

Chasing away wild elephants near Indo-Bhutan border



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A massive operation to chase away wild elephants from villages of Udalguri district was launched from Paneri tea garden at 10.30 am on December 10. Dhansiri Forest Division organized the operation at the direction of Bonjar Daimari, Deputy Speaker, BTC, Santias Kunjur, EM, BTC and Rihon Daimari, MLA, Udalguri. Forest personals from Mazbat and Nonoi Range Offices, Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary and Division head office headed by MP Sarma, ACF, Dhansiri Forest Division launched the operation in association with police and civil administration headed by DN Hazarika, Circle Officer, Harisinga Revenue Circle, Tangla. The massive operation was also supported by senior managers of Paneri and Bhutiachang tea gardens. More than five thousand villagers joined the operation to chase away 25 wild elephants to Bhutan hills unhurt. Dy Speaker, Bonjar Daimari personally supervised the operation with EM Santias Kunjur with the help of JCB and tractors. The breath taking operation was completed within four hours. Four domestic elephants namely- Moon, Joon, Rangilee and Rajdhan also took part in the operation.

It needs mention that man-elephant conflict has taken a very serious turn in the district causing deaths of 9 people and 7 wild elephants during last months. A five years old boy was killed at 4.30 am on December 10 at Gitibari near Paneri. Rapid destruction of forests and encroachment on forest lands virtually rendered wild animals specially elephants homeless in the district. Speaking to this correspondent after the operation, Bonjar Daimari told that he would press for immediate deployment of more young and local forest personnel in Udalguri to check unabated poaching and tree felling in the district.

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BY JAYANTA KUMAR DAS

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