

Rescued Wild elephant of Udalguri in trouble



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Jayanta Kumar Das 28 August 2009 9650 views

The eight years old female elephant which had been mercilessly tortured by locals near Koramore on August 9 was rescued by forest and civil administration under police and CRPF protection on August 11. It was given first aid veterinary treatment for several days under the guidance of Dr.KC Chamua, VAS, Tangla. The helpless animal was guided away to a place near Hatigarh TE. But its companions had already abandoned her and another herd of wild elephants numbering 25 to 30 refused to accept her to their herd. In the meantime her physical condition deteriorated due to heavy infection in ear tail and front legs. She had terrible times of pain and agony to move away to section 41 of Nonaipara TE in search of safety and company. But her condition became more critical day by day. Media persons, wildlife loving people, WWF and DFO Udalgori had a hectic time persuading Minister, Forest, Assam; CCF, Assam and BTC authority to take immediate action for the treatment of the elephant.

According to Bankim Sarma, DFO, Dhansiri Division Udalgori, finally the elephant was treated on August 22 at section No 41 of Nonaipara TE. A team of veterinary doctors namely-Dr.Prasanta Kumar Baroi, i/c, CWRC (Centre for Wildlife Rescue & Conservation), Kaziranga National Park; Dr.Anjan Takukdar of WT I (Wildlife Trust of India) and Dr.KC Chamua, VAS, Tangla tranquilized the elephant before giving necessary treatment to the elephant at 2 pm on August 22 at Nonaipara TE.. Rajen Gogoi, Asstt. Manager of Nonaipara TE; SSB officers and jawans stationed at Nonaipara; representatives of Green valley forest and Wildlife Protection Society, Nonaipara attended to offer help and cooperation in the treatment. Nature lovers wished the female elephant good health. According to Ananta Bagh, CEO of the NGO the people had named the lone elephant as “Gajini” and would render cooperation for the protection of the animal.

S S Meenakshi Sundaram, DC Udalguri discussed man elephant conflict in a high level meeting attended by representatives of four tea gardens namely-Hatigarh, Nonaipara, Orangajuli and Barangajuli. leading media persons of Darrang and Udalguri district; high forest officials of Udalguri district; Circle Officer of Harisinga (Tangla);representatives of NGOs of the district engaged in conservation and leading nature lovers to find solution to end man elephant conflict in Udalguri district.. Accordingly two anti depredation squads- one at Koramore ,with manager Koramore TE as chairman ;other at Hatigarh with manager Hatigarh TE as chairman had been formed to create awareness among people to end the conflict.

Unfortunately the story did not end there. The elephant's infected tail dislodged from the body on August 25,making it much painful to the animal. Presently she has been roaming in the nearby villages, creating panic among people. People of the locality urged the forest department to shift the elephant to CWRC, Kaziranga or to Guwahati State zoo for better treatment and comfortable shelter.

Jayanta Kumar Das

Environmental journalist.

BY JAYANTA KUMAR DAS

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Noted astronomy activist UN Deka passes away

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PoK editor bats for more exchanges
