



Kaziranga National Park, Assam

This retreat is designed to transfer the knowledge of Rhino Experts into YI so that YI can respond by asking the right questions and taking the right actions



“Truth about Rhinos” : 26 - 28 November 2010.

Atreyee, Chair, Guwahati Chapter invites Yi members for an *adventure and learning retreat to co-create Yi Role in Rhino Conservation*

Our chapter is located in an ecological hotspot surrounded by five exotic states of North East India whose borders are fortified by the towering Himalayas, the arid Tibetan Plateau and the Burmese rain forests to the south.

The most striking feature of our region is the mighty river Brahmaputra which runs many miles across the high ranges of Tibet before dropping into the thickets of Arunachal Pradesh where he gathers momentum and enters Assam bringing with it tons and tons of Himalayan silt and converting our state into a paradise of cascades, river islands, sandy beaches, grasslands, swamps and spectacular rain-forests which roll into misty mountains. This riverine wilderness is the largest habitat of the Great One Horned Rhinoceros. Weighing between 2200 and 3000 Kilograms this magnificent animal once roamed freely between the

foot hills of Himalayas and the entire Indo Gangetic plains. Unfortunately extensive hunting and fragmentation of its natural habitat has reduced its population to less than 3000 of which more than 2000 live in the vicinity of the Kaziranga National Park. Despite counter poaching measures Rhinos are disappearing - last Rhino killed and gouged in October 2010 brings the numbers of Rhinos killed between 2008 and 2010 to 50 ! Considering Yi’s commitments to shaping India’s future we have designed this exciting wildlife adventure packed with fun filled activities for experiencing, understanding, sharing, ideating, bonding and figuring out “what can we do to save our natural treasures”. Based in Bon Habi Resort, located in the vicinity of Kaziranga National Park we start with a cocktail reception. Over a bonfire and in an informal

environment we analyze the crisis when invited speakers, Park Rangers and biologists of Aranyak a leading NGO of KNP, will enlighten us. Armed with knowledge of experts on our hands we explore the KNP on elephants and on jeeps on the second day. This unique expedition is an opportunity to observing the animal and its habitat from close range through the eyes of passionate naturalist who will accompany us. In the afternoon we have arranged for a visit to a tea plantation for shopping and a reality check on issues connected with development. During the farewell dinner we engage in bonding activities to co-create Yi’s role in Nature conservation in general and KNP in particular, On behalf of the Chapter I invite one and all to our wonderful state..

“We can We will” - Atreyee



Invited Experts:

Firoz Ahmed is a wildlife biologist heading the campaign "Truth about tigers" in KNP. Mr S Dutta, Director of Kaziranga National Park and Mr Talukdar, the founder of Aranyak have been invited to moderate sessions and help us conduct field trips in KNP.

Retreat Team:

Atreyee, Chair and the members of the Yi Guwahati Chapter are the principle host. Mahesh the Yi Retreat Chair will be available from the beginning to end of the trip as your main touch point during the retreat. Theja, the national Executive member in Chennai is the main touch point for registrations.

Program Details

26/11/2010

- Check in at Bon Habi Nature Resort.
- PM Cocktail reception and dinner.
- Overnight at Resort.

27/11/2010

- Pre breakfast elephant safari Western Range.
- Return to resort for Breakfast.
- Morning Jeep expedition in Central Range
- Lunch at the resort.
- PM Free for own activities.
- Field Trip - Man and Animal Conflict.
- Cocktail - Yi role in nature conservation.
- Dinner and overnight at Bon Habi resort.

28th/11/2010

- Pre-Breakfast optional second visit to KNP
- Breakfast at the resort.
- Depart to respective destination.

Arrival information:

Jorhat is the closest airport while Guwahati is not very far. Taxis are available for transfers to Bon Habi Resort in KNP. Transfers will be arranged and communicated to all registered participants.

Departure information:

Jorhat or Guwahati are the only options. Transfers will be arranged and communicated to all by the program leader.

Retreat Price:

Rs.9500/- per participant based on double sharing.

Inclusions:

- 2 nights accommodation on twin sharing basis.
- All meals and beverages during cocktail hours.
- Elephant and Jeep Safaris.
- Overheads covering experts cost of transportation, accommodation etc.

Registration:

- email p.theja@cii.in with your name, chapter and mobile number. Theja will be happy to guide you.

Kaziranga National Park is the only UNESCO recognized National Park in India

