

HEC turns serious in Udalguri district: 2 more wild elephants killed



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Human-Elephant-Conflict (HEC) takes serious turn in Udalguri district following deaths of two more wild elephants during last three days. In the first incident, a 30 months old baby wild tusker was found dead near a paddy field in Gitibari village near Paneri tea garden in the morning hours of November 3. The baby tusker bore injury marks on its trunk indicating electrocution. Dr. Sulav Sarma, VAS attending post-mortem told this correspondent that the baby tusker had died due to electrocution and food poisoning. He also said that chemical substances ie oregano phosphorus was found in the stomach of the baby tusker. According to villagers, a herd of 50-60 wild elephants with calves and infants had been seen taking rest in Paneri tea garden for last couple of days.

In another incident a 25 years old female wild elephant was found dead at No.3 Bhutiachang village in the morning of November 5. The dead animal was a lactating mother of the same herd as reported by villagers. According to attending veterinary surgeon the mother elephant had died due to food poisoning.

It needs mention that two people of the locality had been killed by wild elephants a few months back at other places. And the deaths of the two wild elephants could be the result of human retaliation as expressed nature lovers. Ananta Bag, CEO of Green Valley Forest and Wildlife Protection Society; Green Society, Udalguri etc have expressed deep concern at the deaths of human and elephants in the district. So far 17 human beings and 10 wild elephants have lost lives in the district posing serious threat to ecology. Unabated felling of trees in Khalingduar Reserve Forest and Newly PRF has added more concern to nature loving people.

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BY JAYANTA KUMAR DAS

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