

Cottridge, D. (1994)

LIMOSA HOLIDAYS: NEPAL
TOUR REPORT 13-25 FEBRUARY 1994

Leaders: David Cottridge, Tika Ram Giri & Chris Kightley, plus Guy Thompson assisting at Kosi Camp with Keith Beswick, Tony Carey, Bruce Carrick, Lizzie Hall, Andrew Hardacre, Richard Holland, Pat Keogh, Moira Murray, Dave Nurney, Felicity Reed.

Day 1: Sunday 13 Feb. Depart Gatwick with Royal Nepal 20.00hrs.

Day 2: Monday 14 Feb. Arrive Kathmandu c16.00hrs (via Frankfurt and Dubai where palm Dove and Common Myna are first birds). Sunny and pleasantly warm; cool evening. Met by Bharat & Tika for transfer to Hotel Himalaya, where some good introductory birding in hotel garden and 'swamp'. (31sp)

Day 3: Tuesday 15 Feb. Cool foggy start. Hot & sunny later. Chilly evening. Full day Nagajung Forest Park, with some of party visiting Swayambunath - the Monkey Temple late afternoon. (74sp)

Day 4: Wednesday 16 Feb. Cold, foggy start. Warm, clear & sunny later. Full day visit to Phulchowki, with drive to within a few kms of summit then walk to top and back. Late afternoon at Godaveri Botanical Gardens. (74sp)

Day 5: Thursday 17 Feb. Foggy start. Hot & sunny later. Morning visit to Pashupatinath Temple with walk through to Kathmandu airport for lunchtime internal flight to Biratnagar. 3 hour drive west from Biratnagar to Kosi Tapu Camp which we found to be excellent. (100sp)

Day 6: Friday 18 Feb. Hot and sunny. A moderate-strong SW wind picked up in the afternoon. Pre-breakfast birdwalk at Kosi camp (06.30-08.30), then 17km drift downstream on Kosi river in two inflatables. Some of journey had to be completed on foot as increasing SW cancelled out flow of river! Return to camp by landrover at nightfall. (135sp)

Day 7: Saturday 19 Feb. Hot & sunny. Moderate SW breeze again picked up mid afternoon. Drive from camp-Kosi barrage, where throngs of wildfowl and back via fields and backroads (08.00-18.00). Our 'biggest' day. (168sp)

Day 8: Sunday 20 Feb. Hot, sunny ...and dusty. Full day drive from Kosi camp via the barrage (spent rather too much of the morning birding this area), to Hetauda and finally reaching Machan Lodge in Royal Chitwan NP about 19.00. Had to endure... and participate in native dancing (just the job after full day banging about inside the bus) before being allowed to shower and eat. Our llllonngest day! (123sp)

Day 9: Monday 21 Feb. Hot and humid today. Sunny, with showers late afternoon onwards. Pre-breakfast birdwalk (07-09.00hrs) near lodge, then rest of day on foot (10.15-18.00) in jungle. (120sp)

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Day 10: Tuesday 22 Feb. After overnight rain, a cool, foggy and decidedly 'drippy' start to the day. Clearing by 09.00, then hot and sunny. early breakfast then drive to Hetauda for successful interlude with Ibisbill. Lunchtime departure for Gaida Wildlife Lodge (Chitwan), with afternoon elephant ride (15.30-17.30) - one of the highspots. Two saw Leopard, all saw many CLOSE Indian Rhinoceros! Overnight Gaida. (102sp)

Day 11: Wednesday 23 Feb. Hot & sunny. Clear first thing to give ace mountain views. Pre-breakfast elephant ride for some, birdwalk at lodge for others (06.30-07.30). Post-breakfast by dug-out canoe down Rapti river then on foot and by jeep to Jungle Camp (lunch - what else but goulash!). Afternoon walk back through jungle and grasslands to Gaida Lodge. (131sp)

Day 12: Thursday 24 Feb. Hot & sunny again. Pre-breakfast birding at Gaida lodge, then part-walk/part-drive to coach. Drive via Bharatpur-Mugling with some riverside birding stops, then on to Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu. Much of brand new highway washed away by last monsoon. Late afternoon doing the tourist/souvenir bit (16.30-18.30). Farewell dinner at the hotel. (93sp)

Day 13: Friday 25 Feb. 06.00 breakfast at hotel. 07.00 check-in at airport for 09.00 flight Kathmandu-Gatwick (via Dubai/Frankfurt). End Gatwick 19.00

Our thanks to everyone for an excellently varied, good humoured and thoroughly enjoyable trip. Total number of species recorded by group: 342

<i>Species</i>	<i>Summary</i>
GREAT CRESTED GREBE	Recorded only at Kosi. Peak day count 10+ on 19/2.
LITTLE GREBE	Locally common at Kosi.
(GREAT) CORMORANT	Recorded daily from 17/2. Common at Kosi but max of 5 elsewhere (Chitwan, 22/2).
LITTLE CORMORANT	Recorded daily at Kosi. Rather uncommon; scarcer than Cormorant.
DARTER (ORIENTAL/INDIAN DARTER)	A few at Kosi 18-19/2.
SPOT-BILLED PELICAN	Single flying along Kosi River at dusk on 18/2.
YELLOW BITTERN	One flew past the watchtower lagoon (nr. Kosi camp) 19/2.
CINNAMON BITTERN	3 at Kosi 19/2; 1 flushed from stream near Machan lodge 21/2.
PURPLE HERON	Kosi 19-20/2. Peak day count 6+ 19/2.
LITTLE GREEN HERON	Single birds at Kosi barrage tower 19/2 and at Machan 21/2.
NIGHT HERON	Roost at Kosi held peak 39 birds 19/2
INDIAN POND HERON	Recorded daily. Common throughout.
CATTLE EGRET	Recorded daily. Locally very common.
LITTLE EGRET	Seen daily at Kosi where common. A few daily at Gaida 22-24/2.
GREAT WHITE EGRET	Seen daily from 17/2. Most numerous Kosi. Elsewhere max 10+ Machan 21/2.

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INTERMEDIATE (YELLOW-BILLED) EGRET	Small numbers daily at Kosi including the camp swamp. Also Rapti River 23/2
GREY HERON	A few daily at Kosi. 1 Machan 21/2.
ASIAN OPENBILL STORK	Seen daily at Kosi where peak day count 100+ on 19/2. Also Chitwan 22/2
WHITE-NECKED STORK	Scarce. 2 Kosi 19/2; 1+ Kosi barrage 20/2; singles at Chitwan 21/2 & 23/2.
BLACK STORK	Noted on 6 dates from 17/2. Peak day counts 24 Kosi 17/2; 25 Machan 21/2.
BLACK-NECKED STORK	8+ Kosi 18/2, with 5 seen there 19/2.
LESSER ADJUTANT STORK	Small numbers daily at Kosi 17-20/2. 2 at Gaida 22-23/2.
ASIATIC WHITE IBIS/WHITE IBIS	Only at Kosi where max c100 18/2.
BLACK IBIS	Seen daily from 17/2, with peak count 40+ Kosi 18/2 and 12 Gaida 23/2.
(EURASIAN) SPOONBILL	Seen daily at Kosi with max c20 18/2.
BAR-HEADED GOOSE	3 flying Kosi River 19/2.
LESSER TREEDUCK (WHISTLING TEAL)	Recorded only at Kosi where min. day counts of 300+ on 19-20/2.
RUDDY SHELDUCK	Noted daily from 17/2. Peaks of 50+ Kosi River 18/2; 30 Machan 21/2 and 30+ Gaida 23/2.
COMB DUCK	2 Kosi barrage 19/2 and 20/2.
COTTON TEAL	85+ Kosi barrage lagoons 21/2.
(EURASIAN) WIGEON	Only at Kosi where max 100+ on 19/2.
FALCATED DUCK	Duck & drake Kosi barrage 19/2.
GADWALL	Only at Kosi where 'hundreds' at the barrage 19/2.
(COMMON) TEAL	Seen daily at Kosi where peak of several hundred along river 18/2; elsewhere 3 at Machan 21/2.
(NORTHERN) PINTAIL	Seen daily at Kosi where c10000 19/2.
GARGANEY	Seen daily at Kosi; peak of c50 at the barrage 19/2.
SPOT-BILLED DUCK	A scarce species. c40 along Kosi River 18/2, with c15 on 19/2.
MALLARD	Seen daily at Kosi where present in 'hundreds'; otherwise 10+ Gaida 23/2.
SHOVELER	Seen daily at Kosi; max <50 on 19/2.
RED-CRESTED POCHARD	8 Kosi barrage 19/2, with 5 on 20/2.
COMMON POCHARD	Only at Kosi barrage where peak of 30+ on 19/2.
BAER'S POCHARD	Only at Kosi barrage where max. 12 on 19/2 and 5+ 20/2.
FERRUGINOUS DUCK	Seen daily at Kosi. Max 30+ on 19/2.
TUFTED DUCK	Kosi 19-20/2. Max 10 at barrage 19/2.
GOOSANDER	Present at Kosi 17-19/2, with peak count 8 on 19/2. Also seen daily at Gaida 22-24/2 with max of 6 on 22/2.
CRESTED HONEY BUZZARD	Only at Chitwan, where 2 Machan 21/2, one Gaida 23/2 and 3 Gaida 24/2.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE	Counts of 4 at Kosi 19/2 and 3 on 20/2; single at Gaida 23/2.
BRAHMINY KITE	One seen from the dug-out canoes at Gaida on 23/2 was the only record.
BLACK KITE	Seen daily. Locally abundant in towns
WHITE-TAILED EAGLE	4 from raft ride along Kosi River 18/2, with single adult there 19/2.
(NORTHERN) GOSHAWK	Singles on 16/2 (Godaveri) & 17/2.
(NORTHERN) SPARROWHAWK	Female Kosi camp 17/2.
BESRA (SPARROWHAWK)	One perched, Nagajung 15/2.
SHIKRA	Singles on 15/2 (Nagajung); 16/2 (Phulchowki); 18/2 (Kosi) and 23/2 (Gaida). Two seen Kosi 19/2.
LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD	Singles at Nagajung 15/2; Kosi 19/2 and Hetauda (Rapti River) 22/2.
COMMON BUZZARD	5+ Nagajung 15/2; 5+ Biratnagar-Kosi 17/2; singles at Kosi 19-20/2.
WHITE-EYED BUZZARD	1 at roadside 20/2; 1 at Gaida 23/2.
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE	Distant bird Nagajung 15/2; sub-ad. Kosi 18/2. Noted daily at Chitwan with peak day count 6+ on 23/2.
CHANGEABLE HAWK EAGLE	Good views of adult pale morph in roadside forest en route to Chitwan 20/2. [<i>A juv. bird seen from rafts on Kosi river 18/2 identified as this sp. by those who had closest views</i>]
STEPPE EAGLE	2+ Nagajung 15/2; c10 Biratnagar-Kosi (including 4+ passing below our aircraft just prior to landing!); 3+ en route Kosi to Chitwan 20/2.
BLACK EAGLE	2 Nagajung 15/2.
LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE	2 records: 1 near Biratnagar 17/2; 1 just outside Chitwan NP (Gaida) 22/2.
IMPERIAL EAGLE	Fine adult Kosi River 18-19/2.
BOOTED EAGLE	Single dark phase nr. Gaida 22/2.
GREY-HEADED FISHING EAGLE	Scarce and localised resident. Adult perched at riverside, Gaida 23/2.
OSPREY	Kosi 18-20/2, with peak day count 4 on 19/2; elsewhere 3 Gaida 23/2.
(EURASIAN) BLACK VULTURE	Kosi 18-20/2, with peak day count c20 on 19/2; 3+ Bharatpur-Kathmandu 24/2.
ORIENTAL WHITE-BACKED VULTURE	Recorded most days from 17/2. Most numerous en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2.
EURASIAN (INDIAN) GRIFFON VULTURE	Towards the end of the trip it became apparent that there had been some hitherto unrealised confusion over the use of the word 'Indian' to describe both the Long-billed (<i>Gyps indicus</i>) and Indian Griffon Vultures. Though both species were seen numbers remain somewhat confused...

LONG-BILLED VULTURE	... see above.
KING (RED-HEADED) VULTURE	3 ads. on river sandbank between Bharatpur and Kathmandu 24/2.
EGYPTIAN VULTURE	2 ads. on river sandbank between Bharatpur and Kathmandu 24/2.
SHORT-TOED EAGLE	2 seen: singles at Biratnagar 17/2 and on riverside pylon, Kosi 18/2.
HEN HARRIER	6 records: at Kosi 2 on 17/2; 1 on 18/2 and 1 20/2; plus single females Machan 21/2 and Gaida 23/2.
PIED HARRIER	Single males hunting reedbeds near Kosi barrage 19-20/2.
(EURASIAN) MARSH HARRIER	Max of 15+ Kosi barrage 19-20/2.
RED-THIGHED FALCONET	Distant bird flying alongside canal en route Biratnagar-Kosi camp 17/2 (TRG). One Machan 21/2.
PEREGRINE	Female Nagajung 15/2; 1+ Kosi 18/2.
RED-HEADED MERLIN (RED-NECKED FALCON)	One flew upstream nr Kosi camp 18/2.
(COMMON) KESTREL	1-3 individuals seen on 9 dates.
SWAMP FRANCOLIN	Only at Kosi, where max c10 18/2.
KALIJ PHEASANT	Male and 2 females gave excellent views at Nagajung on evening of 15/2.
COMMON PEAFOWL	Common in Chitwan NP.
RED JUNGLE FOWL	2 males at roadside en route Chitwan 20/2. Common in Chitwan, including up to 5 roosting at Machan lodge.
BARRED BUTTONQUAIL (COM. BUSTARD-Q)	A pair gave superb views Kosi 19/2.
(RUDDY) RUDDY-BREASTED CRAKE	3 seen: 2 at Kosi 19/2, plus 1 20/2.
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN	Up to 3 seen daily Kosi, 18-20/2.
COMMON MOORHEN (INDIAN GALLINULE)	Up to c20 daily Kosi, 18-20/2.
PURPLE GALLINULE	Rather local at Kosi 19-20/2, with peak day count 25+ on 19/2.
COMMON COOT	Only at Kosi 19-20/2, where c10 19/2.
COMMON CRANE	One on Kosi River (nr. camp) 17/2.
PHEASANT-TAILED JACANA	3 non-breeding at Kosi 19/2.
BRONZE-WINGED JACANA	20+ Kosi 19-20/2.
YELLOW-WATTLED LAPWING	2 in fields between Kosi barrage and Kosi camp 19/2.
RED-WATTLED LAPWING	Recorded most days from 17/2. Max of 12+ at Machan 21/2.
(EURASIAN) LAPWING	Only at Kosi barrage where 35 on 19/2
RIVER LAPWING	Seen daily at Chitwan. Max day counts c10 along Rapti River near Hetauda 22/2 and at Gaida 23/2.
PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER	Flock of 40 in fields between Kosi barrage and the camp 19/2.
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER	Noted on 6 dates. 2+ daily at Kosi 17-19/2; 3+ Rapti River 21-23/2.
LONG-BILLED PLOVER	At least one, and probably a second (though not seen together) on shingle bank downstream of Hetauda 22/2.

KENTISH PLOVER (EURASIAN) CURLEW GREENSHANK	5+ Kosi 18/2; 1 Gaida 23/2. Peak day count of 20 at Kosi 18/2. Recorded on 9 dates. Peak day count 25+ Rapti River, Gaida 23/2.
REDSHANK WOOD SANDPIPER GREEN SANDPIPER COMMON SANDPIPER TEMMINCK'S STINT	3 only, Rapti River (Gaida) 23/2. 3 Kosi 19/2. 1-5 daily from 17/2. 1-6 daily from 17/2. 9 at Kosi 18/2, with 4 there 19/2; 10+ Rapti River nr. Hetauda 22/2; 15+ Rapti River (Gaida) 23/2.
COMMON (FANTAIL) SNIPE	1+ Kosi 19/3; 3+ flushed Machan 21/2 and single Rapti River (Hetauda) 22/2 Only at Kosi, where max 5+ seen 19/2. 3 crouching beneath streambank Machan 21/2.
PINTAIL SNIPE PAINTED SNIPE	7 Rapti River (Hetauda) 22/2. An easy winner of the title 'best bird' in our 'Miss Tripbird' competition. Single bird noted, 22/2.
IBISBILL	'Hundreds' daily Kosi 17-19/2; 20+ Rapti River (Gaida) 23/2.
STONE-CURLEW LITTLE (SMALL INDIAN) PRATINCOLE	1-2 first win. birds Kosi 17-19/2. Ad and 1st win. Kosi barrage 19/2. Adult Kosi barrage 19/2 (BT)
GREAT BLACK-HEADED GULL BLACK-HEADED GULL 'YELLOW-LEGGED GULL'	2 Kosi barrage tower 19/2.
GULL-BILLED TERN CASPIAN TERN INDIAN RIVER TERN BLACK-BELLIED TERN	1 Kosi barrage tower 19/2. Up to 10 daily at Kosi 18-20/2. Up to 3 pairs daily at Kosi 17-20/2.
POMPADOUR (GREY-FRONTED GREEN) PIGEON YELLOW-FOOTED (BENGAL) GREEN PIGEON	1 Pashupatinath, Kathmandu 17/2. 3 from raft along Kosi river 18/2; 3 Gaida 23/2.
ROCK DOVE/FERAL PIGEON (ORIENTAL) RUFIOUS TURTLE DOVE	Recorded most days. 1+ Godaveri 16/2; seen daily at Kosi camp where max c20 on evening 17/2. Seen daily from 17/2.
COLLARED DOVE (INDIAN RING DOVE) RED TURTLE DOVE	Singles at Kosi 17/2 and 19/2. Common en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2. 2+ at Dubai Intl. Airport 14/2]
[PALM (LAUGHING) DOVE SPOTTED DOVE	Seen daily from 17/2. Common on drive from Kosi-Chitwan 20/2.
EMERALD DOVE	Only at Chitwan. Single Machan 21/2; 6+ from elephant back at Gaida 22/2; single Gaida lodge 24/2.
parakeet spp.	Recorded almost daily, often simply as squawking 'fly-bys'. Most records probably refer to Ring-necked:
ALEXANDRINE (LARGE) PARAKEET	One Kosi camp 18/2; 2+ daily Chitwan 20-22/2.
RING-NECKED (ROSE-RINGED) PARAKEET	Seen on all but one day (16/2). Much the commonest parakeet.

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SLATY-HEADED PARAKEET	Heard only, at Machan 21/2 (TRG).
BLOSSOM-HEADED PARAKEET	2 Kosi 18/2; c10 en route from Kosi to Chitwan 20/2, incl. superb male at roadside; seen daily in Chitwan with 20+ at Machan 21/2.
MOUSTACHED (RED-BREASTED) PARAKEET	Daily in Chitwan 21-23/2, but esp. common at Machan 21/2.
COMMON HAWK CUCKOO	Birds heard daily from 17/2. Good views at Kosi camp where maniacal renditions of 'Never on a Sunday' roused us each morning!
GREATER (LARGE) GREEN-BILLED MALKOHA	2 Machan lodge 21/2; 2 Gaida 23/2.
LESSER COUCAL	Kosi: single bird 18/2, with 2+ 19/2.
GREATER COUCAL	Seen daily around Kosi camp 18-20/2, with max 6+ on 18/2. 1 Machan 21/2.
ORIENTAL SCOPS OWL	One calling Machan afternoon 21/2; 1-2 roosting Gaida lodge 22-24/2.
DUSKY EAGLE OWL	Superb adult seen from elephant back at Gaida 22/2, where another heard calling at dusk 22-23/2.
ASIAN BARRED OWLET	2 calling just outside bedroom Hotel Himalaya, Kathmandu 15/2 (BC, PK).
JUNGLE OWLET	Single birds at Godaveri 16/2; Machan 21/2 and Gaida 22/2. Two seen Kosi 19/2 and Gaida 24/2.
SPOTTED LITTLE OWL (OWLET)	Total of 16 seen between 17-24/2.
BROWN HAWK OWL	Bird heard calling at Machan 20-21/2 (TRG); Up to 3 present at Gaida lodge 22-24/2.
LARGE-TAILED (LONG-TAILED) NIGHTJAR	Male & female flushed beside path by CRK, then stalked and photographed at close range, Gaida 23/2.
JUNGLE (INDIAN) NIGHTJAR	Up to 2 seen and heard Gaida lodge at dusk 22/2.
INDIAN ROLLER	Seen most days from 17/2. Common en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2.
HOOPOE	Seen daily at Kosi, with max day count 5 on 19/2.
(LESSER) PIED KINGFISHER	Seen daily from 17/2. Common at Kosi.
COMMON (EURASIAN) KINGFISHER	Seen daily from 17/2.
BLUE-EARED KINGFISHER	Wonderful close-ups in 'scope of ad. (presumed female? with red in bill) along shady forest stream nr Gaida Jungle Camp 23/2.
STORK-BILLED KINGFISHER	Noted daily at Kosi 17-20/2, with max of 5 seen 20/2. Also 1-2 daily Gaida 22-24/2.
WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER	1-5 seen daily. Max 15+ Kosi 19/2.
BLUE-BEARDED BEE-EATER	Heard Machan 21/2 (TRG). Single Gaida 22/2, with 2 nr Jungle camp 23/2.
LITTLE GREEN BEE-EATER	Small numbers most days from 17/2.

GREAT PIED (GIANT) HORNBILL	Flock of 8 overflow Machan lodge at breakfast, plus 2 from forest trail Machan 21/2.
GREAT (HILL) BARBET	3 Nagajung 15/2.
LINEATED BARBET	Only at Chitwan, where locally common Machan 21/2.
BLUE-THROATED BARBET	Noted on 6 dates, often heard (Nagajung/Kosi/Chitwan)
WRYNECK	Singles at Kosi 18-19/2, with 3 20/2.
GREY-CROWNED PYGMY WOODPECKER	Seen daily at Chitwan, where locally common Machan 21/2.
GREY-HEADED (BLACK-NAPE) WOODPECKER	Male Godaveri 16/2; 6+ Machan 21/2; also present Gaida 23/2.
LESSER SCALY-BREASTED WOODPECKER	Female Gaida 23/2 (KB,EH et al)
GREATER YELLOW-NAPE WOODPECKER	2 Machan 21/2.
LESSER YELLOW-NAPE WOODPECKER	4 Machan 21/2.
LESSER GOLDEN-BACKED WOODPECKER	Singles Kosi camp 18-19/2 (TRG); 2 Gaida lodge 22/2 and again 24/2.
HIMALAYAN GOLDEN-BACKED WOODPECKER	1-3 Machan 21-22/2; heard Gaida 23/2.
GREATER GOLDEN-BACKED WOODPECKER	Seen daily in Chitwan 21-24/2.
FULVOUS-BREASTED PIED WOODPECKER	One excavating nest hole Godaveri 16/2; Kosi 19/2 (TRG); seen daily in Chitwan, with max 6+ Machan 21/2.
RUFIOUS WOODPECKER	One Nagajung 15/2. 2 Machan 21/2.
BUSHLARK (RUFIOUS-WINGED BUSHLARK)	One Kosi barrage 20/2; 2+ Machan 21/2; 1 Gaida 23/2.
SHORT-TOED LARK	1 Kosi 18/2; 3 Kosi barrage 20/2.
SANDLARK (INDIAN SANDLARK)	1-2 Kosi 17-18/2 (TRG); 3 Rapti River Gaida 22-23/2.
ASHY-CROWNED FINCH LARK	4+ in farmland between Kosi barrage and camp 19/2; common en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2.
ORIENTAL (SMALL) SKYLARK	1 Rapti River, Hetauda 22/2 (DN)
LITTLE SWIFT (HOUSE SWIFT)	Common over Kathmandu late afternoon 14/2; 1 Machan 21/2; c5 Gaida 22/2; 30+ en route Gaida-Kathmandu 24/2.
CRESTED TREE SWIFT	Flock 15 Machan 21/2.
ALPINE SWIFT	c10 Kosi 18/2; 3 Kosi 19/2; 50+ seen en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2; 1 en route Gaida-Kathmandu 24/2.
ASIAN PALM SWIFT	1 Kosi river 18/2 (GT et al)
PACIFIC SWIFT	12 Kosi river 18/2; 1 en route Kosi-Chitwan 20/2 (TRG).
WHITE-RUMPED NEEDLETAIL	1 Machan 21/2 (TRG).
BROWN-THROATED SAND MARTIN	Seen daily from 17/2. Locally common.
CRAG MARTIN	5 Phulchowki 16/2.
SWALLOW (BARN SWALLOW)	Recorded daily. Common.
STRIATED (RED-RUMPED) SWALLOW	Birds recorded most days.
NEPAL HOUSE MARTIN	Seen Kathmandu 14/2 and en route Gaida-Kathmandu 24/2 (TRG et al).
LONG-TAILED (BLACK-H/RUFIOUS-B) SHRIKE	Seen almost daily. Common.

GREY-BACKED (TIBETAN) SHRIKE	1-3 daily at Kosi 17-20/2. 1-2 Gaida lodge 22-23/2.
BROWN SHRIKE	Seen daily Biratnagar/Kosi 17-20/2, with peak day count 6+ Kosi 19/2. 2 Gaida 22/2.
BLACK-HOODED (BLACK-HEADED) ORIOLE	Seen daily from 18/2.
MAROON ORIOLE	Pair together Nagajung 15/2.
WHITE-BELLIED DRONGO	3+ Machan 21/2; 2 Gaida 23/2.
GREATER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO	2 Machan 21/2; heard Gaida 23/2 (TRG)
SPANGLED (HAIR-CRESTED) DRONGO	1 Kosi camp 17-19/2. Common Machan 21/2; also present Gaida 23-24/2.
ASHY DRONGO	2 Godaveri 15/2; 2 Kosi 18/2.
BLACK DRONGO	Common.
(LITTLE) BRONZED DRONGO	6 Phulchowki 16/2; common Machan 21/2
ASHY WOOD SWALLOW	Seen daily Kosi where max day count 10 on 20/2; 3 Gaida 22/2; 4 seen 24/2
CHESTNUT-TAILED STARLING	8 nr Biratnagar 17/2; max. 10+ Kosi 17/2 and 4+ Gaida 23-24/2.
ASIAN PIED STARLING (PIED MYNA)	Seen most days from 17/2. Common.
COMMON MYNA (INDIAN MYNA)	Recorded daily. Common.
BANK MYNA	15+ Biratnagar 17/2; 6+ Kosi 19-20/2.
JUNGLE MYNA	Recorded daily. Common.
HILL MYNA (TALKING MYNA)	Heard Machan 21/2 (TRG)
RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE	c10 Nagajung 15/2. Heard Gaida 23/2.
RUFOUS TREEPIE (INDIAN TREEPIE)	Small numbers daily from 17/2.
GREY TREEPIE (HIMALAYAN TREEPIE)	2+ Nagajung & Phulchowki 15-16/2.
HOUSE CROW	Common.
JUNGLE CROW (LARGE-BILLED CROW)	Seen daily. Max 10+ Phulchowki 16/2.
LESSER (COMMON) WOODSHRIKE	50+ Machan 21/2.
BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE	20 Machan 21/2. Singles Gaida 22-23/2
LARGE CUCKOO-SHRIKE	1-3 Kosi 19-20/2; singles Machan 21/2 and Gaida 23-24/2.
BLACK-WINGED (DARK) CUCKOO-SHRIKE	2 Machan 21/2.
LONG-TAILED MINIVET	Seen daily 15-17/2. Common Nagajung and Phulchowki.
SCARLET MINIVET	Phulchowki 16/2 (TRG). Common Chitwan
SMALL MINIVET	Common Machan 21/2.
COMMON IORA	Noted on 6 dates. Max 4+ Kosi 19/2 and 5+ Chitwan 22/2.
GOLDEN-FRONTED LEAFBIRD	Nagajung 15/2 (TRG). c10 Machan 21/2.
ORANGE-BELLIED LEAFBIRD	Nagajung 15/2 (TRG).
BLACK-CRESTED BULBUL	2+ Machan 21/2.
RED-WHISKERED BULBUL	Seen Kosi 18-19/2 and Gaida 22-24/2.
WHITE-CHEEKED BULBUL	Recorded from Nagajung, Phulchowki and Kathmandu 15-17/2; Machan 21/2.
RED-VENTED BULBUL	Common.
BLACK BULBUL (GREY BULBUL)	Abundant Phulchowki 16/2. c10 seen 17/2; 10+ Machan 21/2; heard Gaida 23/2.
PUFF-THROATED (SPOTTED) BABBLER	1 Gaida 23/2.
STREAK-BREASTED SCIMITAR BABBLER	1 Nagajung 15/2.

RUSTY-CHEEKED SCIMITAR BABBLER	2 Nagajung 15/2.
BLACK-CHINNED BABBLER	6+ Nagajung 15/2; 2+ Machan 21/2.
YELLOW-EYED BABBLER	6+ Gaida 23/2.
RED-CAPPED BABBLER	1+ Gaida 22/2, with 6+ Gaida 23/2.
STRIATED BABBLER	Up to 10 Kosi 18-19/2.
JUNGLE BABBLER	Seen daily from 19/2. Locally common.
STREAKED LAUGHING THRUSH	2 Phulchowki 16/2.
WHITE-THROATED LAUGHING THRUSH	15+ Nagajung 15/2; 50 Phulchowki 16/2
WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHING THRUSH	Nagajung/Phulchowki 15-16/2.
CHESTNUT-CROWNED LAUGHING THRUSH	30+ Phulchowki 16/2.
RED-BILLED LEOTHRIX (PEKIN ROBIN)	10+ Nagajung 15/2; 20 Godaveri 16/2.
HOARY BARWING	2 Phulchowki 16/2.
CHESTNUT-TAILED (BAR-THROATED) MINLA	1 Nagajung 15/2. Phulchowki 16/2.
WHISKERED (YELLOW-NAPE) YUHINA	Phulchowki 16/2.
STRIPE-THROATED YUHINA	Common Phulchowki 16/2.
WHITE-BELLIED YUHINA	Heard Machan 21/2 & Gaida 23/2 (TRG)
RUFIOUS-VENTED YUHINA	Phulchowki 16/2.
RUFIOUS-WINGED FULVETTA	c50 Phulchowki 16/2.
WHITE-BROWED FULVETTA (7)	Common Phulchowki 16/2.
BLACK-CAPPED SIBIA	Common Phulchowki 16/2.
RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER	Noted on 9 dates. Not uncommon.
ORANGE-GORGETTED FLYCATCHER	2 Nagajung 15/2; 2+ Phulchowki 16/2.
RUFIOUS-BELLIED (BEAUTIFUL) NILTAVA	2 Nagajung 15/2; 1 Phulchowki 16/2.
VERDITER FLYCATCHER	Seen daily 18-23/2. Max 3 Kosi 18/2.
PALE-CHINNED (BROOK'S) FLYCATCHER	2 nr Gaida Jungle Camp 23/2.
YELLOW-BELLIED FANTAIL	3 Nagajung 15/2; 1 Pashupatinath 17/2.
WHITE-THROATED FANTAIL	Noted daily 18-23/2. Common at Kosi.
WHITE-BELLIED FANTAIL	1 Machan 21/2.
GREY-HEADED FLYCATCHER	6+ Nagajung 15/2; heard Kosi 19/2; 1+ Gaida 23/2.
ABERRANT BUSH WARBLER	1+ Nagajung 15/2; 1 Gaida 23/2.
GREY-BREASTED (HODGSON'S) PRINIA	Machan 21/2.
GREY-CAPPED PRINIA	Machan 21/2 and Gaida 22-23/2.
PLAIN PRINIA	Kosi 18-19/2.
YELLOW-BELLIED PRINIA	Male singing nr. Kosi river 19/2.
COMMON TAILORBIRD	Seen most days.
STRIATED (STRIATED MARSH) WARBLER	Up to 5 Kosi 18-20/2.
BLYTH'S REED WARBLER	Max c10 Kosi 19/2.
PADDYFIELD WARBLER	2+ at the watchtower lagoon (nr. Kosi camp) 19/2.
CLAMOROUS REED WARBLER	4+ Kosi 19/2; 1 Kosi 20/2.
(ORIENTAL) GREAT REED WARBLER	1 watched well near Kosi barrage 20/2 was calling, a loud 'chack' (TRG, CRK, DN et al).
THICK-BILLED WARBLER	1 Nagajung 15/2 (TRG et al); Up to 5 Kosi camp 18/2, with 1 there 19/2.
LESSER WHITETHROAT	1 'blythi' nr. the watchtower lagoon Kosi 19/2 (DC, TRG, CK, DN, GT et al)
CHIFFCHAFF (BROWN LEAF WARBLER)	Seen daily Kosi 18-20/2. Common.
TICKELL'S (BUFF-BELLIED) LEAF WARBLER	Seen daily Kosi 18-20/2, max c10 18/2
SMOKY WARBLER	3 Kosi 18/2, with 2 seen 19/2.

DUSKY WARBLER (DUSKY LEAF WARBLER)	Daily Kosi 17-19/2; 1 Machan 21/2
GREENISH (DULL GREEN LEAF) WARBLER	Recorded on 7 dates. Common at Kosi.
YELLOW-BROWED (PLAIN LEAF) WARBLER	Recorded on 9 dates.
(BUFF-) ORANGE-BARRED LEAF WARBLER	Common on Phulchowki 16/2.
PALLAS'S (YELLOW-RUMPED LEAF) WARBLER	Common in Kathmandu valley 15-17/2.
BLYTH'S CROWNED (LEAF) WARBLER	Singles Machan 21/2 and Gaida 23/2.
GOLDEN-SPECTACLED WARBLER	Common Nagajung 15/2. Also Chitwan.
GREY-HEADED (FLYCATCHER) WARBLER	Several seen nagajung 15/2. 1
BLACK-FACED WARBLER	Phulchowki 16/2. Machan 21-22/2 (TRG)
HIMALAYAN (WHITE-TAILED) RUBYTHROAT	Common in Kathmandu valley 15-17/2.
SIBERIAN RUBYTHROAT	1 Phulchowki 16/2.
	Male nr. Kathmandu airport 17/2.
	Male at Hotel Himalaya on first
	evening ensured a good start to the
	tour 14/2! 3+ nr Kosi camp 18/2, plus
	male 19/2; heard Machan 21/2 (TRG)
	Only at Kosi where max c10 on 19/2.
BLUETHROAT	1 Phulchowki 16/2.
RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL	1 Phulchowki 16/2 (TRG et al).
GOLDEN BUSH-ROBIN	Male Machan lodge 21-22/2.
WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA	Noted on 8 dates. A 'garden' bird.
MAGPIE ROBIN (DAYAL)	3 Godaveri 16/2.
HODGSON'S REDSTART	Male at summit of Phulchowki 16/2.
BLUE-FRONTED REDSTART	Male at summit of Phulchowki 16/2.
BLUE-HEADED (CAPPED) REDSTART	Seen daily Kosi with max 5+ 19/2.
BLACK REDSTART	Single males at Godaveri 16/2 and
WHITE-CAPPED RIVERCHAT	Hetauda 22/2. 3 Mugling 24/2.
	4-6 Godaveri 16/2; 3+ Hetauda 22/2;
PLUMBEOUS REDSTART	4+ Mugling 24/2.
	1 Godaveri 16/2.
SPOTTED FORKTAIL	Noted on 10 dates. Locally common.
STONECHAT (COLLARED BUSHCHAT	Male & female beside Kosi river 18/2;
WHITE-TAILED STONECHAT	male beside Rapti river, Gaida 23/2.
(DARK-) GREY BUSHCHAT	Female Gaida 23/2.
PIED BUSHCHAT (PIED STONECHAT)	2 Kathmandu 14/2; male Kosi 19/2; 6+
	Machan 21/2; 2 daily Gaida 22-24/2.
BLUE ROCK THRUSH	Male Kosi barrage 19/2.
WHITE'S (SCALY MOUNTAIN) THRUSH	2 Nagajung 15/2; 1 Machan 21/2.
WHITE-COLLARED BLACKBIRD	2+ Phulchowki 16/2.
BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH	4 Nagajung 15/2; 2+ Phulchowki 16/2;
	3+ Bharatpur/Mugling area 24/2.
(DARK) BLACK-THROATED THRUSH	10+ Phulchowki 16/2; 2 seen 22/2.
BROWN DIPPER	4 nr Mugling 24/2.
WREN	1 nr summit Phulchowki 16/2.
RUFOUS-BELLIED ACCENTOR	2 summit of Phulchowki 16/2.
GREAT TIT (GREY TIT)	Seen daily Kathmandu valley 15-17/2;
	also at Chitwan 21-24/2.
GREEN-BACKED TIT	Nagajung (1) and Phulchowki 15-16/2.
BLACK-LORED (YELLOW-CHEEKED TIT)	c10 Nagajung 15/2. Phulchowki 16/2.
RED-HEADED (BLACK-THROATED) TIT	10+ Nagajung 15/2; Phulchowki 16/2.
YELLOW-BROWED TIT	4+ Phulchowki 16/2.

CHESTNUT-BELLIED NUTHATCH	3+ Nagajung 15/2; 1 Kathmandu 17/2 (TRG); common Machan 21/2; 1-4 Gaida 23-24/2.
VELVET-FRONTED NUTHATCH	3 Nagajung 15/2; 5+ Machan 21/2; singles Gaida 22-23/2.
WHITE-TAILED NUTHATCH	c20 Phulchowki 16/2.
WALLCREEPER	Male beside Rapti River Hetauda 22/2.
OLIVE-BACKED (HODGSON'S) PIPIT	Recorded daily, including 8+ in garden of Hotel Himalaya 14/2.
RICHARD'S (PADDYFIELD) PIPIT	'Paddyfield' seen almost daily. Peaks of 10+ Machan 21/2 and Hetauda 22/2.
ROSY (ROSY-BREASTED) PIPIT	Kosi 17-20/2, where peak 15+ on 18/2. Also 3 Rapti river, Gaida 23/2.
GREY WAGTAIL	1 Kathmandu 14/2; 2+ Kathmandu 17/2; also seen Rapti river, Hetauda 22/2.
CITRINE WAGTAIL	3-10 seen Kosi 18-19/2.
WHITE (PIED) WAGTAIL	Seen daily from 17/2; several races incl. black-backed race, <i>alboides</i> .
(WHITE-BROWED) LARGE PIED WAGTAIL	5+ Biratnagar-Kosi 17/2; also Rapti river at Hetauda and Gaida 22-24/2.
THICK-BILLED FLOWERPECKER	1+ Gaida jungle camp 23/2.
BUFF-BELLIED (FIRE-BREASTED) FL'PEKR	Noted daily Kathmandu valley 15-17/2.
GREEN-TAILED (NEPAL) SUNBIRD	Male Nagajung 15/2; common Phulchowki
CRIMSON (SCARLET-BREASTED) SUNBIRD	1 Machan 21/2.
PURPLE SUNBIRD	3+ Machan 21/2.
ORIENTAL (INDIAN) WHITE-EYE	Common member of feeding parties.
HOUSE SPARROW	Noted on 8 dates.
TREE SPARROW	Seen daily in Kathmandu vall. 14-17/2
YELLOW-THROATED SPARROW	2 Gaida-lodge 24/2.
BAYA WEAVER	8 Hotel Himalaya 14/2. c40 Kosi 19/2.
RED AVADAVAT (RED MUNIA)	10+ Kosi 19/2.
SPOTTED (SCALY-BREASTED) MUNIA	35+ Kosi 19/2.
WHITE-BACKED MUNIA	5+ Nagajung 15/2 (TRG)
SCARLET (COMMON) ROSEFINCH	Male + heard Kosi 18/2.
DARK-BREASTED (NEPAL) ROSEFINCH	Female Phulchowki 16/2 (TRG et al).
PINK-BROWED ROSEFINCH	2 males Phulchowki 16/2.
RED-HEADED ROSEFINCH (JUNIPER FINCH)	Male with 3 females Phulchowki 16/2.
YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING	Kosi 18-20/2, where max 20+ 19/2.
BLACK-FACED BUNTING	Kosi barrage: up to 3 seen 19-20/2.

Appendix. List of larger mammals/reptiles recorded during trip:

Wild Boar	Common Langur (Hanuman Monkey)
Sambar	Rhesus Macaque
Spotted Deer	Indian Flying Fox
Hog Deer	Indian Red Fox
Muntjac (Barking Deer)	Asian Golden Jackal
Water Buffalo (peak count c10)	Indian Hare
Indian Elephant (feral)	Five-striped Ground Squirrel
Indian Rhinoceros (peak count 14)	Orange Bellied Squirrel
Common (Small Indian) Mongoose	Marsh Mugger (Crocodile)
Leopard (AH, TC)	Indian Mud Turtle