



[APPENDIX:] Ornithological records from Darjeeling District, West Bengal by Linda Schrijver and Jelle Scharringa between 17 May and 23 May 1989.

The birds were observed along the Manibhanjang- Megma- Kalipokhari- Sandakphu Trek along the actual border of India and Nepal and along the ridge surrounding Jaubari (west of Tonglu and Megma), 3-5 km well into Nepal.

All records from square S7 in Birds of Nepal, Jaubari probably R 7 (and not S 7)!

Pernis (ptilorhynchus) orientalis

Seen soaring along Manebhanjang- Megma- Kalipokhari route, possibly "new" for S 7.

Picus squamatus

(Not seen by us but seen by Lester Short at Batasi, Darjeeling, see Short, L.L., 1973. Habits of some Asian woodpeckers (Aves, Picidae). Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 152). According to Short range extends further east to Sikkim. Apparently overlooked by many authors!).

Delichon dasypus or urbica

Flocks passing through at Gairibas, between Tonglu and Kalipokhari, in S 7.

Tragopan satyra

(Not seen by us but observed by Simon Harrap at Kalipokhari, "new" for S 7.)
in May 1985)

Cettia fortipes

Common in song at Manebhanjang (2134m) at Nepal- India border, "new" and "recorded in breeding season" for S 7.

Aegithalos iouschistos

on 22 May, a party with foodbegging young in rododendron forest at ca 2800m, 2km west of Jaubari, "proved breeding" in R 7; also "recorded in breeding season" in S 7.

Parus dichrous

A party between Kalipokhari and Sandakphu, once again exactly on the border, "new" and "recorded in breeding season" in S 7. (3100-3200m)

Carpodacus erythrinus

Seen at Sandakphu (3636m), "new" for S 7 ?

Carpodacus edwardsii

Up to 10 seen at Sandakphu (3636m), Nepal and India-side of S 7.

Haematospiza sipahi

One male seen at Kalipokhari (3100m), "new" for S 7 and "in breeding season".

The following species were also possibly new for S 7, but were at Darjeeling, well inside India:

Falco peregrinus soaring over the city on 11 May, I am not certain about the race!

Falco subbuteo frequently seen over Darjeeling.

Cacomantis passerinus/merulinus Call heard at Darjeeling 12-13 May.

Carduelis spinoides seen between Ghoom and Darjeeling, 2 on 13 May. (ca 2200m).

The following species were "recorded in the breeding season" for S 7:

Megalaima virens (song heard at Manebhanjang and Gairibas)

Picoides hyperythrus (male foraging in conifer forest at Sandakphu, 3600m+)

Anthus hodgsoni (many in song and a few nest-building R 7 and S 7)

Anthus roseatus (common in song at Kalipokhari and Sandakphu)

Tarsiger chrysaeus (many seen at Sandakphu on May 19-21, 3600m)

Tarsiger indicus (Frequently seen at Sandakphu on May 19-21, 3600m)

Zoothera mollissima (at least 4 in song at Sandakphu, May 20-21, 3600m)

Rhipidura hypoxantha (common in forest west of Jaubari on 22 May, 2800m, in R7)

Garrulax affinis (many in song between Gairibas, Kalipokhari and Sandakphu, 2600-3600m,)

Minla ignotincta (frequently in R 7 and S 7 observed)

Alcippe vinipectus (common in the area, S 7)

Yuhina gularis and Y occipitalis (both seen along the route)

Dicrurus leucophaeus (seen along the route)

Other interesting records for my own list include:

Bradypterus luteoventris (common in song at Darjeeling), Garrulax subunicolor, Alcippe chrysotis, flock Paradoxornis fulvifrons, male Pyrrhula erythrocephala, Pyrrhoplectes epauletta (2 males and females at Jaubari) and a few very good tapes