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BI LINK

connecting biodiversity

A quarterly newsletter



Conservation of Kuls:
a race for survival
between species

**Climate Change
and its impact;
a case study of
Dihiri village
in Dhemaji district**

**Shifting from
Human-Wildlife conflict
to Co-existence**

**Importance of
Bird Conservation
in non-protected areas**

Aaranyak

Nourishing nature to secure our future

ABOUT AARANYAK

Aaranyak is a registered society working towards nature conservation in North East India, since 1989. Our strength lies in applied research in biological and social fields and our thrust area of work is the North Eastern India and Eastern Himalayas.

MISSION

Our mission is to foster conservation of biodiversity in Northeast India through research, environmental education, capacity building and advocacy for legal and policy reform to usher a new era of ecological security. Know more about us at www.aaranyak.org.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Photo Credit: Ashok Das

The species in the cover photo is Jungle cat (*Felis silvestris*), photographed in Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam.

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4. Climate Change and its impact; a case study of Dihiri village in Dhemaji district

- Masfique A. Hazarika

The article throws light on how flash flood impact the education system of Dihiri Chapori, a village situated near the bank of Jialhal river.



6. Shifting from Human-Wildlife conflict to Co-existence

- Dora Godinho

The author narrates how elephant conservation project successfully impact in reducing human elephant conflict in Subankhata.



8. Importance of Bird Conservation in non-protected areas

- Rehan Ali

In the article, the author explains the need of bird conservation in non-protected areas and few steps by which any birder can take to promote bird conservation locally.

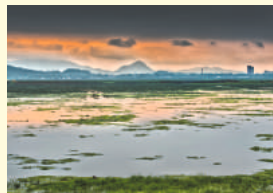
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11. Photo essay & poster

- Ashok Das

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15. আৰ্দ্ৰভূমিৰ গুৰুত্ব, অস্তিত্বৰ সংকট

আৰু সংৰক্ষণৰ প্ৰয়োজনীয়তা

—প্ৰব্ৰজ্যোতি কলিতা

উক্ত লিখনিটোত লেখকে অসমৰ সৰু-বৰ

আৰ্দ্ৰভূমিসমূহৰ গুৰুত্ব সম্পৰ্কে ব্যাখ্যা আগবঢ়াইছে।

এই আৰ্দ্ৰভূমিসমূহৰ সংৰক্ষণৰ হকে সকলোকে আগবাঢ়ি আহিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনাইছে।

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(Featuring Kulada Kumar Bhattacharjee)

PHOTO ESSAY

Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary

Text: Udayan Borthakur
Images: Ashok Das

Pobitora, a 38.81 sq km Wildlife Sanctuary in the Morigaon district of Assam and at 1 hour drive away from Guwahati metro, holds the crown for the highest density of greater one-horned rhinos in the world. Rhino is the flagship species for Pobitora, a species that has become the mascot for the state of Assam and also a lifelong conservation agenda for Aaranyak. While Pobitora is known for rhinos, the place is also an abode for a variety of wildlife, especially its extremely rich birdlife, making it truly a great destination for any nature lover around. In fact, it is the diversity of avifauna alone, that annually attracts lot of tourists and wildlife photographers to Pobitora.

This photo essay presents some of the key wildlife attractions of Pobitora, captured by Mr. Ashok Das, who is serving the wildlife sanctuary as a Range Officer of the Department of Environment and Forests, Govt. of Assam. Mr. Das is an avid wildlife photographer, who has been photographing the wildlife wonders of Pobitora for past few years and his images have already won several national and international accolades.



Mating of greater one-horned rhino
Rhinoceros unicornis
IUCN Status: Vulnerable



Greater one-horned rhino calf feeding
Rhinoceros unicornis
IUCN Status: Vulnerable



Calf of greater one-horned rhino
Rhinoceros unicornis
IUCN Status: Vulnerable

Grey-headed Fish Eagle,

a resident bird of prey in Pobitora

Scientific Name: *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*

IUCN Status: Near Threatened

Photo credit: Ashok Das

Occurring across the South and South East Asia, the species has small population sizes and only locally common. Habitat degradation, pollution and over-fishing is leading to its population decline.





A feral Asiatic water buffalo
Bubalus arnee
IUCN status: Endangered



Baikal Teal, a winter visitor to Pobitora
Sibirionetta formosa
IUCN Status: Least Concern



Bean Goose, a rare winter visitor to Pobitora
Anser fabalis
IUCN Status: Least Concern



Pied Avocet, a winter visitor to Pobitora
Recurvirostra avosetta
IUCN Status: Least Concern



Wood Sandpiper
Tringalareola
IUCN Status: Least Concern