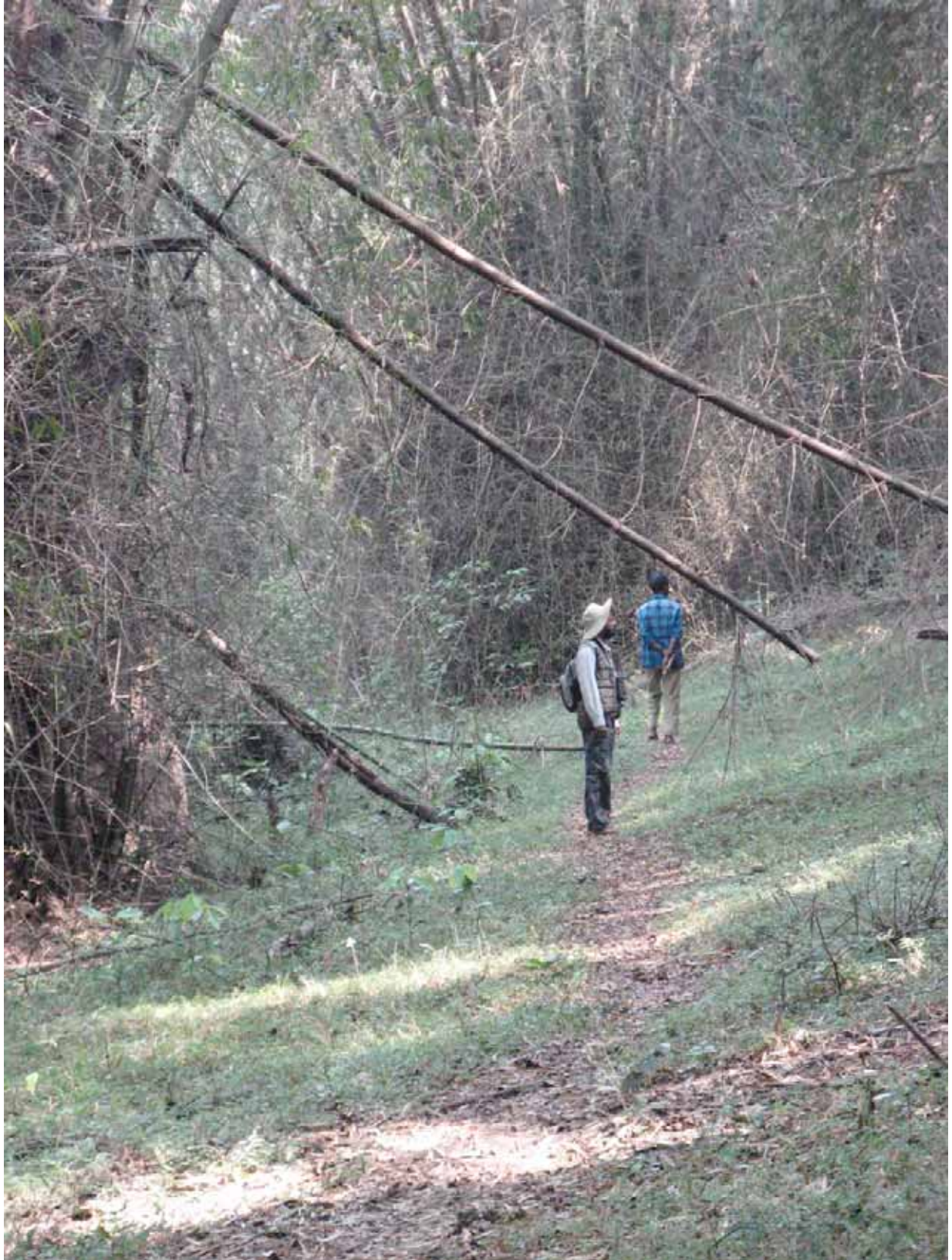


# Southern India January 23-30, 2008

Mikael Käll & Anders Blomberg, Sweden



Satyan and Baby at Top Slip. Photo: Mikael Käll

January in SW Sweden is usually cold, moist, windy and pretty unpleasant altogether, and birding is dull to say the least. This January, however, we were invited to join a delegation from Chalmers University of Technology to the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore for a Systems Biology workshop, which gave us the irresistible possibility to combine exciting science with some superb birding. Although we only had a few days to spend, we managed to visit some really special sites and see >200 species, including a number of endemics. We are indebted to superb birding guide Satyan Meppayur and Kalypso Adventures for the success! Further questions regarding the tour can be obtained from Mikael Käll (kall@fy.chalmers.se).



Jungle Owlet, *Glaucidium radiatum malabaricum*, at Top Slip. Photo: Mikael Käll

## Itinerary

**Jan. 22** Early morning flight from Göteborg via Frankfurt to Bangalore.

**Jan. 23** Arrive in the middle of the night. Workshop at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bangalore all day.

**Jan. 24** ~1 hour birding at the nice campus before breakfast, then workshop all day.

**Jan. 25** ~1 hour birding at the campus in the morning. Picked up by Satyan at lunch, then drive to Mysore via Kokkare Bellur and Ranganathittu, where we took a short boat ride. Night at Green Hotel, Mysore.

**Jan. 26** Checked out some wetlands close to Mysore in the morning, then drive straight to Masinagudi. Checked in at our very nice small lodge "The Wild". Took a short walk in the coffee plantation before lunch. Afternoon spent in dry forests close to Masinagudi.

**Jan. 27** Birded nice bamboo and riverine forest near Jungle Hut a.m. After lunch took a walk to the forest edge close to The Wild.

**Jan. 28** Drive to Ooty in the morning, including brief stop for W.b. Minivets near Masinagudi. Spent ~3 hours at Cairn Hill Forest and among the rubbish at Deda Betta parking lot, then continued towards Top

Slip via Coimbatore, where short stop at lake in the middle of the city. Checked in at the very nice small lodge "Banyan Tree" and took a walk along the canal just outside the park boundaries in the evening.

**Jan. 29** Spent whole day birding Top Slip together with native guide "Baby".

**Jan. 30** Searched in vain for Wynaad L.t. at Top Slip in the morning, then short walk along the canal near Banyan Tree. Leave for Coimbatore after lunch. Evening flight to Bangalore.

**Jan. 31** Flight from Bangalore 3 a.m., back in Sweden early p.m..



Mugger at Ranganathittu. Photo: Mikael Käll.

## BIRDLIST

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**Grey Francolin** *Francolinus pondicerianus*  
2 Banyan Tree 28-29.1.

**Red Spurfowl** *Galloperdix spadicea*  
Fleeting views of two birds running for cover at  
Top Slip 29.1

**Grey Junglefowl** *Gallus sonneratii*  
1 male near The Wild 27-28.1; ~10 Top Slip  
29.1 & ~5 30.1.

**Indian Peafowl** *Pavo cristatus*  
Recorded daily with 1-5 birds.

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*  
~100 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~10 Coimbatore  
28.1.

**Spot-billed Duck** *Anas poecilorhyncha*  
~30 Mysore 26.1.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*  
~5 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~2000 Mysore 26.1.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*  
~10 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~5 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*  
~100 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~10 Mysore 26.1; ~5  
Coimbatore 28.1.

**Brown-capped Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos  
nanus*  
Heard at Top Slip 29.1.

**Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos  
mahrattensis*  
1 female in scrub forest near Masinagudi 26.1

**White-bellied Woodpecker** *Dryocopus  
javensis*  
1 in coffee plantation The Wild 26.1.

**Lesser Yellownape** *Picus chlorolophus*  
1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Black-rumped Flameback** *Dinopium  
benghalense*  
1-2 The Wild 27.1; 1 pair Top Slip 29.1; 1  
Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Greater Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*  
3-4 The Wild 27.1; >5 Top Slip 29.1 & 1 30.1.

**Heart-spotted Woodpecker** *Hemicircus  
canente*  
2 Top Slip 29.1.

**Brown-headed Barbet** *Megalaima zeylanica*  
1 seen Banyan Tree 30.1.

**White-cheeked Barbet** *Megalaima viridis*  
Commonly heard and seen.



**Malabar Barbet** *Megalaima (rubricapillus)  
malabarica*  
1 calling bird seen well The Wild 27.1.

**Coppersmith Barbet** *Megalaima  
haemacephala*  
Fairly commonly heard and seen.

**Malabar Grey-Hornbill** *Ocyrceros griseus*  
3 pairs Top Slip 29.1 & 1 bird 30.1.

**Great Hornbill** *Buceros bicornis*  
Brief views of one noisy pair Top Slip 30.1.

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*  
2 Masinagudi 26.1; 1 Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Malabar Trogon** *Harpactes fasciatus*

1 male Top Slip 29.1.

**Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*

1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2-3 along the road 28.1;  
1 Top Slip 29-30.1.

**Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis*

2 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Fairly common.

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis*

1 Ranganathittu 25.1.



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

~5 The Wild 27.1.

**Common Hawk-Cuckoo** *Cuculus varius*

1-2 heard Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Asian Koel** *Eudynamis scolopacea*

Seen and heard daily.

**Blue-faced Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus viridirostris*

1 near Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Southern Coucal** *Centropus (sinensis) parroti*

Seen and heard daily.

**Vernal Hanging-Parrot** *Loriculus vernalis*

~6 Masinagudi 27.1

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*

1 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Plum-headed Parakeet** *Psittacula cyanocephala*

~30 The Wild 27.1; 1 Banyan Tree 28.1; ~5 Top Slip 29.1 & ~10 30.1.

**Malabar Parakeet** *Psittacula columboides*

2 Masinagudi 26.1; ~30 The Wild 27.1; ~20 Top Slip 29.1 & 5 30.1.



**Blue-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctyornis athertoni*

1 near Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Little Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*

~5 near Banyan Tree 28.1 & 1 30.1.

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

~20 Kokkare Bellur 25.1.



Green Whip Snake, Top Slip

**Indian Swiftlet** *Collocalia unicolor*  
~30 Masinagudi area 26.1 & ~50 27.1.

**Asian Palm-Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2 Banyan Tree 28.1; 1  
Top Slip 29.1.

**Alpine Swift** *Tachymarptis melba*  
~100 near Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Oriental Scops-Owl** *Otus sunia*  
1 heard The Wild 26.1.



**Brown Fish-Owl** *Ketupa zeylonensis*  
1 pair near Jungle Hut 27.1.

**Jungle Owlet** *Glaucidium radiatum*  
1 seen and an additional 1-2 heard Top Slip 29.1.

**Jerdon's Nightjar** *Caprimulgus atripennis*  
1 probable seen in torch-light near Masinagudi  
26.1; 1 seen and heard near Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*  
Common.

**Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*  
1 The Wild 26.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1 & 1 30.1. One  
recently dead bird Top Slip HQ 30.1.

**Grey-fronted Green-Pigeon** *Treron*  
*(pompadora) affinis*  
1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Mountain Imperial-Pigeon** *Ducula badia*  
1 heard Top Slip 29.1.

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis*  
*phoenicurus*  
1 Ranganathittu 25.1; 2-3 Mysore 26.1.



**Baillon's Crake** *Porzana pusilla*  
1 Mysore 26.1.



**Purple Swampfen** *Porphyrio (porphyrio)*  
*poliocephalus*  
~20 Mysore 26.; 1 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Common Coot** *Fulica atra*  
~200 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~5 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2 Mysore 26.1.

**Greater Painted-snipe** *Rostratula benghalensis*  
2 Mysore 26.1.

**Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*  
1 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Bronze-winged Jacana** *Metopidius indicus*  
1 along the road 25.1; 1 Mysore 26.1.

**Great Thick-knee** *Burhinus recurvirostris*  
3 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*  
~20 Mysore 26.1.

**Yellow-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus malabaricus*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 1 heard near Banyan Tree 28.1.



**River Tern** *Sterna aurantia*  
~5 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1.

**Oriental Honey-buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*  
1 male The Wild 27.1.

**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*  
1 The Wild 27.1.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*  
Common IISc, Bangalore & Mysore. Only a few in W. Ghats.

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*  
2 Kokkare Bellur & 2 Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 Banyan Tree 29.1.

**Crested Serpent-Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*  
1 Top Slip 29.1 & 1 heard 30.1.

**Western Marsh-Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*  
1 2nd year Kokkare Bellur 25.1.

**Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*  
1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Shikra** *Accipiter badius*  
1 male Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Bonelli's Eagle** *Hieraaetus fasciatus*  
1-2 pairs near Masinagudi 26.1; 1 2nd year The Wild 27.1; 1 ad Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus*  
1 Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 Banyan Tree 30.1. Both light morph.

**Crested Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus cirrhatus*  
1 pair The Wild 26.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*  
1 Coimbatore 30.1.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
~5 Kokkare Bellur & ~5 Ranganathittu 25.1; ~50 Mysore 26.1; ~10 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Oriental Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster*  
2 Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 Mysore 26.1; ~50 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Little Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax niger*  
Common Ranganathittu and a few along the road 25.1; ~5 Mysore 26.1; ~10 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*  
~20 Ranganathittu 25.1; 100-200 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*  
Fairly common 25.1, ~5 Mysore 26.1; ~5 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

2 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2 Mysore 26.1, ~5 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Great Egret** *Casmerodius albus*

~5 in breeding plumage Ranganathittu 25.1;

**Intermediate Egret** *Egretta intermedia*

1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 3 Mysore 26.1; ~5 Coimbatore 28.1.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus (ibis) coromandus*

Fairly common 25.1; a few long the road 28.1.



**Indian Pond-Heron** *Ardeola grayii*

~20 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; common Mysore 26.1, ~10 Coimbatore 28.1.

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

~50 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*

~20 Mysore 26.1.

**Black-headed Ibis** *Threskiornis melanocephalus*

~20 Kokkare Bellur & ~20 Ranganathittu 25.1; ~30 Mysore 26.1.

**Red-naped Ibis** *Pseudibis papillosa*

~20 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2 Mysore 26.1.

**Eurasian Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*

~20 Ranganathittu 25.1.



**Spot-billed Pelican** *Pelecanus philippensis*

~30 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 2 Mysore 26.1, 2 Coimbatore 28.1.



**Painted Stork** *Mycteria leucocephala*

~5 Kokkare Bellur & ~100 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans*

~300 Ranganathittu 25.1.

**Woolly-necked Stork** *Ciconia episcopus*

2 Mysore 26.1.

**Indian Pitta** *Pitta brachyura*

1 near Masinagudi 27.1; 1 heard Banyan Tree 28.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella*

1 near Masinagudi 27.1; 1 pair Top Slip 29.1; 3 Top Slip 30.1.

**Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*

~10 around Masinagudi 26.1 & 27.1; 1 Top Slip 30.1. Unidentified leafbirds: ~10 Banyan Tree 28.1; ~10 Top Slip 29.1 & ~5 30.1.

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*

>2 Masinagudi 26.1 & 1 27.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Bay-backed Shrike** *Lanius vittatus*

~5 near Masinagudi 26.1 & 1 28.1;

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*

2-3 near Masinagudi 26.1 & ~5 27.1;

**Rufous Treepie** *Dendrocitta vagabunda*

2 The Wild 27.1; 1 Banyan Tree 30.1.

**White-bellied Treepie** *Dendrocitta leucogastra*

4 Top Slip 29.1.

**House Crow** *Corvus splendens*

Fairly common around larger towns and villages.

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Common.



**Eurasian Golden-Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*

~6 IISc, Bangalore 24.1; ~5 Banyan Tree 28.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1; ~10 Top Slip & Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Black-hooded Oriole** *Oriolus xanthornus*

1 The Wild 27.1; 1 Banyan Tree 28.1 & 1 30.1.

**Large Cuckooshrike** *Coracina macei*

1 The Wild 26-27.1.

**Black-headed Cuckooshrike** *Coracina melanoptera*

2 males + 1 female near Masinagudi 28.1.

**Small Minivet** *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

1 pair The Wild 27.1; 1 pair near Masinagudi 28.1.



**White-bellied Minivet** *Pericrocotus erythropygius*

One flock of 2 males + 2 females near Masinagudi 28.1.

**Orange Minivet** *Pericrocotus flammeus flammeus*

1 The Wild 26.1; 1 pair The Wild 27.1; ~10 Top Slip 29.1 & ~5 30.1.

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*

1 The Wild 27.1.

**White-spotted Fantail** *Rhipidura (albicollis) albogularis*

1 Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 near Ooty 28.1.

**White-browed Fantail** *Rhipidura aureola*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*  
Common in cultivated areas 23-25.1; a few  
along the road 28.1; 2-3 Banyan Tree 29-30.1.

**Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*  
2-3 The Wild 26.1 & ~5 27.1.

**White-bellied Drongo** *Dicrurus caerulescens*  
2 The Wild 26.1 & 1 27.1; 1 Banyan Tree 28.1;  
1-2 Top Slip 30.1.

**Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*  
~5 The Wild 26-27.1; 5-10 Top Slip 29-30.1.

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus  
paradiseus*  
1 The Wild 26.1; ~5 Top Slip 29-30.1.

**Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*  
1 IISc, Bangalore 25.1.

**Asian Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone  
paradisi*  
White morph males: 1 Bangalore 24.1; 1  
Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 near Jungle Hut 27.1.  
Rufus morph females: 2 Banyan Tree 28.1; 1  
Top Slip 30.1.

**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*  
2 The Wild 26.1; 1 heard Banyan Tree 28.1; 2-3  
heard Top Slip 29.1.

**Malabar Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis (gularis)  
sylvicola*  
1-2 The Wild 26.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Common Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis  
pondicerianus*  
~5 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Blue-capped Rock-Thrush** *Monticola  
cinclorhynchus*  
1 male IISc, Bangalore 24-25.1; 1 male Cairnhill  
Forest 28.1.

**Malabar Whistling-Thrush** *Myiophonus  
horsfieldii*  
1 near Jungle Hut & 1 The Wild 27.1; 1 Top Slip  
29.1 & 1 heard 30.1.

**Orange-headed Thrush** *Zoothera citrina*  
1 seen + 2-3 heard Top Slip 29.1 & 2 seen 30.1.



**Indian Blackbird** *Turdus (merula) simillimus*  
1 male Dada Betta 28.1.

**Nilgiri Blue Robin** (*Brachypteryx*) *Myiomela  
major*  
2 males Cairnhill Forest 28.1.

**Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*  
1 Banyan Tree 30.1.



**Brown-breasted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa muttui*  
1 near Jungle Hut 27.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Black-and-orange Flycatcher** *Ficedula nigrorufa*  
2 Cairnhill Forest 28.1.

**Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassina*  
1 IISc, Bangalore 25.1.

**White-bellied Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis pallipes*  
1 male Top Slip 30.1.

**Blue-throated Flycatcher** *Cyornis rubeculoides*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1; 2 Top Slip 29.1.

**Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis tickelliae*  
1 Ranganathittu 25.1; 2 near Masinagudi 27.1;

**Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*  
1 Cairnhill Forest 28.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*  
1 near Mysore 26.1.

**Indian Blue Robin** *Luscinia brunnea*  
1 male IISc, Bangalore 24.1; 1 male Ranganathittu 25.1; 1 pair Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*  
2 Ranganathittu 25.1; 2 Masinagudi 26.1 & 2-3 27.1; ~5 28.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1; 2-3 30.1.

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*  
1 male near Jungle Hut 27.1.

**Indian Robin** *Saxicoloides fulicata*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~5 around Masinagudi 26.1.

**Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*  
1 male near Masinagudi 27.1.

**Malabar White-headed Starling** *Sturnus (malabarica) blythii*  
~5 IISc, Bangalore 24.1; 1 near Masinagudi 26.1; ~20 The Wild 27.1; ~5 Top Slip 29.1.

**Brahminy Starling** *Sturnus pagodarum*  
~30 near Masinagudi 26.1 & ~5 28.1.

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*  
Common.

**Jungle Myna** *Acridotheres fuscus*  
3-4 near Masinagudi 26.1 & ~5 27.1.

**Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch** *Sitta castanea*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*  
~5 The Wild & ~5 around Jungle Hut 27.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Great Tit** *Parus major*  
1-2 IISc, Bangalore 24-25.1; 2 near Masinagudi 26.1 & 2-3 27.2; 2-3 Ooty 28.1; 2-3 Top Slip 29.1.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*  
~100 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; a few Mysore & Masinagudi 26.1.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica*  
~10 IISc, Bangalore 24-25.1; ~5 along the road 25.1; ~10 Masinagudi 26.1; 2 Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Northern House-Martin** *Delichon urbica*  
1-2 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Grey-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus priocephalus*  
2 near Jungle Hut 27.1.

**Flame-throated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus (melanicterus) gularis*  
~20 Top Slip 29-30.1.

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*  
Common.

**Red-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus cafer*  
Fairly common.

**White-browed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus luteolus*  
~5 near Jungle Hut 27.1; heard Banyan Tree 28.1 & Top Slip 29.1; 3-4 Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Yellow-browed Bulbul** *Iole indica*  
~5 near Jungle Hut 27.1; ~5 Top Slip 29.1;

**Squared-tailed Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes (leucocephalus) ganeesa*  
~10 Cairnhill Forest 28.1.

**Grey-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*  
~5 near Masinagudi 26.1; ~5 Top Slip 30.1.

**Ashy Prinia** *Prinia socialis*  
2 Kokkare Bellur & 2 Ranganthittu 25.1; ~5 Mysore 26.1.

**Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus*  
~10 near Masinagudi 26.1 & ~20 27.1; ~10 Ooty 28.1.

**Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola*  
1 Mysore 26.1.

**Blyth's Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus dumetorum*  
~20 birds in total.

**Clamorous Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus*  
1 Mysore 26.1.

**Booted Warbler** *Hippolais caligata*  
~5 in dry forest near Masinagudi 26.1; 2-3 The Wild 27.1.

**Sykes's Warbler** *Hippolais rama*  
1 along the canal near Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Hippolais pallida*  
One bird seen well but briefly in dry forest near Masinagudi 26.1. Identified by Satyan, who says that he has seen this taxon in the same area on many previous occasions. I don't want to take poison on the identity, but characters like long bill, flat forehead, long primary projection and greyish plumage clearly indicate olivaceous rather than Syke's, Booted or Blyth's.

**Common Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sutorius*  
2 IISc, Bangalore 25.1;

**Tickell's Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus affinis*  
1 Ooty 28.1.

**Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides*  
Common. ~40 seen and more heard.

**Large-billed Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus magnirostris*  
2 heard Top Slip 30.1.

**Western Crowned-Warbler** *Phylloscopus occipitalis*  
1 IISc, Bangalore 25.1.

**Wynaad Laughingthrush** *Garrulax delesserti*  
One flock heard at Top Slip 29.1, but unfortunately not seen despite considerable efforts. Skulky!

**Nilgiri Laughingthrush** *Garrulax cachinnans*  
~5 Dada Betta, Ooty, 28.1.

**Indian Scimitar-Babbler** *Pomatorhinus horsfieldii*  
1 pair near Jungle Hut 26.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Tawny-bellied Babbler** *Dumetia hyperythra*  
~5 on the way to Ooty near Masinagudi 28.1.

**Dark-fronted Babbler** *Rhopocichla atriceps*  
5-10 in one flock Top Slip 29.1.

**Yellow-eyed Babbler** *Chrysomma sinense*  
2 near Masinagudi 26.1.

**Large Grey Babbler** *Turdoides malcolmi*  
~5 Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Rufous Babbler** *Turdoides subrufus*  
Two flocks of ~20 birds in total at Top Slip 29.1.

**Jungle Babbler** *Turdoides striatus*  
~5 The Wild 26.1 & ~20 27.1; ~5 near Masinagudi 28.1; ~20 Top Slip 29.1 & 10 30.1.



**Yellow-billed Babbler** *Turdoides affinis*  
~5 IISc, Bangalore 24.1; ~5 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; ~15 near Masinagudi 26.1; ~5 Banyan Tree 28.1; ~20 Top Slip 29.1 & 10 30.1.

**Brown-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe poioicephala*  
1 near Jungle Hut 27.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Hume's Whitethroat** *Sylvia althaea*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1; 1 on the way to Ooty  
near Masinagudi 27.1.



**Jerdon's Bushlark** *Mirafra affinis*  
1 singing Banyan Tree 28.1.



**Malabar Lark** *Galerida malabarica*  
1 near Masinagudi 26.1.



**Pale-billed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*  
1 Banyan Tree 28.1.

**Nilgiri Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum concolor*  
1 Top Slip 29.1. Many unidentified  
flowerpeckers heard and seen around  
Masinagudi and Top Slip.

**Purple-rumped Sunbird** *Nectarinia zeylonica*  
Common.

**Purple Sunbird** *Nectarinia asiatica*  
Fairly common.

**Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra*  
~4 Top Slip 29.1.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*  
A few seen in larger villages.

**Chestnut-shouldered Petronia** *Petronia xanthocollis*  
~50 in one flock near Masinagudi 26.1.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*  
2 along the road to Ooty 28.1.

**White-browed Wagtail** *Motacilla madaraspatensis*  
1 Kokkare Bellur & 1 Ranganathittu 25.1; 1  
Banyan Tree 30.1.

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*  
1 Kokkare Bellur 25.1.

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*  
2 Kokkare Bellur 25.1; 1 Mysore.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*  
1 The Wild 27.1; 1 Top Slip 29.1.

**Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus*  
2 near Masinagudi 26.1; ~4 Banyan Tree 28.1; 2-  
3 Top Slip 29-30.1.

**Red Avadavat** *Amandava amandava*  
2 Kokkare Bellur 25.1.

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*  
1 pair along the road to Ooty near Masinagudi  
28.1.



Gaur at Masinagudi / The Wild