

1. INDIAN POND-HERON - *Ardeola grayii*
rather common in the Kathmandu Valley
small numbers observed in Kathmandu
2. LITTLE EGRET - *Egretta garzetta* (garzetta)
rather common in the Kathmandu Valley
3. CATTLE EGRET - *Bulbulcus ibis* (coromandus)
common in the Kathmandu Valley
4. RUDDY SHELDUCK - *Tadorna ferruginea*
9-11 1 Manora river
5. NORTHERN PINTAIL - *Anas acuta* (acuta)
18-11 1 f. Manora river
6. BLACK KITE - *Milvus migrans* (-)
very common in Kathmandu and the Kathmandu Valley
7. ORIENTAL WHITE-BACKED VULTURE - *Gyps bengalensis*
7-11 5 over Kathmandu
21-11 1 from bus near Indian border
8. HIMALAYAN GRIFFON - *Gyps himalayensis*
11-11 1 over Kathmandu
9. SHIKRA - *Accipiter badius* (dussumieri)
12-11 1 Ghokarna
10. COMMON BUZZARD - *Buteo buteo* (japonicus)
9-11 2 Manora river
18-11 1 Manora river
11. LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD - *Buteo rufinus* (rufinus)
8-11 1 c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
9-11 2 Manora river
18-11 1 Manora river
12. STEPPE-EAGLE - *Aquila nipalensis*
8-11 1 over Godaverri
9-11 3 Manora river
 c. 10 over Kathmandu
11-11 c. 10 over Kathmandu
12-11 1 over Ghokarna
18-11 2 Manora river
13. MOUNTAIN HAWK-EAGLE - *Spizaetus nipalensis* (nipalensis)
8-11 1 over Godaverri
12-11 1 Ghokarna
14. COMMON KESTREL - *Falco tinnunculus* (-)
8-11 1 c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
11-11 1 m., Nagarjung

PART 4

NEPAL

I arrived in Kathmandu on November 7. The first day was used to explore this fantastic city. On November 8 I visited the Godaverri Botanical Gardens and Pulchowki, up to the summit, together with Sjoerd Mayer of the Netherlands, whom I'd met in Kathmandu. We went to Godaverri by bicycle which can be hired in Kathmandu. The next day I visited the Manora river east of Kathmandu. On November 10 S. Mayer and I revisited Godaverri and Pulchowki, this time by bus. Again we managed to hitch-hike up to the summit of Pulchowki. The following days I visited Nagarjung and Ghokarna. From November 13 till November 17 I was forced to stay in bed with intestine-problems which turned out to be so persistent that at the moment I finished this report, May 1986, they still hadn't been cured. It may be obvious that this involuntary stay in bed crossed my plans to go to Pokhara to make a small trek. On November 18 I'd recovered enough to visit the Manora river again. The next day I revisited Godaverri once more by bus. On November 20 I did some sightseeing in Kathmandu and in the early morning of November 21 I boarded the 'direct the luxe-bus' that would take me to Delhi in India.

Aug. 24 - Dec. 6 1985

Enno B. Ebelts

E. EBELS (1985)

Ornithological records during a trip to
Russia, Japan, Thailand, Nepal and India

15. AMUR FALCON - *Falco amurensis*

- 8-11 328 (only c. 10 m., rest f.) in 4 groups
(4, 24, 92 and 208) on telephone-wires
c. 5 km south of Kathmandu along the road
to Godaveri
- 9-11 c. 5 Manora river
- 10-11 c. 40 from bus c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
- 12-11 1 Ghokarna

the group of 328 birds is by far the largest group ever recorded in Nepal according to C. and T. Inskipp (A guide to the birds of Nepal) the largest number was 20 on 26-10-1975 near Phokara in a large group of c. 100 falcons, probably mainly Lesser kestrels *Falco naumanni* the group of 328 wasn't mixed with any other species, only 1 Common kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* joined the Amur falcons in sitting on the wires as far as could be observed all birds were adults of which, as stated above, only c. 10 were males it's questionable whether this exceptional number of birds was a true rarity or that it may indicate that the species migrates in larger numbers through Nepal than currently assumed, but only during a short period in which it can be easily overlooked the latter hypothesis may be supported by the fact that only 2 days after the first observation the majority of birds had disappeared

16. KALIJ PHEASANT - *Lophura leucomelana* (*leucomelana*)

- 8-11 1 f. Pulchowki

17. LITTLE RINGED PLOVER - *Charadrius dubius* (*jerdoni*)

- 9-11 1 Manora river

18. GREY-HEADED PLOVER - *Hoplopterus cinereus*

- 9-11 56 Manora river
- 18-11 c. 30 Manora river

the number of 56 birds is larger than any previous record according to C. and T. Inskipp (A guide to the birds of Nepal) the largest group ever recorded was 45 at 10-11-1970 at the same place

19. NORTHERN LAPWING - *Vanellus vanellus*

- 18-11 3 Manora river

20. TEMMINCK'S STINT - *Calidris temminckii*

- 18-11 c. 15 Manora river

21. COMMON REDSHANK - *Tringa totanus* (*eurhinus*)

- 9-11 4 Manora river
- 18-11 3 Manora river

22. COMMON GREENSHANK - *Tringa nebularia*

- 9-11 1 Manora river

23. GREEN SANDPIPER - *Tringa ochropus*

- 9-11 4 Manora river
- 18-11 2 Manora river

24. COMMON SANDPIPER - *Actitis hypoleucos*

- 9-11 c. 5 Manora river

25. ROCK DOVE (DOMESTIC PIGEON) - *Columba livia* (-)
common26. RING-NECKED PARAKEET - *Psittacula krameri* (-)

- 7-11 c. 6 Kathmandu
- 8-11 c. 10 between Kathmandu and Godaveri
- 20-11 c. 5 Kathmandu
- according to C. and T. Inskipp (A guide to the birds of Nepal) and Fleming and Fleming (Birds of Nepal) the small population in the Kathmandu Valley consists of feral birds

27. COLLARED OWLET - *Blaucidium brodei* (*brodei*)

- 11-11 1 heard calling at dusk Nagarjung

28. LITTLE SWIFT - *Apus affinis* (*nipalensis*)

- 9-11 c. 10 Swajambu, Kathmandu
- 17-11 c. 5 Kathmandu
- 20-11 c. 5 Kathmandu
- these records may indicate this species remains longer in the Kathmandu Valley than mid-October as stated by C. and T. Inskipp (A guide to the birds of Nepal)

29. WHITE-BREASTED KINGFISHER - *Halcyon smyrnensis* (*fusca*)

- 8-11 2 c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
- 9-11 2 Manora river
- 18-11 1 Manora river

30. GREEN BEE-EATER - *Merops orientalis* (*orientalis*)

- 21-11 c. 10 from bus near Indian border

31. INDIAN ROLLER - *Coracias benghalensis* (*benghalensis*)

- 21-11 c. 10 from bus near Indian border

32. GREAT BARBET - *Megalaima virens* (*marshallorum* - *magnifica* interm.)

- 8-11 2 Pulchowki
- 10-11 4 Pulchowki

33. SPECKLED PICULET - *Picumus innominatus* (*innominatus*)

- 10-11 1 Godaveri

34. GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER - *Picus canus* (*hessei* - *sanguiniceps* interm.)

- 8-11 1 Pulchowki

35. BAY WOODPECKER - *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* (*pyrrhotis*)

- 8-11 1 observed and heard calling Pulchowki

36. FULVOUS-BREASTED WOODPECKER - *Picoides macei* (macei)
8-11 1 Pulchowki
37. ORIENTAL SKYLARK - *Alauda gulgula* (-)
9-11 c. 20 Manora river
18-11 c. 30 Manora river
38. PLAIN SAND-MARTIN - *Riparia paludicola* (chinensis)
12-11 c. 10 Ghokarna
18-11 2 Manora river
39. BARN SWALLOW - *Hirundo rustica* (rustica)
rather common in Kathmandu
40. RED-RUMPED SWALLOW - *Hirundo daurica* (nipalensis)
common in the Kathmandu Valley
these records contradict C. and T. Inskipp (A guide to the birds of Nepal) who state that this species remains as a summer-visitor in the Kathmandu Valley until the end of September
41. RICHARD'S PIPIT - *Anthus novaeseelandiae* (rufulus)
9-11 c. 15 Manora river
18-11 c. 10 Manora river
42. OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT - *Anthus hodgsoni* (yunnanensis)
8-11 2 Godaveri
10-11 3 Godaveri
19-11 c. 5 Godaveri
43. GREY WAGTAIL - *Motacilla cinerea* (cinerea)
8-11 and
10-11 1 Godaveri
44. WHITE WAGTAIL - *Motacilla alba* (-)
common
45. LARGE PIED WAGTAIL - *Motacilla maderaspatensis* (maderaspatensis)
8-11 3 c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
12-11 1 Ghokarna
18-11 2 Manora river
46. BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE - *Hemipus picatus* (capitalis)
12-11 c. 30 Ghokarna
47. LARGE CUCKOO-SHRIKE - *Coracina novaehollandiae* (nipalensis)
8-11 2 c. 3 km north of Godaveri
19-11 2 Godaveri
48. LONG-TAILED MINIVET - *Pericrocotus ethologus* (favillaceus - laetus inter)
8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki

49. STRIATED BULBUL - *Pycnonotus striatus* (striatus)
8-11 2 Pulchowki
50. WHITE-CHECKED BULBUL - *Pycnonotus leucogenys* (leucogenys)
8-11 c. 5 Godaveri
10-11 c. 10 Godaveri
51. MOUNTAIN BULBUL - *Hypsipetes mccllellandii* (mccllellandii)
8-11 1 Pulchowki
10-11 1 Godaveri
52. BLACK BULBUL - *Hypsipetes madagascariensis* (psaroides)
abundant at Godaveri
53. ORANGE-BELLIED LEAFBIRD - *Chloropsis hardwickii* (hardwickii)
8-11 1 Pulchowki
54. RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL - *Tarsiger cyanurus* (rufilatus)
8-11 and
10-11 1 m. and 1 f. (not together) near the summit of Pulchowki
55. MAGPIE ROBIN - *Copsychus saularis* (sularis)
8-11 c. 5 between Kathmandu and Godaveri
9-11 c. 5 Manora river
12-11 3 Ghokarna
18-11 c. 5 Manora river
56. HODGSON'S REDSTART - *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*
8-11 2 m. Godaveri
10-11 1 Godaveri
19-11 3 Godaveri
57. PLUMBEOUS REDSTART - *Rhyacornis fuliginosus* (fuliginosus)
8-11 1 f. Godaveri
9-11 3 f. Godaveri
19-11 1 m., 1 f. Godaveri
58. STONECHAT - *Saxicola torquata* (-)
rather common in the Kathmandu Valley
59. PIED BUSHCHAT - *Saxicola caprata* (bicolor)
8-11 1 c. 5 km south of Kathmandu
12-11 2 Ghokarna
60. WHITE-CAPPED REDSTART - *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*
8-11 1 Pulchowki
61. BLUE WHISTLING-THRUSH - *Myophonus caeruleus* (temminckii)
8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
10-11 2 Pulchowki

62. WHITE'S THRUSH - *Zoothera dauma* (*dauma*)
 10-11 1 Godaveri
 11-11 4 Nagarjung
63. GREY-WINGED BLACKBIRD - *Turdus boulboul*
 8-11 c. 25 Pulchowki
64. COMMON TAILORBIRD - *Orthotomus sutorius* (*patia*)
 8-11 1 c. 3 km north of Godaveri
 10-11 3 between Kathmandu and Godaveri
65. CHESTNUT-CROWNED WARBLER - *Seicercus castaniceps* (*castaniceps*)
 8-11 1 Pulchowki
66. GREY-HOODED WARBLER - *Seicercus xanthoschistos* (*xanthoschistos*)
 10-11 c. 5 Godaveri
 19-11 2 Godaveri
67. BLYTH'S CROWNED WARBLER - *Phylloscopus reguloides* (*reguloides*)
 10-11 c. 10 Godaveri
68. ORANGE-BARRED LEAF-WARBLER - *Phylloscopus pulcher* (*pulcher*)
 8-11 c. 30 Pulchowki
 10-11 c. 20 Pulchowki
 19-11 c. 5 Godaveri
69. GREY-FACED LEAF-WARBLER - *Phylloscopus maculipennis* (*maculipennis*)
 10-11 1 Pulchowki
70. PALLAS'S LEAF-WARBLER - *Phylloscopus proregulus* (*chloronotus*)
 8-11 1 Pulchowki
 12-11 5 Ghokarna
71. YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER - *Phylloscopus inornatus* (*humai*)
 8-11 1 Godaveri
 10-11 c. 5 Godaveri
72. CHIFFCHAFF - *Phylloscopus collybita* (*tristis*)
 18-11 1 Manora river
73. RUFOUS-BELLIED NILTAVA - *Niltava sundara* (*sundara*)
 12-11 1 f. Ghokarna
 19-11 1 m., 2 f. Godaveri
74. SLATY-BLUE FLYCATCHER - *Ficedula tricolor* (*tricolor*)
 12-11 1 f. Ghokarna
75. ORANGE-GORGETTED FLYCATCHER - *Ficedula strophiate* (*strophiate*)
 10-11 and
 19-11 1 m. Godaveri
76. YELLOW-BELLIED FANTAIL - *Rhipidura hypoxantha*
 8-11 2 Pulchowki

77. RUSTY-CHECKED SCIMITAR-BABBLER - *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*
 19-11 3 Godaveri (*erythrogenys* - *haringtoni* inter)
78. WHITE-THROATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH - *Garrulax albogularis* (*albogularis*)
 8-11 and
 10-11 c. 10 Pulchowki
79. STRIATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH - *Garrulax striatus* (*vibex*)
 8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
80. RUFOUS-CHINNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH - *Garrulax rufogularis* (*rufogularis*)
 8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
81. CHESTNUT-CROWNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH - *Garrulax erythrocephalus* (*kali*)
 8-11 c. 15 Pulchowki
 10-11 2 Pulchowki
82. WHITE-BROWED FULVETTA - *Alcippe vinipectus* (*vinipectus*)
 8-11 c. 10 Pulchowki
83. NEPAL FULVETTA - *Alcippe nipalensis* (*nipalensis*)
 8-11 c. 10 Pulchowki
 10-11 c. 15 Pulchowki
84. BLACK-CAPPED SIBIA - *Heterophasia capistrata* (*nigriceps*)
 8-11 c. 25 Pulchowki
 10-11 c. 15 Pulchowki
85. WHISKERED YUHINA - *Yuhina flavicollis* (*flavicollis*)
 8-11 c. 20 Pulchowki
 10-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
86. RUFOUS-VENTED YUHINA - *Yuhina occipitalis* (*occipitalis*)
 10-11 c. 15 near the summit of Pulchowki
87. BLACK-THROATED TIT - *Aegithalos concinnus* (*iredalei*)
 10-11 c. 20 Godaveri
88. YELLOW-BROWED TIT - *Sylviparus modestus* (*modestus*)
 10-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
89. GREAT TIT - *Parus major* (*nipalensis*)
 19-11 1 Godaveri
90. GREEN-BACKED TIT - *Parus monticolus* (*monticolus*)
 10-11 c. 5 Godaveri
91. BLACK-LORED TIT - *Parus xanthogenys* (*xanthogenys*)
 8-11 c. 10 Godaveri
 10-11 c. 5 Godaveri
 19-11 c. 10 Godaveri

92. VELVET-FRONTED NUTHATCH - *Sitta frontalis* (*frontalis*)
12-11 3 Ghokarna
93. WHITE-TAILED NUTHATCH - *Sitta himalayensis* (*himalayensis*)
8-11 2 near the summit of Pulchowki
10-11 3 near the summit of Pulchowki
94. CHESTNUT-BELLIED NUTHATCH - *Sitta castanea* (*almorae - cinnamoventris interm.*)
8-11 2 Godaveri
10-11 1 Godaveri
95. MRS. GOULD'S SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga gouldiae* (*gouldiae*)
8-11 1 Pulchowki
96. GREEN-TAILED SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga nipalensis* (*nipalensis*)
8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
10-11 1 Pulchowki
97. FIRE-TAILED SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga ignicauda* (*ignicauda*)
8-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
98. BUFF-BELLIED FLOWERPECKER - *Dicaeum ignipectus* (*ignipectus*)
12-11 1 Ghokarna
19-11 1 Godaveri
99. ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE - *Zosterops palpebrosa* (*palpebrosa*)
8-11 1 Pulchowki
100. LONG-TAILED SHRIKE - *Lanius schach* (*tricolor*)
rather common in and around Kathmandu
101. GREY-BACKED SHRIKE - *Lanius tephronotus* (*tephronotus*)
8-11 and
19-11 1 Godaveri
102. BLACK DRONGO - *Dicrurus macrocercus* (*albirictus*)
common in the Kathmandu Valley
103. BRONZED DRONGO - *Dicrurus aeneus* (*aeneus*)
8-11 c. 5 Godaveri
104. EURASIAN JAY - *Garrulus glandarius* (*bispecularis - interstinctus interm.*)
8-11 c. 20 Pulchowki
10-11 c. 5 Pulchowki
105. LANCEOLATED JAY - *Garrulus lanceolatus*
10-11 5 Pulchowki
106. RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE - *Urocissa erythrorhyncha* (*occipitalis*)
19-11 c. 10 Godaveri
107. HIMALAYAN TREEPIE - *Dendrocitta formosae* (*himalayensis*)
8-11 c. 10 Godaveri and Pulchowki
10-11 c. 5 Godaveri and Pulchowki
19-11 2 Godaveri

108. HOUSE CROW - *Corvus splendens* (*splendens*)
abundant
109. JUNGLE CROW - *Corvus macrorhynchos* (*intermedius*)
10-11 3 Godaveri
110. COMMON MYNA - *Acridotheres tristis* (*tristis*)
common
111. JUNGLE MYNA - *Acridotheres fuscus* (*fuscus*)
rather common
112. HOUSE SPARROW - *Passer domesticus* (*indicus - parkini interm.*)
common near human settlement in the Kathmandu Valley
113. TREE SPARROW - *Passer montanus* (*malaccensis*)
abundant
114. SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA - *Lonchura punctulata* (*punctulata*)
8-11 1 c. 3 km north of Godaveri
c. 5 Godaveri
19-11 c. 5 Godaveri
115. DARK-BREASTED ROSEFINCH - *Carpodacus nipalensis* (*nipalensis*)
8-11 2 Pulchowki
116. COMMON ROSEFINCH - *Carpodacus erythrinus* (-)
8-11 c. 20 c. 3 km north of Godaveri
117. PINK-BROWED ROSEFINCH - *Carpodacus rhodochrous*
8-11 1 near the summit of Pulchowki
118. LITTLE BUNTING - *Emberiza pusilla*
19-11 3 Godaveri

Description of Amur falcons *Falco amurensis* in the Kathmandu Valley
in November 1985

size and posture: medium-sized falcon (like Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*)
tail projecting a few cm beyond wingtips in rest

flight: agile, with rather long wings and tail
catching insects

female (or immature ?) plumage:

upperparts: grey or brownish grey

greyish-brown on hindneck and shoulders
speckled all over with black

underparts: brownish-white, heavily speckled with black

undertail-coverts off-white or brownish-white

upperbreast brownish-white, almost unspotted (?)

tail: uppertail grey with distinctive black bars

head: cap brown

spot around eye and moustachial stripe blackish

short off-white supercilium in front of and just above eye

throat and ear-coverts brownish-white, unstreaked (?)

pale spot on hindneck, darker in the lower middle, creating

a kind of pale horse-shoe (as far as my memory recalls this darker

spot was again paler in the center, which altogether made the

pattern on the hindneck rather complicated)

bare parts: legs and feet red to orange-red

cere red, bill dark, eye dark

orbital ring orange-red

male plumage:

slaty-grey to greyish-black all over, palest towards the wing-tips

thighs and undertail-coverts rusty-red

underwing-coverts pure white, very distinctive when bird lifted

wings or was preening

legs, feet, cere and orbital ring red, bill and eye dark

(?) means notes and memory fail to be completely sure about this