

Clinic for captive elephants



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Subhamoy Bhattacharjee 10 November 2015 9458 views

A clinic for elephants of the northeast was inaugurated at the upcoming [Mark](#) Shand Memorial Learning Centre by Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, Founding Patron of the [UK](#) based charity [Elephant](#) Family and its CEO Ruth Powys in the presence of distinguished guests and a colourful audience from the neighbouring villages. The facility, named after legendary conservationist [Mark](#) Shand, is a part of the [Kaziranga](#) Discovery Park, coming up opposite the IFAW-WTI and Assam Forest Department run Centre of [Wildlife](#) Rehabilitation and [Conservation](#) near [Kaziranga National](#) Park today.

Inaugurating the facility, Sir Evelyn de Rothschild congratulated the team and all the people who built the facility. “[Mark](#) was an energetic and dynamic personality who believed in lending a helping hand to animals. Today is a great day for me to inaugurate this facility for elephants.”

The [Mark](#) Shand Memorial Asian [Elephant](#) Learning Centre in the [Kaziranga](#) Discovery Park is supported by [Elephant](#) Family, a leading conservation organization of the world dedicated to the conservation and [welfare](#) of elephants in Asia. [Mark](#) Shand had spent some valuable time with the captive elephants in [Kaziranga](#) and several mahouts here honour him at the end of the tourist season each year.

Prior to the unveiling of the relief of [Mark](#) Shand, Shri M. K. Yadava, Director, [Kaziranga National](#) Park welcomed all the dignitaries from [India](#) and abroad and guests from the villages to this colourful event that started with a traditional welcome.

Summing up the event and the work ahead, Vivek Menon, Executive Director and CEO of [Wildlife](#) Trust of [India](#) said, “We are already working for the animals of [Kaziranga](#) at CWRC. But if [Kaziranga](#) has to be saved, it is you the people who play the most important role. So, it is for you that we are developing this learning hub of [Kaziranga](#) Discovery Park where your children will play and learn and appreciate the bio-diversity and nature that [Kaziranga](#) houses.”

[Mark](#) Shand Asian [Elephant](#) Learning Centre is established [as](#) one of the three wings coming up under [Kaziranga](#) Discovery Park whose foundation stone was laid on 28th December 2014. The other two wings are [Kaziranga](#) World Heritage Learning Centre and IFAW-WTI [Wildlife](#) Rescue Learning Centre which will be dedicated to the public in coming years.

Subhamoy Bhattacharjee

BY SUBHAMOY BHATTACHARJEE

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