



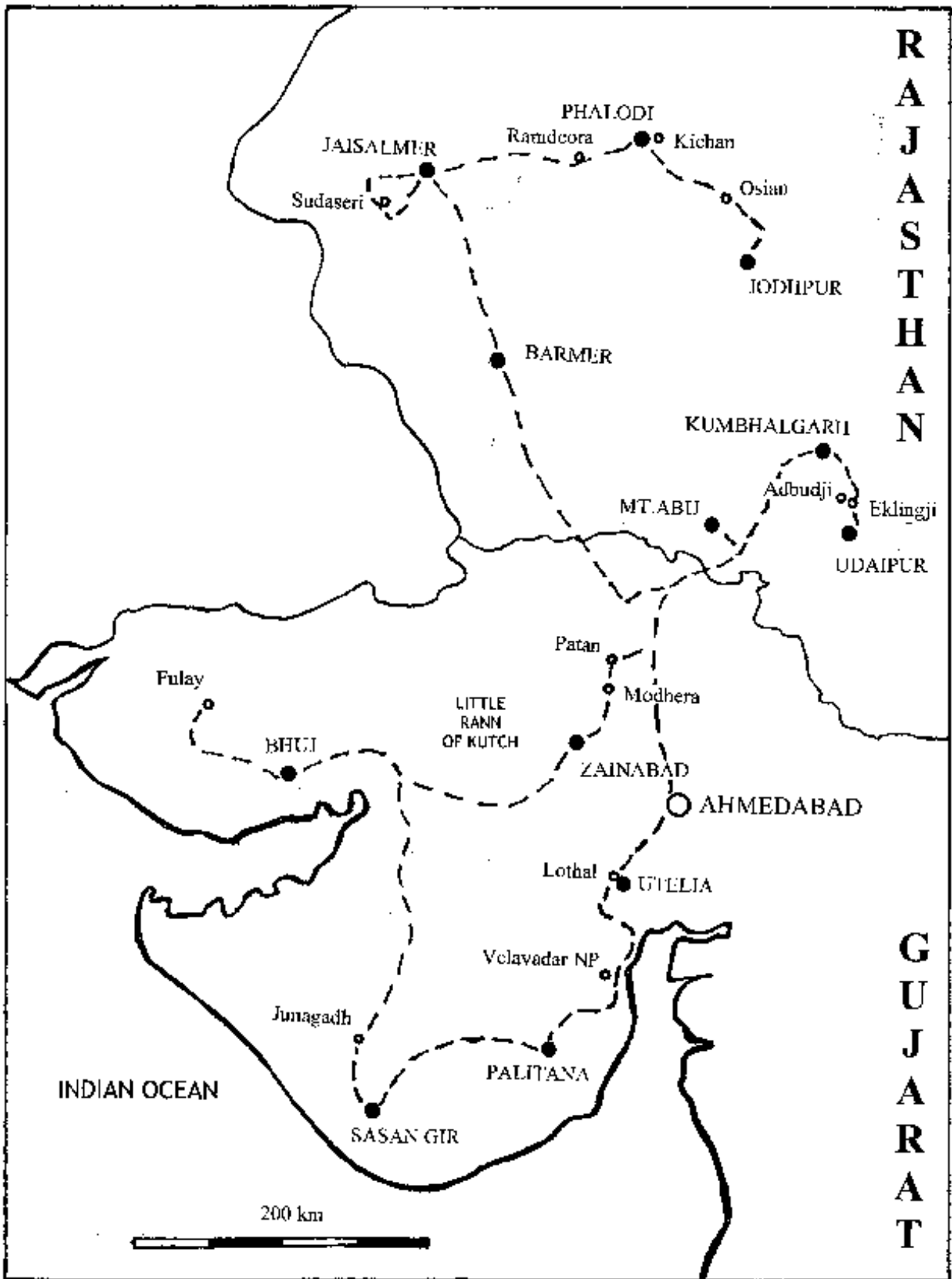
WESTERN INDIA

Dry land, deserts, forts and Jain temples – the country of Blackbucks, Demoiselle Cranes and Asiatic Lions

Notes on mammals, birds and reptiles from a trip to Rajasthan and Gujarat 3-24/2 2005

Uffe Gjøøl Sørensen & Lene Smith, ©Copenhagen, March 2005

MAP



INTRODUCTION

This was the first extended India visit for both of us for a number of years. The focus of the visit was a good mixture of cultural and natural highlights in the western states of Rajasthan and Gujarat, where none of us had been before. Having previously been to the hectic and crowded Ganges plain around Delhi this was like another world consisting of thinly populated rural landscapes and small towns. In many ways the best of India.

This report deals with observations of mammals, birds and the few reptiles recorded. A log of all records was kept throughout the trip. Figures are not necessarily detailed counts but to a large extent rough estimates. Visits at many of the cultural sites had an extra bonus through the possibility of enjoying the common and widespread species, which you find almost everywhere. The outcome of the trip was good and very satisfying – most target species came in as hoped for. The Asiatic Lion was the overall top star, it is not easy to find in the dense Gir forest– and the encounters with the two male lions are fantastic and dear memories. Seeing a magnificent Leopard on the same game-drive added even more to the excitement of that day. Also the handsome Khur (Asiatic Ass) fully came up to our expectations.

The dry west is not the most species-rich part of India for birding but it has a special and unique charm with a number of fantastic sites. The Thar-desert and Kutch plains are very special places and so is the unique dry forest in Gir, which moreover is a pleasure to visit due to the good conservation results. The traditional feeding of Demoiselle Cranes in thousands at Kichan is an absolutely unforgettable adventure. A number of species were only seen at the few places visited in central Rajasthan (Udaipur, Kumbhalgarh, Mt. Abu), where we were just within the range of many species being common in central/northern India. For the birder on a first time visit to India the dry west is probably a little low in its diversity and it is more fun (or at least easier) to find more species through a visit to either the north including the Himalayas or to the South or East.

Ornithological highlights during our trip were species like Laggar Falcon, the harrier-roost at Velavadar, Painted Francolin, Red Spurfowl, Grey Junglefowl, the vast numbers of Demoiselle Crane, Great Indian Bustard, Yellow-wattled Lapwing, Sykes's Nightjar, Sykes's Lark, Grey Hypocolius, Stoliczka's Bushchat, and Green Avadavat. Good records in an Indian perspective seems to be Yellow Bittern (2) at Sasan Gir, a flock of Mallards (20) at Zainabad, Himalayan Griffon (3) in the Desert, Crested Tree-swift at Kumbhalgarh (1) and Gir forest (7), Eurasian Crag Martin at Palitana (2) and Gir (3), and a good flock of Bimaculated Lark (200) at Utelia.

India is undergoing rapid development. This is reflected in a dramatical change in the farming practices. You meet immense contrast between gigantic combine harvesters passing fields where groups of villagers are mowing with sickles, men and woman have each their traditional roles. There are agricultural areas with large fields and everything done by machines and almost devoid of even small birds. We came in a season with little work on the fields, but where are most of the traditional farmers? Lousily paid seasonal workers? The farming around Kumbhalgarh was a contrast being still largely traditional with Persian wheels bringing up water for the mosaic of small fields.

Very few raptors were seen in the farmland. The dramatic decrease in the Gyps-vultures in India is well described but a sad experience. Being in India for more than 10 days before seeing the first Indian White-backed Vulture is literally odd. But not only are the vultures reduced in numbers, less than 200 Black Kites on 22 days and more than 3500 km was unexpected. Also the lack of passerines in the vast agricultural areas was a negative surprise. The cotton districts are known to be intensively sprayed with pesticides – is a major part of India in the process of loosing its birdlife?

India still has a lot to offer and Indian environmentalists have a lot to do.

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ITINERARY

- 2/2 Went early by taxi to Copenhagen Airport being ready for the Air France flight to Paris only to find this to be cancelled just minutes before the planned departure 07:10. We were immediately rebooked to Lufthansa and left with their flight at 10:00 to Frankfurt, where we had an easy transfer to their Delhi-flight.
- 3/2 The change of airline delayed our arrival at Delhi to 02:00 local time (GMT +6½ hours) – only three hours later than originally expected with Air France and actually quite convenient as the waiting before the on-going domestic flight was reduced correspondingly. Took a taxi to the nearby domestic airport. Domestic flight Delhi to Udaipur (05:45-07:45) including a brief stop-over in Jaipur. Cordial welcome in airport by Laxmikant and Laxman and taken to Udaipur. Chance meeting with Elsebeth and Søren already before reaching the hotel. Had a brief nap and were then taken to lunch at a restaurant overlooking the Pichola Lake – or rather the remains of it - and were invited on a nice late afternoon ‘surprise’ drive including traditional handicraft workshops (artefacts, clothes), then to a small lake outside Udaipur while the sunset was enjoyed at Fateh Sagar, the dammed lake on the NW outskirts of the city. Evening visit to Laxmi who had arranged a Kwali-concert with 6 brilliant musicians. 1½ hours of intense music, everyone sitting on the floor – the musicians and 8-10 spectators - fantastic evocative start of first visit to India for a number of years.
- 4/2 Walked around the stunning and romantic Udaipur – mainly the fort, the Durbar hall and the older part of the city. Late afternoon birding walk across the dry lake bottom to the water-covered part. We booked the fancy Aodhi Hotel near Kumbhalgarh for the following night. We joined the celebration of Laxmi’s birthday during the evening – a constant stream of people while sitting on the roof under a clear, dark sky with sparkling stars. An 11 man big Kwali-band entertained. Superb.
- 5/2 Laxman turned up punctually and we left Udaipur around 08:00 and started the planned 20 days roundtrip in hired car with driver. Drove north to stop at 10-century Jain-temple of Adbudji at Nagda – beautiful setting in green rural environment with a small nearby lake packed with birds. Next stop was shortly after at the Shiva-temple in Eklingji. Arrival timed to the second opening of the temple on that day. Evocative and intense atmosphere with a good numbers of prayers attending. Continued driving on narrow tarmac-roads through traditional farmland and reached Aodhi hotel. Quick check-in and late afternoon trip to the colossal Kumbhalgarh Fort with 36 km of walls (walked to the Palace and enjoyed the view, brief walk in the farmland inside the fort and 10 min down the track leading to the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary) and before sunset a walk in the farmland 1-2 km from the hotel. Brief night-walk from the hotel produced a Jungle Cat.
- 6/2 Started the day with a morning game-drive in the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary. As departure was already 06.00 the first part was a night-drive with spot-lighting. The road winding down the sanctuary is very steep and bumpy and except for the glimpse of a small predator nothing was spotted. At daybreak the flatter lower part of the sanctuary was reached and soon the first Grey Junglefowl crossed the track. Birding from the jeep included a short drive outside through farmland to a small lake. On the return drive a hide was visited where regular feeding takes place: Hundreds of Plum-headed Parakeets and some Rose-ringed immediately took over as soon as the ranger had spread the grain and the ground was covered with a brilliant turquoise carpet dotted with red and slate-blue heads and yellowish tail-tips. But soon the chicken parade came in from all sides: More than 100 junglefowl and 15 peafowls dominated but also a small convoy of both Grey Francolin and Red Spurfowl at the fringe and at the back a single Painted Francolin showed up. Plenty of birds during the slow drive back. After late breakfast we continued westwards through farmland. New but narrow roads with little traffic and because of many villages the progress was slow – the first 100 km took 3 hours. The speed increased as the road from Pindwara gradually grew broader as we headed south and approached the more densely populated part of Gujarat. At sunset we were on the four-lane highway around Ahmedabad. Laxman felt ready to continue driving and by his mobile phone a successful booking of a hotel near Lothal was made. Reached the spectacular Utelia village and hotel around 21.00 - after having faced some problems on the small tarmac roads in finding the final part of the way in the dark, rural landscape.
- 7/2 Early morning walk around the village and surrounding land. The hotel is in the Palace and is overlooking the village with an excellent view from the terrace on the top. Spotted a large flock of larks on some fields east of the village and walked after breakfast to the place and found Greater Short-toed Larks mixed with around 200 Bimaculated Larks - a far southern record of the latter species and a high number. Long and good morning visit to Harrapan-culture excavations at Lothal. Remains of a 4000-years old town and the peculiar dock were supplemented by an informative museum with many fine items on display. On the way a flock of 400 Demoiselle Cranes circled over. After lunch drive to Velavadar NP – the famous remnant of grassland holding India’s largest single population of the handsome Blackbuck. Quite windy but still a very spectacular area. We stayed until after sunset in order to see the famous roost of harriers. Approximately 250 Pallid/Montague’s Harriers accumulated during the afternoon and often came to rest on the ground, i.e. 15+ were sitting on the gravel road from where we were overlooking the scene. In the dwindling daylight the harriers gathered and

- circled in one dense whirl over their favourite spot in the vast grassland. The ratio of adult males was estimated to at least 2 Pallid for each Montague. We were told that the number has dropped significantly over the last few years, but still it was an impressive sight. Drove back to Utelia after dark (1½ hour).
- 8/2 Early start before dawn and drive back to Velavadar NP for early morning birding. The wind had dropped and birding was fine. We started by the only artificial lake holding water which is south of the tarmac road crossing the NP. On the return-drive a small group of Sykes's Larks was located – crouching on verge of the track. The species is not well illustrated in any field-guide and the identification caused some difficulties. Afterwards drive along the coast, one attempt to find Stoliczka's Bushchat in the scrub on the left side of the road was fruitless. Drive onwards through farmland to early arrival in Palitana. Strolled the streets in the late afternoon, watching life, making phone calls to Denmark and cashing money. A shop-owner first gave us an introduction to his tobacco and tea and later he guided us around the ruin of the Palace of the former maharaja.
- 9/2 Walked the Shatrunjaya Hill during the morning (07.40-12.05) following the long route starting in the town of Palitana. It took us little more than one hour to climb the 3500 steps - a nice cool morning breeze made it quite a nice walk. Many pilgrims filled the route and the visit became a very, very special experience. The 863 temples on the two ridges are not to be missed and the experience of life in the Adinatha Temple was one of the highlights during the whole trip. In addition the birding was fine with Rufous-fronted Prinia being common and a single Sykes's Warbler passing by. Because of the higher temperature the walk down was a bit tougher than the ascent had been. We restored energy during lunch. Considered various routes from Palitana to the next destination in Sasan Gir but decided on the inland option. No road-signs so had to drive from village to village but roads fairly OK and Laxman efficient in finding the way. We managed to pass through the town of Amreli at record time as a local on motorbike volunteered to guide us and did so at a brisk speed through narrow streets and alleys. From then on the road was quite good. Crossed through the eastern part of Gir Forest, where there soon was wildlife along the road. Found room at Maneland lodge some 2 km out of Sasan Gir.
- 10/2 Game-drive in the morning (07:00-10:35) in the forest NE of Sasan Gir (east of the railway). Game-drive late afternoon (16:00-18:50). The first two hours in the forest west of the railway including the observation-tower at the dammed lake. Last three quarters in the same area as the morning-drive. No cats today!
- 11/2 Game-drive in the morning (07:00-11:00) in the forest east of the railway in areas close to the national park. A very successful drive with close encounters of both Asiatic Lion and Leopard. The Leopard was seen 30 sec from the main entrance and was followed for about 5 min. At first it tried to remain unseen by lying flat down in the dead leaves on the open forest floor. It soon sneaked away but when feeling more safe just continued to walk at slow space parallel to the track for a couple of hundred meters. Magnificent. The lions were near a fresh Chital-kill and the experience was absolutely fabulous. They left the kill but we waited and saw one male sneaking back towards the kill. The moments when he slowly one paw at the time materialised from the dense jungle were unbelievably exiting. He was heading right towards us but then gradually drifted to the side and shortly crossed an open clearing before vanishing in the dense undergrowth. The other male was seen at the opposite end of an open glade. The guide saw a lioness as well. On the way to the lion-site we passed through a Siti-village. In the afternoon drive to the Gir Interpretation Zone showing the mammals of Gir but we refrained from entry when realising we had to go by bus. Instead walk along the river at Sasan Gir before sunset and unexpectedly found two Yellow Bitterns.
- 12/2 Short walk around the Maneland lodge at dawn. Was sitting on the stone fence before day break listening to the anxious calls of Chitals warning for 'big cat' less than 200 m away. Unknown if leopard or lion – but exiting moments! After dawn the peafowls left their night-roost and came in line marching out to the edge of the forest under the simple 'honk'-signal of the peacocks. Drive towards Bhuj with short stop overlooking lake btw Gir Forest and Junagadh, extended stop in Junagadh with visit to the Ashoka-stone in Girnar and the fort with Buddhist caves, mosque and old step wells and finally a brief stop at the salines by the bridge, where the road crosses the Little Rann of Kutch. Small, distinctly marked Sandlarks caused some confusion. Fabulous lunch at a road-side restaurant – the staff apparently being unaccustomed to western tourists our thali expanded to an almost endless number of dishes – one tastier than the other. Darkness came around Bhachua, as we had a puncture by the start of the pay-road. Arriving late at Bhuj there were no available rooms at the planned hotel by the lake. Had difficulties in the dark to find an alternative hotel until we realised that the particular hotel we searched for was never rebuilt after the earthquake on January 26, 2001, and that the map in the guide-book showed the old Bhuj and not the town as it stands today. Took instead the cheep Sahara Palace Hotel, it was fine but *noisy*. Made telephone contact to Mr. Varu and arranged a meeting the following morning.
- 13/2 Laxman had an early start in order to find a new tube for the punctured wheel. Afterwards Lene and he found a quieter hotel and an internet-café. Uffe met with Mr. Varu and soon decided to make a trip together to Fulay village during the afternoon. Changed hotel and had a brief trip around the town - which is very much changed after the earthquake – including a brief look over the lake. Departed at 13:00 and took the new tarmac-road to

Nakhtarana. Had a tea-stop and continued by a narrow tarmac towards Fulay. Everything went smoothly until the tarmac ended. A lorry loaded with gravel for a continuation of the roadwork had stuck and blocked further progress. Locals helped to find an alternative route over nearby fallow and through dense scrub, so we were fairly soon back on track. In Fulay a local, Mohammed Saidadu, was contacted and he immediately guided us right out on the nearby depression which was dry. In wet years it is packed with waterbirds but now it was a simple, but fascinating ecosystem with an immense population of Lesser Bandicoot-rats on which a good number of Steppe Eagle and Long-legged Buzzard were feeding. Shortly before 18.00 we were taken to a particular scrub in the farmland behind Fulay. A single bird was seen very briefly while leaving the scrub just as we arrived but then exactly at 18.00 the target of the day was reached properly: Two flocks of Grey Hypocolius flew in and started feeding on the berries. Enjoyed the special and delicate birds almost to sunset. Fantastic experience. Drove back to Bhuj in the dark and was dropped by the internet-café while Mr. Varu was taken to his home. The restaurant at the hotel was closed and we had late dinner at the fancy food bar at Prince Hotel.

- 14/2 Decided to leave for Little Rann of Kutch one day earlier than originally planned and had the changed reservation confirmed by phone. Crossed again the Kutch by the bridge and had a extra look at the Sandlarks. Continued through farmland to Halvad, Dhrangadhra, Bajana, Patdi and finally reached Zainabad. Roads generally good except for local roadwork, the final stretch before Patdi was the only really bad road we experienced during the whole trip. This will probably also soon be history. At arrival to the Desert Coursers lodge, we were offered a delicious lunch and afterwards a drive to the Kutch – first a fabulous bird-rich lake and by sunset the fringe of the drier parts (15:30-20:00). Drive together with two other birders, Bert Saveyn (Belgium) and Jerzy Dyczkowski (Poland). Late spot-lighting walk to open areas around the village (graveyards etc).
- 15/2 Early morning drive to the river-site near the village of Patdi. On the way back to Desert Coursers a brief stop by the fairly deepwater lake in the outskirts of Patdi. Siesta at Desert Courser. Late afternoon drive (15:30-20:50) with short visit to the rich bird-lake and extended visit to the drier part of the Kutch, with many fine views of the beautiful Khur – the Wild Ass. Ended by spot-lighting from 19.20-20.10 with two Jackals and a Short-eared Owl being the main outcome. During the drive back in the dark also a strong impression of the escalating crop-damage problems: small groups of men with torches and sticks on patrol in their fields in order to keep the asses out.
- 16/2 Short morning-walk to the cotton fields around the Desert Courser Lodge. Drive to Mt. Abu with stop at the Sun temple in Modhera (11th century) and the fantastic step-well in Patan (11th century). Managed finally late in the afternoon to get telephone contact to Jugal Tiwari and met soon afterwards at Mt. Abu, where JT had booked us at the fine Rising Sun Retreat. Spent the evening discussing birds and mammals in India and Eritrea!
- 17/2 Early morning birding in the garden by Rising Sun Retreat. Jugal Tiwari guided a short but very profitable morning visit to fields near Oriya village just outside Mt. Abu, where we found the Green Avadavat in a very boulder rich landscape. Brief visit to a roost of fruit-bats and a look at the lake before departure. Afterwards drive Abu Road-Deesa-Dhanera-Lelava-Sanchor-Purasa-Dhoriniana-Barmer. Occasional brief stops during one we were invited to tea in a traditional bisnoi-hut with the whole family present. Hotel in Barmer was overpriced – we avoided the noise from the market streets but had the highway instead. Bought nice Indian cloth at a local shop.
- 18/2 Drive from Barmer to Jaisalmer (07:30-10:30) with a stop at the Fossil Park. The rest of the day we spent walking around Jaisalmer including a visit to the lake. For the first time in genuine tourist land and we immediately enjoyed the wide choice of internet cafes - and cakes from the German baker.
- 19/2 A quiet day walking around Jaisalmer and several visits to government offices in successful effort to obtain permits for visit to the Desert National Park the following day.
- 20/2 Jeep-trip to Desert National Park. Picked up on time and went to the Forestry Department to get the guide onboard and drove to Khuri (06.05-07.10). Very cold in the canvas-covered jeep, after a cup of tea in Khuri we took the narrow tarmac road to the Sudaseri Bustard Enclosure. Had a long and very profitable walk. First to the dried out waterhole from where a Great Indian Bustard was spotted. Walked towards it but shortly before we reached the bird a jeep with visiting high-level police or military people overtook us and scared the bird. Well, we saw it fly away. Soon after a Stoliczka's Bushchat was found. Its 'puff-and-roll' behaviour is both weird and fantastic and it became the bird of day (sorry, bustard!). Many Indian gazelles and no less than 10 foxes during the morning – both Red and Indian – demonstrated a well-working protection. Continued to the village of Sam and was registered at the police-station. We were invited for a tea-stop at one of the fancy 'camel-safari-desert camps' which are lying shoulder by shoulder in the 'desolate desert', afterwards straight back to Jaisalmer. Sight-seeing in town for the rest for the day.
- 21/2 Morning walk to Jain temples in Jaisalmer. Tourist-hours are only in the morning in the two temples with access – they are beautiful – but lack the atmosphere of living temples. Then drive to Phalodi with stop at the

combined Hindu and Jain 'temple' in Ramdeora. Very different to Palitana – much more chaotic and 'street-like' Indian - everyone came here – not mainly well-educated, rich people. Found a very good hotel in a traditional havali in the old part of the Phalodi near the ruins of the fort. Late afternoon visit to Kichan to find the exact spot for the feeding of Demoiselle Cranes. Chance meeting with Capt Suresh Sharma who gave an introduction to the conservation work on the cranes and the old part of Kichan, where there are a number of fine houses in a local red stone. Sunset at lake in northern outskirts of Phalodi with Demoiselle Cranes packed in. Many locals attracted to our presence and the experience a little too hectic. But the cranes were unaffected by the children playing less than 50 m from the shore of the lake.

- 22/2 Despite being bitterly cold, the morning at Kichan was an unbelievable experience with thousands of Demoiselles Cranes coming in for feeding. We were immediately invited to stand on the roof of a house next to the feeding site. First class. Returned to the havali in Phalodi for breakfast and sightseeing in town. The mirror rich Jain Temple from which the singing had kept us awake for half of the night (the temple has a stone in the wall with 'genuine' light streaming out, as we were told!), a traditional havali left in the 1940'ties with all its original furniture etc. still in place (and used by the owners for a few days a year) and a private collection of almost anything (e.g. 1000+ betel nut scissors just to indicate the determination of the old owner, who's son guided us around). Afterwards we left for the temples in Osian. We visited the Sachiya Mata Temple (8th century) raising above the town and the active Jain Mahavira Temple (8th to 11th century). From there we went more or less straight to Jodhpur passing through bisnoi-country with chinkaras along the road. Uffe went to bed with flu. In the evening phone-call to Denmark and was told about an approaching snow-blizzard at home.
- 23/2 Big sightseeing (Jodhpur Fort and town) and souvenir day for Lene as Uffe was sleeping all day due to the flu.
- 24/2 Uffe partly recovered. We made an early morning sightseeing trip to the Jodhpur Fort with the splendid view over Jodhpur. Afterwards straight to the airport and a warm farewell to Laxman after 3500 km driving during 20 fantastic days. Domestic flight to Delhi (14:00-15:20). Now Lene started to have increasing problems with the flu. Well arrived in Delhi it was decided to try to reach Sultanpur Jheel for the sunset. Managed to get a taxi but great difficulties in finding the way and just managed to arrive at 18:00. Were allowed in for ½ hour and did see the sunset and some nice birds. Last species added to the list was Bar-headed Goose and Black-necked Stork: A prominent finish and for Uffe it was the fourth time an India-visit was ended with the final sunset at Sultanpur Jheel. Open land packed with waterbirds in 1986, almost dry in 1988 with a flock of flamingos in the tiny pool left, totally dry in 1998 with Indian Coursers on the nearby fields and now again with water and waterbirds - but completely surrounded by farmland. India is changing a lot. Quick drive back to the airport. Waited in the lounge until 22:45. Then start of security check, check-in etc. Especially the security check of the hand-luggage took time with a long queue.
- 25/2 Flight delayed and we arrived half an hour later than scheduled (06:15) at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris just in time to rush through the cumbersome passport control (welcome to Fort Europe) and change to the departure hall. Flight to Copenhagen (07:10-09:10). Landed in a freezing cold but almost snow-free Copenhagen – luckily the snow blizzard had not affected the eastern part of the country.

SITE NOTES

Most sites are well described in Kazmierczak and Singh (1998) and therefore only a few extra comments:

Udaipur: Lake Pichola reduced to a long, narrow pond along the eastern shore. 'Islands'/hotel in the lake could be reached by dry land. The artificial Fateh Sagar was filled with water. Spectacular town with birding opportunities conveniently outside the windows at any time.

Lothal: Here the archaeological site for the Harrapan culture was our main target but the dry sandy farmland was interesting and likely to produce a number of interesting observations given more time. We saw our first flock of Demoiselle Crane and moreover enjoyed Rosy Starlings, a large flock of Bimaculated Larks and a few Booted Warblers. Visitors to the area can only be recommend to stay at the hotel in Utelia as a unique experience in a very traditional Indian village. E-mail: utelia@ad1.vsnl.net.in. Tel. 02714-262222.

Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary: Our game-drive was arranged by Aodhi Hotel (2000 Rs). Spot-lighting is extremely exiting but perhaps the bumpy road (and a noisy car) makes it more than difficult to find the wanted mammals. When the lower part of the Sanctuary was reached it was daybreak. All in all we saw one Nilgai during the whole drive (and a number of Hanuman Langur) but the trip is worth it for the birdlife. Kumbhalgarh is known for wolves but how to see one is unknown.

Velavadar National Park. We had planned to stay overnight at the NP but was informed, that the lodge had not been rebuilt after the earthquake in 2001. This made us stay another night at the hotel in Utelia and implied a lot of extra driving (2x80 km). However, one *can* stay at Velavadar and this can only be recommend as a better way of getting a less hectic visit than ours. The grassland is a very nice experience as is the high number of the handsome Blackbuck. They were at the very end of the mating season, but a handful of males were still holding their territories. To have the full experience of the harrier-roost one has to stay to the very last light. We waited at a crossroad in the middle of the northern section of the grassland – together with a couple of visiting Indian birdwatchers. Harriers glide in during the afternoon and the sight is indeed spectacular.

Sasan Gir: We stayed at the slightly overpriced Maneland Lodge – but staff is friendly and the lodge is situated right at the border of the forest with a hilltop nearby to give a nice look around. We had little information about the birdlife and most were seen during the three game drives. One has to pay for entry (vehicle, persons, cameras etc), this is done at the NP office in town and is well organized. One gets a computer printed permit with name of the guide etc and the office is open so early that you can be at the gate by dawn (07:00). The lodge can arrange the vehicle with driver or you can find one in town. Permit (2 persons): 800 Rs. Vehicle per trip 800 Rs. Add tip to guide and driver. We always had our own vehicle and could decide when to stop for birding. Guides soon realised this and it worked fine. Our first guide was good and knew a number of the birds. Our last guide was obviously very good at finding the cats. He was extremely focused and knew his forest. We managed to fit in one afternoon walk along the river from Sasan Gir – but the area is definitely worth a whole morning.

Fulay: The area is reached from Bhuj by new tarmacs – albeit a narrow one as you approach Fulay itself. Mr. Varu was an excellent guide for us and further he knew how to get hold of the local guide, Mr. Mohammed Saidadu. Mohammed knows where the Grey Hypocolius is hiding. Jugal Tiwari will soon settle near the Fulay area and he is the obvious person to contact for future visits. The White-naped Tit *Parus nuchalis* is reported to be difficult to find today, but it is around and with more time in the area than we had, it is definitely a possibility.

Little Rann of Kutch: A stay at Desert Coursers can be strongly recommended for exploring the Kutch. The service is excellent and the price of 1900 Rs/person/day includes full board and 4WD trips morning and afternoon with good drivers/guides. Dry Kutch with Khur, MacQuenns Bustard etc is one option, but also the bird lake near Patdi is great ('old days Bharatpur') as is the 'river-site' with good numbers of both flamingo species. The tank at the outskirts of Patdi held a good number of ducks including our only Ferruginous Ducks (and Great Crested Grebe). The owner of Desert Coursers, mr. Malik, knows the Kutch as his own pocket and is well-informed about the birdlife. E-mail: zainabad@hotmail.com. Web-site: www.desertcoursers.com.

Desert National Park: Due to the proximity to the Pakistani border one needs a Restricted Areas Permit from the District Magistrate. KK Travel helped us to get the process started by taking us to the DM office and getting the right application form, but due to the up-coming Desert Festival they (and everyone else) were busy with all sorts of other activities. With excellent help from our driver we therefore took over ourselves and managed with a good proportion of patience to get the permit on the same day. But a couple of visits to the various offices was needed including one at the Forestry Department making arrangement for them to be ready, when the Restricted Area permit was issued. One needs copies of both passport information and visa and when filling in the application form one has to specify where to go within the Desert NP (likely to Sudaseri Bustard Enclosure). The Permit was promised ready by 16:30 but was then still lacking a vital signature. The civil servant in charge kindly continued working and was ready to make the final signature at 18:00 when the paperwork was completed with copies to a number of other authorities, i.e. one hour after his working hours had ended officially. Fantastic service! We then rushed to the Forestry and again the people in charge were prepared to help and at 18:30 we finally also had the Entry Permit (425 Rs) and had been presented to our guide for the following morning. A jeep with driver had been booked at KK Travel already in the morning (1500 Rs) and they very kindly passed our hotel in the evening to check, that all permits were in place (and moreover also turned up the next morning at 06:00 to check that the jeep turned up). Excellent service. With a longer warning it is likely, that KK Travel can prepare the permits. But we actually enjoyed a quite and good day – between visits to the various offices we walked around the town, it was also interesting to see the bureaucracy working steadily at its own space – none the least when it produced the wanted result. Perhaps it helped, that during the final visit Laxman went to the other office while Uffe just stayed at a free table and started to write up notes until the permit was ready – at least it is always a good idea to be relaxed and stay patient. Kazmierczak & Singh (1998) describes the road to Sudaseri Bustard enclosure as a dirt track, but today there is a new, narrow tarmac running from Khuri to Sam and one can easily reach the place from both villages. Our permit was checked at Sudaseri and we were also registered at the Police Station in Sam. There was no water in any of the waterholes – neither inside nor outside the enclosure. In Jaisalmer we stayed at Jaisal Palace and it

can only be recommended. Nice and cheap. E-mail: hoteljaisalpalace@yahoo.com. E-mail for KK Travel: kktravel_2000@yahoo.com.

Kichan: We stayed at Lal Niwas in the nearby town of Phalodi, which is a nicely restored haveli with very good service – but also rather expensive.

LOGISTICS

Having previously enjoyed travelling in India by public transport it was a special experience to go around in a hired car with driver. Everything becomes simple and efficient and it almost seemed a little wrong - but very, very nice. Crucial to this success is a good driver and in this respect Laxman was second to none. Well informed, interested and enthusiastic are some indicative keywords. The trip became very much a team-work. We paid the standard-price per day for the costs of the car and driver, but often shared meals and made it a routine whenever possible to invite Laxman to take part in game-drives, visits to sights etc. We believe this made things much easier. Having one in the group able to communicate in Hindi with drivers, guides significantly reduced the risk of misunderstandings and made it easy for them to understand our interests. Add to the costs a significant tip to the driver. We can only strongly recommend Laxman as driver/guide for a trip to western India.

Day time driving on the roads in Rajasthan and Gujarat is quite straightforward. Roads in general are good – India has invested a lot in new roads. Even the smallest roads are often tarmacked and the dangerous pot-hole is really the odd exception. Upgrading of roads is on-going and from time to time there are stretches with road-works. There are bumps in all built-up areas and villages and this efficiently reduces the speed where traffic is hectic and chaotic – with small cars, trucks, motorbikes, auto rickshaws, bicycles, pedestrians, cows, pigs and dogs in one anarchistic mix.

In the countryside there is generally little traffic and the speed is fairly slow. Overtaking is frequent and can be a hair-raising experience. However, our driver was always in full control and the fairly modest speed makes it always possible to avoid the most dangerous situations caused by fellow road users.

Driving after dark needs extra care – there are no position-lights on ox-carts, bicycles etc and pedestrians on two or four legs do not own even the smallest reflector tag. Rear light on trucks are not the norm in sharp contrast to the spectacular flashing light festoons decorating the front. Even on the four-lane bypass with central reservation at Ahmedabad one will meet oncoming trucks, motorbikes and ox-carts after dark.

We had three different maps available none was up-to-date and they demonstrated strong disagreements – which roads exist and of which standard? Our general experience was, that over short distances there will always be a road between village A and B although not shown on any map – and often the smallest and newest tarmac roads are the nicest as they have little other traffic. In the countryside road-signs are an exception and only in Hindi if present. Your driver will be your crucial partner in finding the way when not on a highway. Another challenge is to pass through the maze of any larger village or town. Several times we met a volunteer on motorbike showing the way when we asked for help.

February in the western desert areas of India can be a chilly experience. A strong winter in the Western Himalayas had its impact with day-temperature of only 8-10 °C in Jaisalmer. We brought light sleeping-bags in order to keep warm in the unheated hotels.

Guidebooks: General information about India from Lauridsen & Halberg (1999). For more specific information the Lonely Planet Guide to Rajasthan was far superior to the Footprint Rajasthan & Gujarat Handbook, but the last useful as well being the only guide covering Gujarat in detail.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Car rental:

Laxman Shah, Raj Tour and Travels, Police Thana Sec. No. 6 Hiran Magri, Udaipur (Raj.) 31 30002, e-mail: laxmananjali1@indiatimes.com. Tel. 0294-2464931. Mobile: 94141-60931.

Birding contacts:

Jugal Tiwari, present address at 'Abhshek' Sunset Road, Mach Gaon, P.O. Mount Abu, Rajasthan, India, tel. 0091 – 2974 – 237304. Mobile 9414026156. Mail: jugalt2000@yahoo.com. Jugal will soon move to Kutch and settle near the Fulay area.

Shantilal N. Varu, Temple Street, Junavas, Madhapar, Tal. Bhyj-Kutch (370 020), India, tel. (02832) 2 41500.

Information on Indian birds:

The internet gives new opportunities for getting up-dated information. There are a number of web-sites, and a place to start is www.delhibird.com. (however, note that this website haven't worked during summer 2005)

A lot of information can also be found through membership of the Oriental Bird Club (magazines Asian Birding and Bulletin; website: www.orientalbirdclub.org) or the classic Bombay Natural History Society (has also a well respected Journal and a website: www.bnhs.org).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Kaj Halberg has over the years provided much of the inspiration for this trip and also patiently answered our multiple questions over and over again and not the least provided the crucial contact to Laxmikant.

Other good pre-trip advise was received from Jennifer and Ole Frode Jacobsen, who have travelled the same areas. Ole provided the contact to Jugal Tiwari. Other bits of information were received from Søren Lauridsen and it was great to meet with Elsebeth and Søren in Udaipur. Hans Jørgen Bruun, BTI Nordic, made the flight-tickets.

Jugal Tiwari established the contact to Shantilal N. Varu, who was instrumental in our very pleasant and successful visit to the Fulay-area. Later the meeting with Jugal at Mt. Abu became another rewarding and stimulating experience. We wish both all the best in their dedicated work to improve the protection of the fragile ecosystems in the Kutch-area and expand the knowledge to Indian wildlife.

Laxmikant Vayar gave us a welcome to Udaipur we will never forget. His help and guiding on the first days and not least the fantastic evenings at his house with live-music was an intense experience and an introduction to a trip to India which set very high standards for the whole trip. We were not disappointed in any respect. If you start well everything will be well!

Finally our most warm thanks to Laxman, our driver. The trip was a genuine team-work and Laxman made it all work. Thanks again.

LITERATURE

Guide books:

Bradnock, Robert & Roma Bradnock (2001): Rajasthan & Gujarat Handbook. Footprint Handbooks Ltd.

Choy, M. & S. Singh (2002): Rajasthan. Lonely Planet Publications.

Lauridsen, S. K. Halberg (1999): Turen går til Indien. Politikens Forlag (3. udgave).

Kazmierczak, K. & R.Singh (1998): A Birdwatchers' Guide to India. Bird Watchers' guide. Indispensable.

Insight Guides (1987): Indian Wildlife. APA Productions. A little out-dated but still will at lot of useful information.

Identification guides:

Grimmett, R, C. Inskipp & T. Inskipp (1999). Birds of India. Princeton Field Guides. – A good guide but not easy to use in the field. Good and very useful supplement to Kazmierczak (2003).

Kazmierczak, K (2003): A Field Guide to the Birds of India. OM Book Service. - Indispensable in the field. Well produced and by far the easiest book to use. Good maps with names.

Menon, Vivik (2003). A Field Guide to Indian Mammals. DK Delhi. - A very fine and up-dated guide to mainly the large mammals of India.

Prater, S. H. (1980). The book of Indian Animals. Bombay Natural History Society. – Still valid for decent and good information.

Reference guides:

Grimmett, R, C. Inskipp & T. Inskipp (1998). Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Helm Identification Guides. – The key reference to Indian birds.

LISTS OF RECORDS

* = Photo of the species obtained during the trip

MAMMALS

1. Unidentified Bats *Chiroptera sp.* Bats were seen on most evenings right after sunset. Different habitats and variable sizes at specific sites indicate that a number of species were involved – as expected.
2. *Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*. 10/2 1 over flying after dark Maneland lodge (Gir Forest). 11/2 6 over flying after dark Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 12/2 1 over flying after sunset near Bhachau, 17/2 60 Mt.Abu, 23/2 5 over flying after dusk Jodhpur.
3. Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatto*. 24/2 2 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
4. *Hanuman Langur *Semnopithecus entellus*. 3/2 25+ near Udaipur, 5/2 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 40 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 75 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 5 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 2 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 10/2 25 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 25 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/5 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 16/2 2 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 25 Abu Road to Mt. Abu, 17/2 125 Mt.Abu to Abu Road.
5. Desert (Red) Fox *Vulpes vulpes pusilla*. 20/2 2 Desert National Park, 3 near Sam village, 22/2 1 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
6. Bengal Fox *Vulpes bengalensis*. 18/2 1 Fossil Park, 20/2 4 Desert National Park, 1 near Sam village.
7. Golden Jackal *Canis aureus*. 7/2 4 Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 10/2 3 spot-lighted at Maneland lodge prior to departure for morning game-drive (Gir Forest), 13/2 1 near Bhuj (after sunset), 14/2 2 spot-lighted the Kutch near Zainabad.
8. Honey Badger *Mellivora capensis*. 9/2 1 near Maneland Lodge at dusk.
9. Small Indian Mongoose *Herpestes javanicus*. 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 17/2 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.

10. Grey Mongoose *Herpestes edwardsii*. 5/2 1 Adbudji temple, 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 road-kill drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 1 Kichan.
11. Ruddy Mongoose *Herpestes smithii*. 8/2 1 drive Bhavnagar to Palitana (near Palitana). Crossed the road and was seen well – not very ruddy but very distinct black and up-turned tail-tip.
12. Jungle Cat *Felis chaus*. 5/2 1 near Aodhi Hotel, Kumbhalgarh (after dark).
13. Leopard *Panthera pardus*. 11/2 1 female morning game-drive Gir Forest.
14. Asiatic Lion *Panthera leo persica*. 10/2 tracks seen morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 males (and 1 female seen by the guide) morning game-drive Gir Forest.
15. *Khur (Asiatic Wild Ass) *Equus [hemionus] khur*. 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 27 the Kutch near Zainabad.
16. *Wild Boar *Sus scrofa*. 8/2 15 Velavadar NP, 10/2 12 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 7 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village, 17/2 tracks Oriya village (Mt.Abu).
17. *Chital (Spotted Deer) *Axis axis*. 9/2 5 road through Gir forest, 10/2 100 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 75 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 50 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 15 near the Gir Interpretation Zone, 12/2 5h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest).
18. Sambar *Cervus unicolor*. 9/2 2 road through Gir forest, 10/2 15 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 6 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
19. *Nilgai *Boselaphus tragocamelus*. 6/2 1 male Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 40 Velavadar NP, 8/2 70 Velavadar NP, 9/2 3 road through Gir Forest, 10/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 6 (1 male) morning game-drive Gir Forest, 14/2 1 male bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 8 river site near Patdi village, 50 the Kutch near Zainabad, 17/2 4 (1 male) drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 3 (1 male) drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 22/2 2 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 1 male Sultanpur Jheel.
20. *Blackbuck *Antelope cervicapra*. 7/2 400 Velavadar NP, 8/2 200 Velavadar NP.
21. *Indian Gazelle *Gazella bennettii*. 18/2 4 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 50 Desert National Park, 21/2 8 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 19 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
22. Five-striped Palm Squirrel *Funambulus pennantii*. Common and widespread: Udaipur, Adbudji temple, Shiva-temple in Eklingji, drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10 Utelia, 20 Lothal excavation, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, + Velavadar NP, 30+ Palitana, 9/2 ++ Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), + drive Palitana to Gir, + road through Gir Forest, + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), morning game-drive Gir Forest, late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), + drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + river site near Patdi village, + river site near Patdi village, + Desert Coursers, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 + drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 21/2 + Jaisalmer, + Kichan, 22/2 + Phalodi, + Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur, + Phalodi.
23. Indian Desert Jird *Meriones hurrianae*. 20/2 30 Desert National Park. An unidentified jird/gerbil crossed the road after dark near Utelia on 6/2.
24. Black Rat *Rattus rattus*. 20/2 2 Jaisalmer. An unidentified rat at Kichan 22/2 looked large and brown and could have been a Brown Rat *Rattus norvegicus*.
25. Lesser Bandicoot Rat *Bandicota bengalensis*. 12/2 immense concentration with burrows all-over the Fulay-depression. Remnants of a skull collected from a Steppe Eagle pellet.

26. Indian Hare *Lepus nigricollis*. 12/2 1 road-kill drive Gir to Bhuj, 20/2 2 Desert National Park.

BIRDS

1. Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*. 3/2 200 lakes near Udaipur, 4/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 20 lake near Adbudji temple, 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 11/2 4 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 14/2 5 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 50 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 40 lake at Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 15 Jaisalmer, 21/2 2 Kichan, 5 Phalodi, 24/2 1 Jodhpur, 5 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 10 Sultanpur Jheel.
2. Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*. 15/2 3 lake at Patdi village.
3. Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*. 7/2 25 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 12 Velavadar NP, 8/2 12 Velavadar NP, 9/2 7 drive Palitana to Gir (near Amreli), 12/2 40 S of Junagadh, 13/2 2 (one with a broken wing) Bhuj, 14/2 22 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 15/2 60 river site near Patdi village.
4. *Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus*. 3/2 10 Udaipur, 4/2 6 Udaipur, 7/2 2 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 13/2 11 Bhuj, 14/2 1 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch (in flock with Great White Pelican), 15/2 11 river site near Patdi village, 10 lake at Patdi village, 5 bird-lake near Zainabad.
5. Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*. 3/2 15 Udaipur, 4/2 2 Udaipur, 13/2 10 Bhuj, 14/2 5 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 15/2 3 river site near Patdi village, 17/2 15 Mt.Abu, 18/2 6 Jaisalmer, 24/2 1 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
6. Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 25 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 13/2 1 Bhuj.
7. Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 4/2 7 Udaipur, 7/2 1 Lothal excavation, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 10/2 5 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 13/2 25 Bhuj, 14/2 5 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 5 lake at Patdi village, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad, 22/2 3 Kichan, 24/2 1 Jodhpur, 1 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
8. Oriental Darter *Anhinga [melanogaster] melanogaster*. 10/2 10 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
9. Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 4/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 Utelia, 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 1 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 2 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 1 Bhuj, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 lake at Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer, 24/2 4 Sultanpur Jheel.
10. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 24/2 1 Sultanpur Jheel.
11. Great White Egret *Casmerodius albus*. 3/2 15 Udaipur, 4/2 5 Udaipur, 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 Utelia, 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 6 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 6 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 40 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 1 Bhuj, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 22/2 2 Jodhpur.
12. Intermediate Heron *Mesophoyx intermedia*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 Utelia, 8/2 1 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 12/2 2 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 1 Bhuj, 24/2 2 Sultanpur Jheel.

13. Little Egret *Egretta garzatta*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 4/2 4 Udaipur, 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 21 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 2 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 2 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 1 Palitana, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 10 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 2 Bhuj, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 17/2 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 1 Jodhpur.
14. Western Reef Heron *Egretta gularis*. 7/2 1 dark phase Utelia, 12/2 75 dark phase salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 75 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch.
15. Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*. 3/2 50 Udaipur, 4/2 20 Udaipur, 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 15 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 7/2 20 Utelia, 80 Lothal excavation, 10 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 20 Palitana, 9/2 50 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 100 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 + Bhuj, 14/2 4 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 5 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 3 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 25 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 10 Jodhpur, 24/2 30 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
16. Indian Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii*. 3/2 7 Udaipur, 4/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 2 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 5 Lothal excavation, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 5 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 25 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 20 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 30 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 6 Bhuj, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 5 lake at Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 5 Sun temple (Modhera), 24/2 1 Jodhpur.
17. Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*. 4/3 2 Udaipur.
18. Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*. 11/2 2 males walk along river near Sasan Gir. *The first bird was seen extremely well through the telescope, while it was crawling through high grass on the brink of the river – less than 20 m away. Crown slaty-grey, back deep chestnut, wing-coverts paler ochre. Breast pale with a diffuse ochre streaking. Yellow eye, yellowish bill with dark culmen, yellowish legs and feet with dark claws. One leg was injured and the bird had some difficulties in its movements. The other bird was seen when it was shortly exposed at the fringe of a dense stand of reeds in the dammed lake in the outskirts of Sasan Gir.*
19. *Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 4/2 1 Udaipur, 7/2 3 juvenile drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 adult Velavadar NP, 10/2 8 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 S of Junagadh, 14/2 3 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, 3 lake at Patdi village, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad.
20. *Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*. 3/2 35 Udaipur, 4/2 35 Udaipur, 7/2 25 Utelia, 12/2 3 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh.
21. White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*. 7/2 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP.
22. Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*. 10/2 3 adults 3 juveniles morning game-drive Gir Forest.
23. Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*. 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
24. Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*. 24/2 1 pair Sultanpur Jheel.
25. Black-headed Ibis *Threskionis melanocephalus*. 3/2 10 Udaipur, 4/2 5 Udaipur, 6/2 12 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 5 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad.
26. Indian Black Ibis *Pseudibis papillosa*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 4/2 2 Udaipur, 6/2 28 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 8/2 1 Palitana, 9/2 3 drive Palitana to Gir, 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 8 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 20 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5, lake btw Sasan Gir

and Junagadh, 5 S of Rajkot, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 2 Sun temple (Modhera), 17/2 1 drive Mt. Abu to Barmer.

27. *Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*. 3/2 30 Udaipur, 4/2 75 Udaipur, 15/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad.
28. Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*. 3/2 30 Udaipur, 4/2 30 Udaipur, 7/2 4 Utelia, 3 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 15 Velavadar NP, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 30 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 4 Bhuj, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 30 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 15/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer.
29. Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*. 3/2 150 Udaipur, 4/2 150 Udaipur, 12/2 4 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 100 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 150 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad.
30. Lesser Flamingo *Phoenicopterus minor*. 15/2 320 river site near Patdi village.
31. Lesser Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*. 5/2 110 lake near Adbudji temple.
32. Greylag Goose *Anser anser*. 14/2 25 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 24/2 25 Sultanpur Jheel.
33. Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*. 24/2 1 over flying Sultanpur Jheel.
34. Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 14/2 35 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad.
35. Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*. 9/2 2 drive Palitana to Gir (near Amreli).
36. Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*. 5/2 20 lake near Adbudji temple.
37. Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 4/2 4 Udaipur, 5/2 5 lake near Adbudji temple, 30 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 14/2 25 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 30 lake at Patdi village, 75 bird-lake near Zainabad, 24/2 1 male Sultanpur Jheel.
38. Gadwall *Anas strepera*. 3/2 50 Udaipur, 4/2 20 Udaipur, 5/2 300 lake near Adbudji temple, 80 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 14/2 200 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 200 lake at Patdi village, 300 bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 2 Jaisalmer, 21/2 10 Kichan, 6 Phalodi, 24/2 6 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 20 Sultanpur Jheel.
39. Common Teal *Anas crecca*. 3/2 100 Udaipur, 4/2 20 Udaipur, 5/2 30 lake near Adbudji temple, 20 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 60 Utelia, 2 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 20 Velavadar NP, 9/2 4 males Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 12/2 10 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 14/2 5 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, 50 bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 60 Jaisalmer, 21/2 10 Kichan, 24/2 7 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 50 Sultanpur Jheel.
40. Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*. 14/2 1 male, bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 bird-lake near Zainabad, 24/2 9 males 4 females + heard Sultanpur Jheel. *According to Mr. Malik at Desert Coursers the number of 20 Mallards near Zainabad is an unusually high number.*
41. Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*. 3/2 200 Udaipur, 4/2 100 Udaipur, 5/2 30 lake near Adbudji temple, 40 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 7/2 15 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 3 Velavadar NP, 9/2 20 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 15 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 3 Bhuj, 15/2 15 river site near Patdi village, 30 lake at Patdi village, 50 bird-lake near Zainabad, 24/2 50 Sultanpur Jheel.
42. Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*. 3/2 200 Udaipur, 4/2 200 Udaipur, 5/2 250 lake near Adbudji temple, 11/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 5 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 14/2 500 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 50 river site near Patdi village, 200 lake at Patdi village, 1500 bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 20 Jaisalmer, 21/2 10 Kichan, 24/2 25 Sultanpur Jheel.

43. Garganey *Anas querquedula*. 13/2 1 pair Bhuj, 15/2 1 male 1 female bird-lake near Zainabad.
44. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*. 3/2 1000 Udaipur, 4/2 800 Udaipur, 5/2 5 lake near Adbudji temple, 8/2 3 Velavadar NP, 9/2 30 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 20 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 40 Bhuj, 14/2 5 bridge crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 500 bird-lake at Zainabad, 15/2 200 river site near Patdi village, 200 lake at Patdi village, 500 bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 10 Sun temple (Modhera), 17/2 10 Mt.Abu, 18/2 15 Jaisalmer, 21/2 20 Kichan, 24/2 12 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 1500 Sultanpur Jheel.
45. Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*. 14/2 3 males 2 females bird-lake near Zainabad.
46. Common Pochard *Aythya farina*. 3/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 50 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 13/2 20 Bhuj, 14/2 25 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 50 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 50 lake at Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 15 Jaisalmer.
47. Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*. 15/2 3 lake at Patdi village.
48. Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*. 5/2 15 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 13/2 1 male Bhuj, 15/2 6 lake at Patdi village.
49. Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus*. 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 14/2 2 near Bhuj, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 2 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
50. Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 4 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 3 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 16 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 15 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 3 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 5 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 10 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 2 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 3 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 2 Delhi Airport.
51. Black Kite *Milvus migrans*. 3/2 75 Udaipur, 4/2 60 Udaipur, 5/2 4 Udaipur, 6/2 28 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 8/2 2 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 2 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 5 S of Junagadh, 20 Junagadh, 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 lake at Patdi village, 16/2 11 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 15 (more nests) Stepwell (Patan), 17/2 8 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 30 Jodhpur. *The vast majority of the records were probably the local ssp. govinda (Pariah Kite), except for three probable Black-eared Kites Milvus [migrans] lineatus south of Junagadh on 12/2. These kites were showing pronounced white underwing patches on the primaries.*
52. *Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*. 10/2 1 immature morning game-drive Gir Forest, 17/2 3 adult drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 39 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 7 Desert National Park, 3 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 5 W of Lathi, 22/2 2 adult Jodhpur.
53. *Indian White-backed Vulture *Gyps bengalensis*. 14/2 1-2 Dhrangadhra, 6 near Bajana, 18/2 3 Fossil Park, 20/2 1 adult Desert National Park, 21/2 22 W of Lathi.
54. *Indian Long-billed Vulture *Gyps [indicus] indicus*. 5/2 1 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 3 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 13/2 7 adult attending 4 nest on cliff one km off the road btw Bhuj and Nakhtarana, 17/4 4 attending caves in cliff near Deesa, 18/2 1 Fossil Park, 21/2 8 W of Lathi, 22/2 1 Jodhpur.
55. *Eurasian Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus*. 20/2 2 Desert National Park, 21/2 19 W of Lathi, 22/2 1 Jodhpur.
56. *Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayensis*. 21/2 3 (1 immature, 2 juvenile) W of Lathi. *Unexpected to see this species in the desert environment. Photos of the birds have been carefully checked with the detailed paper by Alstrom (OBS Bulletin 25 (1997): 32-49). The flock of vultures west of Lathi was impressively diverse with all 7 vulture species of the trip gathered around a dead cow. The corpse of the cow was skinned and apparently deliberately made available to the vultures.*

57. *Eurasian Black Vulture *Aegypius monachus*. 18/2 1 juvenile Devihut (drive Barmer to Jaisalmer), 20/2 9 Desert National Park, 21/2 6 W of Lathi.
58. *Red-headed Vulture *Sarcogyps calvus*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 21/2 1-2 W of Lathi.
59. Short-toed Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*. 5/2 1 immature Kumbhalgarh Fort, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 probable drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 1 shortly after Gir Forest, 14/2 3 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 19/2 3 mig. N (together) Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 Desert National Park, 1 drive Sam to Jaisalmer.
60. Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*. 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 24/1 1 Sultanpur Jheel.
61. Western Marsh-harrier *Circus aeruginosus*. 7/2 1 Utelia, 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 14/2 2 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 5 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 1 Desert Coursers.
62. Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*. 7/2 160 (estimated 2/3 of app. 250 harriers) Velavadar NP, 8/2 15 Velavadar NP, 13/2 1 male 1 sp Fulay depression, 15/2 2 males the Kutch near Zainabad.
63. Montague's Harrier *Circus pygargus*. 7/2 2 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 85 (estimated 1/3 of app. 250 harriers) Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 14/2 1 female bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 male the Kutch near Zainabad.
- Unidentified Sparrowhawk *Accipiter sp.* 8/2 1 (Eurasian?) Velavadar NP, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 19/2 1 (Eurasian?) Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 (Eurasian?) Khuri.
64. *Shikra *Accipiter badius*. 5/2 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 1 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 3 (1 immature) Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 male walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 Rising Sun Retreat (Mt.Abu), 22/2 1 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
65. Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*. 9/2 1 male, Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 12/2 1 female near Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 13/2 1 Fulay farmland, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer.
66. White-eyed Buzzard *Butastur teesa*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 1 adult 1 juvenile morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 juvenile late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
67. *Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus*. 7/2 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 13/2 10 Fulay depression, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 1 Jaisalmer, 19/2 2 Jaisalmer, 20/2 4 Desert National Park, 2 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 2 Jaisalmer, 21/2 6 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 24/2 1 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
- Unidentified Aquila-eagle *Aquila sp.* 3/2 1 Udaipur (probably Tawny Eagle), 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj.
68. Indian Spotted Eagle *Aquila [pomarina] hastata*. 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
69. Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga*. 7/2 1 immature Velavadar NP, 8/2 3 Velavadar NP, 14/2 4 immatures (1 fulvescens) bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 5 immatures (1 fulvescens) bird-lake near Zainabad.
70. Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*. 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 13/2 1 on nest Fulay depression, 15/2 1 immature bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 5-7 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 2 Desert National Park, 21/2 3 (1 juvenile) drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi.
71. *Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis*. 13/2 50 Fulay depression, 19/2 1 juvenile Jaisalmer.

72. Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca*. 14/2 1 adult bird-lake near Zainabad, 24/1 1 immature Sultanpur Jheel.
73. *Bonelli's Eagle *Hieraaetus fasciatus*. 5/2 2 adult drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh (near Kumbhalgarh), 17/2 1 immature Fossil Park, 2 adult Jaisalmer, 21/2 1 adult Jaisalmer.
74. Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*. 10/2 1 dark phase morning game-drive Gir Forest, 14/2 1 light phase bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 19/2 1 light phase Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 light phase Jaisalmer.
75. *Changeable Hawk Eagle *Spizaetus cirrhatus*. 6/2 1 adult Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
76. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*. 5/2 1 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 2 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 5 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 15/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 17/2 2 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer, 20/2 3 Desert National Park, 21/2 1 W of Lathi, 22/2 1 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
77. Red-necked Falcon *Falco chiquera*. 7/2 2 Velavadar NP, 14/2 3 near Fulay, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer,
78. *Lagger Falcon *Falco jugger*. 20/2 2 adult Desert National Park.
79. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 7/2 1 adult (one of the migratory subspecies) drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 15/2 1 adult (probably ssp. *calidus*) bird-lake near Zainabad.
80. *Painted Francolin *Francolinus pictus*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 11/2 1h probably this species morning game-drive Gir Forest.
81. Grey Francolin *Francolinus pondicerianus*. 6/2 3 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 1 Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 9/2 2xh Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 4 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 + h morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2xh walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 2+h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 1xh at sunset near Bhachau, 13/2 h Fulay farmland, 14/2 h bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 h river site near Patdi village, 2 Desert Coursers, 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 5 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 5 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 6 Desert National Park, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 2 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
82. Rain Quail *Coturnix coromandelica*. 5/2 1 male Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland.
83. Jungle/Rock Bush-quail *Perdica asiatica/argoondah*. 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
84. *Red Spurfowl *Galloperdix spadicea*. 6/2 3 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
85. *Grey Junglefowl *Gallus sonneratii*. 6/2 150 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
86. *Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*. 3/2 8 Udaipur, 5/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 25 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 30 road through Gir Forest, 15 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 100 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 75 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 40 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 30 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 14/2 1 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 17/2 6 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 + drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 6 Khuri, 21/2 1 male drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 10 Kichan, 22/2 10 Kichan, 24/2 1 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel, 5h Sultanpur Jheel.
87. Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator*. 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
88. *Demoiselle Crane *Anthropoides virgo*. 7/2 400 Lothal excavation, 4 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 15/2 12 Desert Coursers, 100 bird-lake near Zainabad, 21/2 1000 over flying Kichan, 6000 Phalodi, 22/2 7-8000 Kichan, 50 over flying Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.

89. Sarus Crane *Grus antigone*. 3-4/2 2 Udaipur, 7/2 2 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 2 Velavadar NP, 24/2 2 Sultanpur Jheel.
90. Eurasian Crane *Grus grus*. 7/2 250 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 1600 (mainly flight to night-roost) Velavadar NP, 8/2 66 Velavadar NP, 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 13/2 30 Fulay depression, 14/2 150 the Kutch near Zainabad, 15/2 100 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 200 the Kutch near Zainabad.
91. Brown Crake *Amaurornis akool*. 8/2 1 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
92. White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 11/2 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir.
93. Common Moorhen *Gallinula choloropus*. 6/2 200 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 20 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 15/2 10 lake at Patdi village, 21/2 20 Phalodi, 22/2 5 Jodhpur, 24/2 6 Jodhpur, + Sultanpur Jheel.
94. Coot *Fulica atra*. 3/2 1000 Udaipur, 4/2 500 Udaipur, 5/2 200 lake near Adbudji temple, 50 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 11/2 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 14/2 25 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + birdlike near Zainabad, 15/2 2000 lake at Patdi village, 18/2 30 Jaisalmer, 22/2 1 Jodhpur, 24/2 1 Jodhpur, + Sultanpur Jheel.
95. Indian Bustard *Ardeotis nigriceps*. 20/2 1 male Desert National Park. *Others saw 10 birds flying at Sudaseri while we were in the middle of the reserve.*
96. MacQueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis [undulata] macqueeni*. 14/2 2 (1 male) the Kutch near Zainabad, 15/2 1 male (different bird) the Kutch near Zainabad. *All birds seen shortly before dusk, when they were actively feeding outside the scrubs.*
97. Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*. 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple.
98. Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*. 3/2 50 Udaipur, 4/2 50 Udaipur, 5/2 30 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 15 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 7/2 5 Lothal excavation, 10 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 5 Velavadar NP, 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 25 Palitana, 9/2 30 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 10 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 15 Bhuj, 14/2 44 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 100 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 50 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 5 Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 over flying Jaisalmer, 21/2 2 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 10 Kichan, 10 Phalodi, 22/2 10 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 12 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
99. Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*. 3/2 20 Udaipur, 4/2 20 Udaipur, 8/2 30 Velavadar NP, 12/2 150 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 100 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 150 river site near Patdi village.
100. Stone-curlew *Burhinus oediconemus*. 10/2 h Maneland lodge (after dark), 11/2 2 near Maneland lodge (after dark).
101. Great Thick-knee *Esacus recurvirostris*. 4/2 2 Udaipur, 10/2 3 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest.
102. *Cream-coloured Courser *Cursorius cursor*. 20/2 18 in one flock near Desert National Park.
103. Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea*. 14/2 150 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 180 bird-lake near Zainabad.
104. *Yellow-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus malabaricus*. 10/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 3 drive Gir to Bhuj.
105. Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*. 3/2 30 Udaipur, 4/2 60 Udaipur, 5/2 2 lake near Adbudji temple, 5 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 4 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 30 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 20 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 8 drive Palitana to Gir,

2h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 15 morning game-drive Gir Forest, h Maneland lodge, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 20 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 10 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 33 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, 5 lake at Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 14 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 21/2 2 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 3 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 1 over flying Jodhpur, 2 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 3 Delhi Airport.

106. White-tailed Lapwing *Vanellus leucurus*. 14/2 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad.
107. Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 10/2 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh.
108. Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*. 4/2 18 Udaipur, 8/2 8 Velavadar NP, 12/2 1 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village.
109. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*. 3/2 15 Udaipur. A snipe seen at Velavadar NP on 8/2 was possible a Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*.
110. Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. 3/2 50 Udaipur, 4/2 50 Udaipur, 5/2 2 lake near Adbudji temple, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 12/2 120 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 75 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 lake at Patdi village.
111. Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*. 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village.
112. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*. 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 18/2 2 Jaisalmer.
113. Common Redshank *Tringa tetanus*. 12/2 15 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 5/2 1 river site near Patdi village.
114. Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 7/2 2 Utelia, 8/2 12 Velavadar NP, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 10 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer.
115. Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 8/22 1 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village.
116. Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village.
117. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*. 3/2 10 Udaipur, 4/2 10 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 14/2 1 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 lake at Patdi village, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu.
118. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 7/2 2 Lothal excavation, 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 18/2 5 Jaisalmer.
119. Little Stint *Calidris minuta*. 8/2 20 Velavadar NP, 12/2 10 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 50 river site near Patdi village.
120. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*. 3/2 4 Udaipur, 7/2 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 50 Velavadar NP, 12/2 3 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 3 Bhuj, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village.
121. Dunlin *Calidris alpina*. 12/2 5 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch.
122. Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*. 12/2 40 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch.

123. Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*. 3/2 150 Udaipur, 4/2 100 Udaipur, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 13/2 5 Bhuj, 14/2 200 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 60 Jaisalmer, 21/2 500 Phalodi, 24/2 150 over flying Jodhpur, 300 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
124. Great Black-headed Gull *Larus ichthyaetus*. 13/2 1 adult Bhuj.
125. Brown-headed Gull *Larus brunnicephalus*. 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village.
126. Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*. 4/2 3 Udaipur, 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 23/2 1 Jodhpur.
127. Slender-billed Gull *Larus genei*. 12/2 30 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch.
128. Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*. 8/2 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 13/2 2 Bhuj, 14/2 3 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 2 bird-lake near Zainabad.
129. Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*. 7/2 4 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 13/2 2 Bhuj.
130. River Tern *Sterna aurantia*. 3/2 200 Udaipur, 4/2 30 Udaipur, 10/2 30 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 250 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh.
131. Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 4/2 5 Udaipur, 8/2 1 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 14/2 1 drive Bhuj to Zainabad.
132. *Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles exustus*. 13/2 12+3 Fulay farmland, 14/2 20 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 30 river site near Patdi village, 100 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 25 Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), 18/2 8 distant unidentified sandgrouses at Fossil Park, 20/2 25 Desert National Park, 21/2 30 W of Lathi.
133. *Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*. 3-4/2 200 Udaipur, 5/2 ++ drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, ++ Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), ++ Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 ++ drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, ++ drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 ++ Utelia, + Lothal excavation, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, + Velavadar NP, 8/2 + Velavadar NP, + drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, + drive Bhavnagar to Palitana, + Palitana, 9/4 + Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), + drive Palitana to Gir, + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Bhuj, + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + river site near Patdi village, 2 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 + Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 + drive Mt. Abu to Barmer, 18/2 1000 Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 + Jaisalmer, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur, +Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, + drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
134. *Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*. 3-4/2 + Udaipur, 5/2 ++, 6/2 + Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, + drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 200 Utelia, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, + Velavadar NP, 8/2 + Velavadar NP, + drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, + drive Bhavnagar to Palitana, + Palitana, 9/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Bhuj, 10 Fulay farmland, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + river site near Patdi village, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 + Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), 150 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 ++ drive Mt. Abu to Barmer, 18/2 300 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 25 Desert National Park, + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/1 + Jodhpur, + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, + drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel, + Sultanpur Jheel.
135. Red Turtle-dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*. 7/2 15 Utelia, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana).
136. Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 11/2 2h morning game-drive Gir Forest.
137. Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 5/2 + drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 15 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 + Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, ++ drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 1

Utelia, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 9/2 + Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), + drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 ++ morning game-drive Gir Forest, ++ late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Bhuj, + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + river site near Patdi village, + Desert Coursers, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 + Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), 17/2 + drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 2 Jaisalmer, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur, + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.

138. Yellow-footed Green Pigeon *Treron phoenicoptera*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 8 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 6 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 15/2 12 lake at Patdi village.
139. Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria*. 5/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
140. *Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*. 3/2 200 Udaipur, 4/2 25 Udaipur, 5/2 20 Adbudji temple, 10 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 20 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 30 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 75 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 36 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 + Utelia, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 10 drive Bhavnagar to Palitana, 50 Palitana, 9/2 30 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10 drive Palitana to Gir, 40 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 30 morning game-drive Gir Forest, + late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 30 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 30 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Bhuj, + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 5 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 14 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 6 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 4 Kichan, 1 Jodhpur, 24/2 4 Jodhpur, 10 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
141. *Plum-headed Parakeet *Psittacula cyanocephala*. 5/2 10 Adbudji temple, 6/2 200 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 1 male Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir.
142. *Asian Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea*. 4/2 1 female + 1 head Udaipur, 6/2 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 8/2 2h Palitana, 9/2 1 h Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 1 male Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 male morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 males walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 4 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 1 Bhuj, 22/2 1 male 1 female Jodhpur, 23/2 1h Jodhpur, 24/2 1 h Jodhpur.
143. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*. 5/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 10/2 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 + 1h walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 1h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 1 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 3 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 1 Desert Coursers, 16/2 1 Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad).
144. Spotted Owllet *Athene brama*. 9/2 4 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 1 Maneland lodge (morning) (Gir Forest), 2 Maneland lodge (evening) (Gir Forest).
145. Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*. 15/2 1 the Kutch near Zainabad.
Unidentified Nightjar *Caprimulgus sp.* 12/2 1 (after sunset) drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 1 Zainabad.
146. Sykes's Nightjar *Caprimulgus mahrattensis*. 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad.
147. Little Swift *Apus affinis*. 3/2 150 Udaipur, 4/2 20 Udaipur, 5/2 2 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 8/2 150 Palitana, 9/2 40 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 17/2 4 Mt.Abu, 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 100 Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 20 Jaisalmer, 21/2 2 Jaisalmer, 22/2 3 Phalodi, 50 Jodhpur, 24/2 25 Jodhpur, 300 (colony) Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
148. Crested Tree-swift *Hemiprogne coronata*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest.

149. White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*. 5/2 1 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 3 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 2 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 2 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 5 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 3 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 1 Palitana, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 14/2 4 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 17/2 1 Oriya village (Mt.Abu), 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 16/2 5 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 1 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 1 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 1 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel, h Sultanpur Jheel.
150. Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*. 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir.
151. Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*. 3/2 1 Udaipur.
152. Little Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis*. 3/2 4 Udaipur, 4/2 4 Udaipur, 5/2 2 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 8 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 20 Lothal excavation, 60 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 5 Velavadar NP, 5 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 40 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 50 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 20 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 96 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 20 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 15 Desert Coursers, 17/2 26 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 16/2 22 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 18/2 8 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 1 Jaisalmer, 20/2 5 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 1 Phalodi, 22/2 31 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 2 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
153. Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*. 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 4 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 1 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 5 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 6 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 20 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 5 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 2 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 2 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 4 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 5 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 1 Step-well (Patan), 17/2 3 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
154. Hoopoe *Upupa epops*. 7/2 1 Lothal excavation, 15/2 1 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 1 drive Sun Temple (Modhera), 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer.
155. Indian Grey Hornbill *Ocyrceros borostriis*. 6/2 4 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
156. Brown-headed Barbet *Megalaima zeylandica*. 5/2 1h Adbudji temple, 1h Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 5h Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 5h Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
157. Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*. 9/2 1h Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 1h road through Gir Forest, 1h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 2 + 10h morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2h late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 5h morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1h walk along river near Sasan Gir, 17/2 1h Mt.Abu, 22/2 2 Jodhpur.
158. Brown-capped Woodpecker *Dendrocopus nanus*. 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
159. Black-rumped Flameback *Dinopium benghalense*. 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 17/2 1 Step-well (Patan).
- Unidentified Sparrow Lark *Eremopterix nigriceps/grisea*. 16/4 4 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 2 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
160. Black-crowned Sparrow Lark *Eremopterix nigriceps*. 20/2 25 Desert National Park.
161. Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark *Eremopterix grisea*. 7/2 2 Utelia, 50 Lothal excavation, 9/2 2 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 14 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 10 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 50 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 10 Drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 3 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 20 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 30 river site near Patdi village, 20 bird-lake near Zainabad, 20 the Kutch near Zainabad.

162. Rufous-tailed Lark *Ammomanes phonicurus*. 7/2 1 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 40 Velavadar NP, 8/2 4 Velavadar NP, 12/2 2 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 3 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 3 bird-lake near Zainabad, 1 the Kutch near Zainabad.
163. Desert Lark *Ammomanes deserti*. 18/2 2 Fossil Park.
164. Bimaculated Lark *Melanocorypha bimaculata*. 7/2 200 Utelia. *This seems to be an unusual record this far south and in a high number. The flock was seen well at close range through the telescope. A larger and stronger lark compared to the Greater Short-toed Larks, with which species the flock was mixing, and more greyish, stronger bill, distinct supercilium, distinct spot on side of breast, no white trailing-edge to wing and distinct white tips to tail.*
165. Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla*. 7/2 50 Utelia, 100 Velavadar NP, 8/2 700 Velavadar NP, 14/2 40 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 250 the Kutch at Zainabad, 15/2 100 river site near Patdi village, 50 bird-lake near Zainabad, 4000 the Kutch near Zainabad, 18/2 20 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 50 Desert National Park.
166. Sand Lark *Calandrella rayta*. 12/2 4 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch, 14/2 6 salines at bridge crossing Little Rann of Kutch. *A small, short-tailed lark, which was seen in pairs. Compared to Sand Larks seen previously in Northern India these birds looked rather marked and were difficult to separate from Lesser Short-toed Lark Calandrella rufescens. However, compared to LStL they were slightly less marked (especially the breast streaks) and had a less finch-like bill this being slightly finer and longer. Looked very much like the ssp. krishnakumarsinhji as this is illustrated in Vol. 9 of Birds of the World, but so far this subspecies is only known from one site near Bavnagarh further south in Gujarat. During the second passing of the bridge crossing the Little Rann of Kutch we only stopped briefly to get a second look at these larks.*
167. Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*. 7/2 2 Utelia, 1 Velavadar NP, 8/2 5 Velavadar NP, 2 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 14/2 2 bridge/road crossing the Little Rann of Kutch, 5 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 5 bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 6 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 1 Kichan.
168. Sykes's Lark *Galerida deva*. 8/2 8 Velavadar NP. *The birds were seen well on less than 15 m distance while they were crouching on the verge of the track. Flew off after some minutes. Identified after consulting a number of references (including pictures on the internet) after the return to Denmark. This species seems to be not very well described in any of the recent field-guides Notes taken: A clear Galerida-species when the marked elongated crown feathers were raised to a typical crest. But the birds seen were often crouching and the crest was then put down giving the bird a large, round head. Only a trifle larger than Greater Short-toed Lark and therefore significantly smaller than the Crested Larks studied just minutes before. More compact than Crested Lark and the slightly curved bill strikingly shorter and more thick-based. A little finch-like and not the dagger-like bill of the Crested Lark. White supercilium and darks spot on crown. Face rather uniform – on some with a clear rufous tone. Back with strong blackish centred feathers and slaty-grey fringes – quite contrasting and without brownish colours. Rather narrow breast-band of rather distinct, small streaks on a rufous ground colour. Wing brownish without prominent features but with dark centred medium coverts, uniform brown primaries and fairly distinct pale fringes to secondaries and tertiaries. Once brown-reddish feathers on rump seen. Clear rufous colour to flanks but whitish belly.*
169. Plain Martin *Riparia paludicola*. 6/2 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 17/2 1 Sun temple (Modhera).
170. Pale/Sand Martin *Riparia diluta/riparia*. 7/2 2 Lothal excavation, 13/2 6 Fulay farmland. *Not seen well enough for proper identification. According to the guide-books the Pale Martin seems most likely, but the two birds at Lothal looked very much like Sand Martins with well-marked breast-bands. They were briefly seen sitting on a wire between Barn Swallows. The six birds at Fulay flew over during the observation of Hypocolius and were not given any detailed attention.*
171. Eurasian Crag Martin *Hirundo rupestris*. 9/2 3 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest. *There seems not to be many records of this species in Gujarat.*

172. Dusky Crag Martin *Hirundo concolor*. 3/2 10 Udaipur, 4/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 10 Adbudji temple, 10 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 20 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 2 n to Utelia, 9/2 10 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 4 Jetpur, 14/2 1 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 21/2 10 Kichan, 2 Phalodi, 22/2 2 Phalodi, 24/2 5 Jodhpur, 10 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
173. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. 7/2 30 Utelia, 75 Lothal excavation, 9/2 10 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 75 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 13/2 10 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 10 the Kutch at Zainabad, 15/2 10 River site near Patdi Village, 16/2 15 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 1 Jaisalmer.
174. Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 4/2 15 Udaipur, 5/2 2 Adbudji temple, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 10 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu.
175. Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*. 5/2 30 Adbudji temple, 5 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 40 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 10 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 10 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 9/2 25 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 5 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 100 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 2 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 2 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 16/2 2 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu.
176. Indian Cliff Swallow *Hirundo fluvicola*. 16/2 30 before Patan, 17/2 50 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
177. Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*. 13/2 1 Fulay farmland, 20/2 4 Desert National Park.
178. Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*. 5/2 1 Adbudji temple, 7/2 50 probably this species drive Utelia to Velavadar NP.
179. Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 14/2 50 bird-lake near Zainabad.
180. Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*. 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 7/2 1 Utelia, 1 Lothal excavation, 8/2 1h Velavadar NP, 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh, 13/2 1 Bhuj, 14/2 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, lake at Patdi village, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad.
181. Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
182. White Wagtail *Motacilla alba baicalensis*. 16/2 2 Sun temple (Modhera), 18/2 1 Jaisalmer. Besides a number of records not identified to subspecies: 5/2 2 lake near Adbudji temple, 7/2 2 Utelia, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 13/2 1 Bhuj, 15/2 3 bird-lake near Zainabad, 18/2 2 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 1 Desert National Park.
183. White-browed Wagtail *Motacilla madaraspatensis*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 6 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 17/2 2 Mt.Abu, 18/2 1 Jaisalmer.
184. Small Minivet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*. 6/2 4 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 male Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 13/2 1 female drive Bhuj to Fulay.
185. Common Woodshrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus*. 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest.
186. White-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus [leucogenys] leucotis*. 7/2 10 Utelia, 5 Lothal excavation, 10 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 2 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 13/2 2 Fulay depression, 10 Fulay farmland, 14/2 8 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 2 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 3 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 2 Fossil Park, 10 Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 20 Desert National Park, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 2 Phalodi.

187. Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*. 3/2 20 Udaipur, 4/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 ++ Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 200 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 2 Palitana, 9/2 120 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), + drive Palitana to Gir, + road through Gir Forest, + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 200 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 100 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 ++ morning game-drive Gir Forest, + walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 2 Fulay farmland, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 14/2 2 Desert Coursers, 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 + Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 16 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 20/2 5 Desert National Park, + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/1 + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, 3 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
188. Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 10/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir.
189. Marshall's Iora *Aegithina nigrolutea*. 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest. *Showed white tips to the outer tail-feathers.*
190. Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 15/2 1 Desert Coursers.
191. Indian Robin *Saxicoloides fulicata*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 5/2 5 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 15 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 20 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 25 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 7/2 10 Utelia, 10 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 4 Velavadar NP, 9/2 10 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 2 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 50 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 15 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 15 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 10 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 5 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 2 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 20 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 4 Desert Coursers, 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, 4 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 15 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 15 Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 3 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 2 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 2 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
192. Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*. 5/2 1 female drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 5 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village, 1 male Desert Coursers, 16/2 1 male Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), 17/2 1 Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer.
193. *Stoliczka's Bushchat *Saxicola macrorhyncha*. 20/2 1 female Desert National Park. *A very special bird, which easily escapes discovery. Our bird drew attention to itself when it was briefly sitting in the top of a small acacia. Afterwards it dropped to the ground where it ran almost like a rodent and for every five or six steps did the fantastic 'puff-and-roll' behaviour.*
194. Common Stonechat *Saxicola [torquata] maura*. 7/2 3 (1 female) Utelia, 8/2 1 male (ssp. *prezwalSKI*), 9/2 75 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 1 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 6 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 17/2 1 female Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 1 male drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
195. Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*. 5/2 1 female Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 16 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 14/2 1 female drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 1 male 1 female Desert Coursers.
196. Variable Wheatear *Oenanthe picata*. 16/2 1 Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad), 17/2 2 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 2 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 2 Desert National Park, 21/2 6 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 3 (1 female) drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
197. Rufous-tailed Wheatear *Oenanthe [xanthopyrma] chrysopygia*. 21/2 1 Kichan.
198. Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserrti*. 7/2 1 male Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 female Velavadar NP, 13/2 1 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 2 males Fulay depression, 15/2 2 males 1 female river site near Patdi village, 2 males the Kutch near

- Zainabad, 19/2 1 male Jaisalmer, 20/2 40 Desert National Park, 5 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi.
199. Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*. 20/2 3 Desert National Park, 21/2 1 Kichan.
 200. *Brown Rock Chat *Cercomela fusca*. 5/2 1 lake near Adbudji temple, 1 Shiva-temple in Eklingji, 4 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 30 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 2 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 17/2 2 Oriya village near Mt. Abu, 19/2 1 Forestry Department (Jaisalmer), 21/2 4 Kichan, 22/2 4 Phalodi, 2 Jodhpur, 24/2 1 Jodhpur, 4 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
 201. Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius*. 9/2 1 male Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana).
 202. Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola*. 16/2 1 near Desert Coursers lodge (Zainabad).
 203. Clamorous Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus*. 8/2 2 Velavadar NP.
 204. Booted Warbler *Hippolais [caligata] caligata*. 7/2 3 Utelia.
 205. Sykes's Warbler *Hippolais [caligata] rama*. 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana).
 206. Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 1 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 2 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 17/2 2 Oriya village near Mt. Abu.
 207. Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*. 4/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad.
 208. Sulphur-bellied Warbler *Phylloscopus griseolus*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 3 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland.
 209. Hume's Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*. 17/2 2 Rising Sun Retreat (Mt. Abu).
 210. Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*. 5/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 9/2 1 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 14/2 1 Desert Coursers, 16/2 1 Sun temple (Modhera).
 211. Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca blythi*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 7/2 1 Utelia, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 9/2 2 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 13/2 1 Fulay farmland, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 1 Desert Coursers, 17/2 1 Rising Sun Retreat (Mt. Abu).
 212. Desert Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia [curruca] minula*. 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 1 probably this species drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 20/2 5 Desert National Park.
 213. Desert Warbler *Sylvia nana*. 20/2 3 Desert National Park.
 214. Orphean Warbler *Sylvia [hortensis] crassirostris*. 7/2 1 Lothal excavation, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir.
 215. Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*. 8/2 1h Velavadar NP.
 216. Rufous-fronted Prinia *Prinia buchanani*. 9/2 15 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 12/2 2 Junagadh.
 217. Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 15 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 15 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 10 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest).
 218. Graceful Prinia *Prinia gracilis*. 20/2 2 Desert National Park.

219. Ashy Prinia *Prinia socialis*. 5/2 4 Adbudji temple, 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 6 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 17/2 4 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
220. Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*. 4/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 2 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 7/2 2 Lothal excavation, 9/2 2? Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 15/2 4 Desert Coursers.
221. Tickell's Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis tickelliae*. 10/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest.
222. Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula [parva] parva*. 6/2 1 male + 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 16/2 1 Sun temple (Modhera), 17/2 1 male Rising Sun Retreat (Mt.Abu). *Underlined records were positively identified to sp. parva. The other records not checked in detail (observations from vehicle).*
223. White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura [albicollis] albogularis*. 4/2 1 Udaipur, 17/2 2 Rising Sun Retreat (Mt.Abu).
224. White-browed Fantail *Rhipidura aureola*. 5/2 1 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 2 road through Gir Forest, 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 2 walk along river near Sasan Gir.
225. Asian Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradise*. 10/2 1 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest.
226. Indian Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus horsefieldii*. 17/2 1 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
227. Tawny-bellied Babbler *Dumetia hyperythra*. 5/2 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh).
228. Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense*. 17/2 5 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
229. *Common Babbler *Turdoides caudatus*. 7/2 8 Utelia, 2 Lothal excavation, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 13/2 10 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 10 Fulay farmland, 14/2 6 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 20 river site near Patdi village, 15 bird-lake near Zainabad, 50 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 25 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 20 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 50 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 19/2 1 Jaisalmer, 20/2 50 Desert National Park, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi.
230. Large Grey Babbler *Turdoides malcolmi*. 5/2 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6/2 5 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 9/2 8 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 2 drive Palitana to Gir, h Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 11/2 2 near Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 12 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 16/2 5 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 51 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 22/2 10 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur.
231. Jungle Babbler *Turdoides striatus*. 3/2 7 Udaipur, 4/2 6 Udaipur, 5/2 20 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 6 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 300 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 10/2 50 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 20 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 8 Junagadh, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 20 Step-well (Patan), 17/2 20 Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 4 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer.
232. Great Tit *Parus major*. 5/2 2 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 6 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 10 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 9/2 4 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 8 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest).
233. Black-lored Tit *Parus xanthogenys*. 5/2 1 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 17/2 1 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
234. Purple Sunbird *Nectarinia asiatica*. 3/2 4 Udaipur, 4/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 4 Adbudji temple, 10 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 10 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 20 Utelia, 5 Lothal excavation, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, 9/2 5 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 2 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 20 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10

drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 3 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 5 river site near Patdi village, 20 Desert Coursers, 5 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 6 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 10 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 24/2 2 (pair) Jodhpur.

235. Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*. 4/2 10 Udaipur, 5/2 4 Adbudji temple, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 10/2 15 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 17/2 5 Oriya village near Mt.Abu, 5 Rising Sun Retreat (Mt.Abu).
236. Rufous-tailed Shrike *Lanius isabellinus*. 7/2 3 Utelia, 8/2 6 Velavadar NP, 14/2 1 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 5 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 20/2 1 Desert National Park. *All probably the pale ssp. arenarius. No ssp. phoenicuroides was seen.*
237. Bay-backed Shrike *Lanus vittatus*. 6/2 1 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 9/2 1 male drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 2 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 4 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 2 Desert Coursers, 16/2 2 drive Zainabad to Mt. Abu.
238. Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*. 5/2 2 Adbudji temple, 5 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 4 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 5 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 7/2 30 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 1 Velavadar NP, 2 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 9/2 5 drive Palitana to Gir, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5 drive Gir to Bhuj, 14/2 1 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 1 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 1 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 21/2 1 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 24/2 1 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
239. Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis*. 6/2 1 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 13/2 1 Fulay depression, 14/2 4 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 15/2 1 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 2 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 3 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 8 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 10 Desert National Park, 21/2 2 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi. *All were black-billed and no ssp. pallidirostris were suspected.*
240. Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*. 3/2 4 Udaipur, 4/2 6 Udaipur, 5/2 5 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 10 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 20 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 31 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 5 Utelia, 100 drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 10 Velavadar NP, 30 drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 20 drive Bhavnagar to Palitana, 9/2 12 drive Palitana to Gir, 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 5 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 10 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 0 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 2 Fulay depression, 14/2 30 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 2 Desert Coursers, 16/2 25 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 Oriya village (Mt.Abu), 16 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 5 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 21/2 4 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, 22/2 1 drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 2 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
241. White-bellied Drongo *Dicrurus caerulescens*. 3/2 1 Udaipur, 5/2 4 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 17/2 2 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
242. Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda*. 5/2 1 Adbudji temple, 2, Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 2 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 15 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 2 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 10/2 3 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 2 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 2 drive Gir to Bhuj, 16/2 2 Mt. Abu, 17/2 1 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
243. House Crow *Corvus splendens*. 3/2 ++ Udaipur, 4/2 30 Udaipur, 5/2 +, 6/2 3 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 150 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 + Utelia, + Lothal excavation, ++ drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 ++ Palitana, 9/5 few Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), <25 drive Palitana to Gir, 11/2 25 Sasan Gir, 12/2 + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + Drive Bhuj to Fulay, + Fulay Farmland, 14/2 75 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + river site near Patdi village, + Desert Coursers, 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 290 drive Mt.Abu to Barmer, 18/2 500 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 1000 Jaisalmer, 20/2 + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 21/2 20 drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, + Kichan, + Phalodi, 22/2 + Kichan, + Phalodi, + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, + Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur, + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake, + drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel, + Sultanpur Jheel.

244. * Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrohynchos*. 3/2 + Udaipur, 4/2 5 Udaipur, 5/2 + Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 15 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 20 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 9/2 5 road through Gir Forest, 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 30 Afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 30 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 30 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 5 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 10 Oriya village near Mt. Abu.
245. Common Raven *Corvus corax*. 18/2 2 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, 20/2 3 Desert National Park, 21/2 2 W of Lathi.
246. * Grey Hypocolius *Hypocolius ampelinus*. 13/2 1+19 Fulay farmland. *One of the ornithological highlights of the trip. The first bird left the scrub just as we arrived and was only seen poorly. But soon after at 18:00 (as predicted by the local guide) two flocks flew in and joined just before settling in the scrub, where they immediately started feeding on the berries. A flock in flight looks as if it is tumbling along at high speed and one has the feeling that flying is at the limit of the birds capability as the direct 'crash-like' landing also suggests. A flock in flight does not look like anything else and there is no behavioural similarity to the often claimed near relative, the Waxwing Bombycilla garrulus from the northern taiga. Most of the time the birds stayed hidden in the scrub and they were never fully exposed on the outer branches. By the end of the observation some of them were sitting in the canopy of a large acacia-type of tree. The first, single bird was probably a female, but during the close-up observations of the 19 birds only males were seen.*
247. * Brahminy Starling *Sturnus pagodarum*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 6/2 2 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 4 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 1 Utelia, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 4 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 4 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 13/2 1 Fulay farmland, 15/2 2 river site near Patdi village, 1 Desert Coursers, 16/2 10 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu.
248. * Rosy Starling *Sturnus roseus*. 7/2 14 Utelia, 8/2 20 shortly before Velavadar NP, 5 Velavadar NP, 9/2 1 drive Palitana to Gir, 12/2 120 N of Jetpur, 15/2 3 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, 10 bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 55 river site near Patdi village, 30 the Kutch near Zainabad, 16/2 41 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 22/2 4 Jodhpur, 23/2 60 Jodhpur, 24/1 70 Jodhpur, 22 Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
249. Asian Pied Starling *Sturnus contra*. 24/2 300 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
250. Common Mynah *Acridotheres tristis*. 3/2 + Udaipur, 4/2 300 in a pre-roosting flock Udaipur, 5/2 + Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 10 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 10 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 + Utelia, + Lothal excavation, + drive Utelia to Velavadar NP, 8/2 2 Velavadar NP, + drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, + Palitana, 9/2 10 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), + drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, + late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 40 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 25 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 + Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 2 bird-lake near Zainabad, 16/2 14 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 10 Oriya village near Mt. Abu, 27 drive Mt. Abu to Barmer, 18/2 2 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 20/2 2 Desert National Park, 2 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 5 Kichan, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 200 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel, 100 drive Delhi Airport to Sultanpur Jheel.
251. Bank Mynah *Acridotheres ginginianus*. 3/2 5 Udaipur, 6/2 15 drive Aodhi Hotel to Pindwara, 50 drive Pindwara to Utelia, 7/2 + Utelia, 8/2 + drive Velavadar NP to Bhavnagar, 4 Palitana, 9/2 + drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 3 Sasan Gir, 12/2 + drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + drive Bhuj to Fulay, 14/2 2 drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 10 river site near Patdi village, 16/2 24 drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 34 drive Mt. Abu to Barmer, 18/2 12 drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer, 20/2 3 drive Sam to Jaisalmer, 21/2 15 Kichan, 5 Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.
252. * House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*. 3/2 2 Udaipur, 4/2 2 Udaipur, 5/2 8 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 6/2 2 Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, 7/2 + Utelia, 9/2 25 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 10/2 50 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 75 walk along river near Sasan Gir, 12/2 50 drive Gir to Bhuj, 13/2 + drive Bhuj to Fulay, + Fulay farmland, 14/2 + drive Bhuj to Zainabad, + bird-lake near Zainabad, 15/2 + lake at Patdi village, + Desert Coursers, 16/2 + drive Zainabad-Mt. Abu, 17/2 7 drive Mt. Abu to Barmer, 18/2 ++ drive Barmer to Jaisalmer, ++ Jaisalmer, 19/2 + Jaisalmer, 20/2 20 Desert National Park, + drive Sam to Jaisalmer, + Jaisalmer,

21/2 + Jaisalmer, + drive Jaisalmer to Phalodi, + Kichan, + Phalodi, 22/2 + drive Phalodi to Jodhpur, 24/2 + Jodhpur, + Jodhpur Fort and nearby lake.

253. Chestnut-shouldered Petronia *Petronia xanthocillia*. 5/2 1 Aodhi hotel (Kumbhalgarh), 15 Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland, 10/2 75 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 13/2 10 drive Bhuj to Fulay.

Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*. Not a single living weaver seen during the whole trip but old nests were seen in a few places during the first days in eastern Rajasthan and 13/3 at a reed-bed btw Bhuj and Fulay and 16/2 at Zainabad.

254. Green Avadavat *Amandava formosa*. 17/2 12 Oriya village near Mt.Abu. *Jugal Tiwari knew exactly where to take us although some patience was needed before the flock of this little Indian jewel was located. The flock was actively feeding under the bushes at the edge of a dense scrub but soon disappeared in the boulder-rich landscape.*
255. Indian Silverbill *Lonchura malabarica*. 5/2 3 drive Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh, 7/2 2 Lothal excavation, 9/2 8 Shatrunjaya Hill (Palitana), 5 drive Palitana to Gir, 10/2 10 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 10 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 + morning game-drive Gir Forest, 13/2 2 drive Bhuj to Fulay, 4 Fulay farmland, 15/2 3 Desert Coursers, 17/2 2 Oriya village near Mt.Abu.
256. Crested Bunting *Melophus lathami*. 6/2 2 male 1 female Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary.
257. House Bunting *Emberiza striolata*. 18/2 3 Fossil Park.
258. White-capped Bunting *Emberiza stewarti*. 5/2 1 female/juvenile Kumbhalgarh Fort and farmland.

REPTILES

1. *Marsh Mugger *Crocodylus palustris*. 10/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 3 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest, 11/2 1 morning game-drive Gir Forest, 12/2 1 lake btw Sasan Gir and Junagadh.
2. House Gecko *Hemidactylus sp.* 9/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest), 11/2 1 Maneland lodge (Gir Forest). *A large, pale species.*
3. Gecko sp *Hemidactylus sp.* 14/2 1 Zainabad. *A small black-spotted species with a pointed snout.*
4. *Indian Mud Turtle *Lissemys punctata*. 10/2 12 late afternoon game-drive Gir Forest. Unidentified freshwater turtles also recorded 15/2 5 lake at Patdi village.
5. Un-identified Snake. 7/2 1 road-kill of a small snake at Utelia.

END