

Greetings from Asian Elephant Support!

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## India Update –Elephant Health Clinics

With your support, Dr. Kushal Sarma continues to do amazing work for Asian elephants and the people who care for them in Assam, India. Recently he conducted an elephant health care clinic in the Orang National Park and was able to treat 32 government forest camp elephants. Orang National Park is located on the north bank of the Brahmaputra River and is home to many species including Indian rhinos, Bengal tigers, and Asian elephants. The park is 78 square kilometers, but is encircled on three sides by people who are quickly encroaching on the land. The human-elephant conflict is a growing problem in this area, so the elephants are utilized in anti-poaching patrols and to encourage the wild elephant population to stay within the safety of the park boundaries.

This was a routine health care clinic and all the elephants were vaccinated against tetanus and hemorrhagic septicemia (an acute bacterial infection). In addition, some routine stool examinations were conducted and the elephants were given de-worming medication. All of the females and any bulls that appeared weak were given multi-vitamin and multi-mineral mixtures plus vitamin injections.



*Dr. Sarma explaining medical point to students*



*Mahouts with their new uniforms*

In addition to helping elephants, AES believes it is important to help the people who care for the elephants. Most of the people at this clinic are poor and have very few resources to care for the elephants. Dr. Sarma was able to distribute 40 uniform shirts and an additional 5 khukries (traditional knives). The knives are used to trim the elephants' feet and to cut fodder for the elephants, making them a valuable tool in improving the health of the elephants. The uniforms give the mahouts a sense of pride and ownership in the role they play conserving elephants in Assam.

A special surprise occurred during the clinic when a beautiful wild bull visited the camp out of curiosity! Upon inquiring, we were happily advised that he has many girlfriends in the



*The visiting wild bull*

elephant camps in this area and most of the calves born to captive mothers are sired by him. However, we don't believe he stayed around for foot care or vaccinations!

Dr. Sarma also advised he organized an Elephant Day at his college on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and has this report:

*“As a part of the countrywide celebration of “Wild Life Week” in the first week of October, the 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2013 was celebrated as “Elephant Day” with the initiative of the Department of Surgery & Radiology, College of Veterinary Science, Khanapara with various day long programmes. The celebration started with life demonstration of elephant healthcare procedures to the fourth and fifth year BVSc & A.H. as well as some post graduate students by the experts of the department which was followed by an exhibition of rare books on elephants. In the next half of the programme, power point presentations were made on various topics involving the elephants by Dr(Ms) Munmun Sarma, Associate Professor, Department of Anatomy & Histology, Dr. G. Mahato, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Dr. Bijoy Dutta, Associate Professor, Surgery & Radiology and Dr. Kushal Konwar Sarma, Professor & Head of the Department of Surgery & Radiology who is an internationally renowned expert on elephants. Dr. R. N. Goswami, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Dr. A. Chakroborty, Director of Research (Vety) also addressed the students on the occasion.”*

Our supporters of the “Hoof knives for Mahouts-India” program will be pleased to know that the knives are being distributed carefully and are greatly appreciated. Please watch for future updates from Dr. Sarma and feel free to cheer for the beautiful wild bull!



**Happy Halloween!**



Help protect Asian elephant habitat simply by purchasing Halloween candy made with sustainably-harvested palm oil.

Halloween is fast approaching and it's almost time to buy candy for those cute trick-or-treaters. However, some candy contains unsustainably harvested palm oil, which contributes to habitat loss for orangutans, elephants, and other species in Indonesia and Malaysia. Please use this guide to purchase candy that contains sustainably harvested palm oil so you can be sure your purchases do not contribute to the decline of Asian elephant habitat.

Visit <http://cmzoo.org/docs/halloweenGuide2012.pdf> for more information. For a quick reference, here are the brands that use sustainably-harvested palm oil:

- **Nestle** -- Baby Ruth, Butterfinger, Crunch Bar
- **Wonka** -- Sweetarts, Bottle Caps, Laffy Taffy, Nerds
- **ConAgra** -- Fiddle Faddle, Crunch & Munch
- **Kellogg's** -- Rice Krispie Treats, Fruity Snacks, Pop Tarts, Austin Crackers (all varieties), all Keebler Brand Cookies
- **PepsiCo** (Frito Lay) -- Cheetos, Doritos Grandma's Cookies
- **Hershey's** -- Twizzlers, Jolly Ranchers, Whoppers, Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, Almond Joy, Mr. Goodbar, Heath Bars, Milk Duds
- **Mars** -- Snickers, Twix, M&M's, 3 Musketeers, Milky Way, Skittles, Dove Chocolates
- **Justin's** -- Peanut Butter Cups, NutButter (All flavors)
- **Lindt and Spungli** (Lindor Truffles (All flavors))
- **Ghirardelli** (All flavors)
- **Kraft Foods** -- Kraft Caramels, Cadbury Creme Eggs, Toblerone
- **Nabisco** -- Nutter Butter, Chips Ahoy, Oreo
- **Walmart** -- Great Value Brand products (Candy, Cookies, Crackers etc.)



## Heading Out of the House to Watch Football?

Football is often best enjoyed with others, and going to a restaurant or sports bar to catch the game is a fun way to support your team. Choose a GoodDining restaurant so that you can enjoy the game AND earn donations for us! Visit <http://www.gooddining.com/> to find participating restaurants near you.

## THANK YOU

*We at AES wish to extend a very sincere thank you to each donor who has voted their support with a financial gift. We value that confidence and will always do our best for the animals we all care for so deeply.*

*Please visit our website ([www.asianelephantsupport.org](http://www.asianelephantsupport.org)) and follow us on [Facebook](#) (Asian Elephant Support). If you have questions, please [contact us](#). We appreciate your support. Please consider a [donation](#) to help Asian elephants and those who care for them.*

### **ASIAN ELEPHANT SUPPORT**

[www.asianelephantsupport.org](http://www.asianelephantsupport.org)

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*Asian Elephant Support is a U.S. 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax-deductible.*