

Know more about Aaranyak's activities during March 2016

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## March was important and eventful!

This month too was full of activities that kept our team very busy.

We are also very proud to share an important recognition from the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change **It was announced that the DNA fingerprinting technology developed by Wildlife Genetics Laboratory of Aaranyak will now be used in development of Rhino DNA indexing system (RhoDIS) in India.** Aaranyak has pioneered the application of genetic technology in monitoring rhino populations in India and have worked on all the three species of Asian rhinos in India and Indonesia. Aaranyak will now be one of the collaborators to RhoDIS, to be implemented in India by Wildlife Institute of India.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Read on to know about all our other activities during March 2016.



### **Basic Training for Forest Staff of MNP**

A two week long Training Program on Basic Patrolling Techniques and Data Management for the Forest Staff of Manas National Park was held at the Bhuyanpara Range from 29th February to 12th March 2016. This program is the first of many trainings to be held under the Manas Tiger Conservation Program (MTCP) that will strive to double the number of wild tigers at Manas in the coming decade. Twenty young men who work for the park were selected to receive this training.



### **Aaranyak Guest of the Month-Kalyan Varma**

Aaranyak received Kalyan Varma, renowned wildlife photographer, as Guest of the month on 12 March 2016. He delivered an awe inspiring and informative talk about his work as well as different conservation issues he had experienced through his work across India and abroad. In addition to his stunning photographs, Varma also presented his environmental films.



#### **Flight of freedom for rescued Greater Adjutant chicks!**

The Greater Adjutant named 'Diya' fell down from her nest on 18th February 2016 from a tree in Dadara Village. Purnima Devi Barman from Aaranyak and local forest guards then collected the injured bird and transported it to Hajo range office for the preliminary treatment.

The second rescue was of a 4 and half month old chick on 19th February 2016. The villagers of Dadara alerted Aaranyak and the authorities after finding the chick in a severely injured condition. The chick with broken wings and major injury in the forehead was rushed to the Assam State Zoo for treatment. Both birds were released at Boragon garbage dump in Guwahati during March 2016 after full recovery.

Both rescues were done in collaboration with Assam State Zoo, Dadara Villagers, Local Police Department, local Forest department, Kamrup District Administration and BNHS.



#### **Journey of Asiyo Haatir Bidyalay Yatra continues**

The 16th and 17th day events of Asiyo Haatir Bidyalay Yatra (Asian Elephants' journey to schools) initiative, was held at Mohura High School, Golaghat and Garhmurh High School, Golaghat, during March 2016. More than 300 students participated in the events that seek to create awareness about man-animal conflict and environmental issues.



### **Give2Asia and IIRR visit Aaranyak project sites**

Officials of Give2Asia and IIRR recently visited Aaranyak project sites in eastern Assam, on March 21 and 22, 2016. Mr. Adam Winfred Eads, Give2Asia, US, and Mr. Wilson John D. Barbon, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Philippines, visited several villages in the districts of Lakhimpur and Dhemaji where Aaranyak is carrying out an action research on flood risk reduction.



### **Boat donated to villagers of Dhemaji**

A boat was donated to the villagers of Namoni Kekuri Gaon as part of the DRR project being implemented by the Water, Climate & Hazard (WATCH) Division of Aaranyak in Lakhimpur and Dhemaji districts of Assam. On March 21, 2016, Mr. Adam Ead of Give2Asia dedicated this boat to the services of the Namoni Kekuri village in Dhemaji.



### **Capacity Building Training for the Young Naturalist**

Aaranyak and WWF-India successfully conducted a training at Kaziranga from 21-24 March, 2016, to capacitate a group of vibrant youths as naturalists. 31 youths representing 20 fringe villages covering four administrative districts of Assam had participated in the four-day long residential training.



### **Micro-enterprise development training to women SHGs**

Encouraging communities to adopt sustainable livelihood methods that nurture the environment instead of exploiting them is one of Aaranyak's goals. A Micro-enterprise development training, was provided to five woman self-help groups from Golaghat district on 29th and 30th March, 2016. A total of 23 women participated in the two days long training programme.

Thank you for taking the time to go through our Newsletter!  
We are grateful for your constant support and encouragement towards our work. We will strive to keep you updated of our activity highlights, through regular Newsletters. You can also know of all our events and programmes by visiting our [Facebook](#) page.

Aaranyak fosters conservation of biodiversity in Northeast India through research, environmental education, capacity building and advocacy for legal and policy reforms.

Visit [www.aaranyak.org](http://www.aaranyak.org) to learn more.



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