

NORTHERN INDIA

Uttaranchal : Dehra Dun-Mussoorie-Corbett-Ranikhet-Pangot (Nainital)
26 March - 8 April 2006

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ITINERARY

- 26 March Arrived Sunstar Residence Hotel, Delhi 05.00, departing again 08.00 for the drive to Dehra Dun via Meerut, Muzzafanagar, Roorkee and Haridwar. Short stops on route.
Evening: walk by Tons river below **Shaheen Bagh in the Doon Valley**.
- 27 March Walking in hills, river, gorge and terraced farmland of Doon Valley
- 28 March Early morning in grounds of Shaheen Bagh and by Tons river
Mid-morning drive to **Mussoorie** (birding stops on route) and hills east of town.
Late afternoon returned to Doon Valley; frequent stops in forest and riverside
Evening: Walking in Shaheen Bagh area
- 29 March Early morning departed Shaheen Bagh for Ramnagar via Haridwar, Najibabad and Najina;
Several roadside stops. Checked in to **Tiger Camp, Garjiya outside Corbett Park**.
Late afternoon: walk along Kosi river by Tiger Camp
- 30 March Morning: walking forest edge Garjiya-Jhirna areas and along stretches of Kosi river east of Corbett NP in the **Garjiya-Mohan** area
Afternoon/evening: driving in southeast corner of Corbett NP (Amdanda Gate)
- 31 March Morning: driving from Tiger Camp to **Dhikala in Corbett NP** with frequent stops on route, including short walks by Sultan/Gairal/Sarapduli Forest Rest Houses
Late Afternoon: elephant ride in Park
Evening: Dhikala compound
- 1 April Morning: jeep drive in Park and to Ramganga Dam
Lunchtime: Dhikala compound
Afternoon: slow drive from Dhikala **back to Tiger Camp**, many stops on route
- 2 April Morning: slow drive to Ranikhet via Kumeria with many forest and river walks on route
Late afternoon: short walk around **Trishul Lodge, Majkhali village (Ranikhet)**
- 3 April Day spent walking-driving-walking in forests around **Ranikhet**
Evening: around Trishul Lodge
- 4 April Early departure for Pangot via Sat Tal and Nainital, many stops on route.
Late morning: fields and scrub near **Sat Tal**
Lunchtime: garden of **Green Glen Lodge** Sat Tal
Afternoon: walking in forest beyond (?north or northwest of) **Pangot**
- 5 April Morning: higher elevations beyond Pangot
Afternoon: lower elevations around Pangot (Timla Pani Valley)
Evening: Jungle Lore Birding Lodge and Pangot village
- 6 April Early morning: higher elevations beyond Pangot
Mid-morning: lower areas around Pangot (Timla Pani Valley)
Afternoon: Kilbury area and towards Cheena Peak
- 7 April Morning: Mongoli Valley with birding stops on route
Afternoon: Pangot and Jungle Lore grounds
- 8 April Early morning: Jungle Lore Birding Lodge/Pangot village
Mid-morning: return to Delhi via Kaladhungi (Corbett Museum), Ramnagar and Moradabad

Having made seven trips to India over 12 years in the 1980s and 1990s we'd reached a point where the endless bureaucracy and constant hassles to be endured to get anything done, let alone reach the best wildlife areas, finally got to us and we said "no more, it's just too frustrating". But Indian wildlife is fantastic and it gets into your blood; all it took was a television programme or magazine article and the good memories came flooding back. We met Jo Thomas of *Wild About India* at the Rutland Bird Fair in August 2005 and she sowed a tiny seed. Maybe things *have* changed, maybe there *are* people who *know* what birding and wildlife watching is all about. We decided to give it a go, it was worth one more attempt. The birds and mammals would be good whatever hassles we encountered on route. We decided to visit mainly areas not seen before (a) to avoid any disappointment if things did not live up to the memory and (b) to find new species. Jo Thomas came up with an itinerary, using Asian Adventures in India, covering all the areas we wanted to visit, and more.

Hassles? There were none! From pick-up at Delhi airport, through all the different locations and back to Delhi, everything went smoothly. Because we know how difficult it is to get anything done out there and how unpredictable things are in the National Parks, how nobody thinks ahead, we were impressed that everything happened in the background without us being aware of it. Tasty packed breakfast accompanied us on early morning birding trips, changes made to the original itinerary to take advantage of local conditions, everything went like clockwork and all we had to do was concentrate on the abundant wildlife.

We had a car and driver for the whole trip, apart from Corbett where a jeep was provided. Anil is an excellent driver, very important not only to negotiate the chaos of Delhi, but also to cope with the mountain roads *and* to stop quickly and safely when we spotted birds on route! In fact Anil is a good "spotter" himself, often seeing things before we did. He knows his job well, was aware of our needs and organised whatever was necessary; just the right mix of friendliness and professionalism.

For the first 10 days, from Doon Valley through to Sat Tal, our guide was Hari Lama, a Nepali born and bred in Sathaura, Chitwan National Park. Hari's birding skills in these forested areas are superb, he really knows his stuff. He's a real "birder" keen to be out and about from dawn to beyond dusk but he also knows how to organise and look after people in a quiet, competent way. His years of experience are obvious and we owe much of the success of this trip to Hari's skills and personality.

We left Hari at Sat Tal and Lokesh Singh took over in the Pangot area. He, too, knows his patch and its birds very well, taking us to all the best locations for this time of year and finding us some terrific birds. He also acted as "camp-organiser" at Jungle Lore and is keen for everyone to have a really satisfying time in the area.

All the accommodation was clean, comfortable and attractive. Food was freshly prepared and beautifully presented. It wasn't all curry, curry, curry (which is what we encountered in the past) there was a good variety, including roasted vegetables, baked fish, muesli for breakfast and bananas and custard for desert! Packed meals included things like cheese and cucumber sandwiches, potato croquettes, samosas, boiled eggs and fruit.

We were out early each morning, walking most of the day (or driving and walking, with Anil waiting for us at strategic points along the route) in forest, along rivers and streams, outskirts of villages or terraced fields. Some days we took a packed breakfast or lunch, sometimes eating back at the lodge, depending on the distance to be covered. It was warm during the day, rather cool at night but not as cold as we had expected. Many days it was rather cloudy with some rain and a storm at Ranikhet. Visibility varied, some days the snow-covered peaks of the high himalaya were crystal clear, sometimes obscured by mist or cloud, but the views were stunning throughout.

Our trip did not coincide with the best birding season, the winter months, but with a list of around 270 bird species, 76 of them lifers for KC and MC, and 17 mammals, we were not disappointed. Many more raptors and warblers were seen than recorded as we could not identify everything we saw. The trip far exceeded our expectations and we can highly recommend the services of *Wild about India* (jo@wildaboutindia.com or telephone 01480 370593) Jo Thomas, in conjunction with Asian Adventures, will ensure your trip is tailor-made to your own particular needs.

NOTES ON ITINERARY AND PLACES VISITED

DELHI to DEHRA DUN / DOON VALLEY

After a long delay on arrival at Delhi airport (too many flight arrivals trying to clear customs) we only had time to check-in, shower and have breakfast at the Sunstar Residence Hotel before starting the 240 km drive to Dehra Dun via Meerut, Muzzafanagar and Roorkee. Although we saw very little of Delhi, we were very

aware of one major change - no vultures. We knew all about the tragedy of diclofenac, of course, but it was very sad to see for ourselves the vulture-less skies. Black Kites seem to have benefited from this situation as there were thousands of them - in some areas the pylons, trees and buildings were completely covered in them, with hundreds more flying above them.

We left the noise and hubbub of Delhi behind us, travelling through mile after mile of cultivated plains interspersed with small dusty villages and sprawling towns. We made a few short stops to stretch our legs and do a little birdwatching. After about 5 hours we could see hills rising in the distance. When we started to climb everything suddenly changed - we were diving through forest. We reached Dehradun, a large town at an elevation of around 640m, and on the far side of town a left turn took us through scrubby hillsides and light forest of the Doon valley, at around 490m, and we started seeing Himalayan Bulbuls, Ashy Prinias, Grey Treepie and Ashy Drongos.....

The Doon valley lies between the west Himalayan mountain ranges of Chakrata, Mussoorie and Dhaundalti to the north and the Shiwaliks in the south, with the Yamuna and Ganges rivers to the west and east, and many perennial rivers and streams between. In the valley and surrounding hills there is a mix of forest, denuded hills, agricultural land and riverine scrub - habitats where around 587 bird species have been recorded.

SHAHEEN BAGH LODGE / DOON VALLEY / MUSSOORIE

Shaheen Bagh is a private country home of an "avid ornithologist and graphic designer", beautifully situated on a hilly ridge in the Doon Valley only 20 minutes from town but seemingly "a world away" from the hustle, bustle and noise of Dehradun. It is set in 7 acres of lush, well-tended gardens full of birds and butterflies with trails leading down to the Tons river. On arrival we were welcomed by the friendly staff and Hari Lama who was to be our guide for the next ten days. The accommodation is very spacious and comfortable with wide verandas and stunning views; period furniture, wildlife paintings, four-poster beds, nice bathrooms. Two of us were in a cottage surrounded by trees and flowers, and one of us was in the lower room at the main house, overlooking the lawn with fabulous views down to the river and the forested hills below the distant hill resort of Mussoorie. The food was excellent, a very varied menu, plenty of it and all beautifully presented, with endless tea, coffee and biscuits. Hari had to drag us away from the gardens (Crimson Sunbirds, Red billed Leiothrix, Hume's Leaf Warblers, Oriental White-eyes.....) to set off towards the river where almost immediately we found a family of Brown Dippers then two Spotted Forktails! Walks around Shaheen Bagh, the narrow roads through small villages and terraced fields, stretches of woodland and thickets produced an impressive list of birds. Further afield we found a boulder-strewn river leading into a wide gorge with a nesting Egyptian vulture and Spangled Drongos and Oriental Honey Buzzard overhead. A day was spent exploring the forests between Dehradun and Mussoorie (at 2,000m) then beyond where the hills reach 3,000m. Wonderful views all the way and each stop produced an impressive range of species - including Golden Bush Robin, White-crested Laughing thrush, Great Barbet, Whiskered Yuhina, Himalayan Griffon, Lammergeier, Altai Accentor. Nearer Dehradun, by the Tons river, we found Lesser Coucal and Speckled Piculet. Some migration was obviously under way with a range of warblers and species like Spot-winged Starling moving through (the latter winter in Assam and breed high up towards Kashmir).

Species noted in the Doon Valley-Mussoorie area included: (for full details see below) *Little Cormorant; Little Green Heron; Intermediate Egret; Black shouldered and Black Kites; Oriental Honey Buzzard; Shikra; Steppe Eagle; Vultures (Lammergeier, Eurasian and Himalayan Griffons, Red headed and Egyptian); Black Francolin; Hill Partridge (heard); Kalij Pheasant (heard); Red Jungle Fowl; Red wattle Plover; River Lapwing; Yellow footed Pigeon; Spotted, Laughing and Oriental Turtle Doves; Alexandrine, Rose ringed and Plum headed Parakeets; Common Hawk Cuckoo; Koel; Greater and Lesser Coucals; Mountain Scops Owl (heard); Asian barred Owl; Large tailed Nightjar (heard); House Swift; Crested, Common and White throated Kingfishers; Chestnut headed, Green and Blue bearded Bee Eaters; Indian Roller; Hoopoe; Indian Grey Hornbill; Great, Lineated, Blue throated and Coppersmith Barbets; Speckled Piculet; Brown fronted Woodpecker; Plain Martin; Red rumped Swallow; Longtailed and Brown Shrikes; Black, Ashy and Spangled Drongos; Spot winged, Chestnut headed and Brahminy Starlings; Common and Jungle Mynas; Rufous and Grey Treepies; House and Large billed Crows; Longtailed and Scarlet Minivets; Himalayas, Red vented and Black Bulbuls; Rusty cheeked Scimitar Babbler; Black chinned, Yellow eyed, Common and Tawny bellied Babblers; White crested, Rufous chinned and Streaked Laughing Thrushes; Red billed Leiothrix; White browed Shrike Babbler; Whiskered Yuhina; White throated Fantail, Ultramarine and Slaty blue Flycatchers; Grey breasted and Ashy Prinias; Lesser Whitethroat; Common Tailorbird; Hume's, Grey hooded, Greenish and Sulphur-bellied Leaf Warblers; Mountain Chiffchaff; Aberrant Bush Warbler; White tailed Rubythroat; Oriental Magpie Robin; Plumbeous and White capped Water Redstarts; Spotted Forktail; Golden Bush Robin; Blue fronted Redstart; Pied and Grey Bushchats; Indian Robin; Chestnut bellied Rock Thrush; Blue Whistling Thrush; Dark throated Thrush; Grey winged Blackbird; Brown Dipper;*

Altai Accentor; Great, Green backed, Black throated and Black-lored Tits; White tailed Nuthatch; Bar-tailed Treecreeper; Upland and Olive backed Pipits; White browed, White and Grey Wagtails; Thick billed and Pale billed Flowerpeckers; Crimson and Purple Sunbirds; Oriental White-eye; Russet and House Sparrows; Scaly breasted Munia; Yellow breasted Greenfinch; Crested and White capped Buntings; Pink browed and Common Rosefinches. Rhesus macaque, Langur monkey; Rufous naped Hare; Palm Squirrel; Small Indian Mongoose

ROUTE DEHRADUN-HARIDWAR-NAJIBABAD-NAJINA-RAMNAGAR

We travelled south from Dehradun to Haridwar and on to Ramnagar, taking the route south of the hills. We made several stops along the way, by the Ganges river at Haridwar and further south, by roadside pools and to photograph a huge colony of giant fruit bats roosting in eucalyptus trees on the edge of a large town.

Species noted along the Haridwar - Ramnagar route included: (for full details see below)

Little Grebe; Little Cormorant; Little Green Heron; Cattle and Great Egrets; Woolly-necked Stork; Black Kite; Shikra; White-eyed Buzzard; Red-headed, Himalayan and Egyptian Vultures; White breasted Waterhen; Bronze-winged Jacana; Black-winged Stilt; Red-wattled Plover; Greenshank; Green Sandpiper; Spotted Redshank; Pallas's Gull; House Swift; Spotted Dove; Ring-necked Parakeet; Koel (heard); House and Asian Palm Swifts; White-throated and Common Kingfishers; Green Bee Eater; Indian Grey Hornbill; Lineated Barbet (heard); Plain and Dusky Crag Martins; Black Drongo; Asian Pied Starling; Common Myna; House and Jungle Crows; Red-vented Bulbul; Jungle Babbler; Grey-breasted Prinia; Brown Rock Chat; Pied Bush Chat; Grey, White and White-browed Wagtails; Purple Sunbird; House Sparrow.

RAMNAGAR / GARJIYA / MOHAN / KUMERIA / CORBETT NATIONAL PARK

Ramnagar was as noisy and chaotic as we remembered but just a little north of town things quietened down somewhat and we reached the relative calm of Tiger Camp, one of many lodges and small hotels ("wildlife resorts") spread along the eastern edge of Corbett NP a few kilometres north of Ramnagar around Garjiya south of the main entrance into the Park (Dhangarhi Gate). By the Kosi river, with "jungle" all around, Tiger Camp is well-run with clean, spacious rooms, a good "Gol Ghar" buffet-style restaurant and is an ideal base for exploring the Kosi river and the forest outside the Park on foot. Birding here and further north (Mohan-Kumeria) was excellent, particularly for forest birds and the views are spectacular. At this time of year the river is low so there's a vast stretch of white rocks and boulders but still a wide expanse of water. The opposite bank has some stretches of high cliffs (nesting Egyptian Vulture, but we failed to find Wallcreeper). We drove into the southern part of the Park on one afternoon (Bijrani gate) and saw a good range of species including Blue bearded Bee Eater, Kalij Pheasant, Red Jungle Fowl, Streak-throated Woodpecker. On the third day we set off at 6.30 a.m. in a jeep (part of the Tiger Camp package), entering the Park at the main Dhangarhi gate, for a slow drive to Dhikala. Lots of birding stops on route: Rufous-bellied and Changeable Hawk Eagles, Lesser Fish Eagle, Cinereous Vulture... Walking in the Park is not allowed - but we did get out of the jeep for short walks around two of the Forest Rest Camps (? Gairal and Sarapduli) and by the Ramganga river (large crocs!) Dhikala was very busy, not at all how we remembered it from the '80s and '90s but this is because the roads from Delhi have been greatly improved; at least the accommodation has been updated a little, a lick of paint and a white-tiled bathroom with a "proper" shower (just don't look at the wiring *inside* the shower area). The restaurant looks very run-down and seedy but the food itself was good - choice of Indian or Chinese-style. There were only three riding elephants (about 8 when we were last here) but we succeeded in getting our pre-booked ride; Hari had confirmed it on our arrival, without us being aware of it. So different from our previous visits when everything was "not possible". Next morning was spent driving to good spots in the Park, in the forest, around the grassland and by the Ramganga dam. The return journey back to Tiger Camp took all afternoon and was excellent, including Great Hornbill, a pair of Brown Fish Owls, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Rosy Minivet. A successful trip, with a good number of species, including wild elephants and a tiger lazing in the floodplain beneath the camp.

Species noted in the Ramnagar-Garjia-Mohan-Kumeria-Corbett National Park areas included: (for full

details see below) Little Cormorant; Grey and Indian Pond Herons; Cattle and Great White Egrets; Woolly-necked Stork; Black shouldered and Black Kites; Oriental Honey Buzzard; White-eyed Buzzard; Mountain, Rufous-bellied and Changeable Hawk Eagles; Steppe, Pallas's and Lesser Fish Eagles; Eurasian and Himalayan Griffon, Black, Indian Long-billed, Red-headed and Egyptian Vultures; Crested Serpent Eagle; Shikra; Common Kestrel; Black and Grey Francolins; Kalij Pheasant; Red Junglefowl; Peacock; Small Pratincole; Red-wattled, Yellow-wattled and River Lapwings; Little Ringed Plover; Greenshank; River Tern; Yellow-footed Green Pigeon; Blue Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon; Oriental Turtle, Eurasian Collared, Red Collared, Spotted, Laughing and Emerald Doves; Rose-ringed, Red-breasted and Plum-headed Parakeets; Common Hawk Cuckoo; Koel; Collared and Jungle Owlets; Collared Scops Owl; Brown Fish Owl; Brown Hawk Owl; Large-tailed Nightjar; House, Asian Palm and Crested Tree Swifts; Crested, Lesser Pied, Stork-billed, White-throated and Common Kingfishers; Blue-bearded, Chestnut-headed, Blue-tailed and Green Bee Eaters; Indian Roller; Hoopoe; Indian Grey and Great

Hornbills; Lineated, Blue-throated and Coppersmith Barbets; Speckled Piculet; Streak-throated, Grey-headed, Great Yellow-nape, Lesser Yellow-nape, Black rumped Flameback, Brown-fronted and Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers; Oriental Skylark; Plain Martin; Barn Swallow; Bay-backed and Long-tailed Shrikes; Black-hooded Oriole; Black and Spangled Drongos; Chestnut-tailed, Brahminy and Asian Pied Starlings; Common and Jungle Mynas; Red-billed Blue Magpie; Large-billed Crow; Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike; Large Cuckooshrike; Scarlet and Rosy Minivets; Common Iora; Golden-fronted Leaf bird; Red-whiskered, Himalayan, Red-vented and Ashy Bulbuls; Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler; Puff-throated, Black-chinned, Common and Jungle Babblers; White-crested Laughing thrush; Black-naped Monarch; Rufous-bellied Niltava; White-throated Fantail; Chestnut-headed Tesia; Zitting Cisticola; Ashy Prinia; Common Whitethroat; Whistler's and Sulphur bellied Warblers; Oriental Magpie Robin; White-rumped Shama (heard); Brown Rockchat; Common Stonechat; Pied Bush chat; Blue Whistling-thrush; Tickell's Thrush Green-backed and Great Tits; Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch; Olive-backed Pipit; Black Redstart; Richard's and Paddyfield Pipits; Grey and White-browed Wagtails; Purple and Crimson Sunbirds; Oriental White-Eye; Chestnut-shouldered and House Sparrows; Red Avadavat; White-capped Bunting; Asian elephant; Tiger; Wild Boar; Sambar; Chital; Hog Deer; Indian Muntjac; Common Langur; Rhesus Macaque; Golden Jackal; Mugger Crocodile; Gharial; Terrapin sp.

ROUTE KUMERIA-RANKHET

We took most of the day to drive from Tiger Camp to Ranikhet via Kumeria with many roadside birding stops and yet more stunning views of densely forested hills with patches of terracing - best sighting along this route being the two Blue-winged Minla. A walk along a stretch of ?Kosi river was rather quiet bird-wise but we had close views of a Yellow-throated Marten here.

Species noted along Kumeria-Ranikhet route included: (for full details see below) *Red-headed and Himalayan Griffon Vultures; River Lapwing; Plum-headed Parakeet; Collared Owlet; House Swift; Crested, Pied, Common and White-throated Kingfishers; Chestnut-headed Bee Eater; Great Hill Barbet; Speckled Piculet; Grey-headed Woodpecker; Red-rumped Swallow; Plain Sand Martin; Black and Ashy Drongos; Common Myna; Large-billed Crow; Red-whiskered, Himalayan and Black Bulbuls; Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler (heard); Black-chinned and Jungle Babblers; Blue-winged Minla; Verditer Flycatcher; Grey-hooded and Hume's Warblers; Pied and Grey Bushchats; White-capped Water Redstart; Blue Whistling Thrush; Great, Green-backed, Black-lored and Black-throated Tits; Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch; Grey and White-browed Wagtails; Purple and Crimson Sunbirds; Oriental White-eye; House and Russet Sparrows.*

RANIKHET-TRISHUL LODGE (Majhkhali village)

As we climbed beyond Kumeria it became much cooler and the sky was heavy and grey as we reached Ranikhet, then heavy rain and spectacular storms when we got to Trishul Lodge in Majhkhali village. It cleared for a while so we were able to take a short walk around the outskirts of the village with wooded and scrubby patches along the road, but the distant himalayan peaks were not visible. Majhkhali is about 10kms from Ranikhet and the lodge is one of a cluster of small rustic houses built from local materials on steep cultivated terraces surrounded by forest. The lodge is named after Trisul peak, seen spectacularly from the lodge veranda. One of the bedrooms has a stunning panoramic view - sit up in bed and see the himalayan peaks of Trishul and Nanda Devi - most impressive at sunrise on our second morning when the air was crystal clear. The accommodation is very clean and comfortable; there's a cook and an assistant who between them kept the place spotless and provided delicious meals (not too spicy, and a welcome "plain" breakfast choice of cereals, toast, eggs and porridge!) The trees and bushes around the lodge were full of Grey-hooded and Hume's warblers and Kestrels were nesting in a box on the house next door. There's not much good walking to be had around the lodge but just a short drive away the evergreen forest is fantastic - mixed pine, oak and rhododendron, steep slopes and gullies with a wealth of birds. We had expected it to be difficult to see birds in this forest but we found plenty, both individual birds and mixed flocks. We spent a day exploring the region from around 1,820m to 2,000 as well as the pinatum at the edge of Ranikhet town. Again, there were some wonderful views of the high himalaya. Here and there we would come across small farmed and cultivated terraces. The region was suffering from drought - hardly any rain at all over the past year - and it was obvious that many crops had completely failed. The pinatum was a worthwhile side-trip - a huge area with many different species, mostly pines but also patches of broadleaved forest and thick undershrubs and we spent a couple of hours walking here - Woodpeckers, Orioles, Laughing-thrushes, Blue Magpies. One very disturbing fact we learned was that hundreds of Steppe Eagles and Vultures have recently been poisoned at the Ranikhet rubbish tip; we couldn't find out much detail but Hari told us there was an investigation underway and restrictions on what is dumped are being tightened. We saw about 17 Steppe Eagles and several Black Kites in trees around the dump.

Species noted in the Ranikhet area included: (for full details see below) *Black Kite; Steppe Eagle; Common Kestrel; Black Vulture; Black Francolin (heard); Oriental Turtle and Spotted Doves; Plum-headed Parakeet; Oriental Cuckoo; Eurasian Cuckoo (heard); Koel; Collared Owlet; White-throated and*

Crested Kingfisher; Great Hill Barbet; Scaly-bellied, Streak-throated, Grey-headed and Brown-fronted Woodpeckers; Red-rumped and Barn Swallows; Plain and (Eurasian) Crag Martin; Long-tailed Shrike; Maroon Oriole; Bronzed and Spangled Drongos; Common and Jungle Mynas; Black-headed Jay; Red-billed Blue Magpie; Grey Treepie; Large-billed Crow; Scarlet Minivet; Himalayan, Red-vented and Black Bulbuls; Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler; White-throated and Streaked Laughing-thrushes; Dusky-sided, Ultramarine and Verditer Flycatchers; Sulphur-breasted, Greenish, Grey-hooded and Hume's Warblers; Striated Prinia; Common Stonechat; Blue Whistling-thrush; Mistle Thrush; Green-backed, Great, Black-lored and Black-throated Tits; Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch; Upland Pipit; Firebreasted Flowerpecker; Oriental White-eye; Russet and House Sparrows; Pink-browed Rosefinch.

RHANIKET TO SAT TAL-NAINITAL-PANGOT

After two nights at Trishul we moved south, again making several stops on route for short walks; one tiny river produced a pair of Slaty-backed Forktails, a Brown Dipper, Crested Kingfisher, White capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts and 2 Grey Wagtails. We reached Sat Tal (1,500m) by late morning and walked the open fields - too late in the season for Accentors but Slaty-blue, Verditer and Asian Paradise Flycatchers, Streaked Laughing-thrush, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babblers, Mountain Chiffchaff, Sulphur-bellied and Hume's Warblers, Green backed Tit, White capped Bunting and a Steppe Eagle were some compensation. We had lunch at Green Glen Lodge, a nice little place where we would happily have spent a night or two. The garden bird table here attracted Streaked Laughing Thrush, Longtailed Shrike, Russet Sparrow, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Himalayan Bulbul, Grey Treepie and Brown-fronted Woodpecker.

We left Hari here and moved on to Pangot, via Nainital. The scenery in this part of Kumaon is simply stunning with densely forested hills and views of the high Himalaya. 15kms from Nainital is Pangot, a tiny village (about 14 families) in the Cheena Peak forest range, north of Cheena Peak. We stayed at Jungle Lore Birding Lodge set below the village and the thickly wooded Kilbury ridge; a fantastic location for our final four nights with the lodge looking out over forested hills towards "Corbett country" way, way down in the distance. The forest all around was full of bird sound, particularly the Great Barbets, Hill Partridge and Oriental Cuckoos. Himalayan Scops Owls and Grey Nightjars were the night sounds here. Pangot is at 1,900m, Nainital at 1,938m with Kilbury and Cheena Peak considerably higher. Mornings and afternoons were spent climbing higher in the forests beyond Pangot, along wooded tracks, lower in the valley around sparsely-vegetated rocky slopes, cultivated terraces, and by scrubby, rocky streams where we continued to add more species to our list - such as Koklass Pheasant, Yellow-browed Tit, Black Eagle, Striated Laughing-thrush, Rufous-bellied Woodpecker. The grounds of Jungle Lore were productive, too, with Rufous Sibia, Black-headed Jay, Blue Whistling Thrush and Streaked Laughing-thrush being regulars, but pride of place goes to the absolutely gorgeous Long-tailed Broadbill that had taken up residence about a week before our arrival. Seeing this gaudily-coloured bird calling as loud as he could just a few metres from us, in full view, is something we shall never forget. We saw several muntjac deer in the area and signs of wild boar activity was particularly obvious in the Kilbury forest. We spent a morning walking the Mongoli Valley, a small mountain village of cultivated terraced fields surrounded by steeply wooded hills with a rocky stream below. Some of the highlights around here were Spot-winged Grosbeak, Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler, Pine Bunting, White-tailed Rubythroat and a Ghoral high up above the valley. Our guide here was Lokesh Singh, currently resident at Jungle Lore. Here, too, the accommodation was very comfortable and spacious in three well-separated cottages (the lower one perhaps a little *too* low - it's a very steep climb back up!) Good, varied meals are served in a separate cottage with a big log fire which was particularly welcome on one chilly evening.

Species noted in the Sat Tal - Nainital - Pangot - Mongoli Valley area included: (for full details see below)
Steppe and Black Eagles; Crested Serpent Eagle; Northern Goshawk; Himalayan Griffon; Lammergeier; Black Francolin; Hill Partridge (heard); Kalij and Koklass Pheasants; Spotted, Oriental Turtle and Eurasian Collared Doves; Plum-headed and Slaty-headed Parakeets; Indian and Oriental Cuckoos; Mountain Scops Owl (heard); Collared Owlet; Grey Nightjar; House Swift; White-throated and Common Kingfishers; Chestnut-headed Bee Eater; Great Hill and Blue-throated Barbets; Grey-headed, Rufous-bellied, Himalayan and Brown-fronted Woodpeckers; Long-tailed Broadbill; Red-rumped Swallow; Grey-backed and Long-tailed Shrikes; Maroon Oriole; Black Drongo; Common Myna; Black-headed and Eurasian Jays; Red-billed Blue Magpie; Grey Treepie; House and Large-billed Crow; Longtailed Minivet; Himalayan, Black and Red-vented Bulbul; Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler; Nepal and Scaly-breasted Wren-Babblers; Bar-tailed Treecreeper; Jungle and Black-chinned Babblers; White-throated, Striated, Streaked and Chestnut-crowned Laughing-thrushes; Whiskered Yuhina; Rufous Sibia; Ultramarine, Slaty-blue, Red-breasted and Verditer Flycatchers; Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher; Asian Paradise Flycatcher; Rufous-bellied Niltava; Grey-crowned and Streaked Prinias; Greenish, Grey-hooded, Hume's, Whistler's Warblers and Large-billed Warbler; White-tailed

Rubythroat; Altai Accentor; Common Stonechat; Pied and Grey Bushchats; White-capped Water Redstart; Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush; Blue Whistling Thrush; Grey-winged Blackbird; Mistle

Thrush; Spot-winged, Greenbacked, Black-lored, Black-throated and Yellow-browed Tits; White-tailed and Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches; Upland Pipit; Grey Wagtail; Fire-breasted Flowerpecker; Green-tailed and Purple Sunbird; Oriental White-Eye; Russet and House Sparrows; Spot-winged Grosbeak; Common and Pink-backed Rosefinches; White-capped and Pine Buntings. Ghoral; Indian Muntjac; Common Langur

SPECIES LIST

BIRDS

- LITTLE GREBE** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*
1 at large roadside pool on the Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur route towards Ramnagar
- LITTLE CORMORANT** *Phalacrocorax niger*
Fairly common and widespread in suitable habitat in many areas, usually singles but up to three per site; **not** recorded around Ranikhet or Pangot/Nainital
- GREY HERON** *Ardeola cinerea*
2 in flight over Ramganga Dam, Corbett
- LITTLE GREEN HERON** *Butorides striatus*
2 singles along river gorge near of Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 by Ganges river at Haridwar; 1 by Kosi river at Tiger Camp
- INDIAN POND HERON** *Ardeola grayii*
3 singles on route Delhi-Haridwar; 1 by Dhikala compound, Corbett NP
- CATTLE EGRET** *Bubulcus ibis*
Common on Delhi-Haridwar and Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur-Ramnagar routes. Distant view of c.25 egrets roosting by Ramganga river, Corbett NP were probably this sp. Not seen around Dehra Dun/Mussoorie/Ranikhet/Pangot/Nainital
- GREAT EGRET** *Casmerodius albus*
1 at large roadside pool on Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun route; 1 by Ramganga Dam, Corbett
- INTERMEDIATE EGRET** *Mesophoyx intermedia*
Occasional singles at roadside pools on Delhi-Haridwar route
- LITTLE EGRET** *Egretta garzetta*
1 at large roadside pool on Delhi-Haridwar route; several sightings of singles on Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar route; 2 by river bridge near Corbett Museum, Kaladhungi
- WOOLLY-NECKED STORK** *Ciconia episcopus*
1 at large roadside pool on Delhi-Haridwar route; 1 on Haridwar-Ramnagar route; 2+1 in Corbett NP
- BLACK IBIS** *Pseudibis papillosa*
Three sightings (1+3+5) along on Delhi-Haridwar route
- BLACK HEADED IBIS** *Threskiornis melanocephalus*
1 in flight north of Delhi
- BAR-HEADED GOOSE** *Anser indicus*
Rather distant view of c.30 geese flying high north-eastwards over Kosi river, north of Tiger Camp, were probably this sp.
- BLACK SHOULDERED KITE** *Elanus caeruleus*
Pair plus single Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 2 singles in Corbett NP
- ORIENTAL HONEY BUZZARD** *Pernis ptiloryncus*
2, then single, Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 1 near Kumeria (Corbett); 3 singles in Corbett NP; 1 near Corbett Museum at Kaladhungi

BLACK KITE	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Common and widespread. Many hundreds in Delhi area, large numbers in all lowland areas, around towns and villages. Occasional sightings of 1-3 around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)-Mussoorie and Ranikhet. Numerous around Ramnagar town. None noted around Pangot/Nainital areas.	
NORTHERN GOSHAWK	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
Singles on three days in Pangot area.	
SHIKRA	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
Fairly common and widespread. 2 singles on Delhi-Haridwar route; 1 at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2+2+1 on Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar route; 3 singles in Ramnagar/Corbett area; 2 singles on Nainital-Moradabad-Delhi route.	
CRESTED GOSHAWK	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
Robust-looking, medium-sized Accipiter sp. soaring over mixed forest, above Kilbury, Pangot was probably this sp. judging by shape, tail pattern, heavily marked underparts, but unsatisfactory view and not positive ID. Another unidentified hawk seen at about 2,000m over mixed conifer/oak/rhododendron forest in Ranikhet area may also have been this sp.	
WHITE-EYED BUZZARD	<i>Butaster teesa</i>
1 at road-side stop along Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar route; 1 by Kosi river near Tiger Camp	
MOUNTAIN HAWK EAGLE	<i>Spizaetus nipalensis</i>
Pair in Kumeria area - perched, then in flight.	
CHANGEABLE HAWK EAGLE	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>
2 singles plus a pair (on ground by small pool, then into nearby tree, calling) in Corbett NP	
RUFOUS-BELLIED HAWK EAGLE	<i>Hieraetus kienerii</i>
2 singles in Corbett NP	
STEPPE EAGLE	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>
2 singles beyond Mussoorie; 1 in Corbett NP; 17 at town rubbish dump in Ranikhet plus single over open terraces in Ranikhet area; 1 over Sat Tal; 2 near Nainital	
BLACK EAGLE	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>
Pair in Pangot valley, one or two seen daily over Jungle Lore Lodge, plus 1 near Nainital town	
PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>
Frequent sightings in Corbett NP including 1 on nest, very distant, and min.2 adults and 2 immatures present	
LESSER FISH EAGLE	<i>Ichthyophaga humilis</i>
2 singles in Corbett NP (others heard)	
RED-HEADED VULTURE	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>
1 (being mobbed by Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>) beyond Mussoorie; 2+1 along Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar route; 4 or 5 in Corbett NP; 1 on route Kumeria-Ranikhet	
CINEREOUS (BLACK) VULTURE	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>
Min. 4 (with Red-headed vulture <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>) over Corbett NP on 31st; several sightings of up to 5 in Corbett	
EURASIAN GRIFFON	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>
1 near Dehra Dun; 3 beyond Mussoorie with other vulture spp; 1 over Kumeria	
HIMALAYAN GRIFFON	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>
Min 9 (12) beyond Mussoorie (with other vulture spp.); 2+1 on route Haridwar-Ramnagar; frequent sightings of 1s-3s in Corbett area; 2 along route Mohan/Kumeria to Ranikhet; 1-4 frequent around Pangot/Nainital	
LONG-BILLED (INDIAN) GRIFFON	<i>Gyps indicus</i>
2 Kumeria area; 1 in Corbett NP	

EGYPTIAN VULTURE	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>
Common. Frequent sightings of 1-2 in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and Mussoorie areas + 1 bird on nest and another nearby in flight along river gorge near Shaheen Bagh; 2 singles on Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar route; a few sightings around Garjiya/Tiger Camp - single adults, 2 immatures; an adult on nest with a another adult in flight nearby; 2s-3s frequent in Corbett Park	
LAMMERGEIER	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>
1 beyond Mussoorie; singles at Pangot on two days	
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
1 near Kumeria; 1 in Corbett NP; singles at Pangot on two days	
PEREGRINE FALCON	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
1 in valley below Pangot. [2 unidentified large falcons at Sat Tal - difficult view in strong, harsh light - too long-winged and long-tailed to be Peregrine, with brown rather than grey upperparts; poorly defined, narrow moustachial streak. <u>Impression</u> was "Lagger Falcon" <i>F.jugger</i> ??]	
COMMON KESTREL	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
1 at Dhikala, Corbett NP; pair nesting on house next to Trishul Lodge, Majkhali village plus 2 singles in Ranikhet town	
BLACK FRANCOLIN	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>
Often heard from cultivated areas around Dehra Dun, Ranikhet and Pangot/Nainital (only 1 bird seen, below Pangot); frequently heard but only 3 or 4 seen in Corbett NP	
GREY FRANCOLIN	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>
Pair seen on edge of Corbett Park	
HILL PARTRIDGE	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>
Heard beyond Mussoorie and around Pangot. None seen	
KALIJ PHEASANT	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>
Heard, plus very brief glimpses, in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun); 4 singles plus pair seen in Corbett Park; 1 male seen near Pangot	
RED JUNGLE FOWL	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
Heard in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun) in thick scrub but not seen; common, with frequent sightings of singles and small groups, in the Corbett-Kumeria area	
KOKLASS PHEASANT	<i>Pucrasia macrolophus</i>
4 birds seen beyond Pangot (female + pair + male)	
INDIAN PEAFOWL	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
Occasionally seen in Corbett-Kumeria area, including displaying males on edge of Park	
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
1 by large roadside pool along route Delhi-Haridwar	
COMMON MOORHEN	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
1 by large roadside pool along route Delhi-Haridwar	
BRONZE-WINGED JACANA	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
1 by large roadside pool along route Delhi-Haridwar	
BLACK WINGED STILT	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Frequent in small numbers (2-6) at many roadside pools along routes Delhi-Haridwar and Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur/Ramnagar	
SMALL PRATINCOLE	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
2 pairs nesting by Ramganga Dam, Corbett	

RED WATTLED LAPWING	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
Small numbers in suitable habitat around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), along route Haridwar-Ramnagar; in the Ramnagar-Corbett area and along route Nainital-Kashipur-Moradabad-Delhi	
RIVER LAPWING	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
1 at river near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2 by Kosi river at Tiger Camp; singles/pairs on several sections of Ramganga river in Corbett NP; 1 on river beyond Kumeria	
YELLOW WATTLED LAPWING	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>
Group of 6 at edge of Corbett NP	
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Adult male by Ramganga Dam, Corbett NP	
SPOTTED REDSHANK	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
1 at large roadside pool on route Haridwar-Ramnagar	
GREENSHANK	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
1 at large roadside pool along route Delhi-Haridwar; 2+1 at roadside pool on route Haridwar-Ramnagar; 1 at Ramganga Dam, Corbett NP	
GREEN SANDPIPER	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
3 at roadside pool on route Haridwar-Ramnagar	
PALLAS'S GULL	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>
1 second-winter over Ganges south of Haridwar	
INDIAN RIVER TERN	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
2 at Ramganga Dam, Corbett NP	
YELLOW FOOTED GREEN PIGEON	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
Single near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2 at edge of Corbett NP	
ROCK (FERAL) PIGEON	<i>Columba livia</i>
Feral birds common around towns and villages; ? wild birds in smaller numbers in more remote areas	
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
2 singles in Mussoorie town; 1 on edge of Corbett NP; 1 seen in Ranikhet town (several others heard in forest areas); fairly common around Pangot/Nainital (singles/pairs)	
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Pair at edge of Corbett NP; small numbers in Pangot area (up to 8 together)	
RED COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
Fairly common in Corbett NP (up to 5 together at Dhikala)	
SPOTTED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
The commonest and most numerous dove - many seen each day	
LAUGHING DOVE	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Several in Delhi region; 2 singles at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); small numbers in Ramnagar-Corbett areas	
EMERALD DOVE	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
1 near Kosi river north of Tiger Camp/Garjiya; 1+2 in Corbett NP	
ALEXANDRINE PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
2 over river gorge near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	
ROSE RINGED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Common in small flocks Delhi-Dehra Dun-Mussoorie-Ramnagar areas but <i>none</i> noted beyond Kumeria-Ranikhet nor at Pangot/Nainital	
RED BREASTED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
Small flocks common in Corbett NP	

PLUM HEADED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
Small flocks around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); common in Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria areas (flocks 4-20); small numbers around Ranikhet and Sat Tal; small flocks up to 10 birds common around Pangot	
SLATY HEADED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula himalayana</i>
Common around Pangot/Nainital in small flocks of 3-8	
COMMON HAWK CUCKOO	<i>Hierococyx varius</i>
2 single males seen in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area, others heard; frequently heard in Corbett area	
INDIAN CUCKOO	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
At least 2 birds frequently calling around Pangot, not seen	
EURASIAN CUCKOO	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
Heard at roadside stop between Ranikhet and Sat Tal; heard by Trishul Lodge (Ranikhet). None seen	
ORIENTAL CUCKOO	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>
Heard twice in Ranikhet area; constantly calling around Pangot. None seen	
ASIAN KOEL	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>
Female seen at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); heard at most stops along route Haridwar-Ramnagar and often heard around Corbett and by Trishul Lodge (Ranikhet); female seen well in Corbett NP	
GREATER COUCAL	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
1+2+2 in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	
LESSER COUCAL	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>
1 in riverside scrub near Shaheen Bagh, Dehra Dun - incomplete breeding plumage, strong streaking on head and nape	
MOUNTAIN SCOPS OWL	<i>Otus spilocephalus</i>
Heard near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) early morning; frequently heard, morning and night, at Pangot. None seen.	
COLLARED SCOPS OWL	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>
1 roosting in grounds of Tiger Camp	
BROWN FISH OWL	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>
Pair seen late afternoon, Corbett NP	
COLLARED OWLET	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
Heard at Dhikala, Corbett NP; 1 seen between Kumeria and Ranikhet; heard in Ranikhet area; 1 seen above Pangot and also heard close to Jungle Lore Lodge in Pangot	
JUNGLE OWLET	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
1 seen and heard at edge of Corbett NP	
ASIAN BARRED OWLET	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>
Pair regularly around Shaheen Bagh, Dehra Dun (copulating, very vocal)	
BROWN HAWK OWL	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>
Calling close to Tiger Camp restaurant - not seen	
GREY NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>
Calling morning and night at Pangot, not seen	
LARGE TAILED NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>
Heard at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 seen plus min.2 more calling at Dhikala, Corbett NP	
HOUSE SWIFT	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Widespread in very small numbers (2-6) at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), Mussoorie, Ramnagar, Sat Tal and on routes Kumeria (Mohan) to Ranikhet and Nainital-Kashipur-Moradabad-Delhi; <u>none</u> noted in Corbett Park, Ranikhet or Pangot/Nainital	
ASIAN PALM SWIFT	<i>Cypsiurus baliensis</i>
Occasional sightings of 2s-4s on route Haridwar-Ramnagar	

CRESTED TREE SWIFT	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>
Several sightings of 2s-4s in Corbett NP, including 2 perched birds	
CRESTED KINGFISHER	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>
1 along river at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 on Kosi river north of Tiger Camp; 2 singles in Corbett NP; 1 beyond Kumeria; 1 by stream on route Ranikhet to Sat Tal	
PIED KINGFISHER	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Pair by Kosi river at Tiger Camp; 1 at Dhikala, Corbett NP; 1 beyond Kumeria	
COMMON KINGFISHER	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Occasional sightings at roadside pools along route Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun and Haridwar-Ramnagar; 1 in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun); 1 in Corbett NP; 1 beyond Kumeria/Mohan; 1 in Mongolia Valley	
STORK BILLED KINGFISHER	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>
1 near Kosi river north of Tiger Camp; 2+1+1 in Corbett Park	
WHITE THROATED KINGFISHER	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
Widespread - seen in all areas, usually pairs.	
CHESTNUT HEADED BEE EATER	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>
Frequent sightings in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun) - singles/pairs; fairly common in Ramnagar-Kumeria areas, usually pairs; pair near Pangot	
BLUE TAILED BEE EATER	<i>Merops philippinus</i>
2 at edge of Corbett Park; single at Dhikala	
GREEN BEE EATER	<i>Merops orientalis</i>
Common near Delhi, in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun), Ramnagar/Corbett/Kumeria. Not seen at Ranikhet nor Pangot/Nainital	
BLUE BEARDED BEE EATER	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>
2 together near Shaheen Bagh; 2 singles in southern part of Corbett Park	
INDIAN ROLLER	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
1 along route Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun; 1 near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 3+1+2 in Corbett NP	
HOOPOE	<i>Upupa epops</i>
2 singles near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 3 singles in Corbett NP	
INDIAN GREY HORNBILL	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>
Occasional sightings of singles/pairs around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); common in Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria areas	
GREAT (PIED) HORNBILL	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>
Prolonged, close view of 1 in Corbett NP, others heard on three occasions on eastern edge of Park	
GREAT (HILL) BARBET	<i>Megalaima virens</i>
1 below Mussoorie and 2+1 beyond - heard at each roadside stop; 1 seen on route Kumeria (Mohan) to Ranikhet and also heard at most roadside stops; common around Ranikhet and Pangot where often seen and constantly heard	
LINEATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>
3 seen in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun) and often heard; fairly common in Corbett NP where often seen and heard	
BLUE THROATED BARBET	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>
Occasionally heard in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) but not seen; 4 singles seen in Corbett and frequently heard; 1 seen, several others heard, in Pangot areas	
COPPERSMITH BARBET	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>
1 seen, others heard, around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); often heard in Corbett NP but just one pair seen	
SPECKLED PICULET	<i>Picumnus innominatus</i>
1 seen near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 seen near Corbett Park; 1 seen in Kumeria	

SCALY-BELLIED WOODPECKER Female by Trishul Lodge, Ranikhet; 3 singles along route Ranikhet-Sat Tal	<i>Picus squamatus</i>
STREAK THROATED WOODPECKER Fairly common in Corbett area with 4 singles + pair seen; 1 near Ranikhet	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>
GREY HEADED WOODPECKER 1 heard in Corbett Park; 1 seen between Mohan and Kumeria; 1 in pinatum at Ranikhet; 1 calling (brief glimpse only) near Pangot	<i>Picus canus</i>
GREATER YELLOWNAPE WOODPECKER 1 seen well, Corbett NP	<i>Picus flavinucha</i>
LESSER YELLOWNAPE WOODPECKER 2 singles in Corbett Park	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
BLACK RUMPED FLAMEBACK 4 singles in Corbett Park	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
RUFOUS BELLIED WOODPECKER 2 singles + 2 pairs in Pangot area	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>
HIMALAYAN WOODPECKER 2 singles (male + female) Pangot area	<i>Dendrocopos himalayensis</i>
BROWN FRONTED WOODPECKER 3 singles (2 males, 1 female) in Mussoorie area; 1 female in Corbett NP; 2 single males in Ranikhet area; 1 male on bird feeder at Green Glen Lodge, Sat Tal	<i>Dendrocopos auriceps</i>
GREY CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER 1 Kumeria; 1 in Corbett NP	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>
LONGTAILED BROADBILL Frequent sightings over two days of one bird in grounds of Jungle Lore Lodge - very vocal	<i>Psarisomus dalhousiae</i>
ORIENTAL SKYLARK Common on grassland by Ramganga dam, Corbett;	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
PLAIN SAND MARTIN Small numbers in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area, 2s-4s; several over Ganges at Haridwar; small numbers (2s-4s) along Kosi river; larger groups, up to 30, by Ramganga in Corbett NP; frequent sightings along rivers between Mohan-Kumeria-Ranikhet	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN 6 birds probably this sp. near Ranikhet	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>
DUSKY CRAG MARTIN 6+ around building in Haridwar;	<i>Hirundo concolor</i>
BARN SWALLOW 3 by at Ramganga Dam, Corbett NP; occasional sightings of 1-3 in Ranikhet area	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW Common in most areas, usually 2s-4s with 6 on one occasional; <u>none</u> in the Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria area	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
BAY-BACKED SHRIKE 4 singles in Corbett area	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>
GREY BACKED (TIBETAN) SHRIKE Singles at Jungle Lore Lodge, Pangot on two days	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>
LONG-TAILED SHRIKE 3 singles in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 5 singles in Corbett area; 2 singles near Jungle Lore Lodge, Pangot	<i>Lanius schach</i>

BROWN SHRIKE 1 in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
BLACK HOODED ORIOLE 3 singles seen, others heard, in Corbett NP	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
MAROON ORIOLE Female in Ranikhet Pinatum; female near Pangot (others heard here)	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>
BLACK DRONGO Frequent roadside sightings along route Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun; pair by Ganges river at Haridwar; common in Ramnagar-Kumeria areas but not seen in Corbett Park; fairly common around Pangot	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
ASHY DRONGO 2 singles in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun); 1 on route Haridwar-Ramnagar	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
BRONZED DRONGO 4 singles in Ranikhet area	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>
SPANGLED DRONGO 2 singles in Shaheen Bagh area (Dehra Dun); fairly common in Corbett NP with 8 singles + one pair seen	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>
SPOT-WINGED STARLING Min. 6 amongst flock of Chestnut-tailed Starling <i>Sturnus malabaricus</i> in Doon Valley near Shaheen Bagh. Others may have been missed amongst Chestnut-tailed <i>Sturnus malabaricus</i> flocks.	<i>Saroglossa spiloptera</i>
CHESTNUT-TAILED STARLING 2 seen early morning by Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), then two large flocks of c.50-60 birds later the same day (including a few Spot-winged <i>Saroglossa spiloptera</i>); fairly common around Tiger Camp and Kumeria area in flocks of 20-30	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>
BRAHMINY (BLACK-HEADED) STARLING Small numbers around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) 2+4+2; pairs frequent in Corbett-Kumeria areas	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>
ASIAN PIED STARLING Small numbers on route Haridwar-Ramnagar; small numbers, usually pairs, around Ramnagar-Garjiya-Mohan-Kumeria and boundary of Corbett NP although not seen inside the Park.	<i>Sturnus contra</i>
COMMON MYNA Common in all towns, villages and surrounding cultivates area, far less numerous at higher elevations.	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
BANK MYNA Only noted between Moradabad and Delhi - presumably overlooked elsewhere	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>
JUNGLE MYNA Small groups along route Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun; flock of 6 near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); small numbers in Corbett NP (3+2+4); 2 near Ranikhet	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>
EURASIAN JAY Fairly common around Pangot-Nainital	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
BLACK-HEADED JAY 2 singles in Ranikhet area; fairly common around Pangot-Nainital - regular visitor to bird feeding station at Jungle Lore with up to five together	<i>Garrulus lanceolatus</i>
RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE Common around Ranikhet and Pangot/Nainital, loose parties of up to 7	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>
RUFOUS TREEPIE Uncommon: 1 beyond Mussoorie; 1 at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); group of 4 + 3 singles at edge of Corbett NP	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>
GREY TREEPIE 2 singles at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1+2+2 in Ranikhet area; 2 at bird feeding station, Green Glen, Sat Tal; 1 at Pangot; 2 in Mongoli Valley	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>

HOUSE CROW	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Common around towns in the plains and at Mussoorie; 1 seen near Sat Tal	
LARGE-BILLED (JUNGLE) CROW	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
Very common, seen in all areas, although less numerous in higher areas. Apparently "Large-billed" <i>C.m.intermedius</i> in the hills and "Jungle" <i>C.m.levallanti</i> in the plains, but not always obvious (or checked)	
BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>
2 singles near Kosi river	
LARGE CUCKOO-SHRIKE	<i>Coracina macei</i>
3 separate flocks (3+5+5) in Corbett NP	
SCARLET MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
Fairly common around Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria and Ranikhet, in small parties of up to 6	
LONG-TAILED MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
2 females beyond Mussoorie and pair in Mussoorie town; 1 male at Pangot	
ROSY MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus roseus</i>
Frequent in Corbett NP: 2 males and 1 female; male+female plus several small parties of 2-6	
COMMON IORA	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
2 singles seen near Corbett NP, others often heard, occasionally glimpsed	
GOLDEN-FRONTED LEAFBIRD	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>
1 near Garyija/Mohan + 2 singles inside Corbett NP	
RED-WHISKERED BULBUL	<i>Picnonotus jocosus</i>
Fairly common in small numbers in Corbett region; not seen elsewhere	
WHITE-EARED BULBUL	<i>Picnonotus leucotis</i>
1 only, by Sunstar Hotel in Delhi	
HIMALAYAN BULBUL	<i>Picnonotus leucogenys</i>
Common everywhere above the plains	
RED-VENTED BULBUL	<i>Picnonotus cafer</i>
Common throughout, except Pangot-Nainital (very few seen); most numerous in lower areas	
ASHY BULBUL	<i>Hemixos flavala</i>
5 singles in Corbett NP	
BLACK BULBUL	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
2 beyond Mussoorie; single + pair in Ranikhet area; 2 pairs in Mongoli Valley	
PUFF-THROATED BABBLER	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>
Brief view of one in Kumeria region - others heard	
RUSTY-CHEEKED SCIMITAR-BABBLER	<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogenys</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh-Doon Valley-Mussoorie, Ranikhet, Sat Tal and Pangot; heard in Corbett-Kumeria areas but not seen	
SCALY-BREASTED WREN BABBLER	<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>
2 seen and heard - 1 below Pangot, 1 in Mongoli Valley	
[Wren Babblers glimpsed very briefly at Shaheen Bagh were not identified]	
NEPAL WREN BABBLER	<i>Pnoepyga immaculata</i>
Good, prolonged views of a Wren Babbler near Pangot which was probably this sp. Lokesh our guide was certain of this i.d. but we were not 100% convinced. Upperparts did appear uniform but we could not see the neck sides, eye area nor breast scaling very well. However, KC can confirm that the song was very different from that of the Scaly-breasted Wren Babblers seen elsewhere on same day.	

BLACK CHINNED BABBLER 2 at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 Corbett NP; 1 northeast of Kumeria; 2 singles near Pangot	<i>Stachyris pyrrhops</i>
TAWNY-BELLIED BABBLER Good views of one by river at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and another seen briefly nearby	<i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>
YELLOW-EYED BABBLER 3 singles near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>
COMMON BABBLER 3 at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); groups of 4-5 occasionally seen outside Corbett NP	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>
JUNGLE BABBLER Small parties common most areas but <i>none</i> noted in Ranikhet area; most numerous in Dehra Dun/Shaaheen Bagh area	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>
WHITE-THROATED LAUGHING-THRUSH Flock of 20+ in Ranikhet pinatum; 10+ in mixed flock with Striated Laughing Thrush <i>G.striatus</i> above Pangot/Jungle Lore and 2 in Kilbury forest	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>
STRIATED LAUGHING THRUSH 4-5 in mixed flock with White-throated Laughing Thrush <i>G. albogularis</i> near Pangot and brief view of 1 Mongoli Valley	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>
WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHING THRUSH Flock of 10+ below Mussoorie; fairly common in forest around Corbett-Mohan, with several flocks of 6-10 seen	<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>
RUFOUS-CHINNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH 2 by river at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	<i>Garrulax rufogularis</i>
STREAKED LAUGHINGTHRUSH 5 singles in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 2 in Mussoorie town; common around Ranikhet, Sat Tal-Pangot-Nainital	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>
CHESTNUT-CROWNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH 2 together below Jungle Lore/Pangot	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>
RED-BILLED LEIOTHRIX Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) with frequent sightings daily	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>
WHITE-BROWED SHRIKE-BABBLER 1 beyond Mussoorie; pair + single male Pangot area	<i>Pteruthius flaviscapis</i>
BLUE-WINGED MINLA 2 in mixed flock northeast of Kumeria	<i>Minla cyanouroptera</i>
WHISKERED YUHINA 1 beyond Mussoorie; 1 possible in Pinatum, Ranikhet (guide Hari identified by call); pair alloprenening near Pangot plus 1 in garden at Jungle Lore	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>
RUFOUS SIBIA Fairly common around Pangot-Nainital, 3 seen, one of which in garden at Jungle Lore, many more heard	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>
DARK-SIDED FLYCATCHER 1 almost certainly this sp. Ranikhet area	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>
RED THROATED FLYCATCHER Female in Mongoli Valley	<i>Ficedula parva</i>
ULTRAMARINE FLYCATCHER 2 singles in Mussoorie town; several sightings (1 male + 2 males 1 female + 1 male) around Ranikhet; several (pair+female+2 single males) around Pangot-Nainital	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>
SLATY-BLUE FLYCATCHER 1 female along river gorge near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 male in fields at Sat Tal; 1 female in Mongoli Valley	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>

RUFOUS BELLIED NILTAVA	<i>Niltava sundara</i>
Female near Mohan at edge of Corbett NP; pair + 2 single males and single female in Pangot-Nainital area	
VERDITER FLYCATCHER	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>
5 singles in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 1+2+1 on route Mohan/ Kumeria to Ranikhet; common around Ranikhet and Pangot/Nainital, including frequent sightings of singing males	
GREY-HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
Fairly common around Ranikhet (total 8 seen); 1 near Pangot	
WHITE THROATED FANTAIL	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) areas; 1 probable in Corbett Park	
ASIAN PARADISE FLYCATCHER	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
1 male (white) then 1 female in Sat Tal fields.	
BLACK NAPED MONARCH	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
Pair north of Tiger Camp/Garjiya village on edge of Corbett NP; 1 male in Corbett NP	
CHESTNUT HEADED TESIA	<i>Tesia castaneocoronata</i>
1 on Garjiya-Mohan road north of Tiger Camp	
ABERRANT BUSH WARBLER	<i>Cettia flavolivacea</i>
1 seen well and heard beyond Mussoorie	
ZITTING CISTICOLA	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
2 singles seen, many others heard, around grassland at Corbett NP	
GREY BREASTED PRINIA	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) - frequently seen and heard; 3 singles on route Haridwar-Ramnagar; 1 near Tiger Camp, Corbett area	
GREY CROWNED PRINIA	<i>Prinia cinereocapilla</i>
2 together below Pangot	
ASHY PRINIA	<i>Prinia socialis</i>
Fairly common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and below Mussoorie with frequent sightings, usually singing males; occasional sightings in Corbett Park	
STRIATED PRINIA	<i>Prinia criniger</i>
1 in Ranikhet area; fairly common around Pangot-Nainital	
COMMON TAILORBIRD	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
Fairly common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and below Mussoorie	
COMMON WHITETHROAT	<i>Sylvia communis</i>
1 in grounds of Tiger Camp Lodge	
LESSER WHITETHROAT	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>
1 near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	
MOUNTAIN CHIFFCHAFF	<i>Phylloscopus sindianus</i>
2 singles at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 in Sat Tal fields; 6 singles in Pangot area and probably this sp. in Mongoli Valley	
SULPHUR-BELLIED WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>
1 at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2 singles in Corbett NP; 1 in garden at Trishul Lodge (Ranikhet); 2 singles in Sat Tal fields; 1 in garden of Jungle Lore Lodge; 1 probable in Mongoli Valley	
HUME'S WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), Mussoorie, Ranikhet, Sat Tal and Pangot/Nainital. None seen in the Ramnagar-Corbett-Mohan areas	

LARGE-BILLED WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>
1 probably this sp. seen well at start of Mongoli Valley (Bajun). Appeared large and stocky, rather dark greenish back. Strong "face" pattern with prominent pale supercilium and dark eyestripe with greyish ear coverts. Quite a stout-looking bill. Voice suggested this sp. Our guide, Lokesh, was fairly confident of identification but we were not 100% sure	
GREENISH WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
4 singles on one day in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) area; 4 singles in Pangot area (2 on each of 2 days)	
BLYTHE'S LEAF WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>
1 seen well and heard in Pinatum, Ranikhet	
[SMOKY WARBLER	<i>Phylloscopus fuligiventer</i>
1 possibly this sp. by stream in Mongoli Valley]	
WHISTLER'S WARBLER	<i>Seicercus whistleri</i>
2 together on Garjiya-Mohan road north of Tiger Camp; 1 above Pangot	
GREY HOODED WARBLER	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistos</i>
2 singles in Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and frequent sightings in areas beyond Mussoorie; common, with frequent sightings, around Ranikhet and Pangot/Nainital	
WHITE-TAILED RUBYTHROAT	<i>Luscinia pectoralis</i>
1 near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 1 by Bajun village (near Mongoli Valley)	
GOLDEN BUSH ROBIN	<i>Tarsiger chrysaesus</i>
1 male near Mussoorie	
ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
1 by Sunstar Hotel, Delhi; common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); occasional sightings around Ramnagar-Corbett-Mohan	
WHITE RUMPED SHAMA	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
Often heard in Corbett area, but none seen	
BLUE FRONTED REDSTART	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
1 male beyond Mussoorie	
BLACK REDSTART	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
2 singles (male + female) on edge of Corbett NP	
PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>
Pair in river gorge near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); male on route to Sat Tal	
SLATY BACKED FORKTAIL	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>
Pair along Ranikhet-Sat Tal route	
SPOTTED FORKTAIL	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>
3 (single + pair) on river below Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	
BROWN ROCK CHAT	<i>Cercomela fusca</i>
1 along Delhi-Haridwar/Dehra Dun route; 1 on route Haridwar-Ramnagar; 2+1 near Tiger Camp	
COMMON STONECHAT	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>
Common around Dhikala, Corbett NP; 2 singles near Trishul Lodge (Ranikhet); common in cultivated areas around Pangot-Nainital	
PIED BUSHCHAT	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun and Dhikala, Corbett NP; frequent sightings around Ramnagar-Mohan away from the forest; occasional sightings along route Ranikhet-Sat Tal; 1 at bird feeding station Green Glen Lodge, Sat Tal; 2 singles by Jungle Lore, Pangot	
GREY BUSHCHAT	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>
2 singles in Mussoorie; 1 on route Kumeria (Mohan) to Ranikhet; 1 male carrying food to nest in Sat Tal fields; pairs common around Pangot-Nainital	

WHITE CAPPED WATER REDSTART Common - seen along most rivers and rocky streams	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>
INDIAN ROBIN Occasional sightings around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) and at Mussoorie	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>
CHESTNUT BELLIED ROCK THRUSH 2 males near Mussoorie; male + pair beyond Pangot	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>
BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH Common everywhere in the hills	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>
TICKELL'S THRUSH 3 singles (2 males, 1 female) in Corbett NP	<i>Turdus unicolor</i>
GREY WINGED BLACKBIRD Min.4 together beyond Mussoorie (2 males, 2-3 females); frequent sightings of pairs/singles around Pangot-Nainital	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>
DARK-THROATED THRUSH Several small flocks (5-15) in and around Mussoorie	<i>Turdus ruficollis atrogularis</i>
MISTLE THRUSH 1 near Ranikhet; 1 above Pangot	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
BROWN DIPPER 1 adult with 2 juvs on river below Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun) + 1 adult along another stretch of the Tons river; 1 adult on route to Sat Tal	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>
ALTAI ACCENTOR Flock of c.60 beyond Mussoorie; 2 singles plus flock of c.40 in Pangot area	<i>Prunella himalayana</i>
GREAT TIT Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); occasional sightings of singles/pairs around Corbett-Kumeria; 3 by Trishul Lodge, Ranikhet	<i>Parus major</i>
GREEN BACKED TIT Common in higher areas beyond Mussoorie; 1 south of Dehra Dun; 1 in Corbett NP; occasional sightings along route Mohan to Ranikhet; very common in higher areas around Ranikhet and Pangot-Nainital	<i>Parus monticolus</i>
SPOT-WINGED TIT 3 singles around Pangot	<i>Parus malanolphus</i>
BLACK-LORED TIT Fairly common in higher forested areas beyond Mussoorie; several sightings in forested areas from Kumeria to Ranikhet; 5 singles around Pangot-Nainital	<i>Parus xanthogenus</i>
YELLOW-BROWED TIT 2 singles above Pangot and 1 in garden of Jungle Lore Lodge	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
BLACK-THROATED TIT Common in small parties of 4-10 in and beyond Mussoorie; 1 near Mohan; 6+ on route Kumeria-Ranikhet; common in small flocks around Ranikhet and Pangot-Nainital	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
CHESTNUT BELLIED NUTHATCH Pair + single in Corbett NP; 1 on route Mohan to Ranikhet; 2 in Ranikhet area; 1 in garden of Green Glen Lodge, Sat Tal; 1 seen, another heard, in Pangot	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
WHITE TAILED NUTHATCH 2 singles in Mussoorie + 1 beyond town; 6 in Pangot area + 2 in Mongoli Valley	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>
BAR-TAILED TREECREEPER 1 in Mussoorie town; pair + 2 singles in Ranikhet area; pair + 2 singles around Pangot; 1 in Mongoli Valley	<i>Certhia himalayana</i>

OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
1 brief view, probably this sp. at Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2 seen well in Corbett NP	
RICHARD'S PIPIT	<i>Anthus richardi</i>
2 by Kosi river at Tiger Camp	
PADDYFIELD PIPIT	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
c.8 by Ramganga dam, Corbett NP [c.6 unidentified large pipits nearby]	
UPLAND PIPIT	<i>Anthus sylvanus</i>
1 seen well, plus 3 probables, in hills beyond Mussoorie; 1 in Ranikhet area; 2 singles near Pangot	
GREY WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Common along all rivers and streams, usually pairs	
WHITE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
2 singles near Shaheen Bagh (both were <i>M.a. leucopsis</i> -type males); 1 south of Dehra Dun	
WHITE BROWED WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>
Fairly common - singles/pairs - around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), route Haridwar-Ramnagar, around Garjiya, in Corbett NP and beyond Kumeria	
THICK-BILLED FLOWERPECKER	<i>Dicaeum agile</i>
5 singles seen around Shaheen Bagh/Doon Valley	
PALE-BILLED FLOWERPECKER	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>
2 together near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	
FIRE-BREASTED FLOWERPECKER	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>
Pair in forest near Ranikhet plus male + 2 females in Ranikhet Pinatum; fairly common around Pangot-Nainital	
PURPLE SUNBIRD	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>
Common around Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun), Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria; 5-6 in Pangot area. Not seen at Ranikhet	
GREEN TAILED SUNBIRD	<i>Aethopyga nepalensis</i>
1 female below Pangot	
CRIMON SUNBIRD	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>
Common in Doon Valley and around Mussoorie; occasional sightings in Ramnagar-Corbett-Garjiya/Mohan	
ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
Very common around Dehra Dun-Mussoorie-Ramnagar-Corbett-Kumeria-Ranikhet; 2 pairs only in Pangot-Nainital areas	
HOUSE SPARROW	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Common in small numbers (4-8) around all human habitation, including Corbett NP gates and Dhikala compound	
RUSSETT SPARROW	<i>Passer rutilans</i>
Small numbers (2-4) around Mussoorie, along Kumeria-Ramnagar route; 2 males + 2 single females in Ranikhet area; 4 at Green Glen Lodge feeding station, Sat Tal; a few pairs around Jungle Lore Lodge, Pangot	
CHESTNUT-SHOULDERED PETRONIA	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>
Large flock of c.100 by Kosi river, Tiger Camp	
RED AVADAVAT	<i>Amandava amandava</i>
Two flocks of c.20 in Corbett NP	
SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
Flock of c.40 near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 12 by Kosi river, Tiger Camp	
SPOT-WINGED GROSBEAK	<i>Mycerobas melanozanthos</i>
8 in flight in Mongoli Valley	

YELLOW-BREASTED GREENFINCH 6 by Shaheen Bagh Lodge and two small flocks north of Dehra Dun	<i>Cardeulis spinoides</i>
COMMON ROSEFINCH Fairly common, usually singles/pairs, around Shaheen Bagh-Dehra Dun-Mussoorie; 3-4 near Kosi river north of Garjiya/Mohan; common around Pangot-Nainital and in Mongoli Valley	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
PINK-BROWED ROSEFINCH 1 female below Mussoorie, 3 males + 2 females in Mussoorie town; 2 single females along Kumeria-Rhaniket route	<i>Carpodacus rodochrous</i>
PINE BUNTING 1 n/br male + 2 females in Mongoli Valley	<i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>
WHITE-CAPPED BUNTING Single n/br male and single female near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun); 2 single n/br males and 2 single females in Corbett NP; female in Sat Tal fields; 3 single males (one in breeding plumage) Pangot-Nainital area	<i>Emberiza stewarti</i>
ROCK BUNTING 1 male near Mussoorie town	<i>Emberiza cia</i>
CRESTED BUNTING 1 female near Shaheen Bagh (Dehra Dun)	<i>Melophus lathamii</i>
 <u>MAMMALS</u>	
ASIAN ELEPHANT 3 large groups in floodplain below Dhikala and 2 bulls in forest near Dhikala, Corbett NP	<i>Elaphus maximus</i>
TIGER 1 male in floodplain below Dhikala, Corbett NP	<i>Panthera tigris</i>
GOLDEN JACKAL 4 or 5 by Dhikala, Corbett NP	<i>Canis aureus</i>
YELLOW THROATED MARTEN 1 seen by Kosi river, Mohan-Kumeria	<i>Martes flavigula</i>
INDIAN GREY MONGOOSE 1 seen from car, north of Delhi	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>
SMALL INDIAN MONGOOSE 1 seen from car, north of Delhi; 1 seen near Shaheen Bagh, Dehra Dun	<i>Herpestes auropunctatus</i>
RHESUS MACAQUE Common	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
COMMON (HANUMAN) LANGUR Common	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>
PALM SQUIRREL 2 seen near Shaheen Bagh	<i>Funambulus sp.</i>
BLACK-NAPE HARE 1 seen near Shaheen Bagh	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>
LARGE INDIAN FRUIT BAT Large colony roosting in eucalyptus trees on outskirts of large town along the Haridwar-Najibabad-Dhampur route	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>
CHITAL DEER Common in Corbett NP	<i>Axis axis</i>
HOG DEER Common in Corbett NP	<i>Axis porcinus</i>
SAMBAR DEER Small numbers seen in Corbett NP	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>
INDIAN MUNTJAC Several sightings of singles in Corbett NP; 3 singles seen around Pangot-Nainital and often heard in the area	<i>Muntiacus muntjac</i>
GHORAL 1 seen above Mongoli Valley	<i>Nemorhaedus goral</i>
WILD BOAR Common in Corbett NP; lots of signs of their presence around Pangot-Nainital (digging, tracks, droppings)	<i>Sus scrofa cristatus</i>

REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS

MUGGER CROCODILE

Common along Kosi and Ramganga rivers

Crocodylus paluster

GHARIAL

9 seen in Corbett NP - 1 by Ramganga dam, 6 in Ramganga river at the gharial watch point and 2 further east

Gavialis gangeticus

BENGAL MONITOR

1 by Kosi river in Kumeria area

Varanus bengalensis

(? INDIAN) GARDEN LIZARD

1 male flushed bright red on head and foreparts - near Jungle Lore Lodge, Pangot; 1 all grey ? same sp. Pangot area

Calotes (?versicolor)

SMALL LIZARD spp.

Small, unidentified lizards common in most areas

SKINK sp. ? Keeled Grass Skink

Frequent sightings in most areas

Mabuya (?carinata)

GECKO sp. ? Yellow-green House Gecko

Frequent in and around buildings - possibly two species seen?

? *Hemidactylus flaviviridis*

TERRAPIN/TURLE sp.

1 in Corbett NP at small pool in forest

FISH

Seen in Ramganga and Kosi rivers:

Black Mahseer (*Barbus tor*)

Golden Mahseer

Large Catfish sp.

INSECTS

Temperatures were not very high so there weren't too many insects to see unless you specifically looked for them. The only bites we got were as we came out of Delhi airport on arrival. Mosquitos were only evident in Delhi and in the rooms at Dhikala. We became increasingly aware of Cicadas as the days passed - by the time we reached Pangot large (3cm) yellow and black cicadas were "everywhere" and their loud chirping filled the air.

Butterflies were the most obvious insects in all areas, usually unidentified. Indian Cabbage White (*Artogeia canida*) was abundant everywhere in the hills but most spectacularly around Pangot. On one day there was a constant stream of them - thousands - coming up from the valley below Pangot, heading north, up and up beyond the tops of the hills, disappearing out of sight. Amazing.

This list is just an overview of the *types* of butterflies seen, none were positively identified, except perhaps Painted Lady and India Tortoiseshell:

"Rose" types (Common Rose *Pachliopta aristolochiae*, Crimson Rose *Pachliopta hector* or the mimic Common Mormon *Papilio polytes*)
Blue Tiger *Tirumala limbiace*, or mimic
Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus* or mimic
Common Jezebel *Delias eucharis*
Indian Cabbage White *Artogeia canida*
Common Bluebottle *Graphium sarpedon*
Tailed Jay *Graphium agamemnon*
Common Evening Brown *Melanitis leda*
Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*
Indian Tortoiseshell *Aglais cashmiriensis*
Common Leopard *Phalanta phalantha*
Chocolate Pansy *Precis iphita*
Common Sailor *Neptis hyles*
Common Gull *Cepora nerissa*
Common Cerulean (Blue) *Jamides celeno*