

# GUJARAT (12 days) - + Corbett (4 days) India - January 2006

## Notes on Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles.

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This trip to Gujarat – and the Corbett-extension – became a unique experience, at trip of its own atmosphere. We were in India in 1971 – that is Jette and I, so this was a communal re-visit 35 years after! I was back in 1986, and shortly from Nepal also in 1998 – thus being familiar with most of the birdlife of Northern India.

So we turned to Gujarat. With its exquisity of bird-species, mammals, habitats, and culture. Being only the 2 of us it became in many ways a trans-cultural birding trip. This was due esp. to our driver and friend Laxman Shah, the ecologist and scientist Jugal Tiwari in Kutch, and Dhanraj Malik of the famous Camp Zainibad. Part of this synthesis was culture – from the reality of India 2006 to remote traditional villages and the highly active religious life 3000 stairs up in the Jain temples of Palitana.

Great Indian Bustard, Eastern Houbara, Painted Sandgrouse, Sykes' Nightjar, Hypocolius, Stoliczka's Busch-Chat, White-naped Tit, Grey-necked Bunting - all main targets found on our route through Gujarat. We only heard the Lions of Gir Forest but was more than compensated by a very good observation of Leopard.

In Gujarat we followed the concept and contacts made by Uffe Gjøl Sørensen the year before. So – thanks to Uffe!

The Corbett-concept had one target: Finding Tiger! I had been in Corbett before (1986) – and also been through Rhatambore and Chitwan, but always failed to see the world's most superb animal. So through Vikram Singh (Wildworldindia) we had made a purposeful plan for this. We had one day in the foot-hills around Nainital (Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, Black-throated Accentor) just to breathe the atmosphere before entering Corbett.

Result: An incredible 7 Tigers on 4 observations and in paradise itself = Corbett. Mahender Singh was the master-guide, the Mahawat Farouk responsible for our first Tiger seen a few meters away from elephant bag. Collateral birding produced Hodgson's Busch-Chat and many well-known Corbett-species.

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## Itinerary

### 3. January

An interesting and most unexpected prologue to the trip occurred on the way from half a day's work in Koege to Copenhagen. Denmark's first Bimaculated Lark roosting at the shores of Stauning's Island just north of Koege. Rushed out to fellow twitchers and just in time to see the lark. One hour later in the taxi for the airport with Jette, told her about this good omen for the trip. Actually, we did not see Bimaculated Larks in Gujarat! Evening in London, night in the air heading for Bombay.

#### 4. January

Arrival Bombay 12.00, later domestic flight to Amdabad. Revisited 34,5 years after! Picked up by Laxman – creating our Gujarat team of 3. Laxman drove off taking us into the chaos of traffic, dense population, and pollution. We drove for Utelia arriving after dark. Suddenly here! – in the silence of the village, knocking on the gate of the old Utelia Castle, a bit damaged by the 2001-earthquake but still towering over the small village. Here we spent the night.

#### 5. January

**Utelia** 8.00-10.00. Walked through the village to surrounding fields and riverine scrub. Large flocks of Short-toed Larks, 450 Roseate Stralings, and Sykes' Warbler. Drive to **Lothal** (10.30), visiting the excavations of the 4500 year (!) old Haryanaculture. The only Indian (lesser) Spotted Eagle found here close to the dirt road, some birds too in the scubs including (Eastern) Orphean Warbler and another Sykes. Drove on heading for Velavadar with stops, esp. at a river creek with a lot of waterbirds and Gr. Spotted Eagle. Generally the surrounding farmland were industrial crops including a lot of cotton – the impact of this including large scale use of pesticides on birdlife was obvious. The huge flocks of birds we remembered from our early trips to India were gone. Black-winged Kites seemed to survive, but vultures were gone, Black Kites few and only in towns.

**Velavadar** 14.30-18.15. A remnant of the vast grasslands of Gujarat. No rooms for the night so we had limited time in this great habitat with flocks of Blackbucks scattered all over. Clouds of Short-toed Larks, some Rufous-tailed Larks, and 2+2 of the endemic Sykes' Crested Lark. Also 2 Long-billed Pipits. At least 700 Common Cranes esp. in the buffer-zone around the reserve and 1 (one) beautiful Demoiselle Crane standing with 5 Black Storks. Time revealed this bird to be the only Demoiselle of the trip – not so easy to see in mid-winter in Gujarat. At dusk the famous movement of Harriers began. They swept in from all directions, passing by and settled in groups on roads and in the grass. We counted 340 birds – old male-ratio gave an estimate of Montague's Harrier 220 and Pallid Harrier 120. A very spectacular sight. No doubt additional times can be well spent here – notabilities as Laggar Falcon and Lesser Florican are possible here, the latter requires a very good luck out of breeding season – a flock of wolves still survive. After dark Laxman took us to Palitana. Stayed at Hotel Sumero, basic but ok and 300 rp for a double!

#### 6. January

**Palitana** – Day of our "pilgrimage" to Shatrunjaya Hills 6.30-12.15 visiting the Jain temple-complex at the top. 3500 steps takes you to the top – we made it in 1 hour, 10 min. Laxman preferred to stay at the bottom. It is a unique experience to join the pilgrims, the atmosphere very spiritual and very friendly. In addition hill-side birding on the decent was quite good – i.e. a rather surprise Sulphur-bellied Warbler and Rock Bush-Quail. In the mean-time Jette got instructions of how to become a holy jain woman. Anyway – we both decided to head on – a long drive for Gir. Still – where have all the birds gone? Sarus? The thousands of doves and starlings. Interesting enough Black Ibis seems to be rather resistant to this environmental disaster. 7 birds. Arrived at Gir Birding Lodge at Sasan Gir (pre-booked). Services and arrangements were splendid, but the place lacked some atmosphere and it was the only place where our driver and friend Laxman did not have a good time.

#### 7. January + 8. January

**Gir Forest** – a target-locality not reached in 1971 but this time we made it. The habitat is open dry woodland in the hills. This mean a quite low diversity of birds but some specialities. And the potential two big cats! We made gamedrives morning and afternoon/evening at both days. Guide and driver is compulsory. Also we were accompanied by Ganesh from the lodge, a nepalese nature-guide working here because of the situation in Nepal. A very able man, despite only a short time in Gir.

No doubt this is the place of the last Asiatic Lions. Classic male roars heard several times – a familiar sound from Africa. Lots of prints. But we never saw them – Lions are much more easy to watch on open African savannahs than in this more closed environment.

One evening we caught up with a Leopard. A glorious big male, leishurely walking and roosting on the forest-floor, could be watched in 50 minutes before retreating. Leopard! Spots...

Birds: A good selection of raptors – first gyps as 4 Long-billed Vultures soared over hill-tops. Also Short-toed, Tawny, Bonelli's and Booted Eagles and White-eyed Buzzards. Dry habitat birds like Yellow-footed Pigeon, Marshall's Iora, and Thick-billed Flowerpecker. But the price goes to Painted Sandgrouse seen 3 times as pairs on almost unvegetated hills, very discrete and cryptic in pastel colours, but once found allowed extremely close observations.

### 9. January

Drove off early morning from Gir heading for Kutch. Passed a lake NE of Gir with some waterbirds including Great Thick-Knee. It was a long and tough day on the Indian roads, Laxman had a hard time. In the afternoon we passed the bridge crossing the **Greater Rann of Kutch**, a huge tidal area with lagoons, sandbars etc., only briefly birded as we expected more time at the return. Darkness came at Bhuj. We headed on eventually meeting Jugal Tiwari in the village Mota-Virani and were installed at Jugals place (Center of Desert and Ocean) just outside the village – staying here the next three night. Facilities were fine to our needs, whether staying in the room or in the tents. Splendid Gujarat food! It was a very good experience to meet Jugal, his wife and son. Jugal is a very competent person, scientifically trained, and extremely committed to the nature and wildlife of Kutch and has a hard job standing against the major threats to this unique habitats, especially the char-coal industry.

### 10. January

A 10 km drive before dawn took us to **Fulay** – a small traditional village – and the huge **Bani Grasslands**. We were at the traditional Hypocolius-roost, but the place had recently been seriously disturbed so nerves were on the edge! The early yellowish light seeped in on the plains. Dark spots scattered in the few acias took the forms of Steppe Eagles as the light progressed, flocks of Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse rushed over. At the roost nothing happened – bulbuls only. At 8.00 we were sure that the roost had moved! At last a single male Hypocolius popped up to its position in the top of an acacia. A legend of the deserts – and taxonomy! Great relief! A single Cream-coloured Courser found by Jette. The grasland – endless flats, numerous rodents, and the predators: Steppe Eagles and some Long-legged Buzards. We stayed some hours in the Fulay – they had beautiful carpets for sale. Returned to the camp at 12.00.

In the afternoon a long walk in the hills behind Mota-Virani birding with Jugal. Marshalls Iora, Spotted Owllet, and good numbers of Wheatears (Desert and Variable). But the main target was Jugals bird – the endemic and endangered White-naped Tit. At last a small mixed flock were located dominated by Small Minivet. And the tits! – 2 nice White-naped Tits that could be followed the next ½ hour moving restlessly between groups of acacias controlling the pods for infestations with larvae.

### 11. January

Jugal had received a new guest – a wealthy man from Bombay. He wants to see the GIP! (Great Indian Bustard). So this based a trip to the **Lala area** about 100 km from the camp, arriving at about 8.30. It is a huge area of dried up grassland, the bustards can be quite difficult (Jugal drew a blank on his last trip), so we had to work hard. Indian Coursers were common here – about 30 birds readily seen. No bustards. At last I saw some birds flying away in the distant haze, barely visible, but jizz compatible with GIP. The man from Bombay believed that it had been a hallucination but Jugal decided to drive after the sight. 5 km off-road and later we located 5 male Great Indian Bustards, approached and observed the next ½ hours before the flock vanished into a small stand of acacias. Mission completed! From one endangered species to the next: Stoliczka's Bush-Chat found on the traditional spot along the gravel road to the watch-tower of the Lala reserve. A female + a male, the latter giving "sub-puff-and-rolls" when disturbed, fine observations of this terrestrial Busch-chat. At about 12.00 we left Lala heading for the sea-coast at Pingleshwar, having lunch at the small Wat and enjoying empty sandy beaches as far as we could see. Dolphins, Great Thick-Knee, Osprey. Later crossing cranefields (ab. 800 Common Cranes) ending at **Poldaria** about 16.00-17.30, an isolated farm in empty barren hill-country. We had a stop at a small stream which attracted birds in the otherwise dry country. It paid off! Grey-necked Bunting 3 – esp. a close nice male, the "third ortolan". The farm is a rehabilitation center or hospice for ill or traumatized cattle on a religious background. The carvasses are dumped on nearby hills creating one of the best places for vultures left with up to 400. In late

evening we saw 145 vultures – White-backed Vultures and Eurasian Griffons (ab. 4:1) in competition with the all too numerous stray-dogs haunting India in the “post-vulture” area. Another good sighting was a flock of 6 Yellow-wattled Lapwings. Late return to the camp with Indian Nightjar and Barred Button-quail in the dusk.

In the evening 3 men from the village played traditional hymns – a small fire is on, January-nights are cold on the plains.

### 12. January

Nice morning-walk with Jugal before leaving at about 10.00. At Bhuj a single White-backed Vulture. Crossed back over the bridge of Greater Rann. Indian Sandlark, many Slenderbilled Gulls, a single Mongolian Plover among common waders, flamingoes, and western reef egrets. **Zainabad** reached at 15.00 - marked by 140 Roseate Starlings. Staying at Desert Camp (Dhanraj Malik). Maliks place is an ornithologists paradise. Relaxed, nice, outstanding food!, birds and Khur at the camp site. The Maliks are local rulers – but also very dedicated birders and extremely helpful to assist your ornithological wishes!

### 13. January

**Little Rann of Kutch** 8.30-13.00 – long trip with D.Malik. Rann means “the place where nothing grows”. Driving out on the vast empty pans leaves a most complete silence. Only the numerous castings of flamingo-feet in the dried up clay show that here were water during the monsoon. Vegetation is around the “islands” and around here is wildlife: Flocks of Khur – the wild ass – still survive here in good numbers. 2 Eastern Houbaras were located, a wintering and now rare species, it was a male and a female/imm male. Nearby Hoopoe-Larks and Desert Warbler! Crossing back we met camel-nomades (Jodh-people from Sind) and passed old villages with old gates and remnants of harbours from the time when the Rann still was passable by boat! Afternoon relaxed in the camp site. Booted Warbler, Orphean Warbler, Wryneck, Roseate Starling. Dhanraj Malik expected a British bird group to come – they wanted only one bird: Sykes' Nightjar. So we headed for Maliks nightjar-fields to be absolutely sure that the species was available! At dusk some 300 Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, then starting the exiting nightjar-scan on ploughed, unvegetated fields. Moon was clear, making it a bit difficult to locate and later fixate the birds in the spotlight. With progressing darkness we managed to find about 15 nightjars. 2 were caught and in the hand could be safely identified as a Sykes' Nightjar male + female. Probably all these birds were Sykes' - another 5 could be identified. Only 1 Indian Nightjar was seen – on the tarmac road when we returned. Yellow-wattled Lapwing and Short-eared Owl also seen scanning fields in the dark.

### 14. January

Pronounced our day of wetlands of **Zainabad**. The Maliks had a family-day so we left the 3 of us + 2 of Maliks people in the morning to bird lakes around Patdi. 3 lakes very close, 3 different habitats: The first a typical flamingo-flat and the 2500 Lesser Flamingos was like being in Rift Valley! 300 juveniles – so some breeding success. The next lake a deep, fish-rich lake – White Pelican 190 and Dalmatian Pelican 5. The third lake is close to the village Himatbura, the lake inaccessible (loaded with ducks) but the broad surrounding ring-channel is very good: Among more common waterbirds we eventually found Sarus Crane - 2 adult with 1 young, and a Great Bittern standing in the edge of reeds at close range, later flying into better cover. The Bittern is a rare bird here – in fact a new record to Zainabad according to the Maliks! Detail of this bird given in the species list.

Afternoon relaxed in the camp including a surprise Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin – a bird expected to be in Africa at this time of the year. Left late afternoon reaching the Hotel Host Inn in Ahmedabad after dark. At the very moment we parked here Laxman had his first and only puncture on the trip! It was time to split the Gujarat team, Laxman had made a fantastic job and we had to say goodbye with some sadness. Laxman went home for Udaipur, Jette and I were ready for Delhi the next morning.

### 15. January

All day travelling – morning flight Ahmedabad-Delhi., arr. 10.00 . This last extension of the trip was planned in any detail through Vikram Singh of WildWorldIndia. Vikram knew that we were birders but had one

dominant target: Finding Tiger in Corbett. We were met in the airport and drove north heading for the foothills. Got stuck in Haldwani (we did the same in 1971!) but eventually reached **Nainital** after dark.

### **16.January**

One day in the foothills spent in the good forest around **Killbury Road and Pangot**, 7.00-18.30. Probably we arrived an hour too late for the optimal chance to see pheasants, but we had a nostalgic day in the foothills. It was a cold and cloudy day, too misty for distant snow-views and not the best for raptors, but many fine observations during the day. Got 2 fine woodpeckers, Himalayan and esp. the beautiful Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, some phylloscopus, Orange-flanked Bluetail, Rufousnaped Tit, Pink-browed Rose-finch but the best were the accentors – Black-throated Accentor (in company with Rufousbreasted Accentor ) at the edge of a small terraced field. Celebrated with chapati, egg-curry, and tea at a small place nearby.

### **17.January**

Passed the gate of **Corbett** at about 10.00. Tiger fever relapsed – 20 years after my first visit to Corbett. The chance was in our hands – that is esp. our guide Mahendra – a shy man of the forests, but very competent! Slow drive with stops at the Ramganga river. Gaviol Crocodile, Black and Black-necked Storks, Pallas Fish-Eagle and a flock of Elephant on the Dhikala grassland. Mahendra proposed that we should try on elephant in the evening – there had been a tiger-sighting in the grassland early morning. So we left with Farouk – our Mahawat – not for the grassland but into deep forest following alarm-calls of Chital. Eventually Farouk succeeded in locating the Tiger and our first Tiger was a big male within 2 meters from the elephant, angry and roaring being disturbed in its own territory. Went back to Dhikala – exhausted and happy!

### **18.January**

**Corbett NP**, jeep with Mahender Negi all day ending at dusk at the watchtower of Dhikala. This was the day where Mahendra showed his capacity! During the day an incredible 6 tigers were seen. Early morning a female + 2 1y young close to Dhikala. In the middle of the day a male and a female tiger along the road close to Shapduli. In the evening a female scoped from the watch-tower on the grass-plains. A gallery of birds through the day – esp. Hodgsons Busch-Chat 3 males, 2 females at the far end of the Dhikala grassland (preferred long grass, but not elephant grass!).

### **19.January**

**Corbett NP** half day, 6.30-15.00. Additional birding, Brown Fish-Owl but no Tawny. Drive to Delhi in the afternoon. Met with Vikram and his colleague Gaurav in the evening having dinner and Kingfishers, after 16 days non-alcoholic they certainly had an effect! Vikram combines buisness with adventure. They had heard about the record of 7 tigers within 24 hours, so they certainly organised this part of our trip to perfection!

### **20.January**

Morning flight out of India for Europe. We had observed 224 species of birds in Gujarat – not too bad. After Corbett and Nainital the count raised to 315 after these few days in the north.

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## Important contacts

### Car rental:

Laxman Shah, Raj Tour and Travels, e-mail: [laxmananjali@indiatimes.com](mailto:laxmananjali@indiatimes.com), tlf. 0294-2464931, mobile 94141-60931. (Laxman is highly recommendable, he knows all the places and the concept of birding Gujarat – and Rajasthan)

### Kutch:

Jugal Tiwari, Centre for Desert and Ocean, Po-Moti Virani, Taluka-Nakhtrana, Kutch, Gujarat, India 370665  
e-mail: [jugalt2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jugalt2000@yahoo.com)

### Zainabad:

Dhanraj Malik, Camp Zainabad, Desert Coursers, Zainabad, distr. Surendranagar, Gujarat,  
for reservations e-mail: [desertcoursers@nivalink.com](mailto:desertcoursers@nivalink.com), e-mail Dhanraj: [zainabad@hotmail.com](mailto:zainabad@hotmail.com)

### Corbett:

Vikram Singh through [www.wildworldindia.com](http://www.wildworldindia.com). – Vikram runs trip all over India. Can make the arrangement needed for Corbett.

Guide: Mahender Negi – Shanti Kunj Set No (7) PO Ramnagar, 244715 Dist.Nainital, Uttarranchal,  
phone: 05947 254211 mobile 9837017910 (a somewhat shy man, but knows his forrest!, very recommendable, expert of tigers)

Mahawat from Dhikala: Ask for Farouk!

### Utelia:

E-mail: [utelia@ad1.vsnl.net.in](mailto:utelia@ad1.vsnl.net.in) – if you want to book on the palace.

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## Species account: Birds and mammals recorded

### GUJARAT (GUJ) – and Nainital (NT) + Corbett (COR)

#### BIRDS

**Little Grebe** (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) lille lappedykker

GUJ: 14/1 6 Zainabad

**Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus*) toppet lappedykker

GUJ: 14/1 Zainabad (both grebes at Himatbura lake)

**Great White Pelican** (*Pelelacus onocrotalus*) hvid pelikan

GUJ: 9/1 25 Gr.Rann of Kutch, 14/1 190 Zainabad – “pelican-lake” of Patdi area.

**Dalmatian Pelican** (*P. crispus*) krøltoppet pelikan

GUJ; 9/1 1 imm lake east of Gir, 12/1 6 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 5 imm Zainabad

**Darter** (*Anhinga melanogaster*) indisk slangehalsfugl

GUJ: 7/1 1 Gir

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) skarv

COR: 17/1 100 Corbett, 18/1 200 Corbett

**Little Cormorant** (*P. niger*)

GUJ: 5/1 10 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 4 Velavadar, 8/1 15 Gir, 13/1 3 Zainabad, 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Indian Cormorant** (*P. fuscicollis*)

GUJ: 8/1 4 Gir

**Great White Egret** (*Casmerodius albus*) sølvhejre

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 10 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 5 Velavadar, 7/1 1 Gir, 8/1 5 Gir, 11/1 2 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 10 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 30 og 18/1 50 Corbett

**Intermediate Egret** (*Mesophoyx intermedia*) gulnæbbet hejre

GUJ: 14/1 4 Zainabad

**Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*) silkehejre

GUJ: 5/1 50 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 5 Velavadar, 11/1 5 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 180 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 30 og 18/1 50+ Corbett

**Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) kohejre

GUJ: 5/1 100+ Utelia, 100+ Lothal-Velavadar, 6/1 100 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 4 Gir, 8/1 50 Gir, 11/1 200 Poldaria (at Cattle-retreat), 14/1 25 Zainabad

**Western Reef Heron** (*E. gularis*) revhejre

GUJ: 9/1 40 Gr.Rann of Kutch (bridge), 12/1 20 Gr.Rann of Kutch (bridge), 14/1 1 Zainabad (in the flamingo-creek)

**Grey Heron** (*Ardea cinera*) fiskehejre

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 4 Velavadar, 13/1 10 Zainabad, 14/1 30 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 15 og 18/1 50 Corbett

**Purple Heron** (*A. purpurea*) purpurhejre

GUJ: 5/1 3 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek)

**Indian Pond Heron** (*Ardeola grayii*) *rishejre*

GUJ: 5/1 15 Utelia, 10 Lothal, 30 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 7/1 4 Gir, 13/1 3 Zainabad, 14/1 20 Zainabad

COR: 18/1 5 Corbett, 19/1 12 Corbett

**Great Bittern** (*Botaurus stellaris*) *rørdrum*

GUJ: 14/1 1 Zainabad.

In the fresh-water lake close to Himatbura. The bird observed at quite close range standing in typical frozen position in the edge of the reed-beds, scoped for about 15 min, then lifted and flew to safer position inside the reed-bed. A rare bird in Gujarat – according to the Maliks actually new to Zainabad! So they claimed a discription: A quite big, compact, yellow-brown heron, bill held in upright position, head between shoulders, loose feathers on breast, rather short-legged. Plumage owl-like cryptic, showing narrow dark crown, blackish stripes/arrowmarks on breast, wings broad and dark. So – a totally safe identification of a species well-known from our home-country.

**Black-crowned Night Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) *nathejre*

GUJ: 10/1 2 Mota-Virani

**Wolly-necked Stork** (*Ciconia eoiscopus*)

GUJ: 5/1 12 Lothal-Velavadar (river-creek), 9/1 1 lake east of Gir

COR: 17/1 3 og 18/1 1 Corbett

**Black Stork** (*C. nigra*) *sort stork*

GUJ: 5/1 5 Velavadar

COR: 17/1 12 Corbett (Dhikala), 18/1 5 + 6 Corbett, 19/1 5 Corbett

**White Stork** (*C. ciconia*) *hvid stork*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar (river-creek)

**Asian Openbill Stork** (*Anastomus oscitans*)

GUJ: 5/1 6 Lothal-Velavadar (river creek)

**Painted Stork** (*Mycteria leucocephala*)

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 4 Lothal-Velavadar (river creek), 6 Velavadar, 9/1 15 lake east of Gir, 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 2 Gr.Rann of Kutch (bridge), 13/1 2+1 Zainabad, 14/1 2 Zainabad

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

COR: 17/1 4 (1+1+2) Corbett, 18/1 1 Corbett

**Eurasian Spoonbill** (*Platalea leucorodia*) *skestork*

GUJ: 5/1 65 Velavadar, 9/1 45 lake east of Gir, 11/1 2 imm Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 30 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 13/1 8 Zainabad, 14/1 60 Zainabad

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

GUJ: 5/1 15 Lothal-Velavadar (river creek), 10 Velavadar

**Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) *sort ibis*

GUJ: 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Black Ibis** (*Pseudibis papillosa*) *vortehovedet ibis*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 1 Velavadar, 6/1 7 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 8 Sasan Gir, 9/1 9 Gir-Kutch, 10/1 8 Mota-Virani, 11/1 14 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 3 Zainabad. A total of 53 in Gujarat.

COR/NT: 15/1 2 north of Delhi

**Greater Flamingo** (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) *flamingo*

GUJ: 9/1 45 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 50 Zainabad

**Lesser Flamingo** (*P. minor*) *lille flamingo*

14/1 2500 ! Zainabad – about 300 were young birds.

In the flamingo-creek in the Patdi-area. A very big flock outside East Africa.

**Greylag Goose** (*Anser anser*) *grågås*

GUJ: 13/1 26 Zainabad



**Common Shelduck** (*Tadorna tadorna*) *gravand*

GUJ: 13/1 1 Zainabad – where uncommon.

**Ruddy Shelduck** (*T.ferruginea*) *rustand*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 13/1 14 Zainabad, 14/1 15 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 25 Corbett

**Northern Pintail** (*Anas acuta*) *spidsand*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 14/1 4 Zainabad

COR: 19/1 2 Corbett

**Common Teal** (*A.crecca*) *krikand*

GUJ: 5/1 15 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 40 Velavadar, 13/1 30 + 50 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 150 Corbett

**Spot-billed Duck** (*A.poikilorhyncha*)

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 2 Velavadar, 14/1 8 Zainabad

**Mallard** (*A.platyrrhynchos*) *gråand*

COR: 19/1 35 Corbett

**Gadwall** (*A.strepera*) *knarand*

GUJ: 14/1 50+ Zainabad

**Eurasian Wigeon** (*A.penelope*) *pibeand*

GUJ: 14/1 60 Zainabad

**Garganey** (*A.querquedula*) *atling*

GUJ: 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Northern Showeler** (*A.clypeata*) *skeand*

GUJ: 5/1 2 males Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 4 Velavadar, 11/1 5 Mota-Virani to Lala, 13/1 40 Zainabad, 14/1 150 Zainabad

**Common Pochard** (*Aythya ferruginosa*) *taffeland*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 14/1 30 Zainabad

**Oriental Honey-Buzzard** (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) *tophvepsevåge*

GUJ: 6/1 1 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 1 + 1 Gir, 10/1 1 Mota-Virani, 12/1 1 Mota-Virani

**Black-shouldered Kite** (*Elanus caeruleus*) *blå glente*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 11 Lothal-Velavadar, 5 Velavadar, 6/1 26 Palitana-Gir, 9/1 3 Gir-Kutch, 1 Gr. Rann of Kutch(bridge), 11/1 10 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 8 Bhuj to bridge, 4 bridge to Zainabad, 13/1 6 Zainabad, 14/1 4 Zainabad.

Seems to be quite resistant to modern indian agriculture – 78 birds as singles in the farmland.

COR: 17/1 2 between NT and Corbett, 2 Corbett

**Black Kite** (*Milvus migrans*) *sort glente*

GUJ: (4/1 16 Bombay Airport), 9/1 24 Gir-Khuch, 14/1 12 Ahmedabad.

COR/NT: 15/1 3000+ Delhi suburbs, 17/1 1 between NT and Corbett

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Shikra** (*Accipiter badius*) *shikra*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 1 Lothal-Velavadar, 11/1 1 Lala, 13/1 2 + 2(ad,imm) Zainabad

**Besra** (*A.virgatus*)

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** (*A.nisus*) *spurvehøg*

GUJ: 6/1 1 Palitana-Gir

**Long-legged Buzzard** (*Buteo rufinus*) *ørnevåge*

GUJ: 9/1 1 Fulay, 11/1 4 Lala, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**White-eyed Buzzard** (*Butastur teesa*)

GUJ: 7/1 1+1 Gir

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

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Changeable Hawk-Eagle** (*S.cirrhatius*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 + 1 Gir

COR: 18/1 7 Corbett

**Bonelli's Eagle** (*Hieraetus fasciatus*) *høgeørn*

GUJ: 8/1 1 imm Gir

**Booted Eagle** (*H.pennatus*) *dværgørn*

GUJ: 8/1 1 light phase Gir

**Tawny Eagle** (*Aquila rapax*) *rovørn*

GUJ: 7/1 1 imm Gir, 10/1 1 ad Fulay

**Steppe Eagle** (*A.nipalensis*) *steppeørn*

GUJ: 9/1 2 Gr.Rann of Kutch (close to bridge), 10/1 25 + imm Fulay, 11/1 1 Lala, 14/1 1 imm Zainabad

NT: 16/1 1 imm Nainital

**Greater Spotted Eagle** (*A.clanga*) *stor skrigeørn*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 1 Velavadar, 14/1 1 imm Zainabad

**Indian Spotted Eagle** (*A.hastata*) *indisk skrigeørn*

GUJ: 5/1 1 imm Lothal.

The only bird of this species seen on the trip – observed at very close range sitting and flying around close to the dirt road. A slim eagle, showing quite pale cinnamonbrown coverts towards darker flight-feathers, a narrow dotted wingband ending at a whitish wingpatch, habitat low-land semiagriculture close to the Lothal excavations.

**Osprey** (*Pandius haliaetus*) *fiskeørn*

GUJ: 11/1 2 Pingleswar (sea coast)

COR: 18/1 1 + 1 Corbett

**White-tailed Eagle** (*Haliaetus albicilla*) *havørn*

COR: 17/1 1 ad Corbett – Ramganga River, very old - greyish head

**Pallas' Fish-Eagle** (*H.leucoryphus*) *pallas havørn*

COR: 17/1 1 ad Corbett, 18/1 2 ad nest-building northern bank of Ramganga + 2 ad Corbett

**Lesser Fish-Eagle** (*Ichthyophaga humilis*)

COR: 17/1 3 Corbett, 18/1 4 Corbett

**Red-headed Vulture** (*Sarcogyps calvus*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Cinereous Vulture** (*Aegyptius monachus*) *munkegrib*

COR: 18/1 6 + 1 Corbett, 19/1 2 Corbett

**Egyptian Vulture** (*Neophron pecnopterus*) *ådselsgrib*

GUJ: 5/1 1 ad + 1 imm Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 12/1 1 imm Bhuj to bridge

COR/NT: (15/1 2 ad+subad Delhi suburbs)

**Himalayan Griffon** (*Gyps himalayensis*) *himalayagrib*

NT: 16/1 14 Nainital    COR: 18/1 8 Corbett

**Eurasian Griffon** (*G. fulvus*) *gåsegrib*

GUJ: 11/1 35 Poldaria (with white-rumped vultures)

**Long-billed Vulture** (*G.indicus*)

GUJ: 7/1 2+4 Gir – same deroute as white-rumped, survives at Gir!

**White-rumped Vulture** (*G.bengalensis*)

GUJ: 11/1 115 Poldaria – at the cattle burrial ground, the only group – the only individuals of this formerly very common species apart from 1 bird at Bhuj. A remote place far from agriculture, but they receive cattle from the lowlands with a chemical burden, 12/1 1 Bhuj.

**Eurasian Marsh Harrier** (*Circus aeruginosus*) *rørhøg*

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 6 Lothal-Velavadar, 2 Velavadar, 12/1 1 Bhuj to bridge, 14/1 4 Zainabad

**Hen Harrier** (*C. cyaneus*) *blå kærhøg*

COR: 2 (ad male + ad female) Corbett

**Montagu's Harrier** (*C.pygargus*) *hedehøg*

GUJ: 8/1 220 Velavadar (see note at Pallid Harrier) to night-roost, 9/1 1 female/imm Gir-Kutch, 11/1 4 Mota-Virani-Lala, 12/1 1 Bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Pallid Harrier** (*C.macrourus*) *steppehøg*

GUJ: 8/1 105 Velavadar to night-roost), 11/1 3 males Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 1 male bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 4(1 male) Zainabad

Velavadar Harrier-roost: The impressive night-roost at Velavadar grassland was observed between 17.00 to 18.25. The numbers of birds has been estimated as high as ab 1000 birds esp. in nov-dec. They head for several, not only one roost-site and our 325 harriers do not cover a total. A male seperation gave 51 Montagu's and 23 Pallid. But even in almost dark harriers swept in – a dominantly Pallid inflow seen from the road after the park had closed gave the impression that Pallid outnumbered Montagu's at this section. Anyway – it is a highlight to watch these elegant raptors silently arriving from all directions – settling in clumps in the grassland.

**Short-toed Snake-Eagle** (*Circaetus gallicus*) *slangeørn*

GUJ: 6/1 1 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 10/1 1 Fulay, 3 Mota-Virani, 12/1 1 (dark) bridge-Zainabad.

**Crested Serpent Eagle** (*Spilornis cheela*)

GUJ: 8/1 1 ad Gir

COR: 18/1 1 + 1 Corbett

**Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*) *vandrefalk*

GUJ: 11/1 1 ad Poldaria – a large chaldidus-type.

**Red-necked Falcon** (*F.chiquera*)

GUJ: 5/1 1 close to Velavadar –sitting on a plowed field, but flew off and seen briefly

**Common Kestrel** (*F.tinnunculus*) *tårnfalk*

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 4 Velavadar, 6/1 2 Palitana-Gir, 11/1 4 Mota-Virani toLala, 12/1 1 Bhuj to bridge, 13/1 7 Zainabad

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Grey Francolin** (*Francolinus pondicerianus*)

GUJ: 5/1 2+2 Velavadar, 7/1 6+8 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 10/1 4 Fulay, 2 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 50 Lala, 13/1 4 + 20 Zainabad, 14/1 10 Zainabad

**Black Francolin** (*F.francolinus*) *sort frankolin*

GUJ: 11/1 1 Lala (at gate)

COR: 18/1 1 seen + heard Corbett

**Jungle Bush Quail** (*Perdicula asiatica*)

GUJ: 14/1 2 with 1 pull Zainabad

**Rock Bush Quail** (*P.agoondab*)

GUJ: 6/1 1 Shatrunjaya Hills – lifted at close range.

**Common/Rain Quail** (*Coturnix coturnix/coromandelica*)

GUJ: 5/1 2 Velavadar

**Barred Buttonquail** (*Turnix susinator*)

GUJ: 11/1 3 (1 ad male) Mota-Virani to Lala

**Red Junglefowl** (*Gallus gallus*)

COR: 18/1 15+ Corbett, 19/1 20 Corbett

**Kajih Pheasant** (*Lophura leucomelanos*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Indian Peafowl** (*Pavo cristatus*) *indisk påfugl*

GUJ: 6/1 6 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 75 Gir, 11/1 50 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 15 Zainabad

COR: 18/1 5 Corbett

**Common Crane** (*Grus grus*) *trane*

GUJ: 5/1 700 Velavadar, 11/1 800 Lviga area, 13/1 11 Zainabad, 14/1 300 Zainabad

**Sarus Crane** (*G. antigone*) *sarustrane*

GUJ: 14/1 2 ad and 1 juv Zainabad in the lake/marsh close to Himatbura. The only observation of this obviously declining species.

**Demoiselle Crane** (*G. virgo*) *jomfrutrane*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar.

In the wet-land mix of Herons, Black Stork, and Spoonbills. A most beautiful adult bird and the only !! of the trip. Mid-winter is not a safe period for Demoiselles in Gujarat as birds tend to move further south at this time.

**Great Indian Bustard** (*Ardeotis nigriceps*) *indisk stortrappe*

GUJ: 11/1 5 males Lala.

This endangered species still survive in the Lala area – mainly on the steppes outside the reserve itself. A far flying group in the haze was observed and we managed to relocate them having a splendid observation of the stately birds, later they vanished into the shades of acacias.

**Eastern Houbara (Macqueen)** (*Chlamydotis macqueenei*) *østlig kravetrappe*

GUJ: 13/1 2 (ad male+fem/imm)

These 2 bustards were observed in the Lesser Rann of Kutch – roosting and silently walking a little out of distance, habitat the small “islands” of dry vegetation in the vast seasonally desert of the Rann. A winter-guest. Rare – vulnerable species due to hunting.

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

GUJ: 11/1 2 Mota-Virani to Lala

**Purple Swamphen** (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) *sultanhøne*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek)

**Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*) *rørhøne*

GUJ: 7/1 2 Gir, 14/1 5 Zainabad

**Common Coot** (*Fulica atra*) *blishøne*

GUJ: 5/1 25 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 13/1 15 Zainabad, 15/1 500 Zainabad

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

GUJ: 14/1 1 Zainabad at Himatbura

**Great Thick-knee** (*Esacus recurvirostris*) *stor triel*

GUJ: 9/1 2 lake east of Gir, 11/1 1 Pingleswar - flew by at the sea coast.

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**Pied Avocet** (*Recurvirostra avocetta*) *klyde*

GUJ: 5/1 40 Velavadar, 12/1 30 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 13/1 6 Zainabad, 14/1 70 in one block in the flamingo-creek.

**Black-winged Stilt** (*Himantopus himantopus*) *stylteløber*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Utelia, 10 Lothal, 4 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 11/1 2 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 50 Gr.Rann of Kutch, 13/1 20 Zainabad, 14/1 50 Zainabad

**Cream-coloured Courser** (*Cursorius cursor*) *ørkenløber*

GUJ: 10/1 1 Fulay, 11/1 2 Lala – this western species is rare in Gujarat.

**Indian Courser** (*C.coromandelicus*) *indisk ørkenløber*

GUJ: 11/1 30 Lala – steppes outside the reserve – the Bustard area! Common at this locality but seems to be very local.

**Northern Lapwing** (*Vanellus vanellus*) *vibe*

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**Yellow-wattled Lapwing** (*V.malarbaricus*)

GUJ: 11/1 6 Poldaria - typical very dry habitat, eventually found, can be anywhere and nowhere!  
13/1 2 Zainabad(night-drive)

**Red-wattled Lapwing** (*V.indicus*) *indisk vibe*

GUJ: 5/1 20 Utelia, 15 Lothal, 14 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 2 Velavadar, 6/1 30 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 5 Gir, 9/1 6 Gir-Kutch, 10/1 4 Mota-Virani, 11/1 20 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 15 bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 30 + 20Zainabad, 14/1 20 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett

**River Lapwing** (*V.duvaucelli*)

COR: 17/1 10 Corbett, 18/1 10 Corbett

**Mongolian Plover** (*Charadrius mongolus*) *mongolsk præstekrave*

GUJ: 12/1 1 Gr.Rann of Kutch (bridge)

**Little Ringed Plover** (*C.dubius*) *lille præstekrave*

GUJ: 10/1 2 and 12/1 3 Mota-Virani (center)

COR: 19/1 2 Corbett

**Kentish Plover** (*C.alexandrinus*) *hvidbrystet præstekrave*

GUJ: 14/1 30 Zainabad

**Black-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa limosa*) *stor kobbersneppe*

GUJ: 5/1 2 Velavadar, 11/1 3 Pigleswar at sea-coast, 12/1 80 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 50 Zainabad

**Eurasian Curlew** (*Numenius aequata*) *stor regnspove*

GUJ: 5/1 5 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 4 Velavadar, 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Ruff** (*Philomachus pugnax*) *brushane*

GUJ: 12/1 500 Gr.rann of Kutch(bridge), 13/1 150 + 600 Zainabad, 14/1 20 Zainabad

**Spotted Redshank** (*Tringa erythropus*) *sortklire*

GUJ: 13/1 3 Zainabad (village-pool)

**Common Redshank** (*T.totanus*) *rødben*

GUJ: 9/1 30 Gr.Rann of Kutch, 12/1 20 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 13/1 15 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 10 Corbett

**Common Greenshank** (*T.nebularia*) *hvidklire*

GUJ: 5/1 6 Velavadar, 9/1 1 lake east of Gir, 10 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 12/1 10 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 5 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 25 Corbett, 18/1 10 Corbett

**Marsh Sandpiper** (*T.stagnatilis*) *damklire*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 2 Velavadar, 12/1 35 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 50 Zainabad

**Wood Sandpiper** (*T.glareola*) *tinksmed*

GUJ: 5/1 5 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 9/1 10 Gr.Rann of Kutch, 13/1 6 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett, 18/1 2 Corbett

**Green Sandpiper** (*T.ochropus*) *svaleklitre*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 7/1 2 Gir, 9/1 1 lake east of Gir, 11/1 3 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 1 Zainabad

COR: 18/1 20 Corbett

**Common Sandpiper** (*Actitis hypoleucos*) *mudderklire*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 7/1 1 Gir, 9/1 5 lake east of Gir, 13/1 1 Zainabad

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**Common Snipe** (*Gallinago gallinago*) *dobbeltbekkasin*

COR: 19/1 2 Corbett

**Dunlin** (*Calidris alpina*) *alm.ryle*

GUJ: 5/1 15 Velavadar, 12/1 5 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge)

**Curlew Sandpiper** (*C.ferruginosa*) *krumnæbbet ryle*

GUJ: 12/1 40 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge)

**Little Stint** (*C.minuta*) *dværgryle*

GUJ: 5/1 40 Velavadar, 12/1 50+ Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 70 Zainabad

**Temminck's Stint** (*C.teminckii*) *temmincksryle*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 12/1 25 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge)

**Black-headed Gull** (*Larus ridibundus*) *hættemåge*

GUJ: 9/1 2 Gr.Rann of Kutch

**Brown-headed Gull** (*L.brunnicephalus*)

GUJ: 14/1 1 Zainabad

**Slender-billed Gull** (*L.genei*) *tyndnæbbet måge*

GUJ: 9/1 36 Ls..Rann of Kutch (bridge), 11/1 5 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 250 Ls.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 14/1 2 Zainabad – the salty marshes a main hibernation area for this species.

**Yellow-legged Gull** (*L.cachinnans*) *middelhavssølvmåge*

GUJ: 12/1 1 imm Ls.Rann of Kutch + a few more big gulls in the distant haze – may have been Heughlin's.

**Sandwich Tern** (*Sterna sandvicensis*) *splitterne*

GUJ: 9/1 2 Ls.Rann of Kutch

**River Tern** (*S.aurantia*)

GUJ: 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 4 Gir, 9/1 20 lake east of Gir

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Gull-billed Tern** (*S.nilotica*) *sandterne*

GUJ: 5/1 12 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 2 Velavadar, 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Whiskered Tern** (*Chlidonias hybridus*) *hvidskægget terne*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal-Velavadar(river-creek), 4 Velavadar, 9/1 40 lake east of Gir, 14/1 5 Zainabad

**Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** (*Pterocles exustus*) *brunbuget sandhøne*

GUJ: 10/1 28+6 Fulay, 11/1 18 Lala, 12/1 2 close to Bhuj, 2 bridge to Zainabad, 13/1 300 (several flocks) Zainabad, 14/1 1 on the ground + 50 flyind over Zainabad

**Painted Sandgrouse** (*P.indicus*)

GUJ: 7/1 4 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir – seen as pairs on dry, almost un-vegetated hill-tops inside the reserve, silent and “freezed” and thus being difficult to detect. But once found observed on very close range – an extremely beautiful bird, very advanced in its cryptic colorations of pastel shades. Definately the best bird in Gir!

**Red Collared Dove** (*Streptopelia tranquebarica*)

GUJ: 13/1 2 Zainabad

**Eurasian Collared Dove** (*S.decaocto*) *tyrkerdue*

GUJ: 5/1 50+ Utelia, 5 Velavadar, 6/1 50 Shatrunjaya Hills, 100 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 70+ Gir, 8/1 50+ Gir, 10/1 10 Fulay, 11/1 + Mota-Virani to Lala, 13/1-14/1 “com” Zainabad

COR: 19/1 2 Corbett +.

Again: Of course esp. the 2 common streptopelia-doves are common, but compared to 1971 there is a massive decline remembering the abundance of doves in 1971.

**Laughing Dove** (*S.senegalensis*) *palmedue*

GUJ: 5/1 10 Utelia, 10/1 4 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 ++ Mota-Virani to Lala, 13/1, 14/1 common Zainabad

**Spotted Dove** (*S.chinensis*)

GUJ: 7/1 4 Gir

COR: 18/1 4 Corbett

**Oriental Turtle Dove** (*S.orientalis*) *østlig turteldue*

COR: 18/1 1 + 1 Corbett

**Emerald Pigeon** (*Chalcophaps indica*)

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett, 19/1 1 Corbett

**Yellow-footed Green Pigeon** (*Treron phoenicoptera*)

GUJ: 7/1 4 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir

**Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) *klippedue*

GUJ: ++ domestics, 7/1 10 Gir, 8/1 10+ Gir , 11/1 + Mota-Virani to Lala,

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

COR: 19/1 1 male Corbett

**Slaty-headed Parakeet** (*P.himalayana*)

COR:17/1 4 Corbett, 18/1 15 Corbett

**Plum-headed Parakeet** (*P.cyanocephala*)

GUJ: 8/1 16 (6 in treetop,8+2 flying over) Gir

**Alexandrine Parakeet** (*P.eupatria*)

COR: 18/1 3 Corbett

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** (*P.krameri*) *lille alexanderparakit*

GUJ: 5/1 30 Utelia, 6/1 50 Shatrunjaya Hills (on the Jain-temples), 7/1 60 Gir, 8/1 100 Gir, 10/1 10 Mota-Virani, 11/1 5 Mota-Virani to Lala

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett, 18/1 5 Corbett

**Common Hawk Cuckoo** (*Hierococcyx varius*)

GUJ: 5/1 1 Utelia

**Greater Coucal** (*Centropus sinensis*)

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 6/1 1 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Lesser Coucal** (*C.bengalensis*)

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Asian Koel** (*Eudynamus scolopacea*)

GUJ: 6/1 1 h Palitana, 8/1 6 (3 ad+2ad,1 imm seen) Gir, 10/1 3 Mota-Virani, 1 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala

**Savanna Nightjar** (*Caprimulgus affinis*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 after dark Gir

**Grey Nightjar** (*C.indicus*)

GUJ: 11/1 2 close to Mota-Virani (roosting on the road after dark), 13/1 1 Zainabad – roosting on the road (nightdrive)

**Syke's Nightjar** (*C.mahrattensis*)

GUJ: 13/1 5 (to 10) Zainabad – nightdriving dry fields with Dhanraj Malik. Any doubts to the diagnosis of the species were ruled out as 2 nightjars were caught (paralyzed in the light and caught with a jacket). In the hand one proved to be a male and the other a female Sykes's! Really a speciality of Zainabad. Habitat was dry fields – newly ploughed or in other ways next to unvegetated. Seems to occur in small loose flocks – no other species of nightjars found on these fields.

**Brown Fish-Owl** (*Ketupa zeylonensis*) *brun fiskeugle*

COR: 19/1 1 + 1 Corbett – dayroost in older trees close to the river – Tawny Fish-owl should be here as well.

**Short-eared Owl** (*Asio flammeus*) *mosehornugle*

GUJ: 13/1 1 Zainabad (night-drive)

**Jungle Owlet** (*Glaucidium radiatum*)

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett (Dhikala)

**Spotted Owlet** (*Athene brahma*) *pletlet minervaugle*

GUJ: 10/1 2 Mota-Virani Hills. 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala

**House Swift** (*Apus affinis*) *lille sejler*

GUJ: 6/1 50 Palitana/Shar.Hills, 11/1 5 Pingleshwar at sea coast

**Alpine Swift** (*Tachymarptis melba*) *alpesejler*

COR: 18/1 30 Corbett

**Crested Tree-swift** (*Hemiprocne coronata*)

COR: 18/1 10 Corbett

**Indian Roller** (*Coracias benghalensis*) *indisk ellekrage*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 6/1 4 Palitana-Gir, 9/1 1 Gir-Kutch, 1 Kutch(drive), 11/1 3 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 2 Mota-Virani, 1 Bhuj, 13/1 1 Zainabad

COR/NT: (15/1 3 Delhi-foothills)

**Crested Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle lugubris*)

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett, 18/1 2+2 Corbett

**Pied Kingfisher** (*Ceryle rudis*) *gråfisker*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar, 12/1 2 bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 1 + 4 Zainabad

COR: 19/1 1 Corbett

**White-throated Kingfisher** (*Halcyon smyrnensis*) *smyrnaisfugl*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 1 Lothal-Velavadar, 6/1 6 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 4 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 9/1 2 Gir-Kutch, 10/1 1 Mota-Virani, 11/1 5 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 1 bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 1 Zainabad, 14/1 3 Zainabad. Still easy to see but massive decline compared to 1971!

COR: (15/1 4 Delhi-foothills), 16/1 8 between NT and Corbett, 17/1 1 Corbett, 18/1 1+1 Corbett, 19/1 5 Corbett

**Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*) *isfugl*

COR: 18/1 2+1 Corbett, 19/1 1 Corbett

**Little Green Bee-eater** (*Merops orientalis*) *lille grøn biæder*

GUJ: 5/1 6 Lothal, 7/1 15 Gir, 8/1 10 Gir, 10/1 5 Mota-Virani, 4 Mota-Virani Hills, 13/1 4 + 75 Zainabad

**Great Barbet** (*Megalaima virens*)

COR: 19/1 1 Corbett

**Linneated Barbet** (*M.lineata*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Blue-throated Barbet** (*M.asiatica*)

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Cobbersmith Barbet** (*M.haemacephala*)

GUJ: 6/1 1 h Shatrunjaya Hills, 1 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 15 Gir (in fruiting tree with yellow-f.green pigeon), 8/1 3 Gir

**Hoopoe** (*Upupa epops*) *hærfugl*

GUJ: 5/1 3 Utelia, 10/1 1 Mota-Virani, 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala, 14/1 Zainabad

**Indian Grey Hornbill** (*Ocyrceros birostris*)

COR/NT: (15/1 2 north of Delhi)

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** (*Picus canus*) *gråspætte*



COR: 19/1 1 Corbett

**Streak-throated Woodpecker** (*P.xantypogus*)

COR: 18/1 1 + 1 Corbett

**Greater Yellownap** (*P.flavinucha*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett, 19/1 2 + 2 Corbett

**Great Slaty Woodpecker** (*Mulleripicus pulverulentus*)

COR. 18/1 2-3 heard only flying off, Corbett, north of the river

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

GUJ: 7/1 1 Gir, 8/1 1 Gir

**Himalayan Flameback** (*D.shorii*)

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett, 18/1 4 Corbett, 19/1 2 Corbett

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

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** (*D.mahrattensis*)

GUJ: 8/1 1 Gir, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Rufous-bellied Woodpecker** (*D.hyperythrus*)

NT: 16/1 2 (male&female) Nainital in Pangot-area – splendid views of this fine woodpecker

**Himalayan Woodpecker** (*D.himalayensis*)

NT: 16/1 2 + 1 Nainital in the good forests around Pangot

**Eurasian Wryneck** (*Jynx torquilla*) *vendehals*

GUJ: 12/1 1 Mota-Virani Hills, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Common Iora** (*Aegithnia tiphia*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 Gir

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**Marshall's Iora** (*A.nicrolutea*)

GUJ: 10/1 1 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 1 Pingleshwar behind the temple, 12/1 1+1 Mota-Virani Hills,

**Indian Bushlark** (*Miafra erythroptera*)

GUJ: 10/1 2 Mota-Virani Hills

**Ashy-crowned Finch-Lark** (*Eremopterix grisea*)

GUJ: 5/1 6 Lothal

**Rufous-tailed Lark** (*Ammomanes phoenicurus*)

GUJ: 5/1 16 Velavadar, 10/1 4 Fulay, 12/1 4 bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 15 Zainabad, 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Oriental Skylark** (*Alauda gulgula*) *lille sanglærke*

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Greater Hoopoe-Lark** (*Alaemon alaudipes*) *hærfuglelærke*

GUJ: 13/1 1 + 1 Zainabad – in the Rann.

**Greater Short-toed Lark** (*Calandrella brachydactyla*) *korttået lærke*

5/1: 55 Utelia, 500 Velavadar, 9/1 30 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 11/1 350 Lala, 13/1 1200 Zainabad, 14/1 600 Zainabad.

COR: 19/1 1 Corbett

**Indian Sand Lark** (*C.raytal*)

GUJ: 12/1 6 Gr.Rann of Kutch – at sandy flats north of the bridge at the Kutch-side.

**Crested Lark** (*Galerida cristata*) *toplærke*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 13/1 5 Zainabad

**Sykes' Lark** (*G.deva*)

GUJ: 5/1 4 Velavadar – 2 close to HQ and 2 northern section of the park – endemic!

**Plain Martin** (*Riparia paludicola*) *brun digesvale*

GUJ: 5/1 10 Lothal, 14/1 40 Zainabad

COR: 18/1 30 Corbett, 19/1 5 Corbett

**Dusky Crag Martin** (*H.concolor*)

GUJ: 9/1 16 Gir-Kutch, 10/1 1 Mota-Virani, 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala

**Barn Swallow** (*H.rustica*) *landsvale*

GUJ: 6/1 70 Palitana-Gir, 10/1 4 Mota-Virani, 11/1 15 Pingleshwar at sea coast

COR: 18/1 20 Corbett, 19/1 10 Corbett

**Wire-tailed Swallow** (*H.smithii*)

GUJ: 9/1 1 Gir-Kutch, 11/1 4 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/7 31 Mota-Virani village

**Red-rumped Swallow** (*H.aurica*) *rødrygget svale*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 8/1 2 Gir

**Black Drongo** (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)

GUJ: 5/1 5 Uteia, 30 Velavadar (incl. the classics on the back of Nilgais), 6/1 100 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 1 Gir, 10/1 1 Fulay, 11/1 75 Mota-Virana to Lala (70 at one village), 14/1 20 Zainabad

**Bronzed Drongo** (*D.aeneus*)

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett

**Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** (*D.remifer*)

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett, 18/1 1 Corbett

**Hypocolius** (*Hypocolius ampelinus*) *hypocolius*

GUJ: 10/1 1 ad male Fulay – the roost disturbed a few days before our arrival, luckily a beautiful male popped up on the top of an acacia about 8.00 – the legendary bird of the deserts...

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

COR: 17/1 8 Corbett, 18/1 2 Corbett

**Large Woodshrike** (*Tephrodornis gularis*)

COR: 18/1 1+1+1 Corbett

**Common Woodshrike** (*T.pondicereanus*)

GUJ: 12/1 1 seen+1 heard Mota-Virani Hills

**Southern Grey Shrike** (*Lanius meridionalis*) *steppetornskade*

GUJ: 11/1 6 Motya-Virani to Lala

**Grey-backed Shrike** (*L.tephronotus*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Long-tailed Shrike** (*L.schach*)

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 6/1 30 Palitana-Gir

COR: 18/1 4 Corbett, 19/1 3 Corbett

**Bay-backed Shrike** (*L.vittatus*)

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 7/1 1 Gir, 8/1 1 Gir, 11/1 3 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 1 Mota-Virani Hills, 1 close to Bhuj

**Rufous-tailed Shrike** (*L.isabellinus*) *isabellatornskade*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal-Velavadar, 14/1 2 Zainabad

**Brahminy Starling** (*Sturnus pagodarum*) *pagodestær*

GUJ: 8/1 4 Gir, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Rosy Starling** (*S.roseus*) *rosenstær*

GUJ: 5/1 450 Uteia, 75 Lothal, 6/1 2 Palitana-Gir, 9/1 40 Fulay, 11/1 4 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 140 bridge-Zainabad, 13/1 15 Zainabad, 14/1 80 Zainabad – impressive 800+ of this species.

**Bank Myna** (*Acridotheres giniginianus*)

GUJ: 6/1 40 Palitana-Gir, 11/1 ++ villages Mota-Virani to Lala

COR/NT: (15/1 numerous in towns Delhi-foothills)

**Common Myna** (*A.tristis*)

GUJ: 5/1 50 Uteia, 6/1 20 Shatrunjaya Hills, 8/1 15 Gir, 11/1 ++ Mota-Virani to Lala

COR: 17/1 50 and 18/1 30 Dhikala camp

**Jungle Myna** (*A.fuscus*)

GUJ: 8/1 6 Gir

**Hill Myna** (*Gracula religiosa*)

COR: 18/1 heard only

**Rufous Treepie** (*Dendrocitta vagabunda*)

GUJ: 6/1 6 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 6 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir

COR: 18/1 2+2 Corbett, 19/1 2 Corbett

**House Crow** (*Corvus splendens*) *indisk krage*

GUJ: common in Gujarat in towns and around villages.

**Jungle Crow** (*C.macrorhynchus*)

GUJ: 6/1 18 Palitana-Gir, 7/1 40 Gir, 8/1 50+ Gir, 11/1 2 Poldaria (at cattle center, quite rare in Kutch)

NT: 16/1 20 Nainital COR: 17/1, 18/1 50+ Corbett

**Small Minivet** (*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*)

GUJ: 10/1 8 + 3 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 5 Poldaria at hills, 12/1 2+4 Mota-Virani Hills

**Long-tailed Minivet** (*P. ethologus*)

COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Scarlet Minivet** (*P.flammeus*)

COR: 17/1 2 males Corbett, 19/1 5 Corbett

**Black Bulbul** (*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*)

NT: 16/1 20 Nainital

**Red-vented Bulbul** (*Pygconotus cafer*)

GUJ: 6/1 60 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 100+ Gir, 10/1 + Fulay, 11/1 + Mota-Virani to Lala

COR: 18/1 20 Corbett

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** (*P.jocosus*)

COR/NT: "noted"

**White-eared Bulbul** (*P.leucotis*)

10/1 ++ Fulay, ++ Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 very common Mota-Virani to Lala

**Himalayan Bulbul** (*P.leucogenys*)

NT: 16/1 2 Nainital COR: 18/1 20 Corbett

**Winter Wren** (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Black-chinned Babbler** (*Stachyris pyrrhops*)

COR: 19/1 5 Corbett

**Jungle Babbler** (*Turdoides striatus*)

GUJ: 7/1 30 Gir

COR: 18/1 50 Corbett

**Large Grey Babbler** (*T.malcolmi*)

GUJ: 6/1 30 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 15 Gir, 8/1 5+ Gir

**Common Babbler** (*T.caudatus*)

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 6/1 30 Shatrunjaya Hills, 10/1 100+ Fulay, 11/1 100+ Mota-Virani to Lala, 13/1 60 Zainabad

**White-browed Shrike-babbler** (*Pteruthius flaviscapis*)

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Rufous Sibia** (*Heterophasia picaoides*)

NT: 15/1 18 Nainital (2+2+8+6)

**Chestnut-crowned Laughing-Thrush** (*Garrulax erythrocephalus*)

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Striated Laughing-Thrush** (*G.striatus*)

NT: 16/1 15 Nainital

**Streaked Laughing-Thrush** (*G.lineatus*)

NT: 16/1 50 Nainital

**White-crested Laughing-Thrush** (*G.leucolophus*)

COR: 19/1 6 Corbett

**Red-throated Flycatcher** (*Ficedula parva*)

GUJ: 8/1 2 Gir

**Tickell's Blue Flycatcher** (*Cyornis tickelliae*)

GUJ: 7/1 4 Gir

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

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

GUJ: 9/1 1 Gir

**White-throated Fantail** (*Rhipidura albicollis*)

COR: 17/1 1 Corbett

**White-browed Fantail** (*R.aureola*)

GUJ: 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 3 Gir

**Grey-breasted Prinia** (*Prinia hodgsonii*)

GUJ: 9/1 1 Fulay

COR: 18/1 10 Corbett

**Ashy Prinia** (*P.socialis*)

COR: 19/1 4 Corbett

**Rufous-fronted Prinia** (*P.buchanani*)

GUJ: 6/1 15 Shatrunjaya Hills, 11/1 2 Mota-Virani to Lala

**Plain Prinia** (*P.inornata*)

GUJ: 7/1 2 Gir, 10/1 10 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 + Mota-Virani-Lala

COR: 18/1 10 Corbett

**Jungle Prinia** (*P.sylvatica*)

GUJ: 6/1 10 Shatrunjaya Hills, 10/1 4 Mota-Virani Hills

**Striated Prinia** (*P.criniger*)

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Zitting Cisticola** (*Cisticola juncidis*)

COR: 18/1 30 Corbett

**Booted Warbler** (*Hippolais caligata*) *lille gulbug*

GUJ: 10/1 1 + 1 Mota-Virani Hills (1 typical caligata, 1 left some doubt to rama in spite of close observation), 13/1 1 Zainabad (center)

**Sykes Warbler** (*H. rama*) *steppegulbug*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Utelia, 2 Lothal, 13/1 1-2 Zainabad probably also Sykes

**Common Taylorbird** (*Orthotomus sutorius*)

GUJ: 5/1 4 Utelia, 6/1 10 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 6 Gir

**Orphean Warbler** (*Sylvia hortensis crassirostris*) "Østlig" *Mestersanger*

GUJ: 5/1 4 Lothal, 13/1 1 Zainabad (center)

**Common Whitethroat** (*S.curreuca*) *gærdesanger*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 10/1 8 Fulay, 3 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 2 Lala, 13/1 20 Zainabad, 14/1 6 Zainabad

**Desert Warbler** (*S.nana*) *dværgsanger*

GUJ: 13/1 1 Zainabad in the Rann-semi-desert

**Common Chiffchaff** (*Phylloscopus collybita*) *gransanger*

GUJ: 11/1 1 Pingleshwar behind the temple, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Sulphur-bellied Warbler** (*P.griseolus*)

GUJ: 6/1 1 Shatrunjaya Hills – typical ground-feeding phylloscopus on the stony, dry hill-side seen at close range. Perhaps a bit surprising to find this species here (west of main range).

**Greenish Warbler** (*P.trochiloides*) *lundsanger*

GUJ: 7/1 1 Gir

**Humes' Warbler** (*P.humei*) *humes'sanger*

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Lemon-rumped Warbler** (*P.chloronotus*)

NT: 16/1 1+1 Nainital

**Ashy-throated Warbler** (*P.maculipennis*)

NT: 1 Nainital

**Grey-hooded Warbler** (*Seicercus xanthoschistos*)

NT: 16/1 8 Nainital

COR: 17/1 10 Corbett

**Orange-flanked Bush Robin** (*Tarsiger cyanurus*) *blåstjert*

NT: 16/1 1 male Nainital

**Black Redstart** (*Phoenicurus ochuros rufiventris*) “*rødbuget*” *husrødstjert*

GUJ: 7/1 2 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 10/1 3 Fulay, 1 Mota-Virani Hills, 13/1 2 Zainabad

COR: 19/1 1 Corbett

**Blue-capped Redstart** (*P.coeruleocephalus*)

NT: 16/1 8 Nainital

**Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin** (*Cercotrichas galactotes*) *trænatergal*

GUJ: 14/1 1 Zainabad – scrub close to the camp.

Rather surprising to find this species in mid-winter in Gujarat, some birds pass through in oct-nov on their way to African wintering.

**Brown Rock Chat** (*Cercomela fusca*)

GUJ: 1 Gir, 12/1 1 Mota-Virani Hills

**Oriental Magpie Robin** (*Copsychus saularis*)

GUJ: 6/1 2 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 2 Gir, 13/1 2 Zainabad

**Indian Robin** (*Saxicoloides fulicifata*)

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 6/1 50 Shatrunjaya Hills, 7/1 21 Gir, 8/1 2 Gir, 10/1 10 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 10 Mota-Virani to Lala

**White-capped Water-Redstart** (*Chaimarroornis leucephalus*)

COR: 17/1 3 Corbett

**Plumbeous Water-Redstart** (*Rhyacornis fuliginosus*)

COR: 17/1 30 Corbett, 18/1 6 Corbett

**Isabelline Wheatear** (*Oenanthe isabellina*) *isabellastenpikker*

GUJ: 11/1 2 Lala

**Desert Wheatear** (*O.derserti*) *ørkenstenpikker*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Velavadar, 10/1 4 Fulay, 11/1 20 Lala – on the flats, 13/1 25 Zainabad, 14/1 8 Zainabad

**Variable Wheatear** (*O.picata*) *østlig nonnestenpikker*

GUJ: 10/1 6 Fulay, 4 Mota-Virani, 2 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 15 Mota-Virani-Lala mainly in scrubby country, 12/1 1 Bhuj, 1 bridge-Zainabad

**Common Stone-Chat** (*Saxicola torquata*) *sortstrubet bynkefugl*

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 30 Velavadar, 9/1 1 Fulay, 11/1 1 Lala

NT: 16/1 2 Nainital COR: 18/1 20 Corbett

**Hodgson's Stone-Chat** (*S.insignis*) *hodgsons bynkefugl*

COR: 18/1 3 males, 2 females Corbett in the grassland at Dhikala – not found in the elephantgrass dominating most of the plain but furthest west where elephant grass is replaced by true grasses. A rare species, considered threatened! A very large Saxicola, habits like common stone-chat, perching in bushes or thick straws for insects but tends to fly longer in longer waves with glides.

**Stoliczka's Stone-Chat** (*S.macroryncha*) *stoliczkas bynkefugl*

GUJ: 11/1 2 (male + female) Lala – at hedges close to the entrance gate of the reserve. Female seen at the sharp bend of the gravel road approaching the gate, male seen close to the observation tower. Could be watched for a long time – typical terrestrial behaviour when foraging, unlike co. stonechat, when disturbed the male made small “puff & roles”. Endemic and endangered”!!

**Pied Bush-Chat** (*S.caprata*) *sort bynkefugl*

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 11/1 2 males Mota-Virani to Lala.

**Grey Bush-Chat** (*S.ferrea*) *grå bynkefugl*

NT: 16/1 1 male Nainital COR: 18/1 25 Corbett

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush** (*Monticola rufiventris*)

NT: 16/1 1+1 Nainital – both males

**Blue Whistling Thrush** (*Myophonus caeruleus*)

NT: 16/1 4 Nainital, 17/1 12 Nainital COR: 18/1 1 Corbett, 19/1 4 Corbett

**Dark-throated Thrush** (*Turdus ruficollis*) *sortstrubet drossel*

NT: 16/1 4 Nainital

**Great Tit** (*Parus major*) *musvit*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 7/1 2 Gir

COR: 19/1 5 Corbett

**Green-backed Tit** (*P.monticolus*)

NT: 16/1 30 Nainital

**White-naped Tit** (*P.nuchalis*)

GUJ: 10/1 2 Mota-Virani Hills.

An endemic and endangered bird. It took us some hours – even in company with Jugal, the master of this species – to locate this main target. We followed a pair through their constant movement on the hills side looking for acacia-pods they could screen for infestations. A very distinctive black&white tit.

**Spot-winged Tit** (*P.melanolophus*)

NT: 16/1 5 Nainital

**Rufous-naped Tit** (*P.rufonuchalis*)

NT: 16/1 4 – a most beautiful tit, from higher elevations, nearly over-looked among closely related spot-winged tits.

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

NT: 16/1 40 Nainital

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

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett

**Tree Pipit** (*Anthus trivialis*) *skovpiber*

GUJ: 5/1 1 Lothal, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Olive-backed Pipit** (*A.hodgsoni*) *taigapiber*

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Paddyfield Pipit** (*A.rufulus*)

GUJ: 9/1 1 Gir-Kutch – a small meadow at a railway-crossing waiting for a typical extremely long indian train to pass gave this one and only observation.

**Tawny Pipit** (*A.campestris*) *markpiber*

GUJ: 10/1 4 Mota-Virani, 11/1 15 Mota-Virani to Lala, 12/1 1 bridge to Zainabad, 13/1 1 Zainabad

**Rosy Pipit** (*A.roseatus*)

COR:18/1 1 Corbett

**Long-billed Pipit** (*A.similis*) stor markpiber

GUJ: 5/1 1 + 1 Velavadar – maybe unexpected to see this large pipit in Gujarat, found close to the dirt road about 4 km NE of the HQ

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**White-browed Wagtail** (*Motacilla maderaspatensis*)

GUJ: 8/1 2 Gir

COR/NT: (15/1 2 north of Delhi) COR: 18/1 2 Corbett

**Grey Wagtail** (*M.cinera*) bjergvipstjert

GUJ: 7/1 3 Gir, 8/1 4 Gir

COR: 19/1 Corbett

**White Wagtail** (*M.alba*) hvid vipstjert

GUJ: 5/1 2 Lothal, 10/1 1 Mota-Virani, 11/1 10 Mota-Virani-Lala, 12/1 6 Mota-Virani

**Citrine Wagtail** (*M.citreola*) citronvipstjert

GUJ: 11/1 1 Mota-Virani to Lala

**Yellow Wagtail** (*M.flava*) gul vipstjert

GUJ: 9/1 3 Gir-Kutch, 11/1 10 Mota-Virani to Lala, 13/1 5 Zainabad

**Oriental White-Eye** (*Zoosterops palpebrosus*)

GUJ: 7/1 40 Gir

NT: 16/1 4 Nainital COR: 17/1 10 Corbett

**Purple Sunbird** (*Nectarina asiatica*)

GUJ: 5/1 3 Lothal, 7/1 14 Gir, 8/1 20 Gir, 10/1 2 Mota-Virani, 11/1 4 Mota-Virani to Lala

COR: 17/1 2 Corbett

**Thick-billed Flowerpecker** (*Dicaeum agile*)

GUJ: 7/1 2+1 Gir – a dry forest speciality.

**Indian Silverbill** (*Lonchura malabarica*)

GUJ: 6/1 6 Shatrunjaya Hills (nest-building), 9/1 30 Gr.Rann of Kutch(bridge), 10/1 20 Mota-Virani Hills, 11/1 50 Mota-Virani to Lala

COR: 19/1 30 Corbett

**House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*) gråspurv

GUJ: 5/1 ++ Utelia, 50 Shatrunjaya Hills (Jain feeding place), common in any urban habitat

COR/NT: 16/1 20 village, Nainital

**Russet Sparrow** (*P.rutilans*)

NT: 16/1 15 – one loose flock, Nainital

**Chestnut-shouldered Petronia** (*Petronia xanthrocollis*)

GUJ: 5/1 1 Utelia, 7/1 15 Gir

**Baya Weaver** (*Ploceus phillipinus*)

GUJ: 5/1 6 Utelia

**Alpine Accentor** (*Prunella collaris*) alpejernspurv

NT: 16/1 30 in one flock at an open grassy, stony slope

**Rufous-breasted Accentor** (*P.strophiata*)

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital in Pangotarea – with the black-throated

**Black-throated Accentor** (*P.atrogularis*) sortstrubet jernspurv

NT: 16/1 1 Nainital around Pangot, in bushy margins of small semicultivated terraced fields, came into great views from at low bush which also held the rufous-breasted accentor.

**Pink-browed Rosefinch** (*Cardopacus rodochrous*)

NT: 16/1 4 (2 males, 2 females/imm) in the same area of small terraced fields as the accentors

**Common Rosefinch** (*C.erytrinus*) *karmindompap*

NT: 16/1 8 (2 males, 6 females/imm) Nainital

**Grey-necked Bunting** (*Emberiza buchanani*) *bjerghortulan*

GUJ: 11/1 3 Poldaria – hillsides when approaching the cattle-site A small stream in the otherwise dry stony country was selected for birding – and it eventually produced this this fine ortolan-type bunting, esp. a male gave very nice observations.

**Rock Bunting** (*E.cia*)

NT: 16/1 8 Nainital

**House Bunting** (*E.striolata*) *sribet værling*

GUJ: 11/1 1 Poldaria

## MAMMALS:

### **Dolphin sp.**

GUJ: 11/1 20+ from sea coast at Pingleshwar

**Indian Flying Fox** (*Pteropus giganteus*)

GUJ: 7/1 500+ in dense day-roost Sasan Gir - trees close to the river.

**Common Langur** (*Semnopihterus eutellus*)

GUJ: 7/1 30 Gir

NT: 16/1 20 Nainital COR: 17/1 + 18/1 common Corbett

**Wild Boar** (*Sus scrofa*)

GUJ: 7/1 25 Gir

COR: 17/1 10 Corbett, 18/1 2 Corbett

**Asiatic Elephant** (*Elephas maximus*)

COR: 17/1 8 + 8 Corbett – grassland at Dhikala, 18/1 10 in one heard Dhikala grassland

**Nilgai** (*Bosephalus trogocamelus*)

GUJ: 5/1 35 Velavadar, 7/1 20 Gir, 10/1 2 Fulay, 11/1 5 Lala, 13/1 2 Zainabad

**Chital (Spotted Deer)** (*Axis axis*)

GUJ: 7/1 100+ Gir

COR: 17/1 150+ , 18/1 175+ Corbett

**Hoc Deer** (*Axis porcinus*)

COR: 18/1 1 Corbett

**Sambar** (*Cervus unicolor*)

GUJ: 7/1 20 Gir

COR: 17/1 30+, 18/1 50+ Corbett

**Muntjac** (*Muntiacus muntjak*)

17/1 2 Corbett, 18/1 10+ Corbett

**Blackbuck** (*Antelope cervicapex*)

GUJ: 5/1 300+ Velavadar – of this beautiful, rare antelope.

**Indian Gazelle** (*Gasella bennethii*)

GUJ: 10/1 15 Fulay, 11/1 Lala, 12/1 1 Mota-Virani Hills

**Khur (Asiatic Wild Ass)** (*Equus(hemionus) khur*)

GUJ: 13/1 75 Zainabad, 14/1 15 Zainabad

**Grey Mongoose** (*Herpestes edwardsii*)

GUJ: 8/1 1 Gir

**Small Indian Mongoose** (*Herpestes javanicus*)



GUJ: 11/1 2 close to Mota-Virani

**Himalayan Yellow-throated Marten** (*Marten flavigula*)

COR: 16/1 1 Nainital

**Golden Jackal** (*Canus aureus*)

GUJ: 10/1 2 Fulay

COR: 18/1 1 + 2 Corbett

**Lion (Asiatic Lion)** (*Panthera leo persica*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 male heard several times (19.15) + prints, 8/1 1 male heard.

Thus – no lions were seen in Gir although the male roar (well known from Africa) left no doubt that this is lion-territory. More difficult to find in the dry woodland than on open African savannahs. We did not manage – on the other hand we had a long watch of the much more elusive leopard!

**Leopard** (*Panthera pardus*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 adult male Gir, watched for 50 minutes, walking and later resting in open forest-bottom from about 17.00 about 50 meters away. A large specimen – exquisite and strong. A privilege to get a long, calm observation of this great cat.

**Tiger** (*Panthera tigris*)

COR: The tiger-venture certainly paid a huge bonus in Corbett ... The status of never had the luck to see the world's most outstanding animal came to an end!

17/1 1 ad male seen from elephant-back during an evening ride a few kms east of Dhikala. The mahawat Farouck took us to deep forest chasing an alarm-call from Chital and in 2 attempts located the huge male Tiger within a few meters distance from the elephant. The tiger continued its hunt but then gave up and made a roaring “attack” against the elephant with the three people on top getting as close as 2 meters, then drew back to a position some 10 meters away. Strongly offended of being mobbed in its own territory. Here we left the scene. By far the most excessive experience ever with wild life, the immense beauty and grandeur of this animal surpassed the horror of the situation!

18/1 6 (!) on 3 observations: 1 ad female + 2 1y+ grown young 7.20 from jeep crossing a road from the Dhikala grassland to the forest, 1 ad male + 1 ad female 12.00 from jeep close to Shapduli, male tiger following the road for a short distance, then turning inside the forest followed by a crossing female, 1 ad (female?) from the old watchtower, Dhikala 16.50 1 km away could be followed and scoped for about half an hour.

An incredible total of 7 tigers in about 24 hours.

**Indian Hare** (*Lepus nigricollis*)

GUJ: 8/1 1 Gir

**Lesser Bandicoot Rat** (*Bandicota bengalensis*)

GUJ: 10/1 abundant in the Bani Grassland, Fulay – rodents holes all over and supporting the dense hibernation of raptors esp. Steppe Eagles with some Long-legged Buzzards in the area.

## REPTILES:

**Mugger Crocodile** (*Crocodylus palustris*)

GUJ: 7/1 1 Gir

COR: 17/1 4 Corbett – Ramganga, 18/1 2 + 2 Corbett

**Ghaviyal** (*Gavialis gangeticus*)

COR: 17/1 1 Ramganga River, Corbett – this nice fish-eating crocodile is a threatened species, but still roosting on the shore of the Ramganga