



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

TIGERPAPER



VOL VII NO 4

OCTOBER 1980



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

TIGERPAPER is a quarterly news bulletin dedicated to the exchange of information relating to wildlife and national parks management for the Asia-Pacific region. TIGERPAPER is compiled, edited and distributed by J. Naewboonnien. Financial assistance is provided by UNEP.

TIGERPAPER
FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Maliwan Mansion, Phra Atit Road
Bangkok 2, Thailand

TIGERPAPER is distributed free of charge to people concerned with wildlife and nature conservation in the region. We are, however, dependent upon your free and voluntary contributions in the form of articles and news items in this field. Please write to us, therefore, and supply the information you have or request information you want. We appreciate receiving your letters and make all efforts to respond.

Wildlife	
Crocodiles	1
Blackbuck	4
Elephants	9
Thailand Brow Antlered Deer	11
Panther - Gir Sanctuary	12
Snow Leopard	15
Endemic Lizards of Sri Lanka	26
Parks	
Kalakad Sanctuary	29
Conservation	
World Conservation Strategy	7
Conservation in Sri Lanka	21
Management	
Tranquillisation - Tiger	10
Translocation - Rhinoceros	25
Ecology	
Indian Wild Ass Habitat	30
Notes	31
Publications	32

Front cover: *White tiger cubs and mother (Photo: Das)*

Back cover: *Photo: Ghorpade*

- De Silva, Lily 1975. *The Cult of the Bodhi Tree: its Antiquity and Evolution*, Ceylon Studies Seminar, Series 3 No. 55.
- Geiger, Wilhelm 1912. *The Mahavansa or the Great Chronicle of Ceylon*, Ceylon Govt. Information Department, Colombo.
- Gooneratne, B.W.M. 1978. *The Ceylon Elephant (Elephas maximus Zeylanicus) its decimation and fight for survival*, *Loris* 14 (5), pp. 263-271.
- Gunaratne, V.F. 1971. *Rebirth Explained*, Buddhist Pub. Soc., Kandy.
- Gunasekera, B. 1900. *The Rajavaliya: or a Historical Narrative of Sinhalese Kings*, Ceylon Govt., Colombo.
- Hettiarachchy, T. 1978. *The Creation of a Landless Peasantry in Sri Lanka during the Nineteenth Century*, Ceylon Studies Seminar, Series 4 (71).
- Paranavithana, S. 1954. *The Significance of Sinhala Moonstone*, *Artibus Asiae*, 17, pp. 197-231.
- Paranavithana, S. 1961. *Aryan settlements and the early kings of Ceylon*, in a concise history of Ceylon, University of Ceylon.
- Story, Francis 1964. *The Place of Animals in Buddhism*, Buddhist Pub. Soc., Kandy.
- Sultanbawa, M.U.S. 1973. *Chemistry of Guttiferae of Ceylon*, *J. Nat. Science Council of Sri Lanka*, 1, pp. 123-165.

TRANSLOCATION PROJECT FOR THE INDIAN RHINO

According to a report received by the World Wildlife Fund-India, from the Central Crocodile Breeding and Management Training Institute (C.C.B.M.T.I.), trial capture of rhinos and their translocation was carried out in January-February 1980 in Assam -- at Kurva near Gauhati and at Kaziranga National Park.

The project of capture and translocation -- developed in accordance with the decision of the Wildlife Status Evaluation Committee of the Government of India -- was undertaken by FAO personnel: Dr. J.B. Sale, an expert in Wildlife Management from the C.C.B.M.T.I. (also an FAO project) and Dr. M.H. Woodford, Consulting Wildlife Veterinarian with the cooperation of the Assam Forest Department.

Five animals were successfully immobilized and transferred to 'holding' accommodation. Elephants -- which were used for locating suitable rhinos -- proved to be very useful 'vehicles' for this purpose, particularly in the thick jungles. 'Darting' was also done from elephant-back and the drug immobilization technique proved most satisfactory. Immobilized rhinos were lifted on to a sledge and transported on this to a crate or directly to a stockade. The animals were revived either in the crate or in the stockade by an injection of the antidote and, in all cases, they responded rapidly, showing no signs of damage as a result of immobilization or handling. Two of the rhinos were transferred to holding pens at Gauhati Zoo.

During the second phase of the project, the captured animals will be released into protected areas of suitable rhino habitat. The ultimate aim, however,

is to establish several new populations of Indian rhinoceros which is beginning to show signs of overpopulation in some places in Assam.

The Indian One-horned Rhino is listed in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Its numbers had been declining due to habitat destruction and illegal poaching -- till effective conservation and anti-poaching protective measures provided at the Kaziranga National Park by the Government of Assam and World Wildlife Fund helped to improve its status greatly, over the past five years.

from World Wildlife Fund India News Release

