

# SUNDARBANS MANGROVE - It's Ecology and Wildlife - A NEW BOOK

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## About the book

Global Mangrove Forests have been receiving attention for quite sometime of the ecologists, environmentalists, zoologists, proto-zoologists and the marine biologists. Though the tropical coastal areas of the continents of Africa and America have small patches of Mangrove Forests, significantly large areas occur in Indonesia, Malaysia, Phillipines, Thailand, Bangladesh and in India. Interestingly, the largest chunks of Mangrove Forests occur in the Ganga-Brahmaputra delta in Bangladesh and India. Voluminous works are being done on aquaculture, on economic use of the Mangroves by exploitation of the forests which sustain one of the richest eco-systems of the world; even the zoologists contributed significantly on invertebrate fauna and vertebrate

fishes but the bio-ecological study of the mammalian, avifaunal, insect and reptilian population in the mangroves, in relation to man remain the unique contribution of the presents authors.

The authors have highlighted various aspects of bio-ecology and breeding biology of Sundarbans Tiger, Deer, Honeybee, Crocodile, Fish and Bird. They have also brought out in clear language the behavioural pattern of the man-eater and the richness of the entire mangrove eco-system. Thrilling facts on the resident animals in relation to human behaviour in the unique eco-system of Sundarbans have been presented in lucid style. This book will be of immense interest not only to the scientists and biologists but also to the tourists, story tellers and students at university and college level.

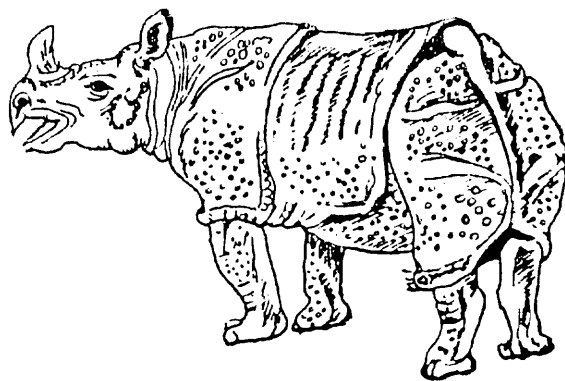
## Some Observations on Daily Habitual Activity of One horned Rhinoceros

By Dr. G. C. Dutta and Dr. Bhattacharyya

The *Rhinoceros unicornis* is a rare, valuable and second largest living animal of India. The population of rhinoceros in Assam is 1300. The Kaziranga National Park is the richest natural habitat of it.

Rhinoceros are found of cool climate as they are seen grazing most in the open field at dawn and morning from 3 A.M. to 10 A.M. and evening 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. They are grazing alone or in a small group mostly comprising of mother and calf. They are fond of *Saccurnm* spp. of grasses.

Daily habitual activity was observed of an adult *Rhinoceros unicornis* in Kaziranga National Park, Assam during the month of March, 1989. The Rhinoceros was graiyil devotedly on the sheat grasses from 4 A.M. to 9-25 A.M. and then it entered to the tall grasses for resting. At about 10 A.M., it approached the mud wallowed to cool the body and rested upto 2-30 P.M. After then again started for grazing in the tall grass area. After 5 P.M. the Rhinoceros appeared in the short grass land near the beels and graze there. They have nocturnal grazing habit which greatly have been seen 5 P.M. to 11 P.M. and from 3 A.M. to 5 A.M. They even graze whole day when climate is cool and cloudy. A pair of



Rhinoceros were seen fighting each other before mating. The male and female individuals were detected on the basis of body size, size of the head, size of horn and process of urination.

### Reference

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