Tripreport to Goa, India, Oct 6th - Nov 14th and Jan 6th - Feb 14th.

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General Information

The state of **Goa** is situated on the westcoast of **India**, roughly halfway between Mumbai (Bombay) and Mangalore. It's a former Portuguese colony, and to most travellers, best known for i'ts nice beaches. It's the smallest state of India, only about 100 km by 50 km, but the wide variety of different habitats makes birding interesting and comfortable. As a keen birder you can expect to see 225-250 different species in two weeks. With an experienced guide, who knows the sites, probably another 25 species or so. This includes Palearctic migrants as well as local birds and a few specialities to the area.

Goa is a popular tourist destination with a range of package tours available from Europe. This makes it a relatively cheap spot to visit. The high season is from November to March with a peak around Christmas and New Year, when hotels and guesthouses might be fully booked and prices tends to rise.

As a birder it's nice to stay in Baga, within walking distance from several good sites. But all the resorts are lined up along the coast and not to far in between. The food in Goa is excellent, particullary the sea-food. It's very cheap, at least to a Swede, and you can choose from a variety of different cuisines apart from the Indian, such as Chinese, Portuguese and Italian. Some of the more memorable dinner delights were however served at the beach shacks. Most sites can be reached and covered in a daytrip. Taxis are inexpensive, but ask around and bargain over the price. Most drivers are English speaking, but some know the sites and birds better than others. 700-1000 Rs for a car a full day is reasonable, depending on the distance. Indian driving is hard to describe, but if you're looking for a horror experience you might consider renting a car or a motorbike. After a few days however, most people realise the benefits of a taxi.

When going birding to more remote areas it's a good idea to ask the hotel staff to arrange a packed breakfast for you. There are plenty of roadside sellers where you can pick up some fruit and biscuits to fill in any hunger gaps. Me and my girlfriend spent four and a half months in Goa and **South West India**, (see seperate tripreport), from Oct to Mid Feb. Although I'm a keen birder the pace was set very slow from the start. We spent more hours at the beach than birding. We were also on a tight budget aiming to stay away from the wintercold of Sweden, for as long as possible. This was my second trip to India and Goa so I was quite familiar with the birds and sites so we rather tried for lifebirds than a long triplist. We didn't carry a telescope which could have been useful at certain times. Visiting nearby sites we used public transport or shared taxis with other birders. We stayed at Hotel Villa Fatima in Baga both periods, so most of the birding was done at Baga Fields and on Baga Hill.

Climate

November to February is probably the best season for birding. From March to June it gets more humid. The monsoon rains normaly lasts from June to October. The midday heat makes birding more difficult so the best time would be the first and last hours of light.

When we arrived in October the southwest monsoon still gave short but heavy rainfall almost daily along the coast, with winds from WNW, and it didn't stop raining in the mountains until late Oct. The landscape was all green and beautiful. During this time we had thousands of **Barnswallows** migrating south in a few days. We also saw hundreds of **Whiskered Terns** at Carambolim Lake, possibly migrating south, since we had thousands in the Backwaters in Kerala in late Jan. All cuckoos (Cuculus) were seen during this period, including **Lesser Cuckoo**, wintering in Africa. Of resident birds we saw **White-bellied Shortwing** on Baga Hill, a rare endemic to the Western Ghats, with its northern range in southern Karnataka. If accepted, probably the first record in Goa (P.Holt). We also saw the only **Drongo Cuckoo** during this time. Comming back in Jan the landscape had turned yellow with much less water in marshes, ponds and creeks. Especially the nights felt cooler. Migration was less obvious and you found more or less the same birds in the same bush from day to day. It would indeed be interesting to visit Goa out of the ordinary season.

Sites

Most of our birding was done around **Baga Village**. Just east of the village you have different habitats including cultivated fields, wet paddyfields, mangroves, salt pans and scattered trees and bushes. It's reffered to as **Baga Fields**, and makes a perfect introduction to most of the more common species. Just north of the village, crossing Baga River, you'll find **Baga Hill**. The sourthern hillside holds some nice rainforest. Take one of the two paths and bird your way slowly to the top and back again. Eveningtime is good at hotel **Beira Mar**, facing Baga Fields. Besides the birding itself you usually meet other birders to swap information and perhaps make arrangements for the next day. These sites were visited on several occassions.

Aguada area referes to the southwest hill at the mouth of Mandovi River, 8 km south of Baga. The bus will drop you at a T junction, the last stop, just outside the Taj Holiday Resort. The metalled road to the left (east) leads up to a fort, called Fort Aguada. Walk the road up to the fort and look for birds on both sides or take a taxi to the fort and walk the road down to the T junction. The bushes down the dirt road just before the T junction is a well known place for **Indian Pitta**. Aguada was visited on Oct 11th, 17th and Jan 25th.

Carambolim Lake is a large lilly-covered lake 12 km east of Panjim, bounded by the railway to the west and trees to the north and east. South of the lake there are some excellent marshy areas and grasslands referred to as **Carambolim Fields**. Masses of waterbirds can be seen in the lake, and the fields are good for waders, storks and raptors. Down the road, about 500 m southeast of Carambolim Village, you come to a small wood referred to as the "**Hawk Owl** site". The area was visited on Oct 14th, Jan 11th and Feb 10th.

Morjim Beach is 5 km north of Baga and the first beach after crossing the Chapora River. The bridge is still under construction so you have to take the regular ferry from Siolim. The actual rivermouth offers the best views of roosting waders, gulls and terns and it's supposed to be best a couple of hours before high tide. We saw **Crab Plover** on our first visit. The site was visited on Oct 23rd and Feb 11th.

Saligao Spring is a small pool with a stream at a forest clearing in the village of Saligao. Most birders come for the **Brown Wood Owls** that are regular seen here, but the area offers good birding in general. Saligao is about 8 km southeast of Baga. The site was visited on Jan 14th.

Bondla is an excellent sanctuary at the foot of the Western Ghats. It consists of rainforest and some species may be easier seen here than in Molem, the other large sanctuary of the Western Ghats. It's situated about 70 km east-southeast of Baga and possible to cover in a day with an early morning start. Birding is good from the road bothways from the entrence gate. The sanctuary is closed on Thursdays. It was visited on Jan 15th.

Mayem Lake is about 35 km east of Baga. The lake itself is quiet and a bit of a let down but the woodland on the southern and eastern shore can be productive with **Brown Wood Owl** and **Changeable Hawk Eagle** breeding. In a daytrip this can be combined with a visit to **Chorao Island**. Driving southeast from Mayem you'll pass dry grasslands, paddyfields and mangroves on your way to the ferryterminal on Charao to Ribander. Make suitable stops on the way and look for raptors and storks. Try to get to the terminal at low tide and scan the mudbanks in the Mandovi River for waders. This trip was done on Jan 17th.

Arambol Forest just north of Arambol Beach is a small patch of rainforest with a fresh water lagoon. Get off at Arambol Beach and follow the coast north and you'll find it by the beach after about 250 m. There's a hippiecamp inside the forest, but they don't seem to mind birders. From the lagoon follow the dried out stream uphill. Obviously the location attracts birds, in the otherwise dry surrounding habitat, and is far better than what one would expect. It's about 8 km north of **Morjim Beach** and you can combine the two sites in a day. It was visited on Feb 1st and 11th.

Backwoods, including **Templa Surla**, is a tented camp run by three local birdwatchers named Leo, Loven and Pramod. It's partly within **Molem** on the western side of the Western Ghats and offers excellent birding with guides in surrounding areas. They'll pick you up from your hotel and you'll stay out for three days and two nights with more or less nonstop birding. It's highly recommended to anyone longing for a different birding experience. But you'll have to book in advance since it's becoming increasingly popular. The birds are pretty much the same as in Bondla, but you'll see more species with an experienced guide who knows the calls, if it's your first time to the area. This includes some of the Western Ghats endemics. It was visited betwen Nov 1st to 5th and Feb 3rd to 7th.

E.Mail address to Backwoods (Loven@goa1.dot.net.in) or (Surlawoods@hotmail.com). Telephone and Fax (+91-832-436109)

For more information and maps regarding mentioned sites I used *A Birdwatchers Guide to India*. From what I know there's also birdguides covering only Goa made and to be made.

References/litterature

Grimmet, R., Inskipp, C. and Inskipp, T. (1998) *Birds of the Indian Subcontinent*. Richard Helm, London. Kazmierczak, K. and Singh, R. (1998) *A Birdwatchers' Guide to India*. Prion Ltd. Sandy.

Systematic list of birds following

Grimmet, R., Inskipp, C. and Inskipp, T. (1998) Birds of the Indian Subcontinent. Richard Helm, London.

Red Spurfowl 2 at Aguada in Jan and 2 at Baga Forest in Feb. Grey Junglefowl 1-2 at Baga Hill in Jan. 3 at Saligao Spring in Jan. 8 at Bondla. Common at Backwoods.

Indian Peafowl 4-5 at Baga Hill and Aguada. 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Lesser Whistling Duck Very common at Carambolim Lake.

Comb Duck Fairly common at Carambolim Lake. 12 in Feb.

Cotton Pygmy Goose Very common at Carambolim Lake.
Gadwall 2 at Carambolim Lake in Jan.
Eurasian Wigeon 1 at Chorao Island in Jan.

Mallard 3 at Carambolim Lake in Jan-Feb.
Spot-billed Duck 1 at Carambolim Lake in Jan.

Common Teal Common at Carambolim Lake. 50-60 in Jan.

Very common at Carambolim Lake. 180-200 in Jan.

Northern Pintail Very common at Carambolim Lake. 250-300 in Jan. Also 400 at Chorao Island in Jan.

Northern Shoveler Common at Carambolim Lake. 20 in Oct.

Rufous Woodpecker 3 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 1 at Mayem Lake. 1 at Carambolim (Hawk Owl site).

White-bellied Woodp. 1 at Backwoods in Nov.

Heart-spotted Woodp. Fairly common at Backwoods. 3-6 birds seen daily.

Brown-capped Pygmy W. Fairly common at Backwoods. 3-4 birds seen daily. 4 at Bondla.

Yellow-crowned Woodp. 1 at Mayem Lake.

Black-rumped Flameback Common. Seen at most sites with some forest.

Greater Flameback 2 at Backwoods in Nov and 3 in Feb.

Brown-headed Barbet Fairly common at Backwoods. Also 2 in Baga and on Baga Hill.

White-cheeked Barbet Common at most sites.
Coppersmith Barbet Common at most sites.

Crimson-fronted Barbet Fairly common at Backwoods and Bondla. 3-4 daily. More often heard than seen.

Malabar Grey Hornbill 8-10 at Backwoods in Feb. 2-3 at Bondla. Malabar Pied Hornbill 2 at Backwoods in Nov. 4-6 in Feb.

Great Hornbill 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Common Hoopoe Common.

Malabar Trogon 3-4 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 1at Bondla.

European Roller 1 at Backwoods in Nov.

Indian Roller Common.

Common Kingfisher Very common.

Blue-eared Kingfisher 1 at Templa Surla in Feb.

Stork-billed Kingfisher Fairly common with scattered records. Regular at Baga Fields.

White-throated Kingf. Very common.

Black-capped Kingfisher Scattered records along the coast. Regular at Baga Fields. Pied Kingfisher Scattered records. Common at Carambolim Lake/Fields.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Green Bee-eater Very common.
Blue-tailed Bee-eater Common.

Chestnut-headed Bee-eat. Fairly common at Backwoods. 5-15 daily in Nov and Feb.

Pied Cuckoo 1 on Baga Hill in Oct and 1 at Baga Fields in Oct. Common Hawk Cuckoo 1 on Baga Hill in Oct. 2-3 at Backwoods in Nov. Eurasian Cuckoo 2-3 on Baga Hill in Oct. 2 at Backwoods in Nov.

Lesser Cuckoo 1 at Backwoods in Nov.

Banded Bay Cuckoo 1 at Carambolim in Feb (Hawk Owl site).

Drongo Cuckoo 1 on Baga Hill in Oct. Asian Koel Very common.

Blue-faced Malkoha 2 on Baga Hill. 1 at Baga Forest. 2 near Backwoods. 1 at Arambol Forest.

Greater Coucal Common.

Vernal Hanging Parrot Fairly common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also seen in Baga and Baga Hill.

Rose-ringed Parakeet Common.

Plum-headed Parakeet Fairly common. Common around Baga.

Malabar Parakeet Fairly common at Backwoods. 5-15 daily in Nov and Feb.

Indian Swiftlet About 150 over Arambol Forest in Feb. Also at Backwoods. Uncommon elsewhere.

White-rumped Needletail 2 at Backwoods in Feb.
Asian Palm Swift Very common along the coast.

House Swift Common.

Alpine Swift 25-40 on Baga Hill in Feb.

Crested Treeswift Common at Backwoods and Bondla. Flocks of 20-60. Also 3-4 at Arambol Forest in Feb

Barn Owl 2 behind hotel Beira Mar nightly in Jan-Feb. Oriental Scops Owl 3-4 calling at Backwoods in Nov and Feb.

Collared Scops Owl 1 calling at Backwoods in Feb.

Spot-bellied Eagle Owl 1 male and 1 female at Backwoods in Nov. 1 pull in Feb.

Brown Fish Owl 1 at Mayem Lake in Jan.

Brown Wood Owl 2 at Saligao Spring. 2-3 at Arambol Forest in Feb.

Jungle Owlet 1-2 calling at Backwoods. 1 at Carambolim (Hawk Owl site).

Spotted Owlet Common around Baga.

Brown Hawk Owl 2 at Carambolim in Oct and 1 in Jan. 2 calling at Backwoods in Feb.

Sri Lanka Frogmouth
Grey Nightjar

2 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb.
1 at Templa Surla in Feb.

Jerdon's Nightjar 2 at Templa Surla in Nov and Feb. 1 possible flushed on Baga Hill in Oct and Jan.

Indian Nightjar 3 at Templa Surla in Nov.

Rock Pigeon Very common. Spotted Dove Very common.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon At the most 14 at Templa Surla just before dusk. Emerald Dove 1 at Mayem Lake in Jan. 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Orange-breasted Pigeon 4 at Mayem Lake in Jan.

Pompadour Pigeon Seen in smal numbers at Backwoods, Bondla and Baga Hill.

Slaty-breasted Rail 1 at Beira Mar in Nov and Feb.

Ruddy-breasted Crake 1 at Baga Fields near the bridge in Oct. Also 1 behind hotel Beira Mar Jan-Feb

Purple Swamphen Very common at Carambolim Lake. 1 behind hotel Beira Mar Jan-Feb.

Common Moorhen Very common at Carambolim Lake.
Common Coot Common at Carambolim Lake.

Pintail Snipe Fairly common at Baga Fields and Carambolim Fields.
Common Snipe Fairly common at Baga Fields and Carambolim Fields.

Black-tailed Godwit 2 at Carambolim Fields in Jan

Bar-tailed Godwit 1 at Chorao Island.

Whimbrel 8 at Chorao Island. Also at Morjim Beach and Aguada marshes.

Eurasian Curlew 4 at Chorao Island.
Common Redshank Very common.
Marsh Sandpiper Common.
Common Greenshank
Green Sandpiper Fairly common.
Wood Sandpiper Common.

Terek Sandpiper 4 at Chorao Island. Common Sandpiper Very common.

Sanderling 1 at Morjim Beach in Oct. 1 at Baga Beach in Jan.
Little Stint Fairly common. At the most 80 at Panjim salt pans.
Temminck's Stint Fairly common. At the most 40 at Panjim salt pans.

Dunlin About 30 at Carambolim Fields in Oct.

Curlew Sandpiper 1 at Baga Fields in Oct.

Ruff About 50 at Carambolim Fields in Jan.

Greater Painted Snipe 5-8 behind hotel Beira Mar throughout the period. 2 at Carambolim Fields in Jan.

Black-winged Stilt Fairly common. 40-50 at Carambolim Fields in Jan.

Crab Plover 1 ad and 1 imm at Morjim Beach in Oct.
Pheasant-tailed Jacana Very common at Carambolim Lake.

Bronze-winged Jacana Very common at Carambolim Lake. Also 2 at Baga Fields in Oct. Small Pratincole About 400 at Carambolim Fields in Jan. Also regular at Baga Fields.

Pacific Golden Plover 10-15 at Carambolim Fields in Oct and Jan. Also regular at Baga Fields.

Little Ringed Plover Common

Kentish Plover 15 at Morjim Beach in Oct and 5 in Feb. 4 at Charao Island.

Lesser Sand Plover 40 at Morjim Beach in Oct and 25 in Feb. 3 at Panjim saltpans in Feb.

Greater Sandplover 10 at Morjim Beach in Oct and Feb.

Yellow-wattled Lapwing 2 by Arambol Forest. Red-wattled Lapwing Very common.

Yellow-legged Gull 10 at Morjim Beach in Oct and about 200 in Feb. Heuglin's Gull 45 at Morjim Beach in Oct and about 20 in Feb. Pallas's Gull 2 at Morjim Beach in Oct and about 50 in Feb.

Brown-headed Gull About 200 at Morjim Beach in Feb. The most common gull along the coast.

Black-headed Gull No records in Oct and about 50 in Feb at Morjim Beach.

Slender-billed Gull 9 at Morjim Beach in Oct and about 15 in Feb.

Gull-billed Tern Common along the rivers and coast. Also at Carambolim.

Caspian Tern 5 at Morjim Beach in Oct and no records in Feb.

River Tern 1 at Carambolim Lake in Feb.

Lesser Crested Tern About 120 at Morjim Beach in Oct and about 60 in Feb.

Great Crested Tern 2 at Morjim Beach in Oct and 5 in Feb.
Sandwich Tern About 10 at Morjim Beach in Oct and Feb.

Whiskered Tern Hundreds at Carambolim in Oct. 4 in Jan and no records in Feb.

Osprey Fairly common along the rivers and coast. Scattered records.

Black-shouldered Kite 1 south of Mayem Lake in Jan and 1 at Carambolim Fields in Feb.

Black Kite Very common. Brahminy Kite Very common.

White-bellied Sea Eagle Fairly common along the rivers and coast. Scattered records.

White-rumped Vulture 1 ad at Backwoods in Nov.

Short-toed Snake Eagle 1 by Arambol Forest and 1 at Carambolim Fields in Feb. Crested Serpent Eagle 1 at Baga Hill. 1 at Backwoods and 1 at Arambol Forest.

Black Eagle 2 at Backwoods in Nov and 1at Baga Hill in Jan.

Eurasian Marsh Harrier Common.

Pallid Harrier Regular at Baga Fields. Also at Carambol Fields and Panjim salt pans.

Crested Goshawk 1 at Arambol Forest in Feb.
Shikra Common. Scattered records.
Besra 1 at Backwoods in Nov.

Oriental Honey Buzzard Fairly common in forest areas. Regular at Baga Hill.
White-eyed Buzzard 1 at Mayem Lake. 1 at Bondla. 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Lesser Spotted Eagle 1 2c at Baga Fields in Jan-Feb. 1 2c at Chorao. 1 subad at Carambolim Fields
Greater Spotted Eagle 1 subad at Baga Fields in Jan. 1 subad at Chorao. 1 subad-ad at Carambolim Fields.

Tawny Eagle 1 juvenile at Baga Fields in Nov.

Booted Eagle Scattered records. Regular at Baga Hill/Fields.

Rufous-bellied Eagle 1 subad at Backwoods in Feb.

Changeable Hawk Eagle 2 at Mayem Lake.

Common Kestrel Scattered records. Regular at Baga Fields.

Eurasian Hobby 1 ad at Baga Hill in Oct.

Peregrine Falcon 1 at Baga in Nov and Feb. 1 ad at Carambolim Fields in Oct and Feb.

Little Grebe Common at Carambolim Lake.

Darter 1 at Baga Fields in Jan. 2-3 at Carambolim in Oct and Feb.

Little Cormorant Very common.

Indian Cormorant 1 at Aguada Marshes in Oct.

Little Egret Very common. Western Reef Egret Common along rivers. Great Egret Very common. Intermediate Egret Common. Cattle Egret Very common. Indian Pond Heron Very common. Grey Heron Common. Purple Heron Common

Little Heron Common along rivers with mangroves.

Black-crown. Night Heron Common. Regular at Baga Fields at dusk.

Cinnamon Bittern 3 behind hotel Beira Mar throughout the period.

Asian Openbill 35 at Carambolim Fields in Feb.

Wolly-necked Stork About 10 at Carambolim Fields in Feb. About 10 at Chorao Island in Jan.

Lesser Adjutant 1 at Carambolim Fields in Feb. 1 at Chorao Island in Jan.

Indian Pitta 1-2 at Aguada in Jan. 1 at Arambol Forest in Feb.

Asian Fairy Bluebird Fairly common at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 2-4 seen daily.

Blue-winged Leafbird 2-3 at Aguada in Oct. 8-10 at Mayem Lake and 2 at Baga Hill in Jan.

Golden-fronted Leafbird Common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also at Baga Hill.

Brown Shrike 1-2 at Baga Fields in Oct-Nov and Jan. 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Long-tailed Shrike Very common.

Rufous Treepie Common. House Crow Very common.

Large-billed Crow Common near forest, especially in the inland, but also along the coast.

Ashy Woodswallow Fairly common. Seen in small numbers at several sites.

Eurasian Golden Oriole Very common.

Black-naped Oriole 2 at Backwoods in Nov.

Black-hooded Oriole Common in forest and well-wooded areas.

Bl.-winged Cuckooshrike 1 female at Mayem Lake in Jan.

Bl.-headed Cuckooshrike Fairly common. Seen singly or in pairs at most sites with forest.

Ashy Minivet 1 female at Backwoods in Feb, together with Scarlet Minivets.

Small Minivet Common in pairs or small groups in forest areas. Seen at several sites.

Scarlet Minivet Common at Backwoods and Bondla.

Bar-winged Flycat. Shrike 2-3 seen at Backwoods, Bondla, Arambol Forest and Baga Hill.

White-throated Fantail Common at Baga Hill, Aguada and Arambol Forest.

White-browed Fantail 2at Baga Hill in Oct.

Black Drongo Very common in open areas.
Ashy Drongo Very common in wooded areas.

White-bellied Drongo Common at Saligao Spring, Mayem Lake and Baga Hill. Bronzed Drongo Common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also at Baga Hill.

Spangled Drongo 4-6 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb Greater Rack-tail. Drongo Common at Backwoods and Bondla.

Black-naped Monarch Common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also at Arambol Forest and Aguada.

Asian Paradise Flycatch. Common. Seen at most sites in small numbers.

Common Iora Very common.

Large Woodshrike Common at Backwoods. About 10 seen daily.

Common Woodshrike 1 at Saligao Spring. 7-10 at Backwoods in Feb. 4 at Arambol Forest.

Blue-capped Rock Thrush 1 male at Baga Hill in Nov Blue Rock Thrush 1 male at Baga Hill Oct-Feb

Malabar Whistl. Thrush
Orange-headed Thrush
Common at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 2 at Bondla and 1 at Saligao Spring.
Common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also at Baga Hill and Aguada.

Scaly Thrush 1 at Bondla in Jan (Z. d. neilgherriensis).

Eurasian Blackbird 2 at Aguada in Oct and Jan. 2 at Backwoods in Nov and 1 in Feb.

White-bellied Shortwing 1 at Baga Hill on Oct 18 & 19. (P. m. major).

Asian Brown Flycatcher Fairly common. Seen at several sites.

Brown-breasted Flycatch. 2-3 at Backwoods Nov and Feb. 1 at Bondla in Jan. 1 at Saligao Spring in Jan

Red-throated Flycatcher 3-4 at Backwoods. Also at Baga Hill. Verditer Flycatcher 2-3 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb

White-bellied Blue Flyca. 1 at Backwoods in Feb.

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher Fairly common in forest. Seen at several sites.

Bluethroat 4-5 at Baga Fields in Jan-Feb

Oriental Magpie Robin Very common.

White-rumped Shama 4-5 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 2 at Bondla in Jan

Indian Robin Common. Seen at several sites. Regular on Baga Hill and Aguada.

Common Stonechat Very common at Baga Fields and Carambolim Fields.

Pied Bushchat Common at same sites as above.

Chestnut-tailed Starling Common. Seen in various numbers at most sites.

Brahminy Starling Fairly common at Baga Fields. Scattered records elsewhere.

Rosy Starling Very common from mid Nov.

Common Myna Common.

Jungle Myna Very common.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch Fairly common. 2-5 seen daily at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 5-6 at Bondla. Fairly common. Seen at several sites singly or in pairs. Regular around Baga.

Barn Swallow Very common in Baga first half of Oct with thousands migrating south. Then only

scattered records.

Wire-tailed Swallow Common.

Red-rumped Swallow Very common. Most numerous late Nov with about 600 at Baga Fields.

Streak-throated Swallow 10-15 at Carambolim in Jan and Feb

Northern House Martin 2 at Baga Fields in Oct.

Grey-headed Bulbul 5-10 seen daily at Backwoods in Nov and Feb

Black-crested Bulbul 5-10 seen daily at Backwoods in Nov and Feb. 4-6 at Bondla in Jan

Red-whiskered Bulbul Very common.
Red-vented Bulbul Common.

White-browed Bulbul Common on Baga Hill and at Aguada. Also at Carambolim. Yellow-browed Bulbul Fairly common at Backwoods and Bondla. Also at Baga Hill.

Black Bulbul 2 at Bondla in Jan. 6 at Backwoods in Feb

Grey-breasted Prinia 1 at Baga Fields in Oct. 1-8 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb.
Plain Prinia Common. Seen on Baga Hill/Fields, Carambolim and Aguada

Ashy Prinia Common. Seen at same sites as above. Zitting Cisticola 3 at Baga Fields in Nov and 5 in Jan.

Blyth's Reed Warbler Very common.

Clamorous Reed Warbler 1 at Baga Fields in Feb.

Booted Warbler 1 at Baga Hill in Oct. 1 at Aguada in Jan. 1 at Carambolim in Feb.

Lesser Whitethroat 1 at Carambolim in Jan. 1 at Baga Fields in Feb

Common Tailorbird Common.

Greenish Warbler Very common.

West. Crowned Warbler Common at Backwoods and Bondla. 10-15 seen daily.

Puff-throated Babbler Common at most forest sites, although a skulker.

Tawny-bellied Babbler Fairly common at Baga Hill and at Aguada. Also at Backwoods and Arambol Forest.

Dark-fronted Babbler Fairly common at Backwoods abd Bondla. 5-10 seen daily.

Jungle Babbler Common at most forest sites. Brown-cheeked Fulvetta Common at most forest sites.

Ashy-crown. Sp. Lark 15-20 at Baga Fields in Jan.

Rufous-tailed Lark 2-3 at Carambolim Fields in Jan and Feb.

Greater Short-toed Lark Largest flock of 60 at Baga Fields in Jan. Also seen at Carambolim Fields.

Malabar Lark Common at Baga Fields and Carambolim Fields.

Oriental Skylark Largest flock of 60 at Carambolim Fields in Feb. Also at Baga Fields in small numbers.

Thick-billed Flowerpecker 2-3 at Backwoods in Feb.

Pale-billed Floerpecker Fairly common. Seen at several sites such as Baga and Aguada.

Plain Flowerpecker Very common at most forest sites.
Purple-rumped Sunbird Very common around Baga.

Crimson-backed Sunbird Very common at Backwoods and Bondla.

Purple Sunbird Common.

Loten's Sunbird Seen at Baga Hill, Backwoods and Bondla with 3-4.

Crimson Sunbird Fairly coomon at Baga Hill and at Aguada. Not seen elsewhere.

Little Spiderhunter Only seen at Backwoods. 2 in Nov and 1-2 in Feb.

House Sparrow Very common.

Chestnut-should. Petronia Common at Carambolim, Backwoods and Baga Fields.

Forest Wagtail 2 at Backwoods in Feb. White Wagtail 1 at Baga Fields in Jan.

White-browed Wagtail Common at Baga Fields and at Carambolim Lake.

Yellow Wagtail Fairly common at Baga Fields. Common at Carambolim Lake.

Grey Wagtail Common.

Richard's Pipit 3-5at Baga Fields Jan and Feb. 2 at fields south of Mayem Lake.

Paddyfield Pipit Very common.

Tawny Pipit 3 at Baga Hill in Oct and Jan. 3-5 at Baga Fields in Jan. 2 at fields south of Mayem Lake.

Blyth's Pipit 3-5 at Baga Fields in Jan-Feb. 3 at fields south of Mayem Lake. Probably underrecorded.

Tree Pipit Comon at Baga Fields and Carambolim Fields.

Olive-backed Pipit 1 with Tree Pipits at Baga Fields in Jan.

Common. Baya Weaver White-rumped Munia Very common.

Black-throated Munia 5-6 at Backwoods in Nov and Feb.

Scaly-breasted Munia Fairly common at Baga Fields, often with White-rumped Munias.

Black-headed Munia 2 at Aguada in Oct. Common Rosefinch 4 at Backwoods in Feb.