West India: Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra

5th February – 21st February, 2017

Leader: Mike Nelson

Participants: Mike Edgecombe, Mike Goddard, Graham Hogan, Winnie Poon, Billy Rogers, Roy Smith, Keith and Lynn Youngs

The Indian subcontinent is packed with wonderful birding and here in the Western part of India there are several desirable targets so it was no surprise that our second tour of 2017 was full of eager birders hoping to see some of these sadly endangered species. We kicked off our tour in the cool fog of Harike with Rufous-vented Grass-babbler and the localized Sind Sparrow then began to make our way south to Tal Chhapar for great looks at Indian Spotted Creeper. Next it was to Desert National Park for stunning views of the most important bird of the tour – Great Indian Bustard – followed by the spectacle of thousands of Demoiselle Cranes coming to feed on grains in the morning sunlight. Onwards to Siyana and the crippling White-bellied Minivet and then up Mount Abu for the diminutive but stunning Green Avadavat. From here we dropped down into the
Great and Little Rann of Kutch to see the Sykes’s trio of Lark, Warbler and Nightjar as well White-naped Tit, Marshall’s Iora and Hypocolius. We finished up in Maharashtra for the now legendary Forest Owlet to wrap up a fantastic tour.

We began in the cool of Amritsar on a foggy morning in the bird sanctuary of Harike. Visibility was down to ten meters so it was a good thing our main target showed up right in front of us at the edge of some reeds. The skulking little Rufous-vented Grass-babbler was once thought to be a Prinia but its vocalizations are far from those of a Prinia and it was this song that led us to the edge of the reed beds where it was tossing its head back and shaking wings before hopping about through the tangle of stalks giving us some great views. Once the fog cleared it began to reveal other species like Yellow-eyed Babbler, a wintering Bar-tailed Treecreeper down from its usual mountain haunts, Indian Grey Hornbill, Mountain Chiffchaff outnumbered by Siberian Chiffchaff, White-throated Kingfisher and a noisy pair of Plain Prinia. In the afternoon we visited another area of grasses along a river. The water way here was filled with loads of birds and wintering water-birds were a feature with Greylag Geese in good numbers, Eurasian Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, Northern Shoveler and Pintail along with some waders like Common Redshank and Greenshank, Marsh and Wood Sandpiper and Common Sandpiper. Great and Indian Cormorant were common and out in the grasses loads of Red-wattled Lapwing were visible. Our main target here, Jerdon’s Babbler skulking in the grasses was very responsive but reluctant to show, but eventually we found a pair that were more obliging and showed very well before we headed back. Another bonus here was a little Jack Snipe that flushed from the fields as we were walking around.

The next morning, we spent a little time along another sandy track next to a river where we found four Sind Sparrows feeding close by on the seeds of grass stalks. We also picked up Black-rumped Flameback, Striated Babbler, Rose-ringed Parakeets and Lesser Whitethroat. While walking the track here we also flushed a Black Bittern from the trackside grasses and watched as it rose over the tree line and over the river, as a pair of Pied Kingfishers cruised up the river. Along another track we found a small patch of water where several Glossy Ibis were feeding at the edge of the reeds and out in the water were many ducks including Indian Spot-billed and Ferruginous to add to the list.

From here it was a long drive south into the more arid regions of Tal Chhapar where we began the next morning. Other than several views of Bay-backed Shrike, one our main targets was almost the first bird after the high pitched song of Indian Spotted-creeper alerted us to a close by bird and we got some wonderful views in some lovely early morning sunlight. Once we’d obtained some brilliant views of this bird feeding we moved to another area of thorn scrub where we found a particular tree that seemed to be the central meeting point for all the local birds and we spent an amazing half hour watching from one spot as a pair of Yellow-fronted Woodpeckers, Indian Rollers and a Southern Grey Shrike being hounded by Bay-backed Shrikes, a noisy collection of Large Grey Babblers, Yellow-throated Sparrows and Brahminy Starlings all came and went. This was topped off by the appearance of another Indian Spotted-creeper that came in and began to sing on the neighbouring tree before coming over to the communal tree to join the party. Then just like that they were all gone so we moved on to track down both Grey and Black Francolin. At the back of the field we located three Rock Bush Quails that were feeding in the grasses. Their song alerted us of their presence and once we’d all had good looks at them we decided to move to the side of the field where the light was behind us. Our attention was diverted away by several White-bellied Minivets but as we slowly crept into the field we
eventually found the three bird covey tucked at the edge of a scrub line in a shallow ditch where we got some great looks before they tired of being ogled and headed off into the thicker scrub and disappeared.

A noisy pair of Spotted Owlet alerted us to their location and on the way out a nice Rose-ringed Parakeet sat in the morning light watching the comings and goings of the Indian Desert Jirds running about below it. We also flushed a Small Buttonquail from a tall grass field and watch as it skidded across the top of the grass before dropping in and disappearing.

Indian Spotted Creeper and Rock Bush Quail

The afternoon was spent in the Blackbuck reserve where we found many of these beautiful antelope along with a nesting Indian Eagle Owl, Indian Bushlark and Rufous-fronted Prinia.

The next morning, we rose early and headed to the Bikaner dump where the carcasses of deceased cows attract herds of vultures and raptors. Thankfully it was quite cold so the smell was tolerable but every tree you looked at was draped in Steppe Eagles, by far the most common raptor as well as a few Black Kites and two pale eyed Eastern Imperial Eagle juveniles. Egyptian Vultures were by far the most numerous of the vultures but a lovely pair of Monk Vultures showed well and two separate Eurasian Griffons sat atop distant trees for some scope views. Further afield we tracked down several Yellow-eyed Pigeons feeding in nearby fields before making the long drive west towards Desert National Park. A stop for the last hours of sunlight before dusk gave us a shot at Red-tailed Wheatear which showed well sitting on a wall for us. Several Desert Larks were present along with three Trumpeter Finches that dove in and out of the rocks and a lone Indian Eagle Owl perched on a stone memorial for some lovely scope views. Our last target came just before dusk with a nice Striolated Bunting perching close by.

This morning we all rose with a sense of excitement and trepidation. Desert National Park, home to a small, and diminishing population of Great Indian Bustard, awaited us and with the first rays of light illuminating the distant horizon we all perched behind 'scopes nursing hot coffee or masala chai scanning the distant grasses hoping for the sight of one of the majestic birds. Since none conveniently showed from where we were having breakfast we made our way out into the grasses stopping occasionally to scan again. We did pick up a lovely Red-headed Falcon amidst all the Southern Grey Shrikes but still no bustards. Our procession moved and scanned and moved and scanned. Then from behind us came a call and we all raced to the spot and there through our 'scopes were three of these wonderful birds. We all watched for a while as a pair danced about each other and rose on spread wings doing a display before we moved to a nearby dune to rise above the plain and get better views. Here we watched for the next hour as the birds casually fed and occasionally the pair continued to dance around each other. Having got fantastic views, we headed back but not before being stopped by a pair of Cream-coloured Coursers out in an area of arid dune where we parked our bus.

Another resident of these sparse grasses is Stolizcka’s Bushchat which winters here in small numbers and after some searching we found a pair feeding in the grasses occasionally perching for short periods on a bush before dropping down on some unsuspecting prey. We also picked up a pair of Eurasian Griffon and a Red-headed Vulture. Long-billed Pipit showed well and several Black-crowned Sparrow-Larks fed close by sifting through the sand. We also picked up Short-toed Eagle and Pallid harrier plus several Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and a lone Greater Spotted Eagle did a fly by before we headed to lunch.
In the afternoon we pottered around in search of some other goodies finding the mostly black *opistholeuca* subspecies of Variable Wheatear which rounded up the trio of subspecies here. We also located a Long-legged Buzzard perched atop a pylon and a nesting Lagger Falcon that flew off to meet its mate to collect a meal that had been found for it and we watched as it returned to the nest and tore into a small rodent, consuming morsel after morsel before settling back on the nest. Our best find of the afternoon was when we were returning through the park when a Great Indian Bustard appeared next to the bus. We screamed to a halt and turned the bus side on to the bird for some crippling views. Though our views in the morning were great this was a real treat to be so close to one. We all peered out of the bus, cameras and videos poking out and watched as the bird sauntered up to the road and crossed then came back eventually returning to the road and casually walking down the middle of it till it found a nice spot to enter the grasses behind some trees and then out of sight, amazing!

Since we’d done so well with the bustard the previous day we were in for yet another amazing avian spectacle this morning as we perched up on a local house predawn for breakfast and watched as thousands of Demoiselle Cranes marshalled in the dawn sunlight in nearby fields at Kheechan. Once huge numbers had accumulated they would take flight and fly over the small courtyard below us where grain had been laid out for them. The massive congregation honked and whistled in a cacophonous morning chorus that sounded like the horn section tuning up. Occasionally one would dip close then rise up to join the circling masses waiting. A throng of Rock Doves had settled onto the ground at one point and just as they were about to be joined by several cranes a Lagger Falcon dived in and put the proverbial Lagger amongst the pigeons. Every one scattered and the cranes resumed their circling till they felt comfortable. Once the sign was given by the leader they all began to settle down into the courtyard and feed, heads nodding up and down and bodies jostled for position in the throng of powder and gunmetal grey interspersed by a ruby eye keeping watch above. Tearing ourselves away from this amazing avian phenomenon we continued south to Siyana arriving in the late afternoon at our lodge for the evening. We soon headed out to a local pool where we waited till dusk getting some fantastic views of Painted Sandgrouse as they came in to drink. At one point three birds landed smack dab right in front of Winnie and Roy for some “no bins required” views. Once we’d had our fill we quietly crept away and drove to some local rock formations to find a lone Striped Hyena that showed only briefly for one of our vehicles. Returning to our lodge we were presented with some of the best food of the trip made by our hosts and washed down with some wonderfully cold Kingfisher Beer.

Our morning began in some local brushy scrub locating several Indian Thick-Knee hiding under the bushes. Here we also picked up great views of Eastern Orphean Warbler and a nice pair of Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and as is typical with sandgrouse there were three more hidden close by that we only noticed when they took flight. A singing Indian Robin showed well belting out his territorial tune in the early morning light.

Moving to another area of scrub we found quite a few Grey-necked Buntings, a lone Eurasian Wryneck perched out, several feeding Green Bee-eaters, a nice pair of White-browed Fantails and a crippling Sirkeer Malkoha that performed amazingly well, calling and flying about us. Just before lunch we headed to a huge rocky outcrop that was home to several Indian Vultures that circled around with Dusky Crag Martins while a lone Xinjiang Shrike perched on the wires close by.
After relaxing during the heat of the day we headed out to a distant area of scrub and stunted trees where our main target was a male White-bellied Minivet, having seen loads of females we were really looking forward to a male. We all began to meander around scouting the area and it was Mike Goddard who found one while taking in a Bay-backed Shrike, a beautiful male popped up and he sent out the call. We all managed to get wonderful views of the male as it flitted from bush to bush.

*White-bellied Minivet and White-naped Tit*

We stopped again on the way back and waited for dusk at the hyena spot and were treated to a dusk Indian Nightjar that circled around us a few times before we moved closer in to the rocks and picked out the wonderful pelage of a Striped Hyena and it walked along the rocks making for a nice end to a wonderful day.

Another predawn departure saw us up on Mount Abu in the dawn light and while we feasting on breakfast we were treated to some great birding. Brown-headed Barbet, Indian Yellow Tit, Crested and White-capped Buntings were all on show before we headed off in search of Mount Abu’s most famous resident; Green Avadavat. Almost immediately Mike Edgecombe spotted three on the ground to our right as we stopped to scan. Moving down the road to him we all clapped eyes on two nice males and a female before they disappeared into the scrub to our right. Job done we spent the rest of the time casually walking around picking up some other nice birds here including White-spotted Fantail, Sulphur-bellied Warbler, Tree Pipit and Blue Rock Thrush. During our time up here we ran into four groups of Green Avadavat and counted thirty plus birds which was great. Since we’d done so well we had a quick go of cricket with the locals and Graham got stuck in with what would have been a maiden over had it not been for the six the local kid blasted over the wall behind him! Grumblings of line and length and the condition of the pitch and something about the bounce of the ball were all opined but all with good humour before we waved to the kids and headed down the mountain again.

We drove through the heat of the day arriving on the Little Rann of Kutch in the afternoon. No sooner had we dropped gear that we were looking a one of the local Pallid Scops Owls before sipping on some coffee and tea before heading out into the vast dry plains of the kutch. Arriving at our rally point before dusk we got out and scanned a bit picking up several Nilgai and Common Cranes before moving into position for the night show. Waiting in the dark we scanned with our torches first then drove about continuing to scan till the eyeshine of Sykes’s Nightjar reflected back at us. It took several goes with the bird flushing up and chasing insects before we found one that sat on the ground patiently as we approached and let get some fantastic views of its cryptic feather patterns amid the similarly coloured grasses and dirt upon which it was sat.

The next morning we set out early onto the wide plains of the kutch and began by scouting through the low bushes till we found a lone McQueens Bustard. It moved behind some trees and out of sight so we moved around but it had taken flight and moved to another area. We were able to relocate the bird for some nice views before it took flight again and out of sight. From here we then took a long and dusty ride out onto the main Rhan of Kutch to where we found, after some searching, a lovely Greater Hoopoe-Lark feeding in the tracks of a previous vehicle. We watched for a while before it then sang and sprang up into the air before cartwheeling in the air and shooting down and parachuting into a landing. This it did several times and we all watched this spectacle before heading back for lunch.
During lunch we found a very obliging pair of Sykes’s Warbler which piqued the interest of some of the locals who joined us in taking pictures and looking the birds as they fed close by. Again we took another shot at Pallid Scops Owl finding another day roosting bird at the back of the complex. After a bit of scouting round a few fields we found seven Indian Courses feeding next to the road and we all got wonderful scope views of this much wanted species before we headed to a nearby lake for the sunset. The lake was covered with birds, hundreds of Demoiselle Cranes, Great White Pelicans, Lesser Flamingos, a few Greater Flamingos, Eurasian Spoonbills, Black-tailed Godwits, Indian and Great Cormorants, several Small Pratincole foraging over the water and a few Avocets and assorted waders kept us occupied for the remainder of the afternoon till the failing light had us head back.

The next day we began early with the long drive to the Greater Rhan of Kutch with stops along the way including a bridge for hundreds of Streak-throated Swallows and a nice close Paddyfield Warbler below us in the grasses. A nice Bluethroat was also seen here and River Terns cruised up and down the river. We also stopped by a huge salt works for some waders and our first Western Reef Egrets and Hugelin’s Gull. Another stop at a small pond was productive with a large group of fifteen pelicans half being Great White and the other half Dalmation making for a nice comparison. Arriving in the afternoon where we got stuck straight into to some birding in a patch of rocky, barren ground picking up the last of the Sykes’s trio with Sykes’s Lark, looking like a small, more rufous version of a Crested Lark we all enjoyed several of the birds as the hunted around for food some perching on a wall for us to enjoy. Next we moved to an area of stunted trees where our first bird was a nice Marshall’s Iora that kindly perched out for us to have a look at. Farther in we came across our other target with a pair of vocal White-naped Tits that performed admirably sitting atop several trees and singing away. With more close vocalizations of Marshall’s Iora we got some further great looks at these birds before heading back.

Our first morning on the Greater Rann of Kutch we spent in some scrubby country where fruiting bushes attract Hypocolius, and we found them in good numbers coming in to feed with the White-eared Bulbuls. Rosy Starlings were also here in the hundreds and noisy flocks often passed by. A young Bonelli’s Eagle put in an appearance being hounded by several House Crows and continuing the raptor theme we saw a Western Marsh Harrier coursing over the fields. Another Pallid Scops Owl was found on a day roost and a vocal Bluethroat kept to the thick foliage in front of us. After soaking up the Hypocolius extravaganza we moved to a rocky area where we picked up another Red-tailed Wheatear and a nice low Montague’s Harrier in full male adult plumage. Checking a local pond we found a Black-necked Stork that soon took to flight along with several Great Egrets, Little Ringed Plover and a Citrine Wagtail. Loads of Northern Shovelers and Common Teal were seen here and along the shore in some scrub tangles we found an Indian Reed Warbler inching down to the water’s edge to pluck insects off the surface. The bright blue of a Common Kingfisher was picked out from its perch and a lone European Honeybuzzard circled away from us but not before being nailed down. A lone White-browed Wagtail showed well at the end of the grasses and several Black-winged Stilts called in annoyance of our approach. The drive back was interrupted by a nice couple of Rufous-tailed Larks feeding right next to the track before we arrived back for lunch.
The afternoon was spent out in some sparsely bushed areas where we found several Crested Larks, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, a pair of Xinjiang Shrikes and a nice covey of Grey Francolin. We also had a group of three and later a single Golden Jackal.

**Indian Coursers and Hypocolius**

This morning we headed south towards the coast and upon arrival were soon greeted by loads of birds. Eurasian Wryneck fed close by and several Heuglin’s Gulls mixed with the Steppe Gulls. Gull-billed Terns were seen close by hawking for insects over the sand with competing Black Drongos. At the water’s edge after breakfast we found some wonderfully colourful Great Flamingos whose pink shone in the morning light. Western Reef Egret were here in good numbers and a lone Dalmation Pelican. The beach was covered in several groups of gulls with Brown-headed and Slender-billed the dominant member with mixed numbers of Heuglin’s, Steppe and a few Pallas’s Gulls along with Caspian, Little, Common and Lesser Crested Terns to round out the mix. Shorebirds were also present in good numbers with Terek Sandpiper and Spotted Redshank standouts amid the Sanderlings, Little Stints, Bar-tailed Godwits, Eurasian Curlews and Whimbrels plus Common, Green, Marsh and Wood Sandpipers, Common Redshank and Greenshanks and a few Ruddy Turnstones made for a nice bevy of *Scolopacids* along with Eurasian Oystercatchers in the crowd. Farther along the shore we found a group of Great Thick-knees and plovers were in good numbers with both Greater and Lesser Sandplover, Kentish Plover and three Grey Plover in attendance. Our stop for lunch next to a small freshwater pond gave us some nice looks at Red and Yellow-wattled Lapwings, Red-naped Ibis, Painted Stork and Eurasian Spoonbills.

In the afternoon we made our way out to a tower overlooking Charri Lake. Along the way a lovely pair of Painted Sandgrouse next to the road showed really well for all of us and we got out to take them in as they sat in the shade. When we arrived at the lake it was covered in birds but the first thing we did is pick through the Yellow Wagtails for both *thunbergi* and *feldegg* subspecies before we climbed up and began to scan the lake. Large rafts of Eurasian Coots, Eurasian Teal, Gadwall, Northern Pintail and Northern Shoveler mixed with a few Tufted Ducks and several Great Crested Grebes. Large groups of Dalmatian Pelicans, Great, Indian and Little Cormorants were all seen well and loads of Purple Swamphens foraged in the grass with a lone Common Snipe. We then watched as thousands of cranes came in to roost on the other side of the lake, sadly the sun had set by then so no sunset snaps for us.

Leaving the Rhan of Kutch we caught a flight to Mumbai then drove into the hinterland where the hot, deciduous forest holds one of India’s most enigmatic birds; the Forest Owlet, which once disappeared for 113 years before it was found again in 1997. Very small numbers still exist in its rapidly disappearing forest as more and more of the area comes under pressure to be cleared. Our first evening here was very quiet, yielding very little as we looked around for the owl so we headed out again early the next morning stopping for another Strigid resident in the form of the much larger Mottled Wood Owl. We had a very close bird pose for us for a bit then as the sun began to rise we could hear distant Jungle Nightjars singing and the booming hoot of several more Mottled Wood Owls close by.

We then moved to another area where we had breakfast and spent some time here before we located a singing male Forest Owlet. Having had great scope views we spent some time manoeuvring around as the bird did, rec-scoping it and soaking in more of this endangered owlet. Once we’d all seen the bird well we then moved on to
another area of forest where we picked up the endemic Vigor’s Sunbird along with Common Woodshrike, Indian Jungle Crow, Agile Flowerpecker, White-eye Buzzard, Crested Treeswift, a circling Booted Eagle, Plum-headed Parakeets, Black-hooded Oriole and Tickell’s Blue Flycatcher.

In the afternoon we tried another forest patch starting with a vocal pair of Jungle Owlets. This was followed by Indian Paradise Flycatcher, Greenish Warbler, Indian Pygmy Woodpecker, Common Iora and Jerdon’s Leafbird. As darkness approached we got set up and waited and just before dusk came the calls of Mottled Wood Owls began to echo around us shortly later followed by our main target Jungle Nightjar. One cruised over the paddy field close by, landing on a telephone wire before taking flight again and landing on another snag. In the back ground a single Savannah Nightjar gave its single note call and flew across the top of the treeline and out of sight.

**White-naped Woodpecker and Forest Owlet**

Our last morning was spent in two groups as a sick member of the party had missed out on the Forest Owlet the day before and several of the group wanted another shot at the bird, while others birded the lower forest area. This time when we arrived at the owlet spot there was a bird vocalizing shortly after we hit the track and it was soon located for even better views than the day before. There were no fires around today so the air was clear and we spent a while again with this petite forest denizen. On our walk out we ran into a pair of obliging White-naped Woodpeckers.

A short stop at a lake edge added a nice pair of Asian Openbills and a fly past group of four Malabar Parakeets their powder grey heads showing well in the morning light. When we arrived with the other group they too had seen a group of four Malabar Parakeets that had flown of in our direction, probably the same group. Their morning had been equally productive with several Sulphur-bellied and Greenish Warblers and a lone Western Crowned Warbler. A nice group of Jerdon’s Leafbirds, a pair of Rufous Woodpeckers and Jungle Owlet again.

Our evening return to Mumbai greeted us with a fabulous dinner which was a nice conclusion to a wonderful trip.

Some keen eyed birders had Indian Golden Oriole from their hotel window, just can’t keep a good birder down.

For information regarding our tours to India please click [here](#). Alternatively please contact us via [e-mail](mailto:info@birdsofthetour.com) or phone +44 1332 516254 regarding organising a custom tour to India.

**Bird-of-the-tour:**

1. Great Indian Bustard
2. Forest Owlet
3. Painted Sandgrouse
4. Indian Courser
5. White-bellied Minivet
Steppe Eagle and Monk Vulture

Marshall’s Iora and Common Crane

Golden Jackal and Blackbuck
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and Black Francolin

Jungle Owlet and Spotted Owlet

Sykes’s Warbler and Sykes’s Lark
**Systematic List**

**ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae**

- Greylag Goose: *Anser anser*
- Bar-headed Goose: *Anser indicus*
- Ruddy Shelduck: *Tadorna ferruginea*
- Common Shelduck: *Tadorna tadorna*
- Eurasian Wigeon: *Anas penelope*
- Gadwall: *Anas strepera*
- Eurasian Teal: *Anas crecca*
- Indian Spot-billed Duck: *Anas poecilorhyncha*
- Northern Pintail: *Anas acuta*
- Northern Shoveler: *Anas clypeata*
- Common Pochard: *Aythya ferina*
- Ferruginous Pochard: *Aythya nyroca*
- Tufted Duck: *Aythya fuligula*

**GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Francolin</td>
<td>Francolinus francolinus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Francolin</td>
<td>Francolinus pondicerianus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jungle Bush Quail</td>
<td>Perdicula asiatica punjaibi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Bush Quail</td>
<td>Perdicula argonodah meinertzhageni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Peafowl</td>
<td>Pavo cristatus</td>
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**PTEROCILIFORMES: Pteroclidae**

- Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse: *Pterocles exustus*
- Painted Sandgrouse: *Pterocles indicus*

**PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae**

- Little Grebe: *Tachybaptus ruficollis*
- Great Crested Grebe: *Podiceps cristatus*

**PHOENICOPTERIFORMES: Phoenicopteridae**

- Greater Flamingo: *Phoenicopterus roseus*
- Lesser Flamingo: *Phoenicopterus minor*

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

- Rock Dove: *Columba livia intermedia*
- Yellow-eyed Dove: *Columba eversmanni*
- Oriental Turtle Dove: *Streptopelia orientalis erythrocephala*
- Eurasian Collared Dove: *Streptopelia decaocto*
- Red Collared Dove: *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
- Spotted Dove: *Streptopelia chinensis*
- Laughing Dove: *Streptopelia senegalensis*
- Yellow-footed Green Pigeon: *Treron phoenicopterus chlorigaster*

**CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae**

- Asian Koel: *Eudynamys scolopaceus*
- Sirkeer Malkoha: *Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii*
- Greater Coucal: *Centropus sinensis parroti*

**APODIFORMES: Hemiprocnidae**

- Crested Treeswift: *Hemiprocne coronata*

**APODIFORMES: Apodidae**

- Alpine Swift: *Tachymarptis melba*
- Little Swift: *Apus affinis*

**CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae**

- Jungle Nightjar: *Caprimulgus indicus*
- Sykes’s Nightjar: *Caprimulgus mahrattensis*
- Indian Nightjar: *Caprimulgus asiaticus*
- Savanna Nightjar: *Caprimulgus affinis*

**GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**

- White-breasted Waterhen: *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
- Purple Swamphen: *Porphyrio [porphyrio] poliocephalus*
- Common Moorhen: *Gallinula chloropus*
- Eurasian Coot: *Fulica atra*

**GRUIFORMES: Gruidae**

- Demoiselle Crane: *Anthropoides virgo*
- Common Crane: *Grus grus*

**GRUIFORMES: Otidae**

- Great Indian Bustard: *Ardeotis nigriceps*
Macqueen's Bustard

CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae
- Black-winged Stilt: Himantopus himantopus
- Pied Avocet: Recurvirostra avosetta

CHARADRIIFORMES: Haematopodidae
- Eurasian Oystercatcher: Haematopus ostralegus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae
- Indian Thick-knee: Burhinus bengalensis
- Great Thick-knee: Burhinus recurvirostris

CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae
- Yellow-wattled Lapwing: Vanellus malabaricus
- Red-wattled Lapwing: Vanellus indicus
- White-tailed Lapwing: Vanellus leucurus
- Grey Plover: Pluvialis squatarola
- Common Ringed Plover: Charadrius hiaticula
- Little Ringed Plover: Charadrius dubius jerdoni
- Kentish Plover: Charadrius a. alexandrinus
- Lesser Sandplover: Anarhynchus mongolus
- Greater Sandplover: Anarhynchus leschenaultii

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae
- Jack Snipe: Lymnocryptes minimus
- Common Snipe: Gallinago gallinago
- Black-tailed Godwit: Limosa limosa
- Bar-tailed Godwit: Limosa lapponica
- Eurasian Whimbrel: Numenius phaeopus
- Eurasian Curlew: Numenius arquata
- Terek Sandpiper: Xenus cinereus
- Common Sandpiper: Actitis hypoleucos
- Green Sandpiper: Tringa ochropus
- Spotted Redshank: Tringa erythropus
- Common Greenshank: Tringa nebularia
- Ruddy Turnstone: Arenaria interpres
- Marsh Sandpiper: Tringa stagnatilis
- Wood Sandpiper: Tringa glareola
- Common Redshank: Tringa totanus
- Little Stint: Calidris minuta
- Temminck's Stint: Calidris temminckii
- Dunlin: Calidris alpina
- Curlew Sandpiper: Calidris ferruginea
- Sanderling: Calidris alba
- Ruff: Calidris pugnax

CHARADRIIFORMES: Turnicidae
- Small Buttonquail: Turnix sylvaticus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae
- Cream-coloured Courser: Cursorius cursor
- Indian Courser: Cursorius coromandelicus
- Small Pratincole: Glareola lactea

CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae
- Steppe Gull: Larus [cachinnans] barabensis
- Heuglin's Gull: Larus [fuscus] heuglini
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pallas’s Gull</td>
<td><em>Larus ichtyaetus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-headed Gull</td>
<td><em>Larus brunicephalus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Gull</td>
<td><em>Larus ridibundus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slender-billed Gull</td>
<td><em>Larus genei</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gull-billed Tern</td>
<td><em>Gelochelidon nilotica</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caspian Tern</td>
<td><em>Hydroprogne caspia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Crested Tern</td>
<td><em>Thalasseus bengalensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Crested Tern</td>
<td><em>Thalasseus bergii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiskered Tern</td>
<td><em>Chlidonias hybrida</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-winged Tern</td>
<td><em>Chlidonias leucopterus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Tern</td>
<td><em>Sternula albifrons albifrons</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Tern</td>
<td><em>Sterna aurantia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Tern</td>
<td><em>Sterna hirundo</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PELECANIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Cormorant</td>
<td><em>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Cormorant</td>
<td><em>Phalacrocorax carbo</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Cormorant</td>
<td><em>Phalacrocorax niger</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Darter</td>
<td><em>Anhinga melanogaster</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CICONIIFORMES: Threskiornithidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Ibis</td>
<td><em>Threskiornis melanopephalus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red-naped Ibis</td>
<td><em>Pseudibis papillosa</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Glossy Ibis</td>
<td><em>Plegadis falcinellus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eurasian Spoonbill</td>
<td><em>Platalea leucoptera</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painted Stork</td>
<td><em>Mycteria leucocephala</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Openbill</td>
<td><em>Anastomus oscitans</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Stork</td>
<td><em>Ciconia nigra</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-necked Stork</td>
<td><em>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CICONIIFORMES: Ardeidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Heron</td>
<td><em>Ardea cinerea</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Purple Heron</td>
<td><em>Ardea purpurea</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Great Egret</td>
<td><em>Ardea alba modestus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Egret</td>
<td><em>Ardea intermedia intermedia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattle Egret</td>
<td><em>Ardea ibis coromandus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Egret</td>
<td><em>Egretta garzetta</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Reef Heron</td>
<td><em>Egretta gularis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Pond Heron</td>
<td><em>Ardeola grayii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striated Heron</td>
<td><em>Butorides striata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Bittern</td>
<td><em>Ixobrychus flavidus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great White Pelican</td>
<td><em>Pelecanus onocrotalus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dalmatian Pelican</td>
<td><em>Pelecanus crispus</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Honeybuzzard</td>
<td><em>Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-shouldered Kite</td>
<td><em>Elanus caeruleus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Kite</td>
<td><em>Milvus migrans govinda</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>'Black-eared' Kite</td>
<td><em>Milvus migrans lineatus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian Vulture</td>
<td><em>Neophron percnopterus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Vulture</td>
<td><em>Gyps indicus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eurasian Griffon</td>
<td><em>Gyps fulvus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monk Vulture</td>
<td><em>Aegypius monachus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed Vulture</td>
<td><em>Sarcogyps calvus</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Short-toed Eagle  
*Circaetus gallicus*

Western Marsh Harrier  
*Circus aeruginosus*

 Pallid Harrier  
*Circus macrourus*

Montagu's Harrier  
*Circus pygargus*

Shikra  
*Tachyspiza badius dussumieri*

White-eyed Buzzard  
*Butastur teesa*

Long-legged Buzzard  
*Buteo rufinus*

Greater Spotted Eagle  
*Clanga clanga*

Steppe Eagle  
*Aquila nipalensis*

Imperial Eagle  
*Aquila heliaca*

Bonelli's Eagle  
*Aquila fasciata*

Booted Eagle  
*Aquila pennata*

**STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae**

Indian Scops Owl  
*Otus [lettia] bakkamoena*

Pallid Scops Owl  
*Otus brucei*

Indian Eagle Owl  
*Bubo bengalensis*

Mottled Wood Owl  
*Strix ocellata*

Forest Owlet  
*Heteroglaux blewitti*

Jungle Owlet  
*Glaucidium radiatum*

Spotted Owlet  
*Athene brama indica*

**CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae**

Indian Grey Hornbill  
*Ocyceros birostris*

**PICIFORMES: Capitonidae**

Brown-headed Barbet  
*Psilopogon zeylanica*

Coppersmith Barbet  
*Psilopogon haemacephala*

**PICIFORMES: Picidae**

Eurasian Wryneck  
*Jynx torquilla*

Indian Pygmy Woodpecker  
*Dendrocopos nanus*

Yellow-fronted Woodpecker  
*Dendrocopos mahrattensis*

Rufous Woodpecker  
*Micropternus brachyurus*

Black-rumped Flameback  
*Dinopium benghalense*

White-naped Woodpecker  
*Chrysocolaptes festivus*

**CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae**

Common Kingfisher  
*Alcedo atthis*

White-throated Kingfisher  
*Halcyon smyrnensis*

Pied Kingfisher  
*Ceryle rudis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae**

Green Bee-eater  
*Merops orientalis orientalis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae**

Indian Roller  
*Coracias benghalensis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae**

Eurasian Hoopoe  
*Upupa epops epops*

**FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae**

Eurasian Kestrel  
*Falco tinnunculus*

Red-necked Falcon  
*Falco chicquera*

Laggar Falcon  
*Falco jugger*

**PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae**

Alexandrine Parakeet  
*Psittacula eupatria*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Oriolidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indian Golden Oriole</td>
<td>Oriolus kundoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-hooded Oriole</td>
<td>Oriolus xanthornus maderaspatanus</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Campephagidae</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large Cuckoo-shrike</td>
<td>Coracina macei macei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Minivet</td>
<td>Pericrocotus c. cinnamomeus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Minivet</td>
<td>Pericrocotus erythropygius</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Aegithinidae</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Iora</td>
<td>Aegithina tiphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall’s Iora</td>
<td>Aegithina nigrolutea</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Vangidae</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Woodshrike</td>
<td>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Rhipiduridae</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White-spotted Fantail</td>
<td>Rhipidura albogularis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed Fantail</td>
<td>Rhipidura aureola</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Dicruridae</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Drongo</td>
<td>Dicrurus macrocercus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashy Drongo</td>
<td>Dicrurus leucophaeus longicaudatus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Drongo</td>
<td>Dicrurus caerulescens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Racket-tailed Drongo</td>
<td>Dicrurus paradiseus rangoonensis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Monarchidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-naped Monarch</td>
<td>Hypothymis azurea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian Paradise Flycatcher</td>
<td>Terpsiphone paradisi paradisi</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Laniidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xinjiang Shrike</td>
<td>Lanius [isabellinus] arenarius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay-backed Shrike</td>
<td>Lanius vittatus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Shrike</td>
<td>Lanius schach erythronotus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Grey Shrike</td>
<td>Lanius meridionalis lahtora</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Corvidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rufous Treepie</td>
<td>Dendrocitta vagabunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Crow</td>
<td>Corvus splendens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Jungle Crow</td>
<td>Corvus culminatus</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Paridae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indian Yellow Tit</td>
<td>Machlolophus aplotonotus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-naped Tit</td>
<td>Machlolophus nuchalis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinereous Tit</td>
<td>Parus cinereus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PASSERIFORMES:</strong> Alaudidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indian Bushlark</td>
<td>Mirafra erythroptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Hoopoe-Lark</td>
<td>Alaemon alaudipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-crowned Finch-Lark</td>
<td>Eremopterix nigriceps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashy-crowned Finch-Lark</td>
<td>Eremopterix griseus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-tailed Lark</td>
<td>Ammomanes phoenicura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Lark</td>
<td>Ammomanes deserti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Short-toed Lark</td>
<td>Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crested Lark Galerida cristata chendoola
Sykes's Lark Galerida deva

**PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae**
Common Sand Martin Riparia riparia
Dusky Crag Martin Ptyonoprogne concolor
Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica gutturalis
Red-rumped Swallow Hirundo daurica erythropygia
Red-rumped Swallow Hirundo daurica daurica
Streak-throated Swallow Hirundo fluvicola
Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii

**PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae**
White-eared Bulbul Pycnonotus leucotis
Red-whiskered Bulbul Pycnonotus jocosus
Red-vented Bulbul Pycnonotus cafer

**PASSERIFORMES: Pellorneidae**
Rufous-vented Babbler (Prinia) Laticilla burnesii
Puff-throated Babbler Pellorneum ruficeps

**PASSERIFORMES: Leiothrichidae**
Common Babbler Turdoides caudata caudata
Large Grey Babbler Turdoides malcolmi
Jungle Babbler Turdoides striata sindia
Striated Babbler Turdoides earlei

**PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae**
Yellow-eyed Babbler Chrysomma sinense
Jerdon’s Babbler Chrysomma altirostre scindicum
Eastern Orphean Warbler Sylvia crassirostris
Asian Desert Warbler Sylvia nana
Lesser Whitethroat Sylvia curruca halimodendri
Desert Whitethroat Sylvia [curruca] minula

**PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae**
Oriental White-eye Zosterops palpebrosus

**PASSERIFORMES: Phylloscopidae**
Siberian Chiffchaff Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis
Mountain Chiffchaff Phylloscopus sindianus
Hume’s Leaf Warbler Phylloscopus humei humei
Greenish Warbler Phylloscopus trochiloides viridanus
Western Crowned Warbler Phylloscopus occipitalis
Sulphur-bellied Warbler Phylloscopus griseolus

**PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae**
Paddyfield Warbler Acrocephalus agricola
Blyth’s Reed Warbler Acrocephalus dumetorum
Indian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus [stentoreus] brunnescens
Moustached Warbler Acrocephalus melanopogon
Sykes’s Warbler Iduna rama

**PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae**
Common Tailorbird Orthotomus sutorius
Rufous-fronted Prinia Prinia buchanani
Grey-breasted Prinia Prinia Hodgsonii Hodgsonii
Graceful Prinia Prinia gracilis lepida
Ashy Prinia  
Plain Prinia  
Yellow-bellied Prinia

PASSERIFORMES: Certhiidae

Indian Spotted Creeper  
Bar-tailed Treecreeper

PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae

Bank Myna  
Common Myna  
Asian Pied Starling  
Brahminy Starling  
Rosy Starling  
Eurasian Starling

PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae

Tickell's Thrush  
Black-throated Thrush

PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidæ

Blue Rock Thrush  
Red-breasted Flycatcher  
Taiga Flycatcher  
Tickell's Blue Flycatcher  
Bluethroat  
Oriental Magpie Robin  
Indian Black Robin  
Black Redstart  
Stoliczka's Bushchat  
Siberian Stonechat  
White-tailed Stonechat  
Pied Bushchat  
Variable Wheatear  
Red-tailed Wheatear  
Desert Wheatear  
Isabelline Wheatear  
Brown Rock-chat

PASSERIFORMES: Chloropsideæ

Jerdon's Leafbird

PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae

Agile [Thick-billed] Flowerpecker  
Pale-billed Flowerpecker

PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae

Purple Sunbird  
Vigors's Sunbird

PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae

House Sparrow  
Sind Sparrow  
Yellow-throated Petronia
**PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae**
Baya Weaver \( Ploceus philippinus philippinus \)

**PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae**
Green Avadavat \( Amandava formosa \)
Indian Silverbill \( Euodice malabarica \)

**PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae**
Trumpeter Finch \( Bucanetes githagineus \)

**PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae**
Paddyfield Pipit \( Anthus rufulus rufulus \)
Long-billed Pipit \( Anthus similiis jerdoni \)
Tawny Pipit \( Anthus campestris griseus \)
Olive-backed Pipit \( Anthus hodgsoni yunnanensis \)
Tree Pipit \( Anthus trivialis trivialis \)
White Wagtail \( Motacilla alba alba \)
White-browed Wagtail \( Motacilla madaraspatisensis \)
Western Yellow Wagtail \( Motacilla flava feldegg \)
Citrine Wagtail \( Motacilla citreola citreola \)
Grey Wagtail \( Motacilla cinerea \)

**PASSERIFORMES: Hypocoliidae**
Hypocolius \( Hypocolius ampelinus \)

**PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae**
Crested Bunting \( Melophus lathami \)
Grey-necked Bunting \( Emberiza buchanani \)
White-capped Bunting \( Emberiza stewarti \)
Striolated Bunting \( Emberiza striolata \)

**MAMMALS**
Rhesus Macaque \( Macaca mulatta \)
Northern Plains Grey Langur \( Semnopithecus entellus \)
Southern Palm Squirrel \( Funambulus palmarum \)
Indian Desert Jird \( Meriones hurrianae \)
Indian Hare \( Lepus nigricolis \)
Common Palm Civet \( Paradoxurus hermaphroditus \)
Ruddy Mongoose \( Herpestes smithii \)
Indian Grey Mongoose \( Herpestes edwardsi \)
Striped Hyaena \( Hyaena hyaena \)
Desert (Red) Fox \( Vulpes vulpus pusilla \)
Golden Jackal \( Canis aureus \)
Indian Wild Ass \( Equus hemionus \)
Eurasian Wild Pig \( Sus scrofa \)
Blackbuck \( Antilope cervicapra \)
Indian Gazelle \( Gazella bennettii \)
Nilgai \( Boselaphus tragocamelus \)
Indian Humpback Dolphin \( Sousa plumbea \)

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