

Nonaipara TE provides safe passage to wild elephants



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Management of [Nonaipara](#) tea garden under [Goodricke](#) Group situated near [India](#)-Bhutan border in [Udalguri](#) district has [launched](#) a new programme of attracting students and children to plant more and more trees in an effort to check climate change and restoration of forests for wild animals and birds. The plantation and conservation programme was officially [launched](#) on June [10](#) in [Nonaipara](#) tea garden at 11 am. NM D'Souza, senior Asstt. Manager, [Nonaipara](#) TE and senior environmental journalist JK [Das](#) [launched](#) the programme by planting a sapling each followed by hundreds of school children and teachers in presence of several ladies and journalists. Office bearers of 'ADWR', a social [NGO](#) of the district also took part in the plantation programme. It needs mention that the tea garden had already converted an area of 20 [HEC](#) of lands into forest in order to provide shelter to wild animals specially wild elephants. Talking to this correspondent Senior Asstt. Manager D'Souza said that an area of 5 more [HEC](#) would be added to existing 20 [HEC](#) of new forest lands. Referring specially to man-elephant conflict in [Udalguri](#) district, he said that [Nonaipara](#) tea garden had not been suffering much by wild elephants [as](#) they had been maintaining a eight km long elephant corridor from Bhutan border to plains of Assam through [Nonaipara](#) and [Orangajuli](#) tea gardens. The wild herds could move through the corridors undisturbed. According to the tea garden management there had been no casualties in their tea garden due to "Man-[Elephant](#) Conflict" for several years. Another official Dipak Kumar Hazarika said that they had arranged three water reservoirs meant for wild elephants during their seasonal migration from Bhutan hills to Assam plains during June to December in each year. He further said that they had trained their [workers](#) not to come on the way of wild herds. Some people have also been specially employed to check if any wild [animal](#) or bird was killed or captivated by any tea garden [workers](#). Hunting of any kind had totally been banned in and around the tea garden and tea garden management had been maintaining a very cordial relation with forest department. Later in the afternoon of the day, an interactive session was held in the garden hall where Senior Asstt. Manager NM D'Souza; environmental journalist JK [Das](#) and Christina Mushahari, Deputy Director "ADWR" had interactive session with children on conservation of flora and fauna. Local youth Syan Tanti performed with a song on conservation while children of Jagrti LP School staged a spectacular drama on recent deforestation activities in [Udalguri](#) district. Niraj Moni Chourasia, Asstt. Manager; [Robin](#) Gowala, [President](#), local unit of AASAA, Rubi [Bora](#), Supriya Hazarika, Puja Singh attended the days programme [as](#) the distinguished guests.

Jayanta Kumar Das

Environmental journalist.

BY JAYANTA KUMAR DAS

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