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**Accentors**  
*Prunellidae*

**[Altai](Himalayan) Accentor**  
*Prunella himalayana*  
While in the Nainital area we came across several roving flocks of these highland specialties.

**Rufous-breasted Accentor**  
*Prunella strophiata*  
Over 3 consecutive days in the Nainital area we found a number of these small seedeaters.

**Black-throated Accentor**  
*Prunella atrogularis*  
We enjoyed superb scope views of two near Pangot and a further one near Sattal.

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**Wagtails, Pipits**  
*Motacillidae*

**Western Yellow Wagtail**  
*Motacilla flava*  
Not common in this area – 2 birds were recorded at Ohkla.

**Citrine Wagtail**  
*Motacilla citreola*  
Seen at a number of scattered localities including around Keoladeo NP, Corbett NP and near the Ohkla Barrage.

**Grey Wagtail**  
*Motacilla cinerea*  
This common and widespread species was seen on numerous occasions during the tour.

**White Wagtail**  
*Motacilla alba*  
Most of the many sightings we had of this species were during the lowland portion.

**White-browed Wagtail**  
*(SE)*  
*Motacilla maderaspatensis*  
A regional endemic that was seen well, many times throughout much of the tour.

**[Paddyfield]**  
*(Oriental) Pipit*  
*Anthus rufulus*  
This common pipit was encountered in dry fields near Deeg.

**Tawny Pipit**  
*Anthus campestris*  
One was seen well in the dry open areas near our Ranthambore accommodations.
Long-billed Pipit
Two birds were seen well in open areas near Ranthambore.

Tree Pipit
A number of these birds were seen very well in woodlands in Ranthambore NP.

Olive-backed Pipit
Small numbers of this wintering species were seen at forest edge around Corbett, Nainital and Sattal areas.

Upland Pipit
We were very lucky to get great views of this species at higher altitude during the drive to Sattal.

Finches Fringillidae
Plain Mountain Finch
A flock of fifty was seen flying near Pangot and we also scoped several in the same area.

Common Rosefinch
Three birds were seen in Ranthambore NP with further sightings in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

Pink-browed Rosefinch
We had wonderful views of this range-restricted species near Nainital and again near Sattal.

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch
We enjoyed some great sightings in the Nainital and Sattal areas.

Buntings Emberizidae
Crested Bunting
We had superb views of a male in Corbett NP.

Rock Bunting
Up to twenty birds were seen in rocky areas above the town of Nainital.

White-capped Bunting
A female was seen well in Ranthambore NP.

MAMMAL SPECIES LIST
Total recorded: 27

Fruit Bats Pteropodidae
Indian Flying Fox
A large roost was seen in Ranthambore NP before we had more great views near the Chambal River.

Sac-winged Bats Emballonuridae
Naked-rumped Tomb Bat
Six were seen very well in the Agra Fort.

Cheek-Pouch Monkeys Cercopithecidae
Rhesus Macaque
Very common at most localities and along the roads while travelling.

Tarai Gray Langur
Commonly encountered in the foothills around Corbett NP and the Sattal area.

Northern Plains Grey Langur
Seen very well at Ranthambore and at Keoladeo NPs.

Nepal Grey Langur
Seen very well in and around Nainital, this species inhabits higher-altitude areas.
Rabbits, Hares  **Leporidae**

**Indian (Black-naped) Hare**  *Lepus nigricollis*
Several were seen fairly well in the Chambal River area.

**Squirrels  Sciuridae**

**Northern Palm Squirrel**  *Funambulus pennantii*
Common and regularly encountered at most lowland localities.

**House Rats  Muridae**

**Brown Rat**  *Rattus norvegicus*
A few of these very successful animals could be seen at Delhi train stations.

**Mongooses  Herpestidae**

**Indian Grey Mongoose**  *Herpestes edwardsii*
One was seen in Ranthambore NP and another in Corbett NP.

**Small Indian Mongoose**  *Herpestes javanicus*
One was seen by the group at Ohkla on our final morning.

**Ruddy Mongoose**  *Herpestes smithii*
We found a total of 6 of these fairly large mammals in Ranthambore NP.

**Weasels, Skunks, Otters  Mustelidae**

**Yellow-throated Martin**  *Martes flavigula*
We had good but brief views of one near Nainital.

**Bears  Ursidae**

**Sloth Bear**  *Melursus ursinus*
We had fantastic views of two in Ranthambore NP. What a birthday present!!!

**Genets & Civets  Viverridae**

**Asian Palm Civet (Todd Cat)**  *Paradoxurus hermaproditus*
Three of these awesome nocturnal mammals were seen exceptionally well at our lodge near the Chambal River.

**Dogs & Allies  Canidae**

**Golden Jackal**  *Canis aureus*
This mammal was seen on 5 days of the tour at locations that include Ranthambore NP, Keoladeo NP as well as near the Chambal River and in Corbett NP.

**Cats  Felidae**

**Bengal Tiger**  *Panthera tigris*
What a spectacular creature! We managed to obtain some fantastic views of several in Ranthambore NP including one on our very first afternoon there!! A phenomenal start to the trip with incredible sightings of Tigers on our first three drives in Ranthambore NP, which then allowed for a much more relaxed approach to the rest of the tour. Some participants had brief views of another animal in Corbett NP.

**Elephants  Proboscidae**

**Indian Elephant**  *Elephas maximus*
Some of the group saw three in Corbett NP.
**Porcupine Proboscidae**

**Indian Crested Porcupine**  
_Hystrix indica_  
We had fabulous views of a male in Corbett NP.

**Pigs Suidae**  
_Sus scrofa_  
This widespread Asian pig was seen on several occasions throughout the tour in Ranthambore and Corbett NPs.

**Deer Cervidae**

**Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer)**  
*Muntiacus muntjak*  
Several of these secretive mammals were found in wooded habitats in Corbett NP.

**Spotted Deer (Chital)**  
_Cervus axis_  
Very common in the large national parks of Ranthambore and Corbett.

**Hog Deer**  
_Axis porcinus_  
At least 6 were seen very well in the grasslands in Corbett NP.

**Sambar**  
_Cervus unicolor_  
Fair numbers of this massive deer were seen mainly in Ranthambore and Corbett NPs.

**Bovids Bovidae**

**Nilgai**  
_Bosephalus tragocamelus_  
This huge species was seen in Ranthambore and Keoladeo NP’s as well as in surprisingly many of the fields we passed while travelling through the country.

**Dorcas Gazelle**  
_Gazella dorcas_  
A stunning male was seen in Ranthambore NP.

**Goral**  
_Naemorhedus goral_  
Two animals were scoped as they warmed themselves on ridges in the morning near Nainital.

**REPTILE SPECIES LIST**

**Total recorded: 7**

**Gharial**  
_Gavialis gangeticus_  
This strange looking creature was recorded at the Chambal River and in Corbett NP.

**Marsh (Mugger) Crocodile**  
_Crocodylus palustris_  
Recorded commonly in Ranthambore NP and at the Chambal River and in Corbett NP

**Flap-shelled Turtle**  
_Lissemys punctata_  
We saw a number of these, including some huge individuals in Ranthambore NP.

**Indian Tent Turtle**  
_Kachuga tentoria_  
Several were seen along the Chambal River.

**Land Monitor**  
_Varanus bengalensis_  
Our first sighting was of one near Lake Soorwal with a second sighting in Keoladeo NP and a final sighting at the Chambal River.

**Asian House Gecko**  
_Hemidactylus frenatus_  
A few were seen around Ranthambore NP and the Chambal area.

**Chequered Keelback**  
_Xenochrophis piscator_  
Two were seen very well in the water in Ranthambore NP and a further one was seen eating a fish at Lake Soorwal.