

# **NORTH EAST INDIA – DIBRU SAIKHOWA, DIGBOI, KAZIRANGA, EAGLENEST, DIRANG, NAMERI AND SHILLONG**

**MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> to APRIL 11<sup>th</sup> 2010**

## **Introduction**

Having wanted to visit this remote area of India for a number of years, Chris and I had started planning this trip as early as 2008. This is certainly the new hotspot in Asia, with almost every tour company offering a trip here incorporating most of the main sites.

The recent discovery of Bugun's Liocichla has well and truly put Eaglenest on the birding map and added to the possibility of other near-mythical species such as Ward's Trogon, Hodgson's Frogmouth, Fire-tailed Myzornis and Beautiful Nuthatch, the chance of tragopans, more species of Wren-babblers than you can shake a stick at and numerous babblers and parrotbills you have to wonder whether anyone could pass up an opportunity to visit this amazing area.

There are now numerous reports available online by tour companies detailing sightings and also one or two from more independent travellers who have covered some of the sites. As we used a tour company and determined a custom built tour for ourselves, this report will also be light on specific details of how to get to sites. What I have attempted is to split the report into sections, detailing each area visited together with the main target species and the best locations for them on our visit, as well as any other information we picked up from Ramana. I've then included an itinerary of our trip followed by a daily diary.

## **Logistics and planning**

After looking at our most wanted species and examining the time available to us, we planned for a three week trip, as this was the maximum amount of time I was able to get off from work in one go.

It was relatively easy to establish that unless you could spend five weeks or more in the region, it would be impossible to fit in *all* the sites in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya. There seemed to be two obvious routes, one taking in the sites in east Assam and AP, (Namdapha, Digboi, Dibru-Saikhowa and the Mishmi Hills), and a route taking in the sites to the west of the states, (Manas, Nameri, Eaglenest WLS, Dirang and Shillong), whilst Kaziranga sits somewhat in the middle of the two routes and could be coupled with either.

With all the hype surrounding it from the last few years it was fair to say that Eaglenest was the top destination for us and as such our trip had to be focussed around here and nearby Dirang. With time constraints in mind Namdapha and the Mishmi Hills would be dropped out and saved for another trip in the future, which left us to decide on the remaining sites. Kaziranga, Digboi, Dibru and Shillong all had some very range restricted specialities that we were keen to see whereas we felt

Manas had a lot of overlap and to save time could be excluded. We therefore decided to break away from a more obvious east or west approach as I detailed above and transact Assam from east to west, before finishing in Shillong. The rough dates for the visit were also decided upon as we felt this would be the most productive time of the year.

I had contacted Ramana Athreya back in 2008 with a view to using his services via his tour company, Kaati Tours. Ramana gained fame as the finder of Bugun's Liocichla and he has raised the profile of Eaglenest almost single handedly. It was Ramana who contacted the local tribe in the town of Tenga, and convinced them that birders would come from far and wide to see the specialities of Eaglenest. Subsequently all the groundstaff employed in the campsites are locals who are now earning a living through eco-tourism and therefore helping to ensure Eaglenest remains unspoilt and superb for wildlife.

Ramana ploughs a vast amount of personal funds back into the upkeep of Eaglenest and it was partly for this reason that we were keen to use him, together with the fact that no-one knows Eaglenest better than Ramana due to the vast amount of time he has spent birding here.

With all this in mind, we booked Ramana's services and set about detailing our requirements and the sites we wanted to visit. As it was possible for us to get an internal flight from Kolkata to Dibrugah and then a flight back from Guwahati, Ramana put together an itinerary that would see us start in Dibru Saikhowa for two days, spend another two at Digboi, three full days at Kaziranga, nine days at Eaglenest, three at Dirang, with half a day at Nameri before finishing up with two days at Shillong.

In retrospect this really was a perfect itinerary for our needs, we felt we had spent enough time at each sight before moving on and we picked up 99% of our targets, no mean feat when you have about 150 different species on the list! As an aside, having now been guided by and birded with Ramana, I can wholeheartedly recommend Kaati tours. It is a great way to ensure your money goes towards sustaining this wonderful environment and you get a guide whose local knowledge is second to none. The tour was perfectly supported throughout with everything running like a well oiled machine; food was superb and plentiful, and the birding was everything we could have hoped for. Ramana is also a great guy and birder and brilliant company on a trip. Ramana/Kaati can be contacted here: [kaati.tours@gmail.com](mailto:kaati.tours@gmail.com)

The one downside to the tour was something that was out of anyone's hands - the weather. We had several days of rain and/or fog at Eaglenest making birding very difficult at times and we experienced high winds at Kaziranga, particularly for the first two days. In retrospect although we inevitably lost time it probably didn't cost us too many species, although no doubt we missed out on a few of the species at the lower elevations just above Khellong (at Eaglenest) as every time we tried to bird here the heavens literally opened and birding was impossible for hours upon end. This probably cost us birds like White-hooded Babbler and Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill which are reliable here (according to other trip reports).

## Costs

John, Chris and myself flew with Virgin Atlantic from Heathrow to Delhi, with the flights costing just over £400 each. Graham flew from Austria and met us in Delhi, with Jack coming several days earlier from the States and also catching up with the rest of us in Delhi.

We all took internal flights from Delhi to Kolkata, then the next morning from Kolkata to Dibrugah. There was an option to fly direct to Dibrugah from Delhi, however these flights were more infrequent and would have meant we arrived much later in the day on Saturday. We flew from Delhi to Kolkata with Kingfisher Air, then from Kolkata to Dibrugah with Jetlite. The cost difference was also negligible despite having one more flight. We returned from Guwahati directly to Delhi with Jetlite, with the three flights coming to roughly £150 in total, each.

The cost for using Kaati Tours was 156,000 INR each, which at the exchange rate at the time worked out at just over £2000. This included all costs except beer and tips.

## Sites

**Dibru Saikhowa National Park** – We spent just short of two full days here, staying for one night at the permanent camp at Guijan. The ‘rooms’ were perfectly comfortable wooden structures, some on stilts, with adjoining bathrooms. The location here right next to the sanctuary allows you to be birding as soon as you get up, and staying here is therefore highly recommended. Ramana had booked the services of local guide Benu, who knows the park like no other including the best current areas for all the local specialities. The walk to the Kolomi Rest House involved wading across a large number of streams and shallow rivers, which was a very pleasant experience in the heat of the day.

The key birds of Dibru-Saikhowa, Black-breasted Parrotbill, Swamp Prinia and Marsh Babbler, can all be quite difficult to find. We were also keen to see Jerdon’s Bushchat which involves an entire day trekking to and from Kolomi, at times with not a lot of bird activity (although the walk was through delightful habitat and very picturesque). The bushchat itself isn’t too hard to find around the rest house but our views were reasonably brief, this area was also good for Jerdon’s Babbler as well. The parrotbill, prinia and Marsh Babbler are all upriver of Guijan. Judging from several other trip reports, it appears that the parrotbill is generally the easiest of the trio to find, and so it proved on our visit with very good views of several birds. The babbler gave us the slip though, with no birds responding to our tape. The prinia did likewise; unfortunately it appears to have been a poor year for trying to see this speciality as Benu said there were no definite sightings since December.

**Digboi Oilfields** – We had one full day here and a few hours the next morning, although the second morning’s birding was somewhat curtailed by the heavy rain showers we experienced. Leech socks are definitely recommended here unless, like one of our party, you seem to enjoy pulling the little blighters of your legs. With the rest of us content to look like a ‘bunch of jessies’ the socks provided an adequate barrier to the thousands of leeches that litter the forest floor here and allow you to bird in peace, especially if like us you want to get off the beaten track to stalk around after

pittas. We stayed in Digboi town, the hotel here was comfortable and more than adequate for our needs with good food to boot. Apparently it is the only hotel in town of a decent standard. It should also be pointed out that the staff here were extremely helpful and accommodating when Jack was suffering with a bout of food poisoning over the first night and day.

The two key specialities of the site are Collared Treepie and Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush, both of which we found very easily deep in the reserve. Because we had plenty of time birding here we also picked up some other top birds including Rufous-necked Laughingthrush, Rufous-throated Fulveta and Rufous-faced Warbler. A lot of tours seem to wizz through this site in a few hours but based on our experience I would definitely recommend a full day here if you can fit it in.

**Kaziranga National Park** – A magnificent reserve full of wildlife, we were a little hampered by high winds on our visit which made the grassland species tougher to locate. The park is split into three ranges, Western, Central and Eastern, and times of entry and departure are limited. You also have to be out of the park over lunch time, a bizarre regulation but one that you have no choice but to comply with. We took an elephant ride early on our first morning, and although it didn't produce the florican, it is recommended as we gained good views of Bengal Bushlark, Stone Curlew and Grey-headed Lapwing as they were flushed by the elephant. Other groups have had various species of quail and of course, the florican. We stayed at the Japuri Lodge in Kohora which is excellent venue, with superb food and good quality rooms and it is also situated opposite the entrance to the Central Range, cutting down on driving times – highly recommended.

We did find the florican on the grasslands to the left of the track on the central range, according to Ramana this is one of the best areas for this globally endangered species. Pittas seemed common in the appropriate habitat in the Eastern Range, our accompanying ranger was also willing to let us wander a short distance into the forest as well but despite getting close to some calling birds we didn't get any views. The Tata Tea Gardens at Diring, about a fifteen minute drive from Kohora, is recommended as an excellent site early morning before you can get into the park proper. It offers a good chance of Blue-naped Pitta, after spending several hours here looking we jammed in on a pair on the main path, plenty of other groups have had similar success here.

**Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary** – The core part of the tour and one of the main reasons for visiting NE India! A fantastic area with a range of mouth watering birds that are by now so well documented that they need no further explanation here. Historically groups split their time between Sessni (c1,400m), Bompu (c1,800m) and Lama (c2,200m) Camps, however Sessni is not going to be in use any more due to the logistical problems of running three camps and spreading the ground staff between the three, and also due to the problems of elephants. Every close season the elephants seem to take a disliking to Sessni and cause severe destruction meaning heavy costs involved in repairs. This meant our nights were split with the first two at Lama, the next six at Bompu and the last one back at Lama. Both camps are excellently serviced by the numerous staff, with terrific (and plentiful) food.

Lama Camp is the location of the famous Bugun's Liocichla, being the only known site in the world for this species (barring a spate of sightings in 2006 at Bompou). It is not easy to see though, like most laughers it is shy and retiring in nature and regular tape-luring has made them much less responsive. Our group had encounters with 3-4 individuals, a calling bird on our first morning that was in an inaccessible area, a bird Ramana had fly across the track ahead of him and a pair that we all saw at a slightly different location on our last afternoon in Eaglenest. The liocichlas also associate regularly with barwing flocks, we thoroughly scrutinised these on our visit but they didn't contain any accompanying liocichlas.

There is a greater variety of species at Bompou, and most of the other top species at Eaglenest are found here rather than Lama. The highly sought after wren-babblers occur in the greatest density between here and Sessni, although some can be found all over Eaglenest. Most Ward's Trogons sightings come from the Bompou area (although ours was in fact at Lama) and the most wanted galliformes are most regularly sighted from Eaglenest Pass all the way down to Sessni.

Blyth's Kingfisher is now being regularly sighted along the river from the bridge below Khellong. Although it should be possible to drive right down to here from the jeep track there had been a landslide obliterating part of the track and making it necessary to walk the last couple of kms. Luck is required in seeing this species, Ramana has spent hours looking before without any success but we were extremely lucky on our visit to get one within ten minutes of arriving. Pied Falconet is also possible in this area apparently.

**Dirang area** – Dirang is well placed as a base for exploring the following three sites. Sela Pass provides an excellent opportunity at montane species, whilst the Mandala Road contains a number of species otherwise only likely to be encountered around Eaglenest Pass.

Sela Pass – A must visit site for any birders, with a fabulous range of species of excellent quality. In order to be at the peak for dawn (or soon after) you need to leave early, a 3am rise is recommended. The ideal weather is sunny but cold, with snow on the higher peaks to force the birds down. Too much snow, or too cold, and you won't be able to get to the peak as the road will be shut. This happened to several groups during our visit, however our bad luck with the weather at Eaglenest was made up for here and the weather was perfect on our trip up.

There is good birding both on the slopes up to the pass and on the other side, we ended up making a few stops before the pass itself and then worked our way several kms over the other side, adding different species at every site. The scree slope immediately after the pass is the spot for Grandala, and careful scanning should produce the target. Brandt's Mountain Finches also occur here, although it might require some searching across the slopes (as it did in our case). The lake may have one or two interesting species present.

Blood Pheasants can be found along the roadside before or after the pass, and whilst there is no specific spot careful scanning should produce the birds. Snow Partridges were observed on our visit on the drive up to the peak, approximately 3-4km before

the pass there is an obvious rockslide as you go around one of the hairpin bends. The partridges are apparently regularly observed up this old landslide. Monals require some perseverance to see, apparently they regularly occur on the slopes 1-5km before the pass, we saw our birds about 4km before the pass near a small patch of coniferous forest.

Mandala Road – Another excellent site that should be fully explored. Many tour groups spend a full two days here, we had a day (split over two mornings) and picked up most of the few of our remaining Eaglenest target species here. It is worth driving to the pine woodland 10km past Mandala Village as whilst the density of species here was low, they were of a good quality, with a large flock of Blanford's Rosefinches flitting about the pines, and both of the local treecreepers present here. Stopping at varying points along the road offers a great chance of some of the highly prized species like Myzornis, whilst we finally caught up with Bar-winged Wren Babbler here after hours of looking.

Sangti Valley – The third and final site and the nearest of the three to Dirang, the Sangti Valley is of interest as it is an excellent site for Black-tailed Crake and Long-billed Plover, with Ibisbill also possible along the river. The site for the crakes is an area of paddies immediately beyond Sangti village, simply stand on the road and scan the paddies below, patience should be rewarded. The plovers and Ibisbill should be looked for in any suitable habitat along the river; however the future looks a little grim for these species at this site due to the amount of dredging and human activity along the river itself. Crested Bunting is possible in the trees and fields between the road and the river.

**Nameri National Park** – A great reserve of lowland forest just before you start rising into the eastern Himalayas. You stay in permanent tents with adjoining bathroom and the whole setup is excellent, with owls also frequenting the campsite at night. The main speciality here is the endangered White-winged Duck, but it is a great site for Ibisbill and there are numerous sightings of Pied Falconet here too, whilst Oriental Hobbies breed at the campsite.

The ducks reside on the wooded pools and are extremely susceptible to disturbance. With extreme care and caution it is possible to approach the pools and not flush the ducks, we were able to approach extremely quietly and watch a female on the water before we withdrew. A little perseverance was required as the ducks move about between three or four different sites but by checking various locations we also caught up with Blue-eared Kingfisher.

Many groups take a raft up the river which is the way to see the Ibisbill, we didn't do this on our visit as most of the group had previously seen Ibisbill and we wanted to spend more time at Shillong.

**Shillong and Cherrapunji** – Further south and therefore out on a limb from the main tour so-to-speak, the town of Shillong in Meghalaya offers a good base for exploring the nearby peak and exploring along to Cherrapunji further into the state. We stayed at the very nice hotel in the middle of Shillong, from here it is only about 15 minutes to Shillong Peak which contains a lot of the local specialities, namely Assam

Laughingthrush, Rusty-capped Fulvetta, Grey Sibia and Spot-breasted Scimitar-babbler.

The other specialities can be encountered at various sites between Shillong and Cherrapunjee. Tawny-breasted Wren-babbler occurs in the low scrub and brambles next to the road, we found the area around the Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge to be productive for this species with Crested Finchbills also in this area. The Wahkaba waterfall further along the road is both a superb site for Dark-rumped Swift and extremely scenic, you get terrific views looking down on the flocks of swifts around the waterfall. There is also a small colony just before the town of Sohra, as you head from Shillong towards the town park up on the left before the gorge and the swifts can be seen flying around here in the company of swiftlets.

### **Itinerary**

*Day 1, March 20<sup>th</sup>* – Arrived Dibrugah airport at 8:30am, drove to Guijan at Dibru Saikhowa (c90 min drive). Trekked to Kolomi Guard House and back. Night at Guijan  
(Sunny and very hot)

*Day 2, March 21<sup>st</sup>* – Early morning at Redang, then Maguri. Early afternoon Maguri Bheel, late afternoon Maguri again. Night in Digboi  
(Sunny and very hot)

*Day 3, March 22<sup>nd</sup>* – Digboi Oilfields all day. Night in Digboi  
(Overcast but hot)

*Day 4, March 23<sup>rd</sup>* – Digboi Oilfields early to mid morning, then drove to Kohora (Kaziranga), c7 hour drive. Night at Japuri Lodge, Kohora  
(Frequent heavy showers in morning, dry and overcast in afternoon)

*Day 5, March 24<sup>th</sup>* – Elephant ride at Central Range early AM, safari drive through Central Range AM, safari drive through Western Range PM. Night at Japuri Lodge, Kohora  
(Dry and overcast but very windy)

*Day 6, March 25<sup>th</sup>* – Tata Tea Gardens at Diring early AM, safari drive through Eastern Range AM, safari drive through Central Range PM. Night at Japuri Lodge, Kohora  
(Dry and sunny but windy)

*Day 7, March 26<sup>th</sup>* – Tata Tea Gardens at Diring early AM, safari drive through Central Range AM, c6 hour drive to Lama Camp, Eaglenest, with brief stop at bridge at Bhalukpong, PM. Night at Lama Camp, Eaglenest WLS.  
(Very hot and breezy)

*Day 8, March 27<sup>th</sup>* – Lama Camp AM, Eaglenest Pass late AM to early PM, Lama Camp PM. Night at Lama Camp  
(Hot, occasional fog, very windy at Pass)

*Day 9, March 28<sup>th</sup>* – Lama Camp AM, Eaglenest Pass and Sundaview early PM, Bompu late PM. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Thick fog AM, windy at Pass and overcast and cool at Bompu)

*Day 10, March 29<sup>th</sup>* – Bompu early AM, Sessni late AM to PM, New Khellong late PM and evening. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Foggy initially, then heavy rain, clearing by end of day)

*Day 11, March 30<sup>th</sup>* – Worked down from Bompu early AM, birding at Sessni, New Khellong and Khellong to mid PM, then up to Chaku and Bompu late PM. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Foggy with heavy rain until mid PM, then clear)

*Day 12, March 31<sup>st</sup>* – Point R69 on road between Bompu and Sessni early AM, then birded downhill at Sessni, New Khellong, Khellong and the ‘Blyth’s’ bridge until mid PM. New Khellong late PM. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Fog, until Khellong, then sunny and hot at Khellong)

*Day 13, April 1<sup>st</sup>* – Above Bompu early AM, Sessni, New Khellong, late AM. Sessni PM and Bompu late PM. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Warm and overcast, foggy at New Khellong)

*Day 14, April 2<sup>nd</sup>* – Bompu early AM, R69 area on road AM, Sessni and New Khellong PM. Night at Bompu Camp  
(Overcast but dry to start with, fog and rain late AM and PM, clear in evening)

*Day 15, April 3<sup>rd</sup>* – Sessni early AM, Chaku AM, Sundarview and Eaglenest Pass midday to early PM, Lama Camp PM. Night at Lama Camp  
(Clear at Sessni and Chaku, cold and windy at Pass, warm at Lama)

*Day 16, April 4<sup>th</sup>* – Ramaling early AM, Lama area AM, Eaglenest Pass midday, c4 hour drive to Dirang PM. Night in Dirang  
(Warm and clear)

*Day 17, April 5<sup>th</sup>* – Sela Pass all day. Baisakhi early AM, 5km below pass AM, 10km NW of pass late AM to mid PM, pass mid PM, 5km below Pass late PM. Night in Dirang  
(Fine, cool, windy at pass then foggy and hail)

*Day 18, April 6<sup>th</sup>* – Mandala Road. 3km before Mandala early AM, 10km past Mandala early to late AM, 4km before Mandala early PM, 7km to 13km before Mandala mid PM, Sangti Valley late PM. Night in Dirang  
(Hot and sunny)

*Day 19, April 7<sup>th</sup>* – Mandala Road. 23km before Mandala village early AM, 4km before Mandala mid AM, 11km before Mandala late AM, 23km before Mandala midday, c5 hour drive to Nameri PM. Night at Nameri Eco-camp  
(Hot and sunny)



*Day 20, April 8<sup>th</sup>* – Nameri National Park AM, c8 hour drive to Shillong PM. Night in Shillong  
(Very hot and humid)

*Day 21, April 9<sup>th</sup>* – Dawan Sing Syien Bridge (Cherrapunjee) early AM, Wahkaba waterfall early to mid AM, Sohra village mid AM, area 38km from Shillong late AM, Shillong Peak PM. Night in Shillong  
(Very hot and sunny)

*Day 22, April 10<sup>th</sup>* – Shillong Peak early to mid AM, c5 hour drive to Guwahati Airport. Flight from Guwahati to Delhi mid to late PM. Night in Delhi  
(Hot and sunny)

*Day 23, April 11<sup>th</sup>* – Sultanpur early AM, early PM flight Delhi to London Heathrow.  
(Hot and sunny)

### **Daily Diary**

Day 1 – March 20<sup>th</sup>

Somewhat surprisingly both our internal flights arrived without delay, firstly our evening flight with Kingfisher Air from Delhi to Kolkata, then our early morning flight from Kolkata to Dibrugah with Jetlite arriving at about 8:30 am. Ramana and crew were ready and waiting for us outside the airport and following swift introductions we were on our way to our first destination, Dibru-Saikhowa National Park. A short stop to change a tyre for an early puncture, (actually the only one of the tour!), allowed us decent views of an Eastern Marsh Harrier quartering the agricultural fields.

Before long we had arrived at Guijan, a series of huts on stilts and our base for the first night, from where we would get the boat across the Brahmaputra River and enter the reserve proper. Our day was to be spent trekking the 4-5km to the rest house at Kolomi and then back to Guijan, via several waded river crossings which were actually much appreciated in the heat of the day! Our only sightings of Sand Lark were had soon after reaching the far shore of the river and en-route to the rest house we flushed a Barred Buttonquail, whilst lots of Asian Openbills fed on the wet mud and around the shallow lakes. A White-rumped Vulture gave us a close fly-by and more numerous Himalayan Griffons were observed overhead in thermals. Just before arriving at the rest house we gained a brief view of the target bird, a male Jerdon's Bushchat that popped quickly up and down in the scrubby vegetation. Whilst searching for further views of this bird a male Himalayan Rubythroat was seen well. With the bushchat staying out of sight we pushed onto the rest house and took a welcome lunch in the shade, before continuing our search in the adjacent elephant grass.

After a short while we gained better views of another male Jerdon's Bushchat, this one sitting up for all of 5 seconds... Nearby at least 3 Jerdon's Babblers showed very well at close range but we were less successful with Marsh Babbler, with no birds responding to our tape. We did however get point black views of Chestnut-capped

Babblers as a small flock zipped around us. As we had the main species in the bag, we trekked back to Guijan for the remainder of the afternoon. With dusk falling as we neared the river crossing back to camp, Brown Wood Owl could be heard calling and a couple of the group were lucky enough to catch a glimpse as the bird flew between trees.

We retired back to our lodgings, a few of us deciding to indulge in the excellently named local beer, He-Man 9000...

Day 2 – March 21<sup>st</sup>

Today we were searching for the remaining specialist species of the park, Black-breasted Parrotbill, Marsh Babbler and Swamp Prinia. We headed up-river at dawn on the boat which proved a great experience as flocks of egrets, cormorants and ducks flew around us as they left their roost sites. Within five minutes of reaching our destination at Redang, we had obtained excellent views of at least 3 Black-breasted Parrotbills as they called around us. A Smokey Warbler was welcome and it showed well in the low vegetation. Unfortunately, our next target was to prove far less obliging.

We searched hard for Marsh Babbler but were unable to get a response to our tape, and whilst an extremely skulking bird at the base of the grasses that just refused to show itself may have been the babbler, no-one was able to get any sorts of views and therefore the bird remained tantalisingly out of reach to all of us. Another Himalayan Rubythroat and a Slaty-backed Flycatcher provided some compensation before we decided to give up and search upriver at Magori for the Prinia. The walk back to the boat provided Graham and I with views of a Spotted Bush Warbler, whilst we all got excellent looks at a Ganges River Dolphin that came very close past our boat.

Our search for Swamp Prinia though went the same way as the Marsh Babbler, proving fruitless despite turning up more Jerdon's Babblers and a Paddyfield Warbler, there was no sight or sound of the hoped for target. After discussions with the local rangers and other guides it seems the Prinia may not have been reliably observed since December.

With the heat of the day now upon us we took lunch under the shade of a large tree, whilst a pair of Northern Goshawks overhead provided a decent interruption to our meal. With little passerine activity in the heat we decided to take a couple of boats onto Magori Bheel. This proved to be an excellent couple of hours of birding, starting with a superb male Pied Harrier sailing by at close range. The bheel was full of birds, with a variety of ducks, storks and waders all on show, and a flock of Streaked Weavers proved to be the only ones of the trip. A wild Water Buffalo also wallowed in the shallows and provided great views.

We spent the late afternoon searching again without joy for Swamp Prinia, although we did succeed in flushing a Small Buttonquail before we decided to admit defeat and head back to Guijan. From here we drove to Digboi, where we based ourselves at a pleasant hotel well located in the small town ready for exploring the oilfield forest at dawn.

### Day 3 – March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Unfortunately Jack had taken a turn for the worst yesterday evening and was feeling unwell and unable to accompany us today, so the remaining four climbed into the cars early morning and headed to the forest reserve at Digboi Oil Fields. We drove deep into the reserve and it didn't take long to find our first target species, Collared Treepie, when a bird was heard calling distantly and then flew in close to the road giving excellent views, and to top this a further 4 individuals proceeded to fly into the same group of trees.

A few snatches of song indicated the presence of our next target species and by scrabbling quietly into the forest we were able to get decent views of a small flock of the restricted range Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush. With the two main species in the bag before breakfast we could spend the rest of the day comfortably birding, although a game of hide and seek with one of the many calling Blue-naped Pittas resulted in the Pitta winning by some margin. However a number of other birds were seen with the highlights including our only Rufous-faced Warbler and Rufous-throated Fulvettas on the trip, Blue-throated Flycatcher, 2 Red-headed Trogons, several Plaintive Cuckoos, a Banded Bay Cuckoo and Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes. A familiar call from the canopy brought our attention to a pair of Silver-breasted Broadbills, and we had great looks at these cracking little birds.

All in all it was a very birdy day and we retired back to our hotel in the evening happy and satisfied with our day's haul.

### Day 4 – March 23<sup>rd</sup>

Although Jack was feeling better he still wanted to rest up ahead of our long drive to Kaziranga later in the day, so again the remaining four headed to Digboi for a few hours of birding in the morning. Unfortunately heavy rain curtailed most of our attempts to see anything, although we did manage another pair of Silver-breasted Broadbills, 2 Speckled Piculets, a couple of Dollarbirds, a small flock of Grey-throated Babblers and a brilliant pair of Black-backed Forktails. Checking the lower, scrubrier areas produced a mixed flock of Rufous-necked and Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrushes and with this we were pretty happy with our lot and decided to depart Digboi for the seven or so hour drive west.

The long journey to Kaziranga was pretty uneventful and we arrived at the Jopuri Lodge after dusk, to be greeted by the friendly staff and an excellent dinner.

### Day 5 – March 24<sup>th</sup>

We headed to the central range first thing to embark on an elephant ride in search of Bengal Florican. As we arrived before our allotted time we had a scan of the grasslands from the view tower, picking up a couple of Brown Shrikes in the distance. Once on the elephant we had no success with the florican but we did manage a Grey-headed Lapwing, a couple of Indian Stone-curlews and some Bengal Bushlarks before returning back to the view tower and embarking on a drive through the central range. A short way into the drive we had the first of many Spot-billed Pelicans and a few raptors including Pallas's Fish Eagle and Greater Spotted Eagle. A Black Stork was

observed flying overhead and was the only sighting of the trip. Yesterday's rain had cleared but we were now struck by quite high winds, which severely hampered our chances with grassland species. We were unable to get any response from Slender-billed Babbler, seeing instead a pair of Yellow-eyed Babblers and several Striated Babblers, before we spent a little while scanning the large lake from another view tower. A couple of Greater Adjutants stood in a stately manner on the shore, whilst a pair of Swamp Francolins showed well to most of the group. It was also a pretty good experience to be constantly seeing Indian Rhinos, Asian Elephants, Water Buffalos and large herds of Swamp and Hog Deer. Heading back out of the range we stopped and scanned the first set of grasslands again and this time were rewarded almost immediately when Ramana located a male Bengal Florican showing well. Chuffed with this success we headed back to the lodge for lunch, before heading out onto the Western Range for the afternoon.

We saw a large number of species on the Western Range including a pair of Blossom-headed Parakeets showing really well. A good vantage point over a shallow lake bumped up our species count considerably, a lone Avocet fed amongst Marsh and Wood Sandpipers, Little and Temminck's Stints were noted as were Kentish and Little Ringed Plovers. Along the drive we all obtained cracking views of more Swamp Francolins with a further six birds noted. With a burgeoning species list of 120 species recorded during the day, we headed out of the range as dusk was falling and went back to the lodge.

Day 6 – March 25<sup>th</sup>

We started off today at the Tata Tea Gardens at nearby Diring in search of Blue-naped Pitta, but whilst several calling birds were heard, they remained steadfastly out of sight. We did pick up a few new species though with a Large Hawk Cuckoo showing well and good views of nesting Black-hooded Orioles, whilst a flock of Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrushes contained at least one White-browed Scimitar-Babbler. The highlight of the morning was scope views of a roosting Brown Fish Owl just as we entered the gardens.

Our first drive at Kaziranga was on the more forested Eastern Range. Most of the guys got a good look at the trip's only Booted Eagle just before we set off into the park proper. Upon entering the lowland forest we were allowed by our ranger guide to wander a short distance into the forest and by doing this we were eventually rewarded with up to 3 Pale-chinned Flycatchers, which were finally seen by the entire group. Pittas were again vocal here, and we managed to lure one to within about three metres of us, however only Ramana, standing in the right place at the right time, was able to get a sighting of the bird before it annoyingly moved out of view and stubbornly refused to show again. Checking the wetter areas again produced a range of waders and wildfowl, with a Northern Lapwing being a bit of a surprise whilst a female Pallid Harrier also showed really well on the near shore.

After a lunch back at the lodge we returned to the central range to find the wind had picked up again, much to our dismay. This again reduced the possibility of any grassland species showing, including our main remaining target, Slender-billed Babbler. Despite trying hard in areas where the bird had been seen a few days previously, we were out of luck with this shy subcontinent endemic. We did however

get another great view of a Swamp Francolin, 3 Green-billed Malkohas and another Pied Harrier. An aborted charge by a Rhino also provided a brief adrenaline boost for those of us in the lead vehicle!

#### Day 7 – March 26<sup>th</sup>

We started early again at the Tea Gardens, again in an attempt to tease out a Pitta. Before dawn had finished breaking a nice Orange-headed Thrush fed along the path. Despite several responses to our pitta tape the result was the same as yesterday, although we had a mixed flock of Rufous-necked and Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrushes to keep us entertained. We were walking back to the car when Chris and I noticed some movement up ahead, and were both fairly surprised when we capped our bins firmly on a female Blue-naped Pitta right out in the open! The surprise for everyone was then doubled as a male hopped out of the opposite side and chased the female undercover, only for them both to pop out again briefly afterwards. Elated with this eleventh hour success, we headed to the Central Range to see if we could get similar results with Slender-billed Babbler.

Checking the long grasses bordering the path initially proved fruitless but then a familiar song burst out from a short distance away. I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time to see the bird move down from its song perch at the back of the tall grasses and come in to our taped response, however following this we could only get glimpses of the bird despite it singing just a few feet into the grasses from the road. After some time we decided we weren't going to get better views so we moved on to try for our last target species at the range. Eventually after much scanning we found our quarry, a Slender-billed Vulture which soared over our gypsies and gave good views.

Before long it was time to move on, and after lunch and a chat with a visiting group just arrived from Eaglenest, (our next destination), we hit the road for a long drive up to Lama Camp. Apparently the other group had been forced down a day early due to heavy rain making birding impossible, so we crossed our fingers that this would have lifted by the time we arrived...

As it went, it was a particularly interesting drive as most of the mountains were covered in thick fog until we got to Tenga, (the Bugun village were most of the camp workers come from), making for fairly treacherous driving conditions that our drivers navigated with aplomb. This also cost us a chance of looking for Pale-headed Woodpecker as the fog meant we had to drive very slowly. We did manage time for a quick scan from the bridge at Bhalukpong just past the state border, seeing 3 Brown Dippers in the process. Eventually we arrived at the camp after dark to the sound of a singing Grey Nightjar.

#### Day 8 – March 27<sup>th</sup>

We were up bright and early and filled with anticipation at being in one of Asia's most talked about hotspots. The day dawned bright and clear and the possibility of a certain liocichla also added palpably to our sense of excitement.

We spent the day walking down the road from camp in the direction of Tenga, picking up a small flock of Rusty-fronted Barwings and Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrushes, whilst Bhutan Laughingthrushes were common along the track. A Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler showed well to us all before we were distracted by the sounds of a Bugun's Liocichla calling from the slopes of small, well vegetated valley. However try as we might we couldn't locate the bird, with the acoustics from the valley making it difficult to determine exactly where the bird was calling from. A little frustrated we carried on birding the forest edges until mid-morning, producing a good range of species including Pygmy Wren-babbler, 2 Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler, c15 Grey-headed and 4 Brown Bullfinches and Yellow-billed Blue Magpie.

We headed up to Eaglenest Pass late morning and had a really good two or three hours worth of birding. Although the north side of the slope was very windy the south side was sheltered and very birdy. A large flock of finches that swirled overhead just kept on going out of sight and avoided identification. However it wasn't long before we were enjoying stunning views of a pair of Brown Parrotbills as they busily chomped away at the bamboo and confiding and extremely 'cute' Ludlow's Fulvettas fed around our feet. Large mixed flocks of Rufous-vented and Stripe-throated Yuhinas occupied the flowering rhododendron bushes along with a few cracking Fire-tailed Sunbirds, Rufous-fronted Tits, Streak-throated Barwings and 2 Green Shrike-babblers.

Bar-winged Wren Babbler was heard from one of the many gullies that cross the road along the pass, however it was too far up for us to get to it (this was to start a saga that would run for quite a while yet...).

We headed back down to Lama Camp mid afternoon for another crack at the liocichla. The majority of us searched the gully where we had heard the calling bird that morning, whilst Ramana worked the area slightly higher up. A sudden whistle from Ramana saw us hurry back up the slope, only to find that Ramana had indeed had a liocichla come across the road in front of him. Try as we might we couldn't locate the bird and it remained stubbornly silent. We weren't too disappointed as we knew we still had time to see this most wanted species and so drove further down to an area where Ramana often has sightings and searched thoroughly along the vegetation there. Again we were out of luck with the main target but we had a significant stroke of good luck when suddenly with no warning a pair of Ward's Trogons flew across the road in front of us. A few seconds of hasty scanning was all it took to locate the birds sat in the tree at eye level from the road, and in the end we had walk away views of the pair as they lazily fed in the evening sun.

Despite not seeing the liocichla we returned to camp buoyed with what we had seen and enjoyed our pre-purchased beers and the excellent and plentiful food before retiring to our beds with a hot water bottle.

Day 9 – March 28<sup>th</sup>

We woke up today to find the mountain cloaked in thick fog, and it would unfortunately remain like this all morning at Lama Camp. We spent the first half of the morning trying for the Liocichla but the fog was really affecting all bird activity and when you are unable to see the person six feet in front of you have to feel that

even if you can see a bird the views aren't going to be exactly crippling. We did however manage perched views of 11 Speckled Wood pigeons through the fog whilst the Brown Bullfinch flock had increased to 8 individuals.

Come mid morning we gave up at Lama and moved up the hill back to Eaglenest Pass, picking up our bags enroute as we were moving down to Bompou today. We had another night at Lama in a week's time to try and get the Liocichla...

The pass was windy again but at least we had come out of the fog and were able to see some birds. We had no success trying for Bar-winged Wren-babbler, although another bird was heard today. Walking down the other side of the pass towards Sundaview provided us with the bird of the day when a flash of colour flew into an overhanging bush. Thankfully I got straight on the bird and found myself staring through my bins at a Fire-tailed Myzornis, remaining in full view for a few seconds and allowing most of us a view before it flew again into another bush this time staying partially obscured. Further down towards Bompou our first Broad-billed Warbler was heard uttering its high pitched call and was then seen very well.

As we carried on heading down the slope towards Bompou we stopped a few KM above the camp and walked down the road. A burst of song alerted us to one of our targets and very shortly afterwards a Rufous-throated Wren-babbler was giving superb views – if only I'd been able to get my flash working on the camera!

Arriving at Bompou for dusk we settled ourselves in and enjoyed a surprise bowl of popcorn before our typically excellent meal.

Day 10 – March 29<sup>th</sup>

Our first day at Bompou dawned with fog, however it wasn't too thick to prevent us birding. We walked up the slope searching for new species and were rewarded with feeding flocks containing a host of new species, including delightful Black-throated Parrotbills and 4 Black-eared Shrike-babblers. We also gained decent views of both Chestnut-headed and Slaty-bellied Tesias from amongst the dozens of calling birds present here.

Heading down below Bompou we drove nearly as far as Sessni and proceeded to work our way along damp vegetation bordering a stream. After a few bursts of tape we got a response, and eventually after much manoeuvring had good views of one of our key targets, Sikkim Wedge-billed Babbler. The bird typically remained in dense undergrowth and for some of us it took several views to gain a full picture of the bird, but the reward was well worth it. We were also surprised when a crash in the trees indicated there was a Rufous-necked Hornbill directly above us; it didn't hang around though before flying out of sight. With the weather closing in we headed down a bit further and birded around the old Sessni camp area where our lunch space was shared with a group of poachers.

Unfortunately the weather then proceeded to curtail most of our birding this afternoon as heavy rain moved in and settled until late in the day. Graham and I were lucky to pick up a White-tailed Robin around Sessni as we braved a slightly lighter period of rain, but in the end we attempted to head to pastures new to see if the weather

improved. We headed downhill a little further but we were hampered so much we saw very little for most of the afternoon despite going as far as New Khellong. A few Scaly Thrushes were seen from the lead vehicle as they were flushed from the road.

In the last hour or so of daylight the weather cleared somewhat allowing us time to find another wanted species. By stalking quietly into the forests we were able to get prolonged views of an Eye-browed Wren Babbler, as it atypically showed really well singing on fallen mossy branches. A White-browed Shortwing also showed briefly as birds started to feed in the after-mouth of the downpour. However, as dusk fell we were still more than a little surprised when just below New Khellong, we received an immediate reply to our frogmouth call, and then after a very short wait two Hodgson's Frogmouths flew very low over our heads, much to our delight!

Day 11 – March 30<sup>th</sup>

Rain, rain, go away and come again another day (preferably when we have left India). Unfortunately that was the mantra for today, although we had ok weather for the first two to three hours of the day after that it rained pretty much heavily, constantly, until it cleared in the evening for the last hour or so until dusk. We started off by going down towards Sessni, birding en route and picking up 2 Grey-sided Laughingthrushes and brief views of 3 Crimson-faced Liocichlas on the way. Most importantly, we obtained point blank cracking views of a Long-billed Wren Babbler as it came to investigate our tape. A superb bird!

By the time we had got to Sessni however the heavens had opened up and all we could do was sit out the rain. We eventually decided that the rain would win the waiting game so after trying as far down as Khellong without any improvement in the weather we decided to head to higher elevations in an attempt to get above the clouds.

This was partially successful, and by the time we reached the area known as Chaku at 2400m we were able to get out of the rain but were now instead surrounded by thick fog. However at least we were able to bird a bit as the fog had a tendency to roll in and out allowing some visibility at times. Again, a few Scaly Thrushes were seen on the drive up as they fed on the edge of the track.

With the last hour or so of daylight the fog thinned a bit and we were able to get great views of a flock of c15 Golden-breasted Fulvettas mixed in with a larger amount of Yellow-throated Fulvettas, Rufous-capped and Golden Babblers. Even better we encountered our first flock of Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills with at least 7 individuals showing well, whilst we also had point blank views of Brown-throated Treecreeper.

Walking the last km or so back down to Bompou camp we actually stumbled upon a first for Eaglenest, (to Ramana's knowledge), an adult Chestnut Thrush that fed along the jeep track ahead of us. As we returned to the camp we were disappointed with the amount of birding time we had lost due to weather conditions but despite this we had still managed to pick up a few quality species. The night was a rather interesting affair as a storm blew through that was so intense that at times we couldn't actually hear each other talking over dinner!



Day 12 – March 31<sup>st</sup>

The day dawned with a bit more promise weather-wise today, the overnight storm seemed to have finally cleared the air somewhat and it was a clear morning and scenic views that greeted us as we exited our tents. Clouds were still present below us, and as we worked our way straight down to Sessni we did experience some more fog although it was much lighter today and didn't impact our birding time too much.

Before we had reached Sessni, Ramana, in his now customary position clinging to the back of the 4x4, called a sudden halt to the convoy. As we ground to a stop we quickly realised we had a small flock of 4 Beautiful Nuthatches in the trees just next to us! This had been our main target for the morning so it was great to get them within half an hour of dawn and get such cracking views as well. As it was we ran into another flock of 3 Nuthatches a short time later, also showing superbly. As we were only a couple of KM above Sessni we continued the journey on foot, finally getting our first views of Bay Woodpecker (which had been just a voice in the forest until now). We also added a Crimson-breasted Woodpecker and a Sultan Tit was the first we had observed at Eaglenest. A large mixed flock just above Sessni contained another 2 Nuthatches and a Cutia, however our views here were brief and distant.

The fog had got a little thicker by the time we got to Sessni so we carried on down in attempt to get below it. At a quick tea break I wandered down the road and succeeded in getting good views of a Lesser Shortwing, before we carried on heading down to much lower elevations.

Our destination was the Bailey bridge at the low elevations just below Khellong. The jeep track here has been partially destroyed by a landslide meaning it is necessary to walk the last couple of km to the bridge, this is no bad thing though as it offers a different set of habitats to those at higher elevations. By walking along the track here down to the river we picked up small flocks of Silver-eared Mesias and Greater-necklaced Laughingthrushes, a couple of Yellow-vented Warblers, a Himalayan Flameback and a Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, but best of all was a cracking male Sapphire Flycatcher.

We arrived at the bridge and started scanning up and down the river, initially finding a Common Kingfisher and a distant Slaty-backed Forktail. However it wasn't long before we heard a call, followed by a large kingfisher flying under the bridge. We got on it and immediately realised it was a Blyth's, the target bird for here. Unfortunately the bird carried on going without stopping but it was still an elating moment for us. We wandered down the river to see if we could get views of the bird perched but were unsuccessful in this venture, although 2 Great Hornbills and Crested Kingfisher enlivened the walk.

From here we headed back up to New Khellong, arriving at dusk. We gave a try for some night-birds, hearing Hodgson's Frogmouth and Mountain Scops Owl but seeing neither, although we did get irritatingly close to the latter before it very typically gave us the slip.

## Day 13 – April 1<sup>st</sup>

With the day dawning clear and showing the prospect of warm weather we headed up above Bompou to attempt to knock a few species off our ever decreasing target list. We started off with mixed success, after a burst of tape we had a response from a male Black-headed Shrike Babbler, however the bird was quite distant and didn't really come in. John and I had brief views of the female but by the time we got the others onto the right spot it had moved out of view. Without any further success here we walked down the road trying for Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler, which despite being heard on several occasions had been successfully eluding us so far.

We heard a couple more birds calling but weren't able to tease one out, however we subsequently suffered one of those frustrating moments when I stopped for a pee break, only to have a pair of Slender-billed Scimitar Babblers fly across the track in front of me in amongst a flock of Scaly Laughingthrushes. A split second internal debate between the need for speed and the need for decorum saw me decide on the former and spin around to get the others. Unfortunately, calling the others back proved fruitless as the birds had entered thick vegetation below us and despite calling remained out of sight. A Ward's Trogon could be heard singing distantly and we all got on a Grey-bellied Tesia finally, after hearing dozens over the last few days.

Heading down towards Sessni, we tried hard and got good, if distant views of a Rufous-necked Hornbill, although as is usually the way one then showed much better once we had got to the old Sessni campsite. We spent a while birding around the campsite, which proved very fruitful when we located a large flock mixed flock, containing c15 Rusty-fronted Barwings and at least 10 Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills. Spending time with the flock yielded a Crimson-faced Liocichla and best of all 2 Coral-billed Scimitar Babblers, which we all got views of in the end.

Moving a little below Sessni we picked up another 2 Beautiful Nuthatches and a cracking male Ultramarine Flycatcher, our first of the trip. Heading down as far as New Khellong proved rewarding when we located up to 4 Long-tailed Broadbills, 4 Rufous-backed Sibilias and a Maroon Oriole. After another couple of Crimson-breasted Woodpeckers we headed up and birded stretches of the road between Sessni and Bompou in an attempt to see Chestnut-breasted Partridge. We got close to a couple of calling birds but were unable to tease them out into view and eventually admitted defeat, heading back up to Bompou and picking up another Brown-throated Treecreeper enroute. The day ended in fantastic style as we ran into another mid-sized species flock, this time in much bigger numbers. We watched with joy as dozens of Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills fed around us accompanied by a similar number of Rusty-fronted Barwings and another 2 Coral-billed Scimitar Babblers gave improved views from the earlier showing.

## Day 14 – 2<sup>nd</sup> April

It was our last full day at Bompou and we were keen to pick up the last few missing species. We again started early at Bompou before working our way downhill and spending the afternoon and evening around Sessni and New Khellong.

Our first target was one of the most secretive of forest birds, and so it proved for us, when despite hearing a few short bursts of song from a Blue-fronted Robin we were unable to get any response. However we were much more successful today with Black-headed Shrike Babbler when a male proceeded to feed directly above our heads, affording great views to everyone. 4 Grey-sided Bush Warblers showed well as they sang amongst the undergrowth. The last few days of improved weather seemed to have heralded a bit of an arrival of migrants as we heard, then had our only sighting of Oriental Cuckoo on the trip.

The return of fog and rain from late morning to mid afternoon did not help our birding efforts and served to frustrate all of us, however there being little we could do we carried on moving down below Sessni. When the rain eased up we chanced our arm on a close singing Spotted Wren Babbler and by clambering into the vegetation all successfully succeeded in getting good and very satisfying views. A large flock of some 200+ hirundines initially gave us problems until we worked out they were very wet Nepal House Martins, and whilst watching them a few Crested Goshawks took to the skies following the earlier deluge. We furthered our sightings of Rufous-necked Hornbills, with another 3 individuals, including very good views of a pair just below Sessni. A fantastic flock of 22 Long-tailed Broadbills was simply superb, but arguably the best of the day was yet to come, as we rounded a corner on the jeep track we found ourselves face to face with a flock of stunning Cutias, and we watched very appreciatively as 8 individuals fed at point blank range at eye level. A calling Hodgson's Hawk-cuckoo was just a little too distant for us to be able to find it.

We ended the day at New Khellong with a calling Hodgson's Frogmouth.

Day 15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> April

We started our last day this side of Eaglenest Pass at Sessni soon after dawn. We were somehow still missing Scarlet Finch and this was our main target, but the birds just wouldn't play ball and we ended up bizarrely dipping this usually fairly straightforward target. Graham, Jack and Ramana had views of another Spotted Wren-Babbler whilst John, Chris and myself worked the track further up. We did all get on a Pale Blue Flycatcher which eventually showed really well. A couple of Bay Woodpeckers increased our tally and our second Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler of the trip was noted by some, whilst at least 2 Pygmys made a group total of 3 Wren-Babbler species seen for the day.

With the morning drawing on we headed back up to Bompu, picking up our bags and saying goodbye to the wonderful and accommodating staff. We wanted to be at Lama Camp by mid afternoon but there were still birds to see on the way. Stopping a few kilometres below the Pass we picked up a few Grey-headed Bullfinches, 3 Broad-billed Warblers and after much work we all had excellent views of a diminutive male Pygmy Blue Flycatcher as he sang his heart out.

Up the pass it was pretty chilly and windy again but we were able to find a sizeable flock of 12+ Rufous-fronted Tits, another Green Shrike-Babbler and more Ludlow's Fulvettas. Bar-winged Wren-Babbler again disappointed us by responding to the tape but refusing to show, this is supposed to be one of the easier and more confiding

Wren-Babblers! A White-browed Bush Robin also called but declined our nice invitation to come out and show itself.

We carried on over the pass and headed back to Lama Camp, arriving mid afternoon. The weather now was warm and clear so we quickly stowed our bags and headed out. Within fifteen minutes we had heard an encouraging call, and ten minutes from that some careful waiting produced the hoped for results, a movement in the bushes saw us all raise our bins and there were a pair of the most wanted Bugun's Liocichla, moving through the undergrowth almost silently. Both birds eventually worked their way across the trail and flew below us in a gully and subsequently out of sight, but we were all elated and relieved to have scored with the target bird so quickly into our second stay at Lama.

We spent the rest of the afternoon birding down the jeep track before retiring back to camp for the night chuffed after our success with the liocichla.

Day 16 – 4<sup>th</sup> April

We headed down the jeep track below Lama Camp early this morning to an area known as Ramaling, an area Ramana knew to be good for finches, a family that was so far poorly represented on our trip list. A fly-by Pacific Swift was the only one of the trip, whilst we suddenly started observing Rufous-bellied Woodpeckers, with 3 individuals noted on the way down. A pair of Blue-capped Rock Thrushes showed well and we picked up our first Rufous-breasted Accentors. The most sought after finches were still absent although we did pick up c30 Yellow-breasted Greenfinches before heading back up the jeep track.

We continued all the way back up to Eaglenest Pass to continue our fight with Bar-winged Wren-Babbler. After scrambling up a ravine we had two individuals responding but neither were close nor would either come down to the tape, although we did have some compensation with excellent views of Hume's Bush Warbler, surely a winner for the best song in India?!

We tried again further along the pass for the Wren-Babbler and this time had a closer individual, but frustratingly again the bird refused to show to the group, and although I obtained brief views of the bird it went into an area of undergrowth where it refused to emerge from. Ramana could now state with confidence that this was the hardest he had ever had to work for this bird, never having to spend anywhere near this amount of time trying to tease one out before!

Time ticked away from us and we departed for Dirang, saying goodbye to the fabulous Eaglenest WLS. We'd had a fantastic nine days there, and despite the best efforts of the weather we'd managed to see all our top targets with only a couple of things missing, and we still had a chance of those at the Mandala Road.

The journey to Dirang was uneventful, although very scenic at times, and we arrived at our very comfortable hotel just after dark.

Day 17 – 5<sup>th</sup> April

As we were heading up Se La Pass we awoke very early today only to find the generator hadn't been turned on yet in the hotel. Scrambling around in torch light (or in my case mobile phone light) we got ready and departed for the near three hour drive to the pass. There was a little trepidation in the group as we were aware that previous groups hadn't been able to get up to the top due to the inclement weather but we hoped the improvement in the last five days would help us. As dawn broke we stopped in a small village just below an area known as Baisakhli for some welcome tea. A few Russet Sparrows were a nice addition and it was at this point that I realised I'd forgotten to wear my walking boots – I sensed a cold feet day approaching...

Walking up to Baisakhli there was a lot of passerine activity and we had terrific views of several White-collared Blackbirds along with Rufous-breasted Accentors whilst Black-faced Laughingthrushes were common along the scrubby slopes.

Heading up we made several stops, picking up a flock of c20 Asian House Martins, flocks of wheeling Choughs, White-browed Rosefinches, Coal Tits, Alpine Accentor and decent numbers of Fire-tailed Sunbird. About 5km below the main pass at an old landslide we stopped and scanned up the scree slope. After a little bit of scanning our main target was located, as a pair of Snow Partridges sat near the ridge calling loudly down the mountain side. Scanning along we suddenly realised there was a much larger, closer covey of 14 birds that had somehow kept temporarily out of sight. As we watched the partridges a pair of Snow Pigeons soared along just below eye level.

The day was bright and sunny at this point and the roads were clear so we suffered no issues with access, maybe we had paid our penance with the bad weather at Eaglenest?! After walk away views of the partridges, and a fly-by 'Shaheen' Peregrine (of the race peregrinator), we carried on to the top of the pass. After the obligatory photos we carried over the pass on the plateau at the top, marvelling in the stunning snow covered landscape. The wind was whipping along at some pace here making it decidedly cold but this was all soon forgotten when the shout of Grandala went up and sure enough we were all quickly onto a small flock of 5 individuals swooping around on the rocks between the road and the lake. 3 stunning males, the bluest thing I have ever seen, afforded terrific scope views to us all but they were obviously photo shy as they departed before we had a chance to capture them on film.

Apart from numerous Rosy Pipits the surrounding scree appeared fairly empty, but the lake held a surprise Great Crested Grebe and Brown-headed Gull. We carried on over the pass, stopping at a rest house on the way down for some delicious warming noodles, and I think all of us took up the option of a second bowl here! A few Wrens provided a touch of home before we carried on down the other side of the slope, stopping to check the river as we went although nothing unusual was located, with a Brown Dipper being the best bird. A few KMs the other side we stopped and explored the lightly wooded areas, the highlight here was cracking views of at least 3 Rufous-breasted Bush Robins. We started to continue the drive down when John called out excitedly bringing us to a sudden halt. We reversed up the road and were suddenly confronted with a pair of Blood Pheasants that were sat right by the roadside. We were able to watch them for a good fifteen minutes as they slowly fed up the slope

and eventually we tore ourselves away. On the drive back up to the pass a female Hen Harrier flew through the valley.

We returned to the lake at the pass to find the weather had closed in a little, with fog accompanied by a light hailstorm. The grebe and gull had departed and curiously were now replaced by a drake Mallard and a pair of Ruddy Shelducks, interestingly all the birds seemed to land on the north side of the lake, drift slowly to the southern edge, and then presumably depart south. Despite the hail we conducted a thorough search of the scree slopes next to the lake and were rewarded with a big flock of c120 Brandt's Mountain Finches, accompanied by a handful of Alpine Accentors.

Moving back on the Dirang side of the pass we headed down for a few KMs. Before we had a proper chance to scan Ramana announced 'Monal!' and sure enough there was a superb male Himalayan Monal just wandering around feeding on the slope below! We watched him glittering in the sunlight for a few minutes when suddenly 3 females and another male took off on the slope below us and flew over towards the other male, which also took off, circled around and then landed again still in full view. After getting our fill of this stunning bird for twenty minutes and with dusk falling we headed back down the mountain towards Dirang, thoroughly satisfied after a superb day of birding.

Day 18 – 6<sup>th</sup> April

We started off today birding along the Mandala Road. It was also to prove the hottest and sunniest day we had since Dibru Saikhowa, sixteen days ago! A Common Cuckoo was observed on the drive up, with a few others heard, and a flyover Eurasian Jay was also an addition to the trip list.

We made our first proper stop 3km before the logging 'village' of Mandala, where we scanned the flowering rhododendrons by the roadside. Initially we just picked up the ubiquitous mixed flocks of Rufous-vented and Stripe-throated Yuhinas, but it didn't take too long for us to pick up a pair of Gold-naped Finches feeding low down and with the male in particular giving terrific views.

Another brief stop in some open fields added Dark-rumped Rosefinch, before we continued past Mandala for about 10km to an area of pine woods where we birded for the next few hours. Bird activity here was about quality not quantity, although Blanford's Rosefinches proved common with at least 20 individuals observed. We also added Hodgson's (split from Eurasian) and Rusty-flanked Treecreeper, Rufous-vented Tit, Grey-crested Tit and a Eurasian Sparrowhawk.

We then turned back and headed past Mandala again, descending a short way before stopping and birding for a couple of hours. We made a concerted effort checking gullies again for Bar-winged Wren-Babbler, this time getting a reasonably close response. After a while scanning we couldn't locate the bird, then John stated he had it on the opposite side of the gully. Before we could get on it however, Ramana announced that there was a Fire-tailed Myzornis above us bathing in the water running down the gully! Basically, everyone tried to look in two directions at once, which resulted in most of us getting good views of the Myzornis, which departed very

quickly after it's discovery, but no-one else getting on the Wren-Babbler, which like the bird two days previously appeared to have 'done one'.

Despite more scanning for the Wren-Babbler it had now gone silent, so we gave a quick further check of the Rhododendrons, and in the process had brief views of another Myzornis and also added another key target and great bird, Spotted Laughingthrush, which we were able to get decent views of as a pair called from the bushes.

We carried on heading back downhill, making a couple of stops, firstly for an Aberrant Bush Warbler and secondly for one of the many singing Russet Bush Warblers, eventually teasing the little blighter out after a short wait. With the afternoon now drawing on we headed into the Sangti Valley, making a few short stops to check along the river for Ibisbill. We had no joy with these, with the river suffering a large amount of disturbance from the locals and in the process of being heavily dredged, by all appearances.

We reached the marshy area along the valley that is a renowned spot for Black-tailed Crake with a couple of hours of daylight left. The crakes were calling regularly from the marsh below and there appeared to be a good number of birds present, however it took a little while for us to get our first sightings. However when Ramana did locate a pair they proceeded to put on quite a show, giving full frame scope views for well over half an hour. A Long-billed Plover was also present on the edge of the marsh by the river, initially causing us a bit of confusion due to its choice of habitat.

Day 19 – 7<sup>th</sup> April

Getting up at the now customary time of 4:15am, we made our way back to the Mandala Road for our final morning's birding in the Himalayas. We were also treated to a continuation of the good weather from yesterday, in fact this was now set to continue until the end of the trip. After leaving the hotel we hadn't got far outside of Dirang when the lead vehicle flushed 2 Crested Buntings up from the roadside, thankfully they perched up and we all got good views of these little corks. A good start to the day!

We then stopped and spent a bit of time in some open broadleaved woodland 23km before Mandala, which proved to be an excellent site for flycatchers. The highlight was 3 Sapphire Flycatchers, including a cracking male, but we also had 3 Slaty-backed's, 2 Little Pied's and 2 Ultramarine's. Other birds in the area included a number of Chestnut-bellied Nuthatches, a few Tickell's Leaf Warblers, a Rufous-bellied Woodpecker and a flock of c40 Yellow-breasted Greenfinches. A female Lesser Cuckoo was a bonus and added to our ever growing list.

Heading up the road towards Mandala, we stopped in the same area we had spent time in yesterday, 4km before the village. It was our last chance at picking up Bar-winged Wren-Babbler, which had eluded us throughout the trip so far, and we were determined to give it one last bash having heard at least 8 or 9 different birds at various sites. Heading up the gully we played the tape but met with no response, and were on the verge of giving up when one called from the opposite side of the road. Walking across we almost couldn't believe it when we located a pair just happily

bouncing around the ground and the low vegetation giving stunning views. Oh well, this gorgeous little babbler proved more than worth the wait and we were delighted to have secured all of the possible Wren-Babblers so far, and with excellent views of them all to boot.

We headed back down the hill, stopping at an area 11km below Mandala village where we picked up another pair of Spotted Laughingthrushes. A plaintive whistling from the adjacent woodland immediately peaked our interest, a Purple Cochoa calling from not too far away. However the woodland was quite thick and despite attempting to get views from several angles we just couldn't locate the bird, and when a second bird also started calling from another, more distant patch of trees it felt like they were taking the proverbial. Ultimately it was a case of better luck next time as both birds managed to elude us and we headed back downhill, spending a bit more time at the flycatcher woodland, adding a Pale Blue Flycatcher to the earlier count.

With this, our time in the eastern Himalayas had drawn to a close, and we started the long and fairly uneventful drive south to Nameri, arriving at dusk. At a very pleasant dinner we chatted to a VENT group and got some of the local gen from the tour leader Dion Hobcroft. A walk around the camp grounds after dinner produced a very close calling Spot-bellied Eagle Owl and a not-so-close Collared Scops Owl, but we were unable to find either bird in our spotlights. We retired to the comfortable tented accommodation for a good night's sleep.

Day 20 – 8<sup>th</sup> April

We had a morning scheduled to bird at Nameri before we had another long drive to Shillong in Meghalaya. Our main target was White-winged Duck, but there are a number of good species here that we were hoping to bump into.

The riverine forest offers a good range of species and reasonably easy birding, and by the time we had got to the river's edge we had seen one half of the local pair of Oriental Hobby, a number of Common Hill Mynas and Chestnut-tailed Starlings, Golden-fronted Leafbird, 3 Greater Yellownapes and a Greater Racket-tailed Drongo. After a short wait the boat was ready and we hopped on and went across the river.

Once on the opposite bank we headed into the forest, but not before 4 Small Pratincoles flew over and a similar number of River Terns were observed along the river. We walked quietly through the forest in the hope of reaching the secluded pools without disturbing any potential occupants; this was successful, although partly in so much as that our target, the notoriously shy White-winged Duck wasn't present! A flock of 15 Lesser Whistling Ducks were present however, and a pair of Wreathed Hornbills flew very low over our heads, very atmospheric with the noise of the wind whooshing through their wings. A Bengal Bushlark song-flighted above us before we returned to the forest.

Conscious that the heat and humidity was already starting to rise we walked quickly along the river for a couple of km or so to the next set of pools. The first one we checked here held a surprise in the form of a Blue-eared Kingfisher, which sat motionless on overhanging bushes, whilst Abbott's Babblers called in the forest behind us. Moving quietly onto the fourth pool of the morning our luck was in as a



cracking White-winged Duck could be observed floating on the surface. It was most gratifying to get walk away scope views of this globally-threatened duck, and even more so to approach, watch and leave the area with the bird still there, proving it's possible not to flush them!

Walking back to the nearby guard house, we spent a few fun minutes posing with the ranger's gun (well the more childish amongst us did – myself foremost here) and picked up a few Taiga Flycatchers and Fulvous-breasted and Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers.

We spent the morning birding leisurely in the excellent forest habitat, picking up a number of species despite the rising heat and high humidity. Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Great Hornbill, Ashy-headed (or Pompadour) Green Pigeon, Besra and Barred Cuckoo Doves all gave great views at some point over the next couple of hours or so, but the highlight was 3 terrific Black Bazas that flew over our heads uttering their distinctive call.

With the morning drawing to an end and the heat starting to become very oppressive, we headed back to the river and returned to the eco-camp for some well earned lunch. Whilst we packed our bags I tracked down a calling Koel to finally get it on the 'sight' list for the trip, and then we said our goodbyes to Nameri and started the long, dusty drive south through Assam and into Meghalaya.

The drive was most noteworthy for the amount of dust, lorries and noise we encountered, although we did find 4 Red-rumped Swallows as we drove around the outskirts of Guwahati. A traffic jam on the impressive bridge crossing the Brahmaputra allowed us to jump out and take a few photos, before we eventually arrived at our destination in Shillong some seven hours later. We checked into the excellent hotel in town and retired for a much needed shower, then dinner, before retiring to bed ahead of our last couple of days of the trip.

Day 21 – 9<sup>th</sup> April

Our first day in Meghalaya dawned bright again, indeed it was to be another very hot day. We headed south through the state, extricating ourselves from Shillong and driving along the road to Cherrapunjee. The rolling hilly landscape here was quite different from anything we had encountered so far, and as we approached our target site low bushy vegetation predominated on the hillsides.

Our first stop was at the Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge. Here we quickly located a small party of 3 Crested Finchbills and Striated Prinias sang from the hillsides, whilst a short burst of song from the tape quickly elicited a response from our main quarry, Tawny-breasted Wren-Babbler. However despite coming very close the bird remained stubbornly out of sight, but another individual then started calling from the other side of the road and this bird proved a little more cooperative, affording flight views and brief perched views to most of the team. Walking down into the valley we noted our first Red-billed Leiothrix's of the trip and another couple of Crested Finchbills. We had a further attempt for a Wren-Babbler but received no response, although we did have brief views of a Grey-bellied Tesia.

Moving further along into Cherrapunjee we made our next stop at the picturesque Wahkaba waterfall. Looking down the cliffs here gave excellent views of at least 40 Dark-rumped Swifts, and after taking a few photos of the area and picking up a Blue Rock Thrush in the process, we carried on through the moorland-type-habitat to the village of Sohra. It was pretty hot by now but another c30 Dark-rumped Swifts were observed, with a much smaller number of Himalayan Swiftlets also in the area. Some of the team had views of an Indian Blue Robin, but otherwise the only species of note were a large group of Grey Treepies.

We headed back towards Shillong, stopping at a decent looking site and walking down a steep path into a valley below. Here we struck immediate success as a bit of tape playing brought in a quiet Tawny-breasted Wren-Babbler that showed at point blank range to all, at times almost too close to focus the bins on.

With the targets in the bag for this area we headed back to Shillong and spent the afternoon birding Shillong Peak. Birding was slow in the heat but up to 8 Grey Sibilas in the wooded area opposite the football pitch provided a welcome distraction. Walking up the road Ramana observed a pair of Rusty-capped Fulvettas but the rest of us were some way down the road and by the time we got there they had moved on. As the afternoon wore on the bird activity increased, and we spent sometime birding the forested path opposite the football pitch. In the shady forest flycatchers were quite prevalent with Rufous-bellied, Large and Small Niltavas and Slaty-backed, Little Pied and Snowy-browed Flycatchers all making an appearance. A Common Cuckoo was noted amongst the many calling individuals.

With dusk approaching we stalked up the hill in search of a calling Assam Laughingthrush, and after a little patience we were able to get good views of this skulky endemic in the fading light.

Day 22 – April 10<sup>th</sup>

With only one main target left for the area, we awoke bright and early (well, early) on our last day of the tour and headed up to Shillong Peak. We spent most of our time in the wood accessed from the path opposite the football pitch and found it to be very productive in the morning. The highlight was a Rusty-capped Fulvetta, our remaining target species that showed very well for an extended period of time. Flycatchers were again in evidence, with another Rufous-bellied Niltava and a few Little Pied's and Snowy-browed's and a Slaty-backed all observed. A number of Common Cuckoos were also noted amongst the myriads of calling birds, as well as another Plaintive Cuckoo.

A look up the hill produced a Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler, but not the hoped for Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler. Spending some time searching the undergrowth did give us point blank views of a Lesser Shortwing however.

Our time in the north-east was now up, and we departed north on the dusty drive to Guwahati. We had planned to make a stop at the famous dump for the adjutants, but unfortunately the traffic was so bad that what should've been a four hour journey ended up being over six hours, leaving us with just enough time to make it to the airport.

We said our goodbyes to Ramana and the rest of our crew and boarded the (again, on time) flight to Delhi. Graham was to catch an overnight flight back to Austria whereas myself, John, Chris and Jack all had at least a morning to kill before we flew back to England and the States respectively. Jack wanted to see Painted Snipe so with help from Asian Adventures he organised a trip for himself, whilst Chris, John and I planned a dawn raid to Sultanpur to kill a few hours and hopefully see Sind Sparrow.

Day 23 – 11<sup>th</sup> April

We had organised a driver from our hotel and left early to get to Sultanpur. Despite being told he knew the way we still got lost a number of times in Gurgaon, but eventually, more through luck than judgement I feel, we found ourselves at Sultanpur just before dawn. Here we met local guide Sanoj Sharma who we had hired through Asian Adventures as he knew the best site for Sind Sparrow. Before heading to the sparrow site we had a quick walk around Sultanpur Bheel, picking up numerous common Indian peninsular species, a number of which don't occur in the northeast. A quick jaunt around the back of the reserve produced 9 Indian Coursers that afforded excellent views from the car.

We then headed back up the road towards Delhi and after a few kilometres stopped at a network of fields on the left hand side of the road. The marshy area around here held thousands of waders, mostly Black-tailed Godwit and Ruff but with Pacific Golden Plovers mixed in as well. A flock of Greater Flamingoes was observed in the distance and dozens of Black Ibis fed around the area. A short walk produced our targeted quarry, a few Sind Sparrows in the acacias lining the ditches. At least one male showed exceptionally well and a Booted Warbler was also present.

With a good morning behind us we said our thanks to Sanoj and we drove back to Delhi, checked out of our hotel and reached the renovated and remarkably un-hassle free Delhi airport, ready for our flight home.

**1) Lesser Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna javanica***

15 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *only one flock observed*

**2) Greylag Goose *Anser anser***

15 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *one flock of the ssp rubirostris*

**3) Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c60 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 50-60 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; c15 Kaziranga Central Range 25/3/2010

**4) Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 22 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 25-30 Kaziranga, Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010

**5) White-winged Duck *Cairina scutulata***

1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 - *after a lengthy search (two ponds were deserted) one was finally located and we were able to stealthily approach a bird on the lake and obtain walk away views*

**6) Gadwall *Anas strepera***

9 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; c300 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 10+ Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c30 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 20-30 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 8+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**7) Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope***

30+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c30 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010

**8) Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos***

1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010, 1 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *only pure bred birds counted, one at the lake on the pass on the way back over must have just flown in, as it wasn't present when we drove past the first time*

**9) Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha***

c20 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 30+ Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 30 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 8 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 15 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**10) Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata***

c20 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c40 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010

**11) Northern Pintail *Anas acuta***

c12 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 8 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c15 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010

**12) Garganey *Anas querquedula***

8 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010

**13) Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 4 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 11 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010

**14) Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca***

6+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *at least six individuals observed amongst the large numbers of waterfowl on the picturesque Magori Bheel*

**15) Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula***

7 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *the only birds noted all trip*

**16) Snow Partridge *Lerwa lerwa***

16 Se la Pass road, 5km SE of Se la 05/04/2010 – *superb walk-away views of this large partridge, after initially hearing them up the slope Jack located a pair at the top of the ridge, only for Ramana to suddenly point out two different coveys at about a quarter of the distance*

**17) Swamp Francolin *Francolinus gularis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010 (one flushed, several others heard here); 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 6 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *we had terrific views of some of the eleven different birds we observed*

**18) Blood Pheasant *Ithaginis cruentus***

2 Se la Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010 – *a sudden abrupt stop and reverse back up the road gave us terrific views of a pair right by the roadside*

**19) Himalayan Monal Lophophorus impejanus**

5 Se la Pass road, 5km SE of Se la 05/04/2010 – *Ramana picked up a male parading in the sunlight giving fantastic scope views, before flying into the forest and reappearing for twenty minutes, three females and another male also seen in flight*

**20) Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *also heard at Dibru Saikhowa and Nameri*

**21) Kalij Pheasant *Lophura leucomelanos***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**22) Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis***

20-25 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010, 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**23) Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus***

1 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 - *one on the lake at the pass was a surprise*

**24) Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis***

10 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 40+ Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 12+ Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 10+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *fairly common at Kaziranga and easily observed*

**25) Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010; 4 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010

**26) Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger***

c25 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; c200 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; c50 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 5 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c150 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 30-40 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 5+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; c300 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**27) Darter *Anhinga melanogaster***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 11 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**28) Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 - *one flushed twice from a reedy ditch by the entrance to the range*

**29) Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 8 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**30) Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**31) Great Egret *Ardea alba***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010 – *probably under-recorded as many egrets were just scanned over*

**32) Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; c40 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *as above probably a little under-recorded*

**33) Little Egret *Egretta garzetta***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 30+ Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 12-15 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 20-25 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**34) Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis***

c20 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; c30 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 10-12 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 5+ between Digboi oilfields and Kaziranga 23/03/2010; 40+ Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 10+ Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 6-8 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c50 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**35) Indian Pond-Heron *Ardeola grayii***

c5 Dibru Saikhowa 20/03/2010; 6-8 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 5+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 30+ Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 15-20 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**36) Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***

3 Kolkata Airport 20/03/2010 – *birds observed flying over the airport*

**37) Striated Heron *Butorides striata***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010

**38) Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus***

7 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 12 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *a small flock also observed over Kolkata airport before our connecting flight to Dibrugah*

**39) Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans***

c30 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 6+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; c30 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 10-12 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 50+ Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c40 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**40) Black Stork *Ciconia nigra***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *just one observed soaring high above the range*

**41) Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**42) Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *a handful of these majestic birds observed*

**43) Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus***

10+ Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 15 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c18 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**44) Greater Adjutant *Leptoptilos dubius***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *bad traffic curtailed a planned visit to the dump near Guwahati where large numbers of these critically endangered birds gather, however we had excellent views of most of these individuals at Kaziranga*

**45) Osprey *Pandion haliaetus***

5 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010

**46) Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes***

3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *picked up first on call, 3 birds then proceeded to give superb flight views*

**47) Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**48) Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**49) Black Kite *Milvus migrans***

8 Dibru-Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 1 between Digboi and Kaziranga 23/03/2010; 4 between Shillong and Cherrapunjee 09/04/2010

**50) Pallas's Fish-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucoryphus***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *surprisingly only a handful of birds observed*

**51) Grey-headed Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus***

2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *sightings included one bird on a nest*

**52) White-rumped Vulture *Gyps bengalensis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *two flyover singletons of this critically endangered species*

**53) Slender-billed Vulture *Gyps tenuirostris***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 - *soaring close overhead amongst the next species and saving the need for a visit to the nest*

**54) Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayensis***

5 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 6 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010

**55) Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**56) Eastern Marsh-Harrier *Circus spilonotus***

1 fields east of Dibrugh Airport 20/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *despite the guide indicating the birds here should be Western Marsh Harriers, all the fieldmarks pointed towards all the birds we saw as being Eastern*

**57) Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010 – *both sightings were of females*

**58) Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus***

1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010 - *a female, seen very well in both flight and perched*

**59) Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010 – *fantastic views down to about 20 metres of a male from our boats on Magori Bheel*

**60) Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010

**61) Shikra *Accipiter badius***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**62) Besra *Accipiter virgatus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *one shot past overhead, being seen as little more than a silhouette at Eaglenest whilst another individual gave slightly more prolonged flight views at Nameri*

**63) Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus***

1 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010

**64) Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 - *soaring high overhead whilst eating our lunch*

**65) Eurasian Buzzard *Buteo buteo***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, 5km SE of Sela 05/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (2km) 06/04/2010

**66) Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus***

1 Delhi Airport 19/03/2010 – *almost pre-tour, one perched on the fences on our transfer between the international and domestic terminals at Delhi*

**67) Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010 – *sightings included one bird seen perched and drying its wings in the sun following a heavy downpour*

**68) Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**69) Booted Eagle *Aquila pennata***

1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/ - *a dark morph bird soaring near the entrance, showing the landing lights*

**70) Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus cirrhatus***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**71) Mountain Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus nipalensis***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**72) Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010

**73) Oriental Hobby *Falco severus***

1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 - *a bird from the regular breeding pair flew past the camp, carrying prey and calling*

**74) Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus***

2 Sela Pass road, 5km SE of Sela 05/04/2010; 1 Mandala road 07/04/2010 – *of the race peregrinator, or Shaheen Falcon*

**75) Small Buttonquail *Turnix sylvaticus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 - *flushed and seen well enough for identification*

**76) Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010 - *one flushed several times, seen well in flight*

**77) White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus***

1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**78) Black-tailed Crake *Amaurornis bicolor***

2 Sangti 06/04/2010 – *after a little searching a pair showed exceptionally well in the open. Several others heard at this site*

**79) Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio***

30-40 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *all birds of the race poliocephalus*

**80) Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus***

10+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; c15 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**81) Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra***

10-12 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010

**82) Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *after missing this highly desired species on the elephant ride, Ramana's strategy paid off when regular scanning produced a male walking in the open and allowing scope views for all*

**83) Eurasian Thick-knee *Burhinus oedicnemus***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *flushed during the elephant ride*

**84) Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus***

1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010 – *a good local species!*



**85) River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 5 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**86) Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 - *one flushed during the elephant ride*

**87) Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus***

4 Dibru Saikhowa 20/03/2010; 8 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; c40 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 10+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 5 Sangti 06/04/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**88) Kentish Plover *alexandrinus* *Charadrius alexandrinus alexandrinus***

c40 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**89) Long-billed Plover *Charadrius placidus***

1 Sangti 06/04/2010 – *surprisingly, in a rice paddy, and subsequently took us a few minutes to figure out that it was actually a L-B Plover*

**90) Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius***

4 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**91) Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta***

1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010 - *apparently very rare in Kaziranga - Ramana had never seen one here before*

**92) Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus***

30+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010

**93) Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus***

6 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 12 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 8 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010;  
2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 6+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**94) Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 3 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**95) Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**96) Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus***

3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**97) Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**98) Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis***

4 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**99) Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**100) Common Redshank *Tringa totanus***

2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**101) Little Stint *Calidris minuta***

50-60 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**102) Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**103) Ruff *Philomachus pugnax***

1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**104) Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5-6 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**105) Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 6+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**106) Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea***

4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *observed flying along the river whilst we were crossing*

**107) Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *the last bird a singleton on the lake at the pass on our first visit through, it had already moved off by the time we drove back past*

**108) Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *just one observed from our boats on the bheel*

**109) River Tern *Sterna aurantia***

3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**110) Rock Pigeon *Columba livia***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010

**111) Snow Pigeon *Columba leuconota***

6 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010 – *only seen in flight, in two groups of 2 birds and 4*

**112) Speckled Wood-Pigeon *Columba hodgsonii***

c8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 11 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; c6 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010 – *the flocks at Lama Camp on consecutive days presumably relate to the same birds. They were seen well perched through the fog on 28/3*

**113) Oriental Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia orientalis***

2 Mandala Road 06/04/2010; 6 Nameri NP 08/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**114) Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *one on the ground amongst the next two species*

**115) Red Collared-Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica***

3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *foraging on the ground with several Spotted and a Eurasian Collared*

**116) Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis***

c10 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010, 10+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 5+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 15+ Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 20+ Kaziranga 24/03/2010; 30+ Kaziranga 25/03/2010; 55-60 Kaziranga 26/03/2010; c15 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**117) Barred Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia unchall***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road 06/04/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *some good perched views of this shy dove*

**118) Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 03/04/2010 – *many good views on the deck*

**119) Pompadour Green-Pigeon *Treron pompadora***

1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *we were surprised to only see one, of the Ashy-headed form (some authors split this race-phayrei)*

**120) Yellow-footed Pigeon *Treron phoenicopterus***

c45 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010

**121) Pin-tailed Pigeon *Treron apicauda***

8 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 - *a single bird then a group of seven overhead*

**122) Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 10+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 7-8 Kaziranga 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**123) Mountain Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula badia***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010

**124) Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c30 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c15 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 5+ c15 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010

**125) Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri***

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 80-90 Kaziranga 24/03/2010; c35 Kaziranga 25/03/2010; 5+ Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**126) Blossom-headed Parakeet *Psittacula roseata***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *two pairs seen in a wooded area a number of miles down the central range track*

**127) Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri***

c60 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 8-10 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; c50 Kaziranga 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 8 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; c10 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**128) Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Cuculus sparverioides***

1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010 – *Great views of perched birds, whilst in addition the distinctive song was an extremely common sound at most sites*

**129) Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus***

1 Mandala Road (13km) 06/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 3 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *the last sighting included two males fighting*

**130) Himalayan Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010 – *the bird gave rise to much discussion before it flew off and started calling. Several others were heard at Mandala and Shillong peak*

**131) Lesser Cuckoo *Cuculus poliocephalus***

1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *an initially partially concealed perched female gave rise to considerable debate before we obtained better views and agreed on the identification*

**132) Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *one seen well and also heard at Kaziranga*

**133) Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *several good views of this species*

**134) Asian Koel *Eudynamys scolopaceus***

1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *was heard at several sites but not seen until we tracked one down in the ecocamp at Nameri during lunch*

**135) Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**136) Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**137) Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**138) Brown Fish-Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis***

1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010 – *a roosting bird showed very well in morning sunlight*

**139) Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 03/04/2010 – *both sightings perched, and heard daily at Eaglenest prior to our sightings*

**140) Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**141) Brown Wood-Owl *Strix leptogrammica***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010 – *heard clearly and close but seen only as a silhouette in flight*

**142) Hodgson's Frogmouth *Batrachostomus hodgsoni***

2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 29/03/2010 – *heard very well and the birds responded well to tape flying low straight over our heads. Also heard only at New Khellong on 02/04*

**143) Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus indicus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 1 just above Dirang 05/04/2010 – *first two birds seen well hawking at dusk*

**144) Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus***

4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 2 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010

**145) Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris***

8+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; c300 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; c12 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; c5 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010

**146) Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 05/04/2010

**147) Dark-rumped Swift *Apus acuticauda***

2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; c50 Cherrapunjee, Wahkaba waterfall 09/04/2010; 15-20 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010 – *the birds at Eaglenest were identified retrospectively, looking extremely similar to Common Swifts, which would be way out of range. There are records of Dark-rumped Swift from Bhutan, so this seems the most reasonable supposition. Lovely views of the Cherrapunjee birds from above at the waterfall*

**148) House Swift *Apus nipalensis***

3 between Dibrugah and Dibru-Saikhowa 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru-Saikhowa 21/03/2010; 3 between Kaziranga and AP border 26/03/10; c10 Shillong peak 09/04/10

**149) Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis***

c20 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 20+ Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**150) Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 31/03/2010 – *the second sighting involved a bird flying across the track in front of the lead jeep*

**151) Ward's Trogon *Harpactes wardi***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010 – *jamming into this species on our first afternoon at Eaglenest was certainly helpful, a pair flew across the track and sat in the trees performing exceptionally well just before dusk. Another bird heard just above Bompu camp on 01/04*

**152) Blyth's Kingfisher *Alcedo hercules***

1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010 – *another bird we jammed into quickly, on our first visit to the site one flew below the bridge calling after a ten minute wait, showing well enough for identification*

**153) Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi Rest House 20/03/10; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 23/03/10; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 between Eaglenest and Dirang 04/04/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**154) Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 just a flight call... (h); 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *we were rather surprised to add this to our triplist, the bird at Nameri sat up in a shady bush at the back of one of the pools allowing scope views*

**155) Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 between Nameri and Shillong 08/04/2010

**156) White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis***

5 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 8 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 4+ Kaziranga 26/03/2010; 5 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**157) Crested Kingfisher *Megaceryle lugubris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010 – *seen only in flight along the river from the Blyth's bridge*

**158) Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**159) Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctornis athertoni***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *great views of this beauty*

**160) Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis***

c10 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**161) Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 7 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**162) Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti***

4 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c8 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**163) Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis***

4+ Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 6+ Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/10; 20+ Kaziranga 24/03/2010; 10+ Kaziranga 25/03/2010; c20 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; c30 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *all birds of the race affinis*

**164) Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**165) Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010

**166) Oriental Pied-Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris***

7 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**167) Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis***

2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**168) Rufous-necked Hornbill *Aceros nipalensis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010 (h); 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *it took us until the 1<sup>st</sup> to get good views, then we had several decent perched views of this wonderful hornbill*

**169) Wreathed Hornbill *Aceros undulatus***

4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *two flyover pairs*

**170) Great Barbet *Megalaima virens***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 9 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *many others heard*

**171) Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineata***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 8-10 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**172) Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010

**173) Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica***

8+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *also heard daily at Kaziranga*

**174) Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala***

3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**175) Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus***

2-3 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *seen well amongst mixed species flocks*

**176) Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**177) Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos macei***

3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *all birds were seen from the path that runs through the forest parallel to the river*

**178) Rufous-bellied Woodpecker *Dendrocopos hyperythrus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010 (leader only); 2 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**179) Crimson-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos cathpharius***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010

**180) Rufous Woodpecker *Celeus brachyurus***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**181) Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010

**182) Greater Yellownape *Picus flavinucha***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 30/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**183) Streak-throated Woodpecker *Picus xanthopygaeus***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010

**184) Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010

**185) Himalayan Flameback *Dinopium shorii***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010

**186) Black-rumped Flameback *Dinopium benghalense***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**187) Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *numerous birds heard before one was finally seen*

**188) Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 22 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010 – *a fantastic huge flock at the lower elevation on the 2<sup>nd</sup>*

**189) Silver-breasted Broadbill *Serilophus lunatus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *a surprise sighting and presumably different pairs as they were in different areas on the two days. Birds were of the race rubropygius*

**190) Blue-naped Pitta *Pitta nipalensis***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 (h); 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010 (heard and leader sighting of one only); 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010 (h); 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010 (h) – *after coming close on several occasions on several days we had pretty much given up on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> when a pair were suddenly seen bounding along a path just in front of our van!*

**191) Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010 – *of the race lucionensis*

**192) Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010 – *all of the race tricolor*

**193) Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010

**194) Large Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010  
4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *all of the race nipalensis*

**195) Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Coracina melaschistos***

2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**196) Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus***

8+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 10-12 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 6 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**197) Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 5-6 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Mandala Road (26km) 06/04/2010;  
8 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**198) Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus***

3+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c10 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010 – *all of the race speciosus*

**199) Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 6 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**200) Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike *Hemipus picatus***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *sightings included one bird seen on a nest, a small structure appearing to be made mainly of mud. Birds at Eaglenest were of the race capitalis and of the nominate form at Digboi*

**201) Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis***

4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3-5 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *many authors have split the peninsular Indian race off as Jerdon's Leafbird, retaining this (nominate) form as Blue-winged Leafbird*

**202) Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons***

2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**203) Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**204) Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**205) Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius***

3 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010

**206) Yellow-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa flavirostris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010

**207) Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**208) Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 5 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010

**209) Collared Treepie *Dendrocitta frontalis***

5 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *excellent, extended views of this target species*

**210) Eurasian Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *some really good views of this species. All birds of the ssp macella*

**211) Red-billed Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax***

c50 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, 5km SE of Sela 05/04/2010; c30 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010

**212) House Crow *Corvus splendens***

10+ Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 12+ Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010; 10+ Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**213) Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 25+ Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2-3 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 5-6 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 12+ Kaziranga 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 4 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010; 5-6 Nameri NP 08/04/2010; 8-10 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 6 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *birds around Dirang (eg at Se la Pass and Sangti Valley) on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of the nominate race macrorhynchos, all others of the race levaillantii, which is considered by some authors to be a split under 'Eastern Jungle Crow'*

**214) Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010 – *all of the race azurea*

**215) Bengal Bushlark *Mirafra assamica***

5-6 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *all birds observed songflitting with some views had on the deck*

**216) Sand Lark *Calandrella raytal***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010 – *one of our first birds of the trip, present on the sandy areas immediately after crossing the river from Guijan*

**217) Plain Martin *Riparia paludicola***

4+ Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 40+ Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 50-60 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 200-250 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 20-30 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c10 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *all birds of the race chinensis*

**218) Sand Martin *Riparia riparia***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010 – *this bird, flying low across the river, was a surprise sighting on the trip*



**219) Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica***

5-6 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 25+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 40-50 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 8-10 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 100-150 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c120 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; c80 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c150 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**220) Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropsis daurica***

4 on outskirts of Guwahati, enroute to Shillong 08/04/2010

**221) Asian Martin *Delichon dasypus***

c20 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010 – *just the one flock observed, enroute up the mountain to Sela Pass*

**222) Nepal Martin *Delichon nipalense***

c200 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 3-4 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010

**223) Coal Tit *Periparus ater***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 5 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *birds were of the distinct crested race aemodius*

**224) Rufous-vented Tit *Periparus rubidiventris***

2 Mandala Road (2km) 06/04/2010 – *only observed in pine woodland near the top of the Mandala road*

**225) Grey-crested Tit *Lophophanes dichrous***

1 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *as above, only observed in one piece of pine woodland*

**226) Great Tit *Parus major***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *all birds of the oft split race cinereus (Cinereous Tit)*

**227) Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus***

6 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 3-4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**228) Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus spilonotus***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *birds at Eaglenest were of the nominate form and birds at Shillong were of the form subviridis*

**229) Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010

**230) Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanea***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *great views of this lovely species*

**231) Black-throated Tit *Aegithalos concinnus***

4+ Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010  
1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 7+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 6+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 5 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 4 Shillong Peak 09/04/2010

**232) Black-browed Tit *Aegithalos iouschistos***

5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 12+ Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010 – *like the above species, a charming little aegithalos, seemingly replacing Black-throated at the higher levels*

**233) Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch *Sitta castanea***

c8 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *all observed in the 'flycatcher' woodland, with one pair going in and out of a nest hole*

**234) White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 29/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010  
3 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**235) Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis***

4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 6 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**236) Beautiful Nuthatch *Sitta formosa***

7 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010  
– *superb views of this superb species in a small flock just above Sessni, then two further pairs in separate flocks*

**237) Hodgson's (Eurasian) Treecreeper *Certhia [familiaris] hodgsoni***

1 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *uncommon on the higher reaches of Mandala. This form is widely split from Eurasian*

**238) Rusty-flanked Treecreeper *Certhia nipalensis***

4 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (2km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010 – *much commoner than the previous species in its pine woods habitat*

**239) Brown-throated Treecreeper *Certhia discolor***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010 – *not common at Eaglenest, we had to make a special effort to pull out this species but did have point blank, nearly eye level views of both individuals*

**240) Winter Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (2km) 06/04/2010  
– *of the form nipalensis*

**241) Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii***

3 Bhalukpong 26/03/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010

**242) Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons***

5 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010

**243) Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus striatus***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 25-30 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 7+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010

**244) Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**245) Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer***

6-8 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 6-8 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 12-15 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 6 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 25-30 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 20-25 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 15-20 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (28km) 07/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 3 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**246) Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus***

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 4-6 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 5-6 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**247) White-throated Bulbul *Alophoixus flaveolus***

10-12 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 5 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *we thought we would only really bump into this species at Digboi, but several were observed at both Eaglenest and Nameri*

**248) Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mccllellandii***

c40 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 2-4 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 16 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; c50 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**249) Ashy Bulbul Hemixos flavala**

6+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010

**250) Black Bulbul Hypsipetes leucocephalus**

4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 6 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 12-15 Nameri NP 08/04/2010; c15 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**251) Zitting Cisticola Cisticola juncidis**

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2-3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**252) Striated Prinia Prinia crinigera**

2 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; 2 Cherrapunjee, Wahkaba waterfall 09/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010 – *easily observed whilst searching for other specialities around Cherrapunjee*

**253) Black-throated Prinia Prinia atrogularis**

2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010 – *a pair at the Sessni campsite showed well on most visits, most authors split this from Hill Prinia (P. superciliaris)*

**254) Yellow-bellied Prinia Prinia flaviventris**

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 5+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010

**255) Ashy Prinia Prinia socialis**

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**256) Plain Prinia Prinia inornata**

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010

**257) Chestnut-headed Tesia Tesia castaneocoronata**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010 – *heard all over Eaglenest with multiple views obtained of this ball of feathers on legs*

**258) Slaty-bellied Tesia Tesia olivea**

2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 03/04/2010 – *also commonly heard around Eaglenest and again many views were had of various different singing birds*

**259) Grey-bellied Tesia Tesia cyaniventer**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010 – *probably heard as commonly as the other two species around Eaglenest but much less frequently observed, although excellent views were had of one individual. Also the only tesia seen or heard around the Shillong/Cherrapunjee area*

**260) Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler Cettia fortipes**

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *the bird at Dibru was probably an individual returning late to their higher breeding grounds. At Eaglenest it was an extremely common songster, we had several good views but most birds were typically elusive*

**261) Aberrant Bush-Warbler Cettia flavolivacea**

1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010 – *just one observed in a tangle of undergrowth on the Mandala road*

**262) Hume's Bush-Warbler Cettia acanthizoides**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010 – *several others were heard. This bird probably has the best song of any species I have ever heard!*

**263) Grey-sided Bush-Warbler Cettia brunifrons**

4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010 – *only observed along one stretch of the jeep track up from Bompu camp, but seen very well*

**264) Spotted Bush-Warbler Bradypterus thoracicus**

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *a furtive individual that played hide and seek with us until we were able to get clinching views. Presumably another winter migrant due to move on shortly*

**265) Russet Bush-Warbler *Bradypterus seebohmi***

1 Mandala Road (13km) 06/04/2010 – *fairly commonly heard at Mandala but typically elusive, we made a special effort to get views of this individual*

**266) Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *two adult birds showed well in the tall grasslands*

**267) Blyth's Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *observed whilst we were birding outside the central range killing time before we could get in*

**268) Clamorous Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *seen in a similar area to the above species*

**269) Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 2 Shillong Peak 10/04/2010 – *much more frequently heard than seen, including at the higher areas at Eaglenest*

**270) Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius***

1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2-3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**271) Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**272) Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**273) Smoky Warbler *Phylloscopus fulgiventis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *both individuals seen really well*

**274) Tickell's Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis***

5 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *both sets of sightings involved groups of birds concentrated in a small area of woodland*

**275) Buff-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3-5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 03/04/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010

**276) Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis***

c15 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; c4 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (1km) 07/04/2010

**277) Pallas's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus chloronotus***

3-4 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *probably fewer birds seen than expected*

**278) Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus***

3-4 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *only definitely sighted at Digboi*

**279) Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010 – *all birds were of the nominate form*

**280) Blyth's Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides***

2 Digboi 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 30/03/2010; 7+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 04/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; c20 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; c11 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *birds at Shillong and Cherrapunjee of the nominate form, other sightings relate to subspecies assamensis*

**281) Yellow-vented Warbler *Phylloscopus cantator***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010 – *given our handful of sightings in comparison to other phylloscops maybe it can be judged as reasonably scarce in this area?*

**282) Grey-hooded Warbler *Phylloscopus xanthoschistos***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong Peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong Peak 10/04/2010

**283) Green-crowned Warbler *Seicercus burkii***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010 – *these two(?) birds showed all the correct characteristics of Green-crowned (aka Golden-spectacled) however this is a notoriously hard to separate from the below (super)species*

**284) Whistler's Warbler *Seicercus whistleri***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (3km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (10km) 07/04/2010 – *split from the above in a paper by Per Alstrom*

**285) White-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus affinis***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010 – *similar in appearance to the following species, which occurs more frequently at higher elevations*

**286) Grey-cheeked Warbler *Seicercus poliogenys***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *commonly observed*

**287) Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaniceps***

c15 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**288) Black-faced Warbler *Abroscopus schisticeps***

c30 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010 – *some large flocks of this fairly common but delightful little warbler*

**289) Rufous-faced Warbler *Abroscopus albogularis***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *only one bird seen along a dried up stream in Digboi, other groups have encountered this species just above Khellong in Eaglenest but most of our birding at this particular site was curtailed by poor weather conditions*

**290) Broad-billed Warbler *Tickellia hodgsoni***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010 – *this rare warbler is actually fairly common in the Eaglenest region, with it's call a fairly frequent sound in the higher reaches of Eaglenest*

**291) Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; c5 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; c7 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**292) Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa ferruginea***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *an individual that perched up was seen by a few of us but only Graham was able to get tickable views*

**293) Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula hodgsonii***

3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *several individuals including a couple of males were seen very well*

**294) Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophitata***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010  
1 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *the commonest ficedula on our trip*

**295) Taiga Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**296) Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *good views of the birds at Shillong*

**297) Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 3 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *like a lot of other flycatchers seemingly quite common in the woods at Shillong*

**298) Ultramarine Flycatcher *Ficedula superciliaris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010 – *a few cracking males observed*

**299) Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010

**300) Sapphire Flycatcher *Ficedula sapphira***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *two females and two superb males seen well*

**301) Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 7 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**302) Large Niltava *Niltava grandis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *it's DOH-RAY-ME call was reasonable common at Eaglenest, and we had good views of a few birds*

**303) Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 09/04/2010

**304) Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara***

1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *curiously absent until we reached Shillong*

**305) White-tailed Flycatcher *Cyornis concretus***

1 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *a male, seen at an atypically high altitude*

**306) Pale-chinned Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis poliogenys***

3 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010 – *it was surprisingly difficult to get good views of this cyornis, but with perseverance we all got onto it well*

**307) Pale Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis unicolor***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *a few others heard, we had good views of this fairly skulky flycatcher*

**308) Blue-throated Flycatcher *Cyornis rubeculoides***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 4 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010 – *fairly common at Digboi*

**309) Pygmy Blue-Flycatcher *Muscicapella hodgsoni***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010 – *present at slightly higher altitudes, we had particularly good looks at the first bird at Eaglenest. Several others were heard*

**310) Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 6+ Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 13 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; c15 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**311) Himalayan Rubythroat *Luscinia pectoralis***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010 – *of the race tschebaiewi, showing features of Siberian Rubythroat*

**312) Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *a late overwintering individual, form could not be ascertained*

**313) Indian Blue Robin *Luscinia brunnea***

1 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010 – *a female in a small copse of woodland*

**314) Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 03/04/2010 – *of the Himalayan form rufilatus, some authors split this as (Himalayan) Orange-flanked Bush Robin*

**315) Golden Bush-Robin *Tarsiger chrysaeus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010 – *several good views were had*

**316) Rufous-breasted Bush-Robin *Tarsiger hyperythrus***

3 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010 – *all three birds observed in one short wooded stretch alongside the river on the other side of the pass*

**317) Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010; 4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 6-8 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 5 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**318) White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus***

5 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**319) Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010

**320) Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni***

3 Mandala Road (28km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *surprisingly few individuals noted for this species*

**321) Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 7 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**322) White-capped Redstart *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Bhalukpong 26/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010; 2 Sangti 06/04/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Wahkaba waterfall 09/04/2010

**323) Plumbeous Redstart *Rhyacornis fuliginosa***

2 Bhalukpong 26/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 4 Sangti 06/04/2010

**324) White-tailed Robin *Cinclidium leucurum***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010 – *a male appeared in the clearing for Graham and myself during a heavy rainstorm, seen well but briefly, the tail pattern particularly prominent*

**325) Grandala *Grandala coelicolor***

5 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *scope views of a small flock including three so-blue-they-have-to-be-seen-to-be-believed males*

**326) Black-backed Forktail *Enicurus immaculatus***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010 – *really good views of this forktail on the paths at Digboi*

**327) Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *good views of the birds on the 'Blyth' s' river*

**328) Spotted Forktail *Enicurus maculatus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010 – *presumably the same pair along the stream below Lama Camp*

**329) Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 10-12 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 8-10 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 15-20 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 15-20 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010  
4 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010

**330) Jerdon's Bushchat *Saxicola jerdoni***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010 – *both males, seen at different sites and both showed perched up but fairly briefly*

**331) Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferreus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; c7 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**332) Blue-capped Rock-Thrush *Monticola cinclorhynchus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *several good views were had of this species*

**333) Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush *Monticola rufiventris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 06/04/2010

**334) Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius***

1 Cherrapunjee, Wahkaba waterfall 09/04/2010

**335) Blue Whistling-Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010; 2 Sangti 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**336) Orange-headed Thrush *Zoothera citrina***

1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *one noted as dawn broke feeding on the tracks*

**337) Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010 – *all the birds were observed from the jeeps as they fed along the tracks in the rain*



**338) White-collared Blackbird *Turdus albocinctus***

c7 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (10km) 06/03/2010 – *a number of these attractive thrushes were seen on stops up to Sela Pass*

**339) Chestnut Thrush *Turdus rubrocanus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010 – *observed on the edge of the track at dusk; seen well in the fading light and photographed. The first record for Eaglenest*

**340) Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophrys***

1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *extremely close views of the second bird in response to the tape*

**341) White-browed Shortwing *Brachypteryx montana***

1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 29/03/2010 – *brief views of this furtive songster*

**342) Yellow-bellied Fantail *Rhipidura hypoxantha***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 6 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 29/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 12+ Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 5 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010

**343) White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 03/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 04/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**344) White-throated Laughingthrush *Garrulax albogularis***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010 – *only one small group observed from the steep overgrown trail that winds up the slope from Bompou camp*

**345) White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *more often heard than seen, but as we had obtained views early on we didn't try to follow up the numerous calls we heard on various dates at Eaglenest*

**346) Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger***

c8 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *another laugh just observed the once, in a mixed species flock at the tea gardens*

**347) Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax pectoralis***

10-12 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 8+ Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010 – *common at Digboi, particularly on the periphery of the forest*

**348) Striated Laughingthrush *Garrulax striatus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010 – *fairly common at Eaglenest*

**349) Rufous-necked Laughingthrush *Garrulax ruficollis***

c8 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *on our way out of Digboi we disturbed a flock of these very handsome birds feeding on the road which then proceeded to give great views in the adjacent bushes. Three were then observed amongst the Lesser Necklaced's at the tea gardens*

**350) Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush *Garrulax nuchalis***

c5 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *seen very well and very early on our first day at Digboi, with a small flock of birds feeding on the deck. Another smart laugh*

**351) Spotted Laughingthrush *Garrulax ocellatus***

2 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (11km) 07/04/2010 – *a cracking bird that really gave us the runaround with two calling pairs, we eventually got decent views*

**352) Grey-sided Laughingthrush *Garrulax caerulatus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010 – *just the two observed of this quite skulky laugher, they flew across the road in front of the lead jeep but conveniently hung around in the bushes to provide everyone with good views*

**353) Bhutan Laughingthrush *Garrulax imbricatus***

c10 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 7 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010 – *fairly common around Lama Camp*

**354) Scaly Laughingthrush *Garrulax subunicolor***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 31/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010 – *regularly observed in one's and two's*

**355) Black-faced Laughingthrush *Garrulax affinis***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 4 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010 – *seen well at Eaglenest and Sela, with many others heard at Sela in the misty dawn light on our drive up. Also several heard on the Mandala road*

**356) Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Garrulax erythrocephalus***

8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (4km), 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (11km), 07/04/2010

**357) Assam Laughingthrush *Garrulax chrysopterus***

2 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *a very skulking species which after some hard work and patience gave good views in the undergrowth away from the main road*

**358) Bugun Liocichla *Liocichla bugunorum***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010 – *a pair immediately behind the camp showed themselves briefly in a close tree and, better, in flight. One of, if not the most wanted species on a trip to Eaglenest, we really had to work very hard for these laughers that were discovered by Ramana a few years back. After hearing one for a prolonged spell on the 27<sup>th</sup> March down from Lama Camp, we had struck out on views only for Ramana to have a bird fly across him when he was walking back down to meet us. Thankfully all of us had sightings on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, when the aforementioned pair played ball. Big sighs of reliefs all round!*

**359) Red-faced Liocichla *Liocichla phoenicea***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010 – *very skulking, most of our views were of various parts of birds in the undergrowth, some of us had reasonable views of at least one bird though*

**360) Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *a few others were also heard at Digboi*

**361) White-browed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus schisticeps***

3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *only observed at this one lowland site in amongst a mixed laughingthrush flock, although also heard at Khellong in Eaglenest*

**362) Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *several really good views of this species with birds at Eaglenest of the form godwini and the bird at Shillong of the form bakeri*

**363) Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus ferruginosus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010 – *some cracking (if somewhat brief) views of two pairs of birds in amongst large flocks of parrotbills*

**364) Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler *Xiphirhynchus superciliaris***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 31/03/2010 (leader only); 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010 – *heard on many occasions but proved extremely elusive for us. I was lucky enough to have a pair fly across my path and Ramana observed a brief individual but otherwise our luck wasn't in with this one*

**365) Long-billed Wren-Babbler *Rimator malacoptilus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010 – *after an individual was heard on 29<sup>th</sup>, we had stunning views of this little kiwi-like bird as it came into playback and watched us motionless from about 4 feet away perched up on a fallen branch*

**366) Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler *Napothera epilepidota***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010 – *great views of this wren-babbler too as it circled around us in a more open patch of forest. Another was heard on the 31<sup>st</sup>*

**367) Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga albiventer***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *the first bird was seen so close bins couldn't be focussed on it! Several others were heard*

**368) Pygmy Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010 – *commonly heard across Eaglenest (and at Shillong) and a number of individuals seen well*

**369) Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis caudatus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Lama 04/04/2010 – *again, frequently heard across Eaglenest. The bird on the 28<sup>th</sup> provided crippling views as it sang about 3 foot up in a bush. Another superb wren-babbler*

**370) Bar-winged Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis troglodytoides***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *apparently this is normally the easiest wren-babbler, however this wasn't the case on our trip! This was probably the species we spent the longest time searching for, with numerous birds heard before we had fleeting glimpses on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. However the species finally gave itself up in style with a pair seen incredibly well on 7<sup>th</sup>. Potentially the most handsome of a very handsome group of birds...*

**371) Spotted Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis formosus***

1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *after a lengthy tape session we all got good views of the first bird, before another sat in full view on 3<sup>rd</sup> singing it's heart out. A number of others were also heard, including some at Shillong Peak. Second best song of the trip behind Hume's Bush-Warbler!*

**372) Tawny-breasted Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis longicaudatus***

1 Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Cherrapunjee road 09/04/2010 – *yet another wren-babbler that showed off to us in all it's glory, we had top down views of the first individual of this highly range-restricted species before getting within a few feet of the second that came in silently to the tape.*

**373) Sikkim Wedge-billed Wren-Babbler *Sphenocichla humei***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010 - *seen well in a streamside gully, it gave repeated brief views and occasionally perched on a log in the open. Another superb babbler*

**374) Rufous-fronted Babbler *Stachyris rufifrons***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *this species occurs at low elevations and is replaced by the following at the higher levels*

**375) Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyris ruficeps***

5 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 20+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010

**376) Golden Babbler *Stachyris chrysaea***

c5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 7 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010

**377) Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 4-5 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *a few good views of this attractive little babbler at Digboi*

**378) Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis***

c30 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c20 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; c10 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**379) Chestnut-capped Babbler *Timalia pileata***

3-4 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *also heard in the grasslands at Kaziranga*

**380) Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010 – *good views of a pair alongside the main track*

**381) Jerdon's Babbler *Chrysomma altirostre***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 4+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010 – *some really good views of this target bird*

**382) Striated Babbler *Turdoides earlei***

9+ Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 5 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**383) Slender-billed Babbler *Turdoides longirostris***

1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *we had to really work hard for this species. Heavy winds during most of our time at Kaziranga really impacted searching for grassland species but we eventually got a singing individual on our last morning, unfortunately views were only brief as it remained for the most part out of view*

**384) Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argentauris***

c8 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 6-8 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 20+ Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 8 Mandala Road, (11km) 07/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Sohra 09/04/2010

**385) Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea***

3+ Cherrapunjee, Duwan Sing Syiem Bridge 09/04/2010; 2-3 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 2 Shillong Peak 10/04/2010

**386) Himalayan Cutia *Cutia nipalensis***

8 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *the flock of 8 birds afforded superb views as they fed nuthatch like next to the road at eye level, absolutely stunning birds*

**387) Black-headed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius rufiventer***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010 – *only John and myself got views of a female on the first date, but a return trip the next day to the same area afforded great views for us all of a male above our heads. This is a regular spot for this species for Ramana*

**388) White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *fairly common at Eaglenest in mixed species flocks*

**389) Green Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010 – *observed in mixed species flocks at the higher levels of Eaglenest*

**390) Black-eared Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius melanotis***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010 – *always observed in mixed species flocks, several great views were had*

**391) Rusty-fronted Barwing *Actinodura egertoni***

c9 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 8-10 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; c16 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 6+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 15+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 25+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010 – *observed in good numbers, including two very large mixed flocks at Sessni and Bompou. Flocks of these species at Lama Camp should be carefully scrutinized as Bugun's *Liocichla* are regularly mixed in with the Barwings*

**392) Streak-throated Barwing *Actinodura waldeni***

5-6 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010 – *generally took over from the previous species at higher altitudes*

**393) Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera***

5-6 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; c35 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong 10/04/2010 – *probably Chris' s favourite species (note the hint of irony here ...)*

**394) Chestnut-tailed Minla *Minla strigula***

c25 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 28/03/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 03/04/2010; 5 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010

**395) Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotincta***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; c15 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *observed in both mixed species flocks and large flocks comprised entirely of this species across a range of altitudes*

**396) Golden-breasted Fulvetta *Alcippe chrysotis***

c15 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010 – *a good sized flock observed of this 'quintessential eastern Himalayan gem', and some very good and point blank views were had*

**397) Yellow-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe cinerea***

5 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 5-6 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 15+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; c4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 40+ Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010 – *a surprisingly attractive little fulvetta, very common in the low undergrowth across Eaglenest*

**398) Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Alcippe castaneiceps***

3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 04/04/2010 – *frequently observed in mixed species flocks at the higher elevations*

**399) Ludlow's Fulvetta *Alcippe ludlowi***

5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road, (4km) 07/04/2010 – *a higher altitude fulvetta and extremely confiding, I had some birds literally hopping between(!) my feet at Eaglenest Pass*

**400) Rufous-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe rufogularis***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *a species that only occurs in the extreme east of the region, it is apparently common at Namdampha. We had very good views at Digboi*

**401) Rusty-capped Fulvetta *Alcippe dubia***

2 Shillong Peak 09/04/2010 (leader only); 1 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *one of the main target species at Shillong, and like the others targets at this site pretty skulking. Ramana observed a pair in a gully on the 9<sup>th</sup> but it took until the next day for us all to get a sighting. Ramana' s knowledge of the area took us to an appropriate spot and after a little bit of playback a bird came in and proceeded to give good, prolonged views*

**402) Nepal Fulvetta *Alcippe nipalensis***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2-3 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *only observed in the forests at much lower altitudes*

**403) Rufous-backed Sibia *Heterophasia annectens***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010 – *quite a tough species to catch up with at Eaglenest, we did however have very good views of several birds*

**404) Grey Sibia *Heterophasia gracilis***

6-8 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 3 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *a speciality of this region, and fairly common at Shillong peak*

**405) Beautiful Sibia *Heterophasia pulchella***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 30-40 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 6 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010  
2 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 15-20 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 03/04/2010; 2-3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 04/04/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 2-3 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 4-5 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *very common at Eaglenest*

**406) Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia picaoides***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 4-5 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 30/03/2010; 8-10 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 6 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010 – *common at the lower reaches of Eaglenest*

**407) White-naped Yuhina *Yuhina bakeri***

c40 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 11 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010 – *this attractive species occurred commonly at the lower altitudes in Eaglenest*

**408) Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3-4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; c50 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 8-10 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 30/03/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 03/04/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 03/04/2010; 5 Shillong peak 09/04/2010

**409) Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis***

12-15 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 10-12 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 6 Mandala Road (3km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *occurred in flocks at high levels with the following species feeding on the flowering rhododendrens*

**410) Rufous-vented Yuhina *Yuhina occipitalis***

20-25 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 80-100 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 12 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (3km) 06/04/2010; c15 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; c10 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *occurred in very large numbers with the previous species at high levels*

**411) Black-chinned Yuhina *Yuhina nigrimenta***

c15 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; c20 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010 – *regularly observed around Sessni in large flocks*

**412) White-bellied Yuhina *Yuhina zantholeuca***

20+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Mandala road (23km) 07/04/2010

**413) Fire-tailed Myzornis *Myzornis pyrrhoura***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010 – *I was lucky enough to get full, out in the open views of the first bird and whilst most of the group subsequently got onto it, it quickly disappeared over a ridge. Flight views were then obtained of a bird at Mandala Road before we had a third bird bathing in a small stream. Yet another fantastic looking bird and one of Eaglenest's most wanted*

**414) Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus***

3-4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 2-3 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**415) Brown Parrotbill *Paradoxornis unicolor***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010 – *two birds seen very well as they worked their way feeding up and down bamboo*

**416) Black-breasted Parrotbill *Paradoxornis flavirostris***

3 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010 – *gave prolonged, good looks with several others heard. A major target species and a very handsome one*

**417) Black-throated Parrotbill *Paradoxornis nipalensis***

c10 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; c8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010 – *two separate flocks of this beautiful little parrotbill were observed. Birds were of the grey-cheeked race poliotis, not the race supposed to be in this area according to the field guides*

**418) White-breasted Parrotbill *Paradoxornis bakeri***

7+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 15+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; c30 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010 – *we had a couple of bumper flocks on the 1<sup>st</sup>, and watching them a few metres away at eye-level mixed in with Coral-billed Scimitar Babblers and bombing across the path past our heads was a definite highlight. Split from Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill (*P. ruficeps*)*

**419) Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis***

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010 – *only observed at the easternmost sites on our trip*

**420) Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae***

c5 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; c3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 4 Mandala Road (20km) 06/04/2010; c15 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 1 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *some overlap with the following species but occurred at lower altitudes too*

**421) Green-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga nipalensis***

c15 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3+ Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 1-2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 5+ Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; 2-3 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 3 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *common at higher altitudes*

**422) Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata***

2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010

**423) Eastern Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja***

6 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010 – *many authors split this from the Indian peninsular race (Western Crimson Sunbird)*

**424) Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda***

2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 4+ Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sundarview 03/04/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; c10 Sela Pass road, 5km SE of Sela 05/04/2010; c12 Mandala Road (+4km) 06/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 5-6 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010 – *very common and impossible to miss at high altitudes feeding amongst the flowering rhododendrens, the males are real stunners*

**425) Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna***

5 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1-2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010

**426) Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum***

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *just the two sightings of this pretty flowerpecker*

**427) Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectum***

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 4 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; c10 Shillong peak 09/04/2010 – *the commonest flowerpecker on our visit*

**428) Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum***

20+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 2 Digboi 23/03/2010 – *extremely common at Digboi but noticeably absent further west*

**429) Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus***

3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Eastern Range 25/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *sightings included a female on a nest at Kaziranga, a haphazard arrangement of twigs just below the canopy*

**430) Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii***

2 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010

**431) Asian Fairy-Bluebird *Irena puella***

3 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010 – *surprisingly just the one small group observed*

**432) Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis gularis***

4 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**433) Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus***

c5 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 4 Dibru Saikhowa, Bramaputra 21/03/2010; 3 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori 21/03/2010; c50 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; c30 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 20-30 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; c15 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**434) Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus***

c30 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c10 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; c5 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 31/02/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; c15+ Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 03/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Cherrapunjee road 09/04/2010; c9 Shillong peak 09/04/2010; 2 Shillong peak 10/04/2010 – *birds at Digboi of the form hopwoodi, otherwise sightings relate to form longicaudatus*

**435) Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus***

10 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 29/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Khellong 31/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 10+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 01/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 14+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; c10 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010

**436) Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1-2 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 29/03/2010; 4+ Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 02/04/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**437) Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus***

2 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 6-8 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 8-10 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010

**438) Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**439) Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus***

1 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**440) Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa***

1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010; 4 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *just a flyover at Digboi before several were seen in fruiting trees at Nameri*

**441) White-vented Myna *Acridotheres grandis***

c20 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010 – *seen in good numbers on the first day but not again!*

**442) Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; c20 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; c40-50 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 50-60 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; c50 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 8-10 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**443) Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis***

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 6-8 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 40-50 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Hotel Jupuri 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 15-20 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**444) Asian Pied Starling *Gracupica contra***

4-5 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 15 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 5+ Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 6-8 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 5-6 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 6-8 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010

**445) Chestnut-tailed Starling *Sturnia malabarica***

2 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 3 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010; 4 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 3 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *observed regularly at lowland sites*



**446) Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris***

1 Sela Pass road, 5km SE of Sela 05/04/2010; c5 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *some very confiding individuals*

**447) Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophciata***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; c10 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; 20-25 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (2km) 06/04/2010; 2 1 Mandala Road (10km) 07/04/2010 – *locally quite common*

**448) Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava***

2 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *both birds of the race beema, Syke's Wagtail*

**449) Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola***

c10 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 15-20 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2-3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Western Range 24/03/2010; 50-60 Kaziranga Central Range 25/03/2010; 15-20 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010 – *one bird at Redang, Dibru, on 21/3 was clearly of the nominate form citreola, most other records could be assigned to calcarata*

**450) White Wagtail *Motacilla alba leucopsis***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; 15+ Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; 2 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

***alboides***

c6 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 20/03/2010; c10 Dibru Saikhowa, Redang 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga, Kohora 23/03/2010; 1 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010; 1 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010; 3 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010

**451) Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus***

c8 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

**452) Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseatus***

12+ Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c20 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *good numbers both at Dibru and at the summit at Sela*

**453) Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni***

4 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010; 2 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 26/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 01/04/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 7-8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama scrub 04/04/2010; c10 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010; c15 Mandala Road (4km) 07/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010

**454) Crested Bunting *Melophus lathami***

2 Mandala Road (28km) 07/04/2010 – *after Chris had searched for them along Sangti Valley the previous day, we bumped into a pair by the roadside on the Mandala road*

**455) Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla***

10 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 29/03/2010; 5-6 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 30/03/2010; 2 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 31/03/2010; 10-12 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 02/04/2010; 10-12 Eaglenest WLS, Bompou 03/04/2010; 1 Sangti 06/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *a flock around the campsite at Bompou accounted for most of the daily sightings there*

**456) Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *seen from our boat on the same island as the following species*

**457) Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala***

1 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010

**458) Brandt's Mountain-Finch *Leucosticte brandti***

c120 Sela Pass road, summit 05/04/2010 – *a large, compact flock that allowed approach to a few metres on the scree slopes*

**459) Blanford's Rosefinch *Carpodacus rubescens***

20+ Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *potentially more birds were present, they were quite difficult to observe in the pine woodland*

**460) Dark-rumped Rosefinch *Carpodacus edwardsii***

3 Mandala Road (4km) 06/04/2010 – *one male and two females observed well on a chance stop*

**461) White-browed Rosefinch *Carpodacus thura***

c10 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; c20 Sela Pass road, 10-15km NW of Sela 05/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (+10km) 06/04/2010 – *common in the vegetation on the slopes upto Sela Pass*

**462) Yellow-breasted Greenfinch *Carduelis spinoides***

40-50 Eaglenest WLS, Ramaling 04/04/2010; c40 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *two good sized flocks*

**463) Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis***

4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 8 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 28/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 04/04/2010; 3 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010 – *the sightings at Lama all relate to one flock of birds that showed well feeding in a tree next to the track*

**464) Grey-headed Bullfinch *Pyrrhula erythaca***

c10 Eaglenest WLS, Lama Camp 27/03/2010; 5 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 27/03/2010; 4 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 30/03/2010; 3 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010; 1 Mandala Road (9km) 06/04/2010; 2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *reasonably common and encountered fairly regularly at Eaglenest*

**465) Gold-naped Finch *Pyrrhoptes epauletta***

2 Mandala Road (3km) 06/04/2010 – *a pair seen very nicely and closely*

**466) House Sparrow *Passer domesticus***

c10 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010

**467) Russet Sparrow *Passer rutilans***

3 Sela Pass road, Baisakhi 05/04/2010; c40 Mandala Road (+2km) 06/04/2010; c10 Mandala Road (26km) 07/04/2010  
2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010; 4 Shillong peak 10/04/2010

**468) Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus***

4-5 Dibru Saikhowa, Kolomi guard post 20/03/2010; 2 Dibru Saikhowa, Guijan 21/03/2010; c5 Kohora, Kaziranga 23/03/2010; c5 Kohora, Kaziranga 25/03/2010;

**469) Streaked Weaver *Ploceus manyar***

c12 Dibru Saikhowa, Magori Bheel 21/03/2010 – *one flock seen well whilst we were being paddled across the bheel*

**470) Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus***

3 Kaziranga Central Range 24/03/2010; c15 Kaziranga Central Range 26/03/2010 – *quite common in front of the entrance to the central range*

**471) Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata***

c20 Kaziranga Diring (TATA tea gardens) 25/03/2010

**Heard only:**

**472) Hill Partridge *Arborophila torqueola* heard only**

2 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010

**473) Chestnut-breasted Partridge *Arborophila mandellii* heard only**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 28/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010

**474) Rufous-throated Partridge *Arborophila rufogularis* heard only**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**475) Blyth's Tragopan *Tragopan blythii* heard only**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 31/03/2010

**476) Temminck's Tragopan *Tragopan temminckii* heard only**

1 Eaglenest WLS, Eaglenest Pass 28/03/2010

**477) Grey Peacock-Pheasant *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* heard only**

1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 30/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni road 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, below Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 01/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, Sessni 03/04/2010

**478) Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus*** heard only  
1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 29/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 31/03/2010; 1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010

**479) Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia*** heard only  
1 Nameri NP 07/04/2010

**480) Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia*** heard only  
1 Kaziranga NP 26/03/2010

**481) Spot-bellied Eagle Owl *Bubo nipalensis*** heard only  
1 Nameri NP 07/04/2010

**482) Asian Drongo Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris*** heard only  
1 Digboi oilfields 22/03/2010; 1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**483) Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo *Cuculus nisicolor*** heard only  
1 Eaglenest WLS, New Khellong 02/04/2010; 1 Cherrapunjee, Wahkaba waterfall 09/04/2010

**484) Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus micropterus*** heard only  
1 Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**485) Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*** heard only  
Digboi oilfields 23/03/2010

**486) White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula monileger*** heard only  
1 Eaglenest WLS, Bompu 01/04/2010

**487) White-browed Bush-Robin *Tarsiger indicus*** heard only  
1 Eaglenest WLS, Chakoo 03/04/2010

**488) Purple Cochoa *Cochoa purpurea*** heard only  
2 Mandala Road (23km) 07/04/2010 – *fairly close but remained frustratingly out of view*

**489) Abbott's Babbler *Malacocincla abbotti*** heard only  
1 Nameri NP 08/04/2010

## ADDITIONAL SPECIES OBSERVED AT SULTANPUR (11/04/2010)

**490) Grey Francolin *Francolinus pondicerianus***  
2 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**491) Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus***  
2 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**492) Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos***  
21 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**493) Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala***  
4 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**494) Black Ibis *Pseudibis papillosa***  
c15 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**495) Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia***  
3 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**496) Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus***  
c25 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**497) White-eyed Buzzard *Butastur teesa***  
1 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**498) Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus***

5 Sultanpur Jheel; c35 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**499) Sarus Crane *Grus antigone***

2 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**500) Indian Courser *Cursorius coromandelicus***

9 in arable fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**501) Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva***

c100 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**502) Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa***

400+ flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**503) Laughing Dove *Stigmatopelia senegalensis***

2 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**504) Brown-throated Barbet *Megalaima corvina*** heard only

heard at Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**505) Common Woodshrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus***

1 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**506) Crested Lark *Galerida cristata***

2 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**507) Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix grisea***

2 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**508) Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula***

2 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**509) Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata***

1 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**510) Jungle Babbler *Turdoides striata***

c20 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**511) Bank Myna *Acridotheres ginginianus***

c40 Sultanpur Jheel and urban outskirts of Delhi 11/04/2010

**512) Rosy Starling *Sturnus roseus***

7 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

**513) Indian Robin *Saxicoloides fulicatus***

c30 Sultanpur Jheel and flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**514) Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata***

3 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**515) Sind Sparrow *Passer pyrrhonotus***

3 flooded fields just north of Sultanpur 11/04/2010

**516) Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus***

1 Sultanpur Jheel 11/04/2010

## **MAMMALS**

**Gangetic River Dolphin** – 1 was seen extremely close to our boat along the Brahmaputra at Dibru-Saikhowa

**Rhesus Macaque** – 3 at Dibru Saikhowa

**Assam Macaque** – a troupe of 6-8 seen one day from the jeep track at Eaglenest

**Capped Langur** – 4 seen at Eaglenest

**Asian Water Buffalo** – 1 at Dibru Saikhowa and quite common at Kaziranga

**Indian Elephant** – common at Kaziranga, also heard below us whilst at Sessni camp in Eaglenest

**Indian Rhino** – common at Kaziranga

**Gaur** – 1 young male stood blocking the jeep track one morning between Lama camp and Eaglenest pass, it eventually went around the jeep after walking ahead of us for about a kilometre

**Nilgai** – 3 were present at Sultanpur

**Swamp Deer** – common at Kaziranga

**Hog Deer** – as with the above species common at Kaziranga

**Barking Deer** – 1 at Kaziranga tea gardens and 1 at Eaglenest

**Smooth-coated Otter** – a raft of 6 seen from the observation tower in the Central Range of Kaziranga

**Black Giant Squirrel** – 3 individuals seen on different dates across Eaglenest

**Himalayan Striped Squirrel** – seen at several sites

**Pallas' Squirrel** – a few seen at Eaglenest Pass

**Large-eared Pika** – 2 were seen on stops up to Sela Pass