

Chapter 1 : PROJECT ELEPHANT & ELEPHANT RESERVES IN INDIA (UPDATED) - RASPREP

Project Elephant was launched in by the Government of India Ministry of Environment and Forests to provide financial and technical support of wildlife management efforts by states for their free ranging populations of wild Asian Elephants.

Discussions covered a wide range of issues categorised under three basic themes. Science and conservation Cultural and Ethical perspectives of conservation Indian One Horn Rhino Vision One horned rhinos are poached for their horns. Indian rhino vision implemented by the department of environment and forests, Assam. Translocations are the backbone of the IRV program. The goal set was to populate the potential rhino habitat areas identified viz. Manas National Park was selected as the first site for translocation of rhinos. Ten rhinos have been released into Manas since Ten more rhinos will be moved from Kaziranga National Park before the end of the year. Translocating rhinos will help to create a viable population of this threatened species. The vision of this program is to increase the total rhino foundation in Assam from about to by the year and to ensure that these rhinos are distributed over at least 7 protected areas PA to provide long term viability of the one-horned rhino population. Concentrating so many rhinos in a single protected area like Kaziranga exposes the species to risks of calamities epidemics, floods, massive poaching attempts. Further, rhinos in Pabitora have exceeded carrying capacity and numbers must be reduced to protect the habitat and to mitigate the increasing rhino-human conflicts. Project Snow Leopard The snow leopard is a globally endangered species. Merely 7, are estimated to be surviving over two million square kilometers in the Himalaya and Central Asian mountains. Most snow leopard occur in China, followed by Mongolia and India. Threats posed due to competition with livestock “ people kill them to save their livestock, retreating deeper into mountains due to global warming, and poaching. Why to conserve the high altitude ecosystem? This includes highly endangered populations of species such as the snow leopard, two species of bears, wolf, red panda, mountain ungulates such as the wild yak, chiru, Tibetan gazelle, Tibetan argali, Ladakh urial, two species of musk deer, the hangul, three species of goral, serow, and takin, etc. High altitude lakes and bogs provide breeding grounds for a variety of avifauna including the black-necked crane, barheaded Geese, brahminy ducks, and brown-headed gulls, etc. India has ratified international agreements promoting the conservation of high altitude wildlife species such as the snow leopard. The project is being implemented in 10 coastal States of the country with special emphasis in State of Orissa. The project has helped in preparation of inventory map of breeding sites of Sea Turtles, identification of nesting and breeding habitats along the shore line, and migratory routes taken by Sea Turtles, development of guidelines to safeguard and minimize turtle mortality. One of the important achievements have been demonstration of use of Satellite Telemetry to locate the migratory route of Olive Ridley Turtles in the sea and sensitizing the fishermen and State Government for the use of Turtle Exclusion Device TED in fishing trawlers to check turtle mortality in fishing net. Indian Crocodile Conservation Project The Indian Crocodile Conservation Project has pulled back the once threatened crocodilians from the brink of extinction and place them on a good path of recovery. Objectives To protect the remaining population of crocodilians in their natural habitat by creating sanctuaries. To promote captive breeding. Captive breeding means that members of a wild species are captured, then bred and raised in a special facility under the care of wildlife biologists and other expert. Bringing an animal into captivity may represent the last chance to preserve a species in the wild. To take-up research to improve management. To build up a level of trained personnel for better continuity of the project through training imparted at project-sites and through the erstwhile Central Crocodile Breeding and Management Training Institute, Hyderabad. To involve the local people in the project intimately. These deer once numbered from about 5, animals in the beginning of the 20th century. Unfortunately, they were threatened, due to habitat destruction, over-grazing by domestic livestock and poaching. This dwindled to as low as animals by It became known as Project Hangul. This brought great results and the population increased to over by It is estimated that their total population is around 2, and they are listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act Although there are several species of marine dolphins whose ranges include some freshwater habitats, these four species live only in rivers and lakes. The Chinese River Dolphin was declared functionally extinct by a team of

international scientists in In India, the Ganges River Dolphin is threatened by river water pollution and siltation, accidental entanglement in fishing nets and poaching for their oil. In addition, alterations to the rivers in the form of barrages and dams are separating populations.

ABOUT PROJECT ELEPHANT. Backgrounder: Project Elephant (PE), a centrally sponsored scheme, was launched in February to provide financial and technical support to major elephant bearing States in the country for protection of elephants, their habitats and corridors.

Endangered - An adult eats approximately kg lb per day - mainly grasses but also leaves, twigs and bark. It feeds during the morning, evening and night and rests during the middle of the day, requiring shade during the hot season to keep from overheating. Although mature male elephants may live alone, females live in family groups consisting of mothers, daughters and sisters, together with immature males. Wild elephants can live to be sixty years old. In the 19th century it was still common over much of the Indian subcontinent, Sri Lanka and the eastern parts of its range. By , Asian elephants were found in the same countries as they are at present. Females average kg lb. Large bulls weigh kg 11, lb Nowak It is adaptable and can occur in a wide range of habitats, from thick jungles to grassy plains. Female Asian elephants attain sexual maturity when years old. Males are capable of reproduction at years, but they are still too young to dominate older females and do not significantly contribute to reproduction. Sexual maturity may be delayed for several years during drought or periods of high population density. One calf is born at a time. A female may produce a calf every 3 - 4 years, although this period may be extended when conditions are unfavorable for survival, such as during drought. Age 0 - There is a long period of juvenile dependency. The infant suckles for 3 - 4 years Dispersal: Young males appear to leave the family group and become solitary at about the time they become sexually mature Maximum Reproductive Age: The period of greatest female fecundity is between years. Sixty years in the wild more than 80 years in captivity. The Asian elephant eats grasses and small amounts of leaves, woody parts of trees and shrubs - twigs, branches and bark. Cultivated crops, such as bananas, paddy and sugar cane are also preferred, with the result that the elephant often becomes a pest in agricultural regions. It will also eat large quantities of flowers and fruits when these are available and will dig for roots, including bamboo. The Asian elephant is gregarious , and, although males sometimes live alone, females are always found in family groups consisting of mothers, daughters, sisters and immature males. In the 19th century, these family groups usually consisted of 30 - 50 animals, but much larger groups, as large as individuals, were not uncommon. Sometimes an adult male can be associated with a herd. When not, adult males usually remain solitary and disperse over relatively small, widely overlapping home ranges; sometimes they gather together in small but temporary bull herds. They do not seem to be territorial , and there is a great amount of toleration between them, except possibly when the cows are in estrus. Female mortality by age class: Estimated Minimum Viable Population Density: Wildlife Biology, AVC College India Project Elephant PE , a centrally sponsored scheme, was launched in February to provide financial and technical support to major elephant bearing States in the country for protection of elephants, their habitats and corridors. Wildlife Biology, AVC College India It also seeks to address the issues of human-elephant conflict and welfare of domesticated elephants. Wildlife Biology, AVC College India It is a central sponsored scheme that intended to provide all kinds of support to the elephant bearing states in India, be it financial or technical for protection of elephants and their habitats. Wildlife Biology, AVC College India Elephants, the gentle giants of the forests are much loved in India and this project was launched when their numbers started decreasing at an alarming rate. The Project Elephant in India also aimed to decrease the human-elephant battles and help in the welfare of domesticated elephants in India Slide Wildlife Biology, AVC College India Developing scientific and planned management measures for conservation of elephants and controlling the population of wild Asiatic elephants, which are almost on the verge of extinction. Protecting the elephants from poachers and other unnatural causes of death and preventing illegal ivory trade is also one of the major concerns of the Elephant Project in India Slide Wildlife Biology, AVC College India Researching on issues related to elephants and creating public awareness and education programs for it. Eco-development and Veterinary care for the elephants. Project Elephant also aims at maintaining health care and breeding of tame elephants. P has been accorded by MOEF. The concerned State Governments are yet to notify these ERs. List of Elephant Reserves with area and elephant population are as

follows: First time an exclusive exercise for enumeration of wild elephants in the ERs was done during Feb-May. This exercise also sought to experiment with two sampling methods, viz. Next All India Enumeration of Elephants will be carried out in , while an ER-specific enumeration will be repeated in. PE has initiated a months research project to with the help of the Central Rice Research Institute CRRI , Cuttack, for developing high yielding varieties of paddy not relished by elephants; developing elephant-proof storage bins for food grains; and developing elephant repellants. PE has entrusted the WII with a small project to study the impact of the relocation of the Gujjar on the flora and fauna of Rajaji National Park. PE has also given a small consultancy project February-July to the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, to help the West Bengal Forest Department in carrying out a sample-based enumeration of elephants during. PE has been organizing regular refresher courses for veterinarians dealing with wild and domesticated elephants at Kerala Agricultural University, Trichur and Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati. PE has organized necessary training for this purpose and also arranged for supply of standard microchips and readers to all the States known to possess domesticated elephants. Slide Wildlife Biology, AVC College India. Female Asian elephants are not affected by ivory poaching due to their lack of tusks, so poaching has not affected the overall population numbers of Asian elephants as drastically as it has in the case of the African elephant. However, the poaching of males in some Asian elephant populations has resulted in a highly skewed male: female ratio. In summary, reasons for decline include persecution of wild elephants due to the crop damage they are perceived to cause, hunting mainly for ivory but also for meat and habitat loss due to expanding human population and the loss of forests in Asia.

Chapter 3 : PROJECT ELEPHANT

Elephant (Elephas maximus) is the largest terrestrial mammal of India. Elephant being wide ranging animal requires large areas. As per our mythology, elephant took birth from celestial waters and thus are closely associated with rains / water because of the belief.

Cost of Visas, Return transfer to the airport. I spend 4 wonderful weeks working on the elephant project. I had a tough start because there were some problems with my baggage in Delhi airport, But Sukret was very helpful through it all, so no matter what happens, just take it easy, and you are in safe hands. I will admit that I Had times when I just thought that everything was new for me here, it such a big culture difference. I come here for 4 weeks so on my beginning days I learned how to get around Read More I spend 4 wonderful weeks working on the elephant project. I come here for 4 weeks so on my beginning days I learned how to get around the city. The transportation is really cheap in India. I saw the entire tourist place on weekend sightseeing and did a lot of shopping. The staff members were really nice to introduce me for their families and taking me to different places. The work with elephants is amazing. On a normal day I got pick up from the host family at 5: Most of the days I cleaned the elephants area, washed and scrubbed the elephants and made food for them to eat. But I also experience to bath the elephant in the lake ride. Every day you have the program coordinator with you to the project, so you are never alone there is always someone to talk with and to answer your entire question. And that makes feel really safe and comfortable. I had an amazing time volunteering. Definitely a place I would love to visit again. Hard Work but really amazing elephants. All the people whom I met here is very welcoming and sweet. The project Staff members Really great! Could not wished any better. It was great to write with Sukret, and he always answered really fast. The accommodation was very good, the guesthouse had everything you could need including wifi internet, dry your clothes and a shop nearby that everything. The food was very tasty, available on demand and plenty of it â€” they were always offer more if it required. Taxidriver drove me everywhere and he was awesome! I found that most of the time. Read More My flight arrived early but within 5 minutes one of the VWI staff member was there to pick me up. I will miss our samosa parties in the tuk-tuk a lot. He was on time, his driving was great and his smiley hallo, good morning at 5: Govind was my project supervisor and he really made my trip amazing. He was very helpful with any questions. He included me in things outside the project with his friends and family and I loved every minute of it. Sukret was also extremely helpful and answers my questions promptly. He was always around to check everything was ok. I would highly recommend this company to future volunteers and will come back the next time I am in India. I did the elephant project for 3 weeks. Everyday we left at 5: Once the elephants had left we made bundles of food for them to eat later. The mahouts were great fun and always got involved with whatever they were doing, and the elephants were amazing. I was bit nervous about going to India with VWI, but there was absolutely no need to be. They were very inclusive and I really enjoyed getting involved and learning about India culture firsthand. I was treated so well â€” I loved meeting the families and their friends. My sari will remind me of all the great times I spent with them. The project itself was really enjoyable with a highlight being washing the elephant in the elephant pool on my last morning. The sightseeing trips on the weekends were very well organized and included everything. Jaipur is a wonderful city to live in. I got to experience all the projects offered by VWI; this organization does a wonderful job. All projects are well-run and because all transportation food and accommodation is organized for you, all you have to do is enjoy every minute of the experience, the end of my time in India came a bit too fast. The Host family was very welcoming and humble. The food was very nice, the family were happy to serve more if wanted. The transport to the project everyday was prompt and reliable with the driver being very friendly. The project staff very friendly and welcoming; each member was very helpful in all areas, making the trip in India a lot more enjoyable. I like to give 10 out 10 marks. The elephant project gave a great Read More I was gladly met at the airport upon arrival and transported to guest house. The elephant project gave a great insight to the different lives people lead. Working with the elephants was enjoyable. They were very sweet and the workers were friendly. I would love to return to take part in the project. It eliminates any worries. Our Host family was

lovely and getting to know them was a special part of our stay. The food was tasty. Our Tuk-Tuk ride gave us a chance to see the city waking up in the morning – sights we could not have ever seen. The driver was always prompt with a smile on his face. The Project staff members were great! We decided to Volunteer with VWI to be part of the country. Not to just be a tourist. We picked the elephant project because we love animals. I Would like to give full 10 out of Accommodation and food was so nice. They did a Good Job Accommodating my special diet. Family was very helpful. Our Driver was great and always on time. The Project Staff members were very helpful and friendly. This experience is for a lifetime! I would recommend this program to everyone. Host family is lovely and food was very good. Our transportation service was excellent. The project staff members were very friendly. I decide to join the program as my friend Gail recommends me to do it. I would also like to give 10 out Very interesting and rewarding to be able to see and share the care of the elephants with the hard working mahouts. The Project Coordinator Mr. Raj Soni was very attentive and was very concerned that we were well taken care of. It was a pleasure working with this company and yes, I would recommend this program to everyone. A Work With Elephants Ane: Before joining the program we were travelling around India. We driven to the VWI office by our own driver. Then pick up by one of the team member in VWI. Very nice family, especially daughters. When we join the project there was Wedding in the Host family so it makes little bit irregular of our food for couple of days. Our transportation service was good. The taxi driver was so kind and took great care of us. Our Program Coordinator was great. Good English and always happy face. I decide to volunteer to Volunteer with VWI the reason was I wanted to work with elephants in India and found website online.

Chapter 4 : Indian rhinoceros - Wikipedia

Project Elephant (PE) is a wildlife conservation project initiated in India in February with the aim to provide financial and technical support to major elephant bearing States in the country for protection of elephants, their habitats and corridors.

The crux of the problem is one that affects all wildlife in the country: At its essence, that demand boils down to the requirement for more land – for agriculture to grow more food, for roads, for dams and mines and railways and housing. Why did the elephant cross the road? Now the elephant, being a large herbivorous animal, needs vast areas to roam: Research shows that the more forest habitat is degraded, the farther an elephant herd has to roam in search of food and water. As elephants are forced to range farther and farther afield, this brings them into conflict with humans. And as humans encroach on forest areas, planting nutritious crops near forest lands, building homes and roads and railways, this invites conflict with elephants. Human Elephant Conflict is a very serious issue in India today: It is estimated in fact that elephants damage 0. Of course, there are also plenty of elephants killed in turn about in the last 15 years by human greed and indifference, and in retaliation for conflict: They range in 29 Elephant Reserves spread over 10 elephant landscapes in 14 states, covering about 65, sq km of forests in northeast, central, north-west and south India. But if that seems like a vast amount of territory, consider that Elephant Reserves include areas of human use and habitation – in fact unless they lie within existing Reserve Forests or the Protected Area network, Elephant Reserves are not legally protected habitats in themselves. And while elephant populations are largely concentrated in protected forests in the north-eastern states, east-central India, the Himalayan foothills in the north, and the Western and Eastern Ghats in the south, the animals require free movement between these areas to maintain genetic flow and offset seasonal variations in the availability of forage and water. As forest lands continue to be lost, these relatively narrow, linear patches of vegetation form vital natural habitat linkages between larger forest patches. They allow elephants to move between secure habitats freely, without being disturbed by humans. Well, because elephants are a keystone species. Their nomadic behaviour – the daily and seasonal migrations they make through their home ranges – is immensely important to the environment. Elephants create clearings in the forest as they move about, preventing the overgrowth of certain plant species and allowing space for the regeneration of others, which in turn provide sustenance to other herbivorous animals. Elephants eat plants, fruits and seeds, releasing the seeds when they defecate in other places as they travel. This allows for the distribution of various plant species, which benefits biodiversity. Elephant dung provides nourishment to plants and animals and acts as a breeding ground for insects. In times of drought they access water by digging holes, which benefits other wildlife. Further, their large footprints collect water when it rains, benefitting smaller creatures. Apex predators like tigers will sometimes hunt young elephants. Further, elephant carcasses provide food for other animals. By preserving a large area for elephants to roam freely, one provides a suitable habitat for many other animal and plant species of an ecosystem. Many animal species would suffer and the ecosystem balance of several wild habitats would be unalterably upset. To secure a future for wild elephants it is essential that we ensure their uninterrupted movement between key habitats. And to do this, designated corridors must be legally secured and protected. Over the years, WTI has evolved four approaches for securing and protecting elephant corridors in the country: With our implementation partners we directly purchase the land, rehabilitate affected local people, and transfer the land to the relevant state forest department for legal protection. Community-owned lands are set aside through easements or bilateral benefit sharing models. This model envisages the creation of a network of empowered local stakeholders called Green Corridor Champions that ensure every corridor is monitored in perpetuity. Local communities are engaged with through public campaigns and spot interventions. Success stories Of the corridors identified, six have been secured and six more are currently in the process of being secured through an amalgam of the four models.

Chapter 5 : Project Elephant - General Knowledge Today

PROJECT ELEPHANT is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the Government of India in the year with the following objectives: 1. To protect elephants, their habitat & corridors.

Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary shelters the highest density of Indian rhinos in the world – with 84 individuals in an area of . Adult male Indian rhinos are usually solitary. Groups consist of females with calves, or of up to six subadults. Such groups congregate at wallows and grazing areas. They are foremost active in early mornings, late afternoons and at night, but rest during hot days. Dominant males tolerate males passing through their territories except when they are in mating season, when dangerous fights break out. The folds in their skin trap water and hold it even when they come back on land. Tabanus flies, a type of horse-fly, are known to bite rhinos. The rhinos are also vulnerable to diseases spread by parasites such as leeches, ticks, and nematodes. Anthrax and the blood-disease septicemia are known to occur. Their diets consist almost entirely of grasses, but they also eat leaves, branches of shrubs and trees, fruits, and submerged and floating aquatic plants. They feed in the mornings and evenings. They use their semi-prehensile lips to grasp grass stems, bend the stem down, bite off the top, and then eat the grass. They tackle very tall grasses or saplings by walking over the plant, with legs on both sides and using the weight of their bodies to push the end of the plant down to the level of the mouth. Mothers also use this technique to make food edible for their calves. They drink for a minute or two at a time, often imbibing water filled with rhinoceros urine. Their horns have been removed. The Indian rhinoceros forms a variety of social groupings. Adult males are generally solitary, except for mating and fighting. Adult females are largely solitary when they are without calves. Mothers will stay close to their calves for up to four years after their birth, sometimes allowing an older calf to continue to accompany her once a newborn calf arrives. Subadult males and females form consistent groupings, as well. Groups of two or three young males will often form on the edge of the home ranges of dominant males, presumably for protection in numbers. Young females are slightly less social than the males. Indian rhinos also form short-term groupings, particularly at forest wallows during the monsoon season and in grasslands during March and April. Groups of up to 10 rhinos may gather in wallows – typically a dominant male with females and calves, but no subadult males. At least 10 distinct vocalisations have been identified: In addition to noises, the rhino uses olfactory communication. Adult males urinate backwards, as far as 3–4 m behind them, often in response to being disturbed by observers. Like all rhinos, the Indian rhinoceros often defecates near other large dung piles. The Indian rhino has pedal scent glands which are used to mark their presence at these rhino latrines. Males have been observed walking with their heads to the ground as if sniffing, presumably following the scent of females. They will often greet each other by waving or bobbing their heads, mounting flanks, nuzzling noses, or licking. Rhinos will playfully spar, run around, and play with twigs in their mouths. Adult males are the primary instigators in fights. Fights between dominant males are the most common cause of rhino mortality, and males are also very aggressive toward females during courtship. Males will chase females over long distances and even attack them face-to-face. Unlike African rhinos, the Indian rhino fights with its incisors, rather than its horns. In one five-year field study, only one rhino estimated to be younger than 15 years mated successfully. Captive females breed as young as four years of age, but in the wild, they usually start breeding only when six years old, which likely indicates they need to be large enough to avoid being killed by aggressive males. Their gestation period is around . Reports from the middle of the 19th century claim that some British military officers in Assam individually shot more than rhinos. By , the population in Kaziranga had decreased to around 12 individuals. From to , rhinos were poached in India. When poor farmers from the mid-hills moved to the Chitwan Valley in search of arable land, the area was subsequently opened for settlement, and poaching of wildlife became rampant. The Chitwan population has repeatedly been jeopardized by poaching; in alone, poachers killed 37 animals to saw off and sell their valuable horns. Trapping in a pit depends largely on the terrain and availability of grass to cover it; pits are dug out in such a way that a fallen animal has little room to manoeuvre with its head slightly above the pit, so that it is easy to saw off the horn. Electrocution is used where high voltage powerlines pass through or near a

protected area, to which poachers hook a long, insulated rod connected to a wire, which is suspended above a rhino path. Poisoning by smearing zinc phosphide rat poison or pesticides on salt licks frequently used by rhinos is sometimes used. Spearing has only been recorded in Chitwan National Park. Poaching, mainly for the use of the horn in traditional Chinese medicine, has remained a constant and has led to decreases in several important populations. Apart from this, serious declines in quality of habitat have occurred in some areas, due to: However, small population of rhinos may be prone to inbreeding depression. The Indian and Nepalese governments have taken major steps towards Indian rhinoceros conservation, especially with the help of the World Wide Fund for Nature WWF and other non-governmental organizations. In 1961, Edward Pritchard Gee undertook a survey of the Chitwan Valley, and recommended the creation of a protected area north of the Rapti River and of a wildlife sanctuary south of the river for a trial period of 10 years. The dramatic decline of the rhino population and the extent of poaching prompted the government to institute the Gaida Gasti – a rhino reconnaissance patrol of armed men and a network of guard posts all over Chitwan. Since 1973, the population has recovered well and increased to 345 animals in 1996. The first recorded captive birth of a rhinoceros was in Kathmandu in 1953, but another successful birth did not occur for nearly 20 years. In 1973, a rhino was born in Kolkata. No rhinoceros was successfully bred in Europe until 1973. In the second half of the 20th century, zoos became adept at breeding Indian rhinoceros. By 1996, nearly 40 babies had been born in captivity. Since 1996, the Indian rhino European Endangered Species Programme is being coordinated there, as well, which ensures that the captive global Indian rhinoceros population stays genetically as healthy as possible. She gave birth to a male calf in October 1996. In June 1997, the first "successful" live-birth from an artificially inseminated rhino took place at the Buffalo Zoo in New York. As in Cincinnati, cryopreserved sperm was used to produce the female calf, Monica.

Chapter 6 : Project of Elephant "Gicia"

Project Tiger - Tiger Conservation. Indian tiger population at the end of the 20th century was estimated at 20, to 40, individuals. The first country-wide tiger census conducted in estimated the population to comprise a little more than 1, individuals, an alarming reduction in tiger population.

They graze on the tall grasses , but the portion consumed varies with season. When the new flush appears in April, they remove the tender blades in small clumps. Later, when grasses are higher than 0. When grasses are mature in autumn, they clean and consume the succulent basal portions with the roots, and discard the fibrous blades. From the bamboos , they eat seedlings, culms and lateral shoots. During the dry season from January to April, they mainly browse on both leaves and twigs preferring the fresh foliage, and consume thorn bearing shoots of acacia species without any obvious discomfort. They feed on the bark of white thorn and other flowering plants, and consume the fruits of wood apple , tamarind , kumbhi and date palm. They browse more in the dry season with bark constituting a major part of their diet in the cool part of that season. Grasses such as Imperata cylindrica and Leersia hexandra constituted by far the most predominant component of their diet. They preferred habitat where water was available and food plants were palatable. During the dry months of January to April, they congregated at high densities of up to five individuals per km² in river valleys where browse plants had a much higher protein content than the coarse tall grasses on hill slopes. With the onset of rains in May, they dispersed over a wider area at lower densities, largely into the tall grass forests, to feed on the fresh grasses, which then had a high protein value. During the second wet season from September to December, when the tall grasses became fibrous, they moved into lower elevation short grass open forests. The normal movement pattern could be upset during years of adverse environmental conditions. However, the movement pattern of elephants in this region has not basically changed for over a century, as inferred from descriptions recorded during the 19th century. During three years of survey, their annual home ranges overlapped to a large extent with only minor shifts in the home ranges between years. Poaching of tuskers impacts on sex ratios that become highly female biased; genetic variation is reduced, and fecundity and recruitment may decline. Every day, 20 trains run on this track at high speeds. Elephants that pass through from one forest patch to another dash against the trains and die. A total of 39 dead elephants were reported during the period of to , of which ten were reported killed between and Habitat loss and fragmentation is attributed to the increasing human population and its need for fuel wood and timber. Illegal timber extraction plays a significant role in deforestation and habitat degradation. As a result of the shrinking habitat, elephants have become more and more prone to coming into direct conflict with humans. The military government shows little interest in reducing the ivory trade , while the elephants in the country have become the silent victims. Foreign tourists are responsible for the massive rise in price of ivory tusks which fuels the illegal killing of elephants. There is also a sizeable trade in ivory chopsticks and carvings, smuggled by traders from Myanmar into China. Mothers are often killed in the process, and calves are placed alongside unrelated cows to suggest they are with their mothers. The project aims to ensure long-term survival of viable conservation reliant populations of elephants in their natural habitats by protecting the elephants, their habitats and migration corridors. Other goals of Project Elephant are supporting research of the ecology and management of elephants, creating conservation awareness among local people, providing improved veterinary care for captive elephants.

Chapter 7 : List of Elephant reserves in India - updated

Elephant is an animal included in Schedule-I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, A complete ban on ivory trade was imposed in Project Elephant was launched in February by Govt. of India to consolidate the programmes for conservation.

Chapter 8 : Elephant Reserves

DOWNLOAD PDF PROJECT ELEPHANT IN INDIA

Project Elephant was launched in to assist the States having free ranging populations of wild elephants to ensure the long term survival of identified viable populations of elephants in their natural habitats. The project is being implemented in the 13 states of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal.

Chapter 9 : Project Tiger | Project Elephant | Project Indian Rhino | Project Snow Leopard | PMF IAS

Project Elephant was launched in by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) to provide financial and technical support of wildlife management efforts by states for their free ranging populations of wild Asian Elephants.