



HUNTING THE HUNTERS - II

Capacity Building Program on Wildlife Crimes

For the
Forest Department, Assam

KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK



REPORT

Organised By:

TIGER TRUST
Funded By
US Fish & Wildlife Services.

May 12 – 13th 2012

Submitted by:

Manjit Singh Ahluwalia: Programme Officer

Kawal Deep Kour: Regional Coordinator

Compiled by :

TIGER TRUST,

206, Rakeshdeep,

11, CommercialComplex,

Gulmohar Enclave,

New Delhi – 110049, India

Telephone: **+91 11 23385773**

+91 11 26858656

+91 11 911126856770

Fax : **+91 11 23071281**

E-mail: tigertrustindia@gmail.com

Website : www.tigertrustindia.org

aCKNOWLEDGEMENT

Tiger Trust acknowledges the cooperation of the Assam State Forest Department and the funding support by US Fish and Wildlife Services.

Special thanks are due to Sh. Suresh Chand, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife), Sh. S.P.Singh, Chief Conservator Forests (Wildlife), Sh. S.K. Bora, Director, Kaziranga National Park, Sh. D.D. Gogoi, DFO, Eastern Assam Wildlife, Range Officers of Eastern wild life Division. We are grateful to esteemed faculty members, Ms.Anjana Gosain, Mr. Manjit Ahluwalia and also all trainees and volunteers from the wildlife and territorial divisions of Assam State Forest Department.

TIGER TRUST,

206, Rakeshdeep,

11, CommercialComplex,

Gulmohar Enclave,

New Delhi – 110049, India

Telephone: **+91 11 23385773**

+91 11 26858656

+91 11 911126856770

Fax : **+91 11 23071281**

E-mail: tigertrustindia@gmail.com

Website : www.tigertrustindia.org

C O N T E N T S

Acknowledgment

1. Executive summary.....	05 - 07
2. Program Analysis & Planning.....	08 -11
3. Program Objectives.....	12 – 14
4. Resource Persons.....	15
5. Programme Proceedings.....	16
6. Interactive Session.....	17 - 47
7. Impression and Feedback.....	48 - 51
8. Annexure.....	52 - 64
10. Photo Gallery.....	65 - 86

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The second training under Phase-II of the Capacity Building Program was held on May 12th and 13th, 2012 at Kaziranga National Park. This venue is a famed tourist attraction as the habitat of the world famous one-horned rhinoceros. The venue was selected in consensus with the state forest department. It was mutually decided that the focus would be on the divisions where the rate and frequency of wildlife crime was high. Tiger Trust had insisted on a homogenous group of middle level officers, who are responsible for the actual implementation of mechanisms for prevention and control of wildlife crime in the Court. There has been stringent enforcement of preventive and precautionary measures, which have been in force to control the hunting of wild animals within the precincts of the Kaziranga National Park. Although the incidents have been controlled, it is far from satisfactory. Kaziranga National Park is a lure to those involved in the trade of the horn because it is home of the rare one-horned rhinoceros, which is exquisite and highly valued in the national and international market. This vulnerability posts a greater motivation for the state forest department to prevent any more incidents in the Park. The state forest department has initiated several serious steps towards enhancing the security of the park. In many instances, the forest staff has thwarted many attempts of the hunters, as well as successfully capturing the culprits. The biggest hurdle that continues to be the 'Achilles heel' for the state forest department is securing the successful conviction for the offenders in a short span.

It is to be noted that despite attempts made by the State Forest Department, it has yet to be successful in securing higher level convictions for a majority of the cases of poaching. It is highly demotivating for the forest

staff when due to a minor error that allows the criminals to get off scot free.

These mistakes could have been caused by a gap either in preparing the seizure memo or in proper recording of the events, or failure to take up a proper assessment of the scene of the crime, or due to the failure to prepare and put forth a strong case in the courts. It requires both physical and mental conviction and integrity on the part of the Investigating Officer (IO) and the entire team to ensure that the offender is brought to justice.

Tiger Trust has repeatedly stressed that this kind of a dismal scenario requires stringent corrective training, and it was for this reason that the expert faculty of Tiger Trust, under the direction of Ms. Anjana Gosain held extensive consultations with the PCCF (Principal Chief Conservator Forests), Sh. Suresh Chand. Convinced by the 'corrective approach' of Tiger Trust, Mr. Chand was very pleased because Tiger Trust used pending cases for discussion during the training program. This was incorporated as a module and it received wholehearted appreciation and was the highlight of the entire training program.

It was also apparent that the ignorance of the powers conferred upon the forest staff under the various acts, including apply this enforcement, was a major hindrance for successful prosecutions. Hence, the module for the training conducted under Phase II had to have a distinctive feature. It was decided that the second Phase would comprise of field training and solutions on the pending cases under various divisions. During regular interactions with the forest department and the senior forest officers, it was observed that the trainees mainly came across four major limitations among others in the process of investigation and presentation of cases. Keeping in mind this state of affairs, the module had been formulated to mitigate the flaws, which had been highlighted during the previous training, which was held in September 2011.

Following the review of the first training, it became apparent that that a follow-up was needed to farther familiarize the trainees with conducting effective on-the-spot investigations. Accordingly, a case study was conducted in a real life setting at the premises of the Kaziranga National Park. As has been mentioned, a prerequisite for conducting an effective investigation is physical dexterity and mental alertness to conduct an effective investigation at the scene of the crime. This was reinforced by the faculty from Tiger Trust during the two day training program. The pending cases were discussed in the presence of the Investigation Officer, with the participants and they pointed out various deficiencies. This was the highlight of the program and was much appreciated by the participants.

The participants were unanimous on the need of frequent training of the type imparted to them which they confessed had been empowering. Not only had they gained in knowledge but also in confidence. This is in itself a sufficient boost also to Tiger Trust, whose aim is to develop an empowered and motivated forest staff for effective conservation and preservation of the wild flora and fauna and their habitat as well.



PROJECT ANALYSIS & PLANNING

Tiger Trust is grateful to the funding assistance provided by US Fish and Wildlife Service, which made it possible for Tiger Trust to continue to conduct advanced training programs on legal training for the mid-level officers of the Assam State Forest Department. It is worthy of mention that the appreciation of the Assam Forest Department and the high level of satisfaction expressed by the participants in the feedback of an earlier training conducted in September 2011 has been a great morale boost. While the earlier training found participation from all levels of the forest staff, the second training was exclusively meant to train the range officers (RO) in advanced technical and legal skills of conducting investigations. Tiger Trust had in a written correspondence to the Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Assam, also expressed its intent to discuss pending cases from any proposed divisions that was accepted by the Forest Department.

PRELIMINARY PREPARATIONS:

Following the successful completion of the first training under Phase II of the Capacity Building Program in September 2012, proposal was sent to the Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Assam in early December for the second training. The Regional Coordinator, Ms. Kawaldeep, accordingly presented the tentative outline of the proposed training including the module to the PCCF, Sh. Suresh Chand and the CCF, Sh. S.P. Singh for necessary approval. Intended to be a field training where the participants would be exposed to on the spot nuances of conducting an investigation into a wildlife offence, Tiger Trust had initially sought approval for the dates in early April and the venue as Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. However, considering that April would witness a

busy season at Kaziranga National Park due to heavy tourist footfalls, the PCCF suggested revised dates for the proposed training. Suggestions were also presented on the modules for the training. Tiger Trust had conveyed its intention to hold a field training which followed the first part of the training which was classroom based.

Meanwhile, the PCCF expressed his approval for collecting of pending cases from the divisions. He suggested that the divisions of Kaziranga, Mangaldoi and Guwahati could be approached for cases that were pending at the court of law. Following necessary approval from the Forest Department and the Head office, Tiger Trust, the Regional Coordinator, Kawaldeep contacted and visited the Divisional Forest offices of Eastern Assam Wildlife, Mangaldoi and Guwahati and collected copies of cases from the divisional officers. This move was much appreciated by the divisional officers and provided inputs and suggestions that were conveyed to the faculty of Tiger Trust. The DFO's were also required to bring with them to the training programmes any pending cases which could be studied and worked upon during the training programme. Such an exercise, it was maintained, would help the faculty and the trainees understand the missing gap which the officers face while conducting investigations and seeking prosecutions.

On a suggestion by the PCCF, she also visited the Kaziranga National Park to get a first hand information on the food, accommodation and facilities for conducting the training. Accordingly, Ms. Anjana Gosain met the PCCF, Assam, who was on a visit to Delhi to discuss on the modalities of the second training as possible dates including the faculty, the participants and the modules for the upcoming training. To the several options suggested by Tiger Trust, it was unanimously agreed that the training program to be held in the month of May after the end of the tourist season. It was also agreed that this training would be exclusively for the range officers of selective divisions only.

Considerable consultations were held with the State Forest Department to incorporate their recommendations before the modules were finalized.

The contents of the meeting formed the basis of the next level of correspondence with the forest department. A letter expressing the consensus of the dates and venue including the module for training was submitted to the nodal officer, which is the CCF, Sh. S.P. Singh by the regional coordinator. The dates agreed upon as May 12th and 13th at the Kaziranga Tiger Reserve. The CCF accordingly issued an official intimation in March 2012 to selected wildlife and territorial divisions to send in their nominations. The divisions identified were:

- 1) Kaziranga National Park
- 2) Western Assam Wildlife
- 3) Mangaldoi Wildlife
- 4) Nagaon Wildlife
- 5) Nagaon Territorial
- 6) Nagaon South
- 7) Karbi Anglong West
- 8) Karbi Anglong East
- 9) Golaghat Territorial
- 10) Jorhat Territorial
- 11) Dibrugarh Territorial
- 12) Sibsagar Territorial
- 13) Tinsukia Wildlife
- 14) Digboi Territorial
- 15) Sonitpur East
- 16) Sonitpur West

Each nomination was then scrutinized by a Core Group including the PCCF (Wild life with the CCF (Wildlife), as the Nodal officer for the program, and Mrs. Anjana Gosain, who personally saw to it that suitable trainees were selected for the training. Following the selection of trainees, letters of invite were sent to all divisions via e-mail communication and post, along with the official dispatch for release of officers selected for the training was sent from the PCCF (WL) office.

The official intimation was followed by a series of correspondence, including letters of invite to all divisions via e-mail communication and post, from Tiger Trust Head and Regional offices respectively, to ensure the smooth conduct of the preliminary preparations for the training. This also included frequent visits to Kaziranga, which was ably assisted by the DFO, Eastern Assam Wildlife, and Sh. D.D. Gogoi. Tiger Trust is thankful for his immense support and cooperation at all stages of the training programme. He was instrumental in ensuring the smooth conduct of the training, which had run into rough patch for a brief period following the indisposition of the nodal officer. The timely support rendered by him and all the officers and staff of Kaziranga Tiger Reserve ensured that the program was carried out smoothly. Along with selection of suitable trainees, it also concerned itself with seeking well-trained and experienced faculty members including a mid level Police Officer from Bokakhat and Koliabor divisions to facilitate discussions on conducting of proper investigation and detection of crime.

Accommodation for the participants was arranged at the picturesque Dhanshree tourist facility located in the vicinity of the Convention Centre, Kohora where the first part of the program was to be conducted followed by the field training. The project supported the costs of hiring the hall, boarding and lodging of trainees, facility, paying for the transportation, lodging and meals of Tiger Trust staff along with resource material. Detailed cost breakdowns will be made available with the final report after all the trainings are completed. A total of 40 participants were finally selected for the training in keeping in view their age, educational qualification and experience and the purview of the training.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the program was to ensure that the trainees are adequately informed and updated on the manner of conducting an effective on the spot investigation at the scene of crime. It was also desired to increase awareness among the participants of the various provisions of the various wildlife Acts which empower them, as Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 along with the Assam Forest Rules and its various amendments, the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act 1873, Criminal Procedure Code, 1973, Money Laundering Act etc., including recognition of the rights of forest dwellers and comparative International acts on wildlife crimes.

In addition, the program attempted to:

- Emphasize on the necessity along with the complexities of conducting proper on the spot investigations. The need for maintaining physical and mental alertness was stressed on.
- Ensure identification of various loopholes and lacunae in the pending cases that were taken up for discussion.
- Ensure that the trainees are able to comprehend the various technical aspects of the important legislative provisions including methodology aimed at developing effecting strategies to prevent wildlife offences.
- Outline the existing legal framework against wildlife crimes along with the procedural aspects of the legal provisions.
- Relevance and applicability of Forensic science in detection of wildlife offence and in conduct of investigations.

PARTICIPANTS:

The two-day Training Program witnessed participation from divisions, which had reported a rise in the spate of wildlife crime activity in past few years. The training was exclusively meant for mid-ranking officers of the rank of Range Officers of the divisions who are involved in the actual implementation of the policies and strategies for the prevention and conservation of wildlife. The number of participants was restricted to around 35.

METHODOLOGY:

The focus of the training was that the trainees understand the various technicalities including mode and conduct of effective on the spot investigations. The field training within the precincts of the Kaziranga National Park was an exercise in participatory learning. By enacting a mock case as in a real life situation and detailed analysis of the possible situations that might develop and their outcomes, which could positively /negatively affect the conduct of a case when put up at the Court of Law. Active participation of every participant was sought. This was effectively coupled with explanation of judicial decisions and applicability of the provisions after each legal provision was explained in detail.

RESOURCE MATERIAL:

The participants were provided with the following resource material:-

1. Legal Guide
2. Criminal Procedure Code
3. Wildlife Protection Act
4. Case Studies
5. Forest kits

6. Register and pen
7. CDs with the presentation and modules
8. Forest Bag.

SCREENING OF THE TRAINEES:

It was joint a decision between Forest Department and Tiger Trust to screen the trainees on the basis of handling wildlife crime cases and previously attending such training programmes. The decision was taken by the DFO and approved by the CCF (Wildlife) with the consultation of Tiger Trust.



RESOURCE PERSONS

Ms. Anjana Gosain:



Ms. Anjana Gosain is a practicing advocate in Supreme Court and High Court with specialization in environmental law. She has authored compilation of cases under Wildlife Protection Act (1972) and Ready Reckoner for successful prosecution of wildlife criminals. She is the main backbone in planning the modules that are largely designed on practical aspects of prosecution and emphasis on acts related to wildlife crime.

Mr. Manjit Singh Ahluwalia:



Mr. Manjit Singh Ahluwalia has an exclusive background in criminal particularly cases under the Wildlife Protection Act (1972). He has been involved in active prosecution cases in Bandhavgarh and Kanha National Park and have been imparting training at Indira Gandhi Forest Academy, Dehradun. He is responsible for organizing mock courts, detailed court procedure recording evidence to depose as witness and also in teaching the ancillary acts.

PROGRAM PROCEEDINGS

1. INAUGURAL SESSION 12th May 2012 - Time: 9.30 to 6.00 p.m.

2. DAY 1- By Ms Anjana Gosain and Mr. Manjeet Ahluwalia
 - (i) SESSION 1: CAPITULATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT
 - (ii) SESSION 2: APPLICABILITY OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AND INDIAN EVIDENCE ACT.
 - (iii) SESSION 3: DISCUSSION ON PENDING CASE AT INVESTIGATION STAGE

3. DAY 2- 13th May, 2012 – Time: 7.00a.m. to 3.00p.m.

Instructors – Ms. Anjana Gosain, Mr. Manjeet Ahluwalia and Mr.D.D.Gagoi

- (i) SESSION 1: MOCK CASE ENACTMENT- FIELD STUDY
- (ii) SESSION 2: INTERACTIVE SESSION, PARTICIPANT RESPONSE TO THE DEFICIENCIES OF THE PENDING CASES AND THE FIELD STUDY CASE.

INAUGURAL SESSION:

The introductory session was facilitated with Ms. Anjana Gosain, Hony. Secretary and Tiger Trust. She requested all present to observe a minutes silence in memory of late Sh. D. M. Singh, former CCF, Assam State Forest Department, who expired on May 10, 2012 after a prolonged illness. It was a highly nostalgic moment for all the officers of the Forest Department including Ms. Gosain, as she recalled his immense contribution to the cause of wildlife protection. The immense support, interest and encouragement that Sh. D. M. Singh had for the training program. He had always expressed the need for such trainings for the forest staff and had actively participated all trainings that were organised by Tiger Trust at Kaziranga National Park.

She then welcomed the participants to the second phase of Phase-II of the Capacity Building Program of the officers of the Forest Department, Assam, supported by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. She began her introductory note with a brief appraisal of the training programmes. She explained on the necessity of capacity building programmes and the basic objectives and motives of the programme. The concept of the training was to infuse a level of awareness and knowledge of the participating forest officers. She informed them that with the aid of specialised and highly professional faculty, it has always been strive to ensure that the trainings be used as a platform for honing the skills of the forest staff in understanding the legal and other technical aspects while handling a wildlife crime case. Reflecting on the fundamentals of the training, she proceeded to introduce the participants of the hierarchical nature of the training modules, this training was to be conducted on an advanced module which had been designed in keeping with the inputs of the senior forest officers of the Assam State Forest Department,

the feedback of the participants from earlier trainings and also from their interactions with experts in the field and also from many years of their experience in handling cases of wildlife offences.

Dwelling on the complexity of the nature of forest offences and the inherent technicality of the legal provisions, it was imperative for the staff to be acquainted about the nuances of prosecution in order to secure convictions. She encouraged the trainees to make the utmost of the training program and sought active participation from the participants in the discussion of the pending cases which would enlighten them on the various aspects of handling and dealing with technicalities of building up an effective case to be presented in a court of law. This, as she stressed would ensure realization of the vision of the training.

Speaking on the occasion, Sh. D.D.Gogoi, the Divisional Forest Officer shared his experiences of serving at Kaziranga National Park on a second tenure since 2008. He was appreciative of the training program and the benefits that had accrued to the frontline staff from the previous trainings that had been organised at Kaziranga National Park. He reminded the participants of how though the principal activities of his office has been prevention of hunting and securing the habitat of the Park, yet he at times had been much perturbed by the low level of confidence exhibited by the staff when on duty. This low morale, he stressed on was proving to be a great inhibiting factor and arises from a lack of requisite and proper knowledge of the forest staff on the laws and the powers that have been conferred to them in exercise of their duties with fear or inhibition. He however noted with great satisfaction that those who had been exposed to the training programs conducted by Tiger Trust had been highly benefited in the sense that it had instilled in them an awareness of their responsibilities and powers under the Wildlife Protection Act and the Forest Conservation Act. He also spoke eloquently on the various issues, including threats and vulnerabilities that the officers and the staff were

exposed to at Kaziranga National Park. He encouraged the participants to build up capacity within themselves and to be informed that legal provisions are weapons which can be used to address issues of wildlife crimes which have been burgeoning with the hunters perfecting and resorting to newer techniques, considering the lure of huge sums of money involved in it. Speaking on the efficacy of the earlier trainings that had been conducted, he said it had played a great role in lifting the veil of fear from the minds of those trainees who had attended the program earlier.

Sh. N.K. Vasu, the Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), (the successor), the Guest of Honour for the occasion applauded Tiger Trust for continuing the mission embarked on by Late Kailash Sankhla towards protection and conservation of tigers and its habitat. Kaziranga National Park is an open laboratory, he informed the participants where any framework for enforcement could be tested for efficacy. Enforcement he said, not only requires physical and mental skill but also an awareness of the legal nuances while dealing with cases of offences. It is the duty of the Investigating Officer, he maintained, to ensure that a proper case is build up by proper on the spot investigations and then ensure that can be effectively pursued in Court of Law to secure conviction of the offender. Such trainings provide a platform to the participants to learn but also share their experiences from the field, which could facilitate mutual learning and hence greatly aid in the momentous and arduous task of wildlife protection and conservation.

Delivering the vote of thanks, Manjit Singh Ahluwalia, on behalf of Tiger Trust, was appreciative of the initiative of the Forest Department in providing their consent to ensure that their officers are empowered to tackle effectively the legal hassles while conducting investigations, preparing a case, seeking prosecutions and ensuring convictions. He enjoined the participants to develop certain effective practices, which would translate into effective enforcement skills, like maintaining case diary. He also emphasised upon the

necessity of the police and the forest officials working in close coordination. He expressed his concern at the increasing number of wildlife cases pending with the courts which not only delays but also inhibits conviction of the offender.



Anjana Gosain delivering the inaugural address.



DFO, Kaziranga, Sh.D.D.Gogoi addressing the participants



CCF(Wildlife),Sh.N.K.Vasu at the inaugural program

OPENING SESSION:

SECTION I:

Brief Revision of Important provisions of Wildlife Protection Act, Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Evidence Act-

Ms. Anjana Gosain facilitated this session. Introducing the participants to a brief on the historical background of the various phases and outline of the enactment of legislative provisions for protection of wildlife. Reinforcing the inadequacy of the existing regulatory mechanisms in dealing with wildlife crimes, she stressed on coordinated actions, which called for building capacity for scientific and professional investigation. She then proceeded on to discuss the salutary provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 along with explaining it in conjunction with the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 which grant effective powers to the forest officials for detection, investigation and prosecution of wildlife crimes.

Her presentation was an interesting exposition of the various provisions and gradually progressing from definition/provisions of the act to subsequent rules and regulations. The officials of the forest department have a formidable and challenging task to perform as wardens of the forest, being bestowed with immense powers and great responsibilities in carrying out their duties as protectors of wildlife. Emphasizing it as imperative on the part of the enforcement officers to understand the application of the law when dealing with wildlife offences, a thorough working knowledge of the clauses in the Acts meant to ensure protection of wildlife, as she pointed out, becomes crucial. She considered it appalling considering stringent penalties that the violators and offenders of wildlife would escape prosecutions due to lack of procedural information on the part of the investigating authority, that is the forest officers as regards the nature and scope of the legal provisions. Hence, the legal orientation of the forest officials becomes vital.

Beginning with explaining in detail the methodology of reading the Acts which is vital to understanding the application of the various clauses in the act, she explained in detail the difference between an 'Act', 'Provision' and 'Rule' including meanings attribute to 'Provision', 'Rule' and 'Regulation' in legal terminology. She then proceeded to discuss the definitions which are often ignored by the forest staff as 'Wild Animal' under Section 3, definition of 'Habitat', definition of 'Weapon', including a revision of all the six schedules of the Wildlife Protection Act, which were explained in detail by her. This exercise was an attempt to enable the participants to understand as to what are the important details which are required to be mentioned in a seizure memo which forms an essential part of the offence report which is submitted when a case is filed in a court of law and which could have a significant bearing on the decision.

She meticulously explained all the relevant provisions, which would be of practical utility to the trainees. The trainees were asked to read out from the booklets on Wildlife Protection Act 1972, which were made available to each trainee prior to the session. The trainees were informed on the Legislative enactments, including the methodology of reading and interpreting the various clauses and sub-clauses including Sec 51 (A), Sec 35, Sec 37 of the WPA, including distinguishing between complex terminologies as difference between 'animal' and 'meat' etc. They were also informed of the essential legal provisions which are to be taken note on when preparing a case, including registering an FIR, conducting search operations, seizure and investigation process, filing complaint under Cr.P.C. collection and recording of evidence and examination and cross-examination during trial. Ms. Gosain meticulously explained the various facets and implications of loopholes in the seizure memo, mentioning all the finer details which are to be entered to avoid any opportunity to the defence when the case would come up for hearing in a court of law . Citing her experiences of dealing with wildlife

crimes and criminals, she impressed upon the participants of the need to be mentally, physically and legally prepared to tackle any hurdle, which may arise in the course of cross-examinations in the Court where they could be put to great unease with a volley of questions. She asked them to prepare themselves well in advance for any contingency if they want to seek effective prosecution and secure convictions. They were explained and also it was reinforced upon the participants to ensure that the trainees follow and keep themselves updated of the various amendments that had been effected in the Wildlife Protection Act, which had armed them with adequate powers to ensure smooth conduct of their responsibilities. Ms. Gosain ensured that the session was made as interactive as possible and encouraged the trainees to put up as many queries as they could. On occasions, the trainees were even asked to put up their experiences from the field and the lacunae were then pointed out to them. The participants welcomed this and they enjoyed the theory-practical orientation of the session. Increased awareness enhances as she argued, the morale and dedication of the forest staff a crucial ingredient of the successful how implementation of the legislative provisions aimed at empowering the forest staff.

This she emphasised, assumed an imperative status considering the unique topography of the Kaziranga National Park and the preventive staff involved in protection of wildlife. She informed the officials that successful convictions are decided upon a complete trial, therefore it is imperative to conduct professional investigation along with other measures. Explaining each important provision in detail, of particular relevance, as she stressed was awareness of the laws, their applicability and proper enforcement. This she informed, is necessary, to ensure that the Court takes note of the application and puts it up for hearing. She offered suggestions to the forest officers on effective techniques of on the spot investigation, which is the most crucial part of the entire exercise of seeking convictions for criminal offences,

including seizure of documents, tools etc., receiving and recording evidence, cross-examination of the poachers, statement of confessions and on many other relevant aspects of investigations.

The session ended with giving the details of other relevant provisions of primary and secondary evidence and the practical aspect of making an application to the court for seeking permission to lead secondary evidence in case the original documents such as the gazette notification of the park, any other public document which cannot be produced but certified copies can sought to be placed on record.

Ms. Anjana Gosain apprised the trainees of the importance of a seizure memo and also the method of its preparation. Besides, her session was basically focused on a practical demonstration of the preparation of the FIR, handling of witnesses and their statements, relevant documents. In addition, she spoke on the technicalities of the law when it comes to preparing a case and putting it up in a court of law. She explained to the trainees the various legal terms and its meaning and relevance; as 'Benefit of Doubt', 'Presume', 'Conclusive Proof' along with it explaining the various sections which attract the commission of an offence under the WPA Act and under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the CrPC (Code of Criminal Procedure) under Section 86, Recording of confession, section 26: section 27: section 41: section 137: section 138: section 140: section 142: recording of evidence, Examination, Cross Examination, Statement of Witness etc. Her session basically stressed the necessity of putting up a proper case and ensuring quality witnesses in the Court.

Ms. Gosain then proceeded to inform the trainees of the field training. Forest Kits specially designed as per Wildlife Institute of India standards, were then distributed to the trainees as resource material. It was explained:

- That whenever a search is conducted, gloves should be worn.

- The participants were shown how the surgical blade and the plucker, is to be used to cut any article which is then to be measured with an inch-tape which is to be used for the measurement
- Samples are to be collected in a plastic bottle to lift the piece of meat along with silica crystals.
- Plastic pouches are important to lift the scat, hair, blood and any stained mud.
- The use of magnifying glass.
- Measuring tape to seal the sample collected.
- Cloth

Seal of the department which was not provided since every state has a different seal.



Participants at the Opening Session

SESSION II:

Applicability of Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Evidence Act on the Wildlife Crime by Manjit Singh Ahluwalia:

Co-facilitating the session, Sh. Manjit Ahluwlia focused on the relevant provisions of the Indian Criminal Procedure Act and the Indian Evidence Act as regards its applicability to various aspects of crime related to wildlife offences. His session was an in depth analysis of Sec 51 (A) of the WPA in consonance with the various provisions that were outlined in the Indian Evidence Act. Lamenting that nearly 70 % of the cases which come up for hearing are dismissed by the Court as 'not proved', solely because of lack of proper presentation of the evidence at hand. It is this context as Mr. Ahluwalia highlighted, arises a pressing need of removing this serious loophole in the implementation of wildlife laws. Aimed at acquainting the participants with legal terminology, he defined and explained specific clauses to be adhered to while filing a complaint and framing charges. His session was aimed at accustoming the participants to various sections of the IPC (Indian Penal Code) and with various legal nomenclatures as apprising the participants of the legal meaning of terms as: Mr.Ahluwalia also emphasized on the definition clauses which are extremely important under the Act. He stressed on the following terms:

- i) Court
- ii) Fact
- iii) Relevant
- iv) Facts in issue
- v) Document
- vi) Evidence
- vii) Proved

viii) Disproved /Not Proved

He mentioned the important stages in the preparation of a case by the Prosecution. This, as he notified made it extremely important for the forest officers to be aware and updated on legal terminologies and their application, as there are various types of complaint cases that deal with either pre-charged or post charged evidence. Explaining the relevant provisions of the Indian Evidence Act in consonance with the various provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act as Section 50 of WPA; Article 39;39(A);Article 50(3)(A); Section 50 of CrPC; Section 154 of CrPC; Section 49 of CrPC; Section 57 of CrPC; Section 362 of CrPC; Section 190 of CrPC; Section 250 of CrPC etc. Explaining the role of the officer on duty, of the investigating officer, his responsibilities and powers, appreciation of the evidence and the techniques of collecting evidence, seizing documents, vehicle etc. and most important of all presenting the evidence formed important components of his session. The accurate and proper presentation of evidence and arming the case with relevant facts is a must, he reiterated and proceeded on to elaborate certain relevant sections of the Cr.PC (Criminal Procedure Code). The forest officers are required to be aware of laws and the action to be pursued within the ambit of the powers granted to the forest officers by the law for framing charges against the accused, ensuring that he pleads guilty and the violator is properly booked under the relevant sections and can be effectively prosecuted in a Court of Law, he explained. Manjit also focused on the importance of understanding the psychology of the offender. The finer details of confessions and their procedures were explained to be recorded by the designated officer, in terms of the various legal pronouncements laid down. The other provisions which were explained in detail were with regard to documentary evidence and secondary evidence. The requirement of documentary evidence and how it is to be proved was also explained. He stressed on the relevance of proper documentation, which would ensure protection to the enforcement officers

while securing significant terms of imprisonment and fines for the violators. The entire deficiency in securing effective convictions could be handled with ease as he pointed out, by following the procedures and guidelines as prescribed by the Court of Law.



Manjit S. Ahluwalia attending to queries during his session

DISCUSSION ON PENDING CASES IN THE DISTRICT OF KAZIRANGA

Case No: I

Title of the Case: State Vs Golap Patgiri and Anil Doley

Presented below is an Analysis of the investigations carried out by the Forest Department and the Solutions suggested by the panel consisting of Ms. Anjana Gosain, Mr. Manjit Singh Ahluwalia.

Brief Facts of the Case: Presented by Mr.K. Deori (RO, Eastern Assam Wildlife Division).

- On 20/09/2011, accused No.1 Anil Doley and accused No.2 Babla Barua along with accused No.3 Golap Patgiri accompanied a Naga shooter within approximately 50 meters near the boundary of Kaziranga National Park, sensing danger they retreated. An ambush was placed to capture the poachers along with their weapon .303 rifle.
- Information with regard to infiltration from Dimapur into Kaziranga National Park (KNP) by Accused No. 1, Accused No. 2 and the Naga sharp shooter from eastern boundary at night. The forest party followed them to the residence of Padmeshwar Pegu of Bokakhat district.
- The Accused No. 1, Golap Patgiri was found hiding in the said premises and was nabbed.
- He took the forest party for the recovery of the rifle buried in the backyard of the said premises along with one silencer and 10 rounds of live bullets, two axes and one dao.

- However, in the entire process, Accused No. 2 Barua and the Naga person managed to escape.
- During cross-questioning, Accused No. 1 confessed to have conspired to enter KNP and kill Rhino for its horn along with Accused No. 2 and the Naga person under the guidance and direction of Accused No. 3. He also admitted that the rifle, ammunitions and silencer belonged to Accused No. 3.
- Preliminary investigations revealed that the Entire conspiracy hatched by Accused No. 3, Golap Patgiri, and the king pin and leader of the gang. Accused No. 3 was nabbed from his residence and cross questioned.
- Accused No. 3 confessed to have being in possession of illegally procured .303 rifle since a long time. Further, confessed to his involvement in the conspiracy and crime.
- Accused No. 2, Barua (Doley) is absconding and evading arrest.

The participants after considering the facts pointed out some major deficiencies that needed to be addressed:

Jyotirmouy Barua, Western Assam Wildlife Division, pointed out two major deficiencies as:

- The provisions indicated in the cases are Sections 9, 27, 31, 49(a), 49(b), 50(C) Section 50(C) is relates to the powers of the forest officer and cannot be indicated in the FIR for the offence.
- When the accused was arrested with arms, there should be a separate case registered under the Arms Act.

Arabinda Talukdar,RO, Karbi Anglong West Division, sought a clarification on whether:

- The time factor should have been considered - as to when the accused Shri Anil Doley was arrested. This would give enough questioning by the defence counsel while cross-examining the IO at the time of evidence. Unanimously, the participants agreed when the faculty also pointed out that this is a fatal mistake.

Further, **Ms.Gosain discussed further relevant issues associated with the case along with highlighting some points which should have been considered:**

- With regard to the confession statement made by accused No.1 i.e. Anil Doley who mentioned the name of accused No2. Babla Barua. The said confession can only be made applicable to accused No.1 and cannot be treated as a confession of Accused No.2
- Along with complaint no time was entered in the FIR and no scene of crime or site plan was also not filed. This is a serious lacuna because the scene of crime or the site plan is a must to show from where the recovery or the accused were arrested.
- The point of tip-off was frequently used in all the cases without referring to the source of information. The details with regard to the time of interrogation and recording the statement were not only vague but unreliable. Hence, the prosecution case does stand any chance of conviction.

Recommendations:

It was recommended that the Investigation conducted and the case prepared is weak considering that the Forest department chose to ignore and sidelined many significant facets that should have been considered before registering a case. It revealed distrust between the forest and police personnel, though as DFO, Eawl, Sh.D.D. Gogoi clarified that since the police is heavily involved in counter-insurgency operations, they cannot be blamed for their reluctance.

- It was recommended that the department must file an application in the Court for cancellation of the bail of the accused.
- Since the department had acted on a tip-off from an 'erstwhile offender', they should have enquired if there was any offence report against him. It was suggested that the department should find out any case ever registered against him and declare him to be a 'reformed witness'.



Case No: II

Title of the Case: State Vs Ganesh Pegu and Others.

Brief Facts of the Case: Presented by Mr. Amrit Doley, Western Assam Wildlife Division:

- Through an intelligence input, it was learnt that a gang of rhino poachers are conspiring to enter into Kaziranga National Park (KNP) through the eastern boundary of Eastern range, Agoratoli.
- Sources identified two members of the gang of rhino poachers, Accused No.1, Ganesh Pegu and Accused No.2, Latu Kutum found to be making plans for shooting rhino with a .303 rifle for its horn. It was later found out that the duo was already in possession of two .303 rifles.
- On 20/09/2011, a secret tip-off was received that Accused No.1, Ganesh Pegu and Accused No. 2, Latu Kutum have gone to Dimapur to receive and escort one shooter to be arranged by one Mr. John.
- Four days later, on 24.09.2011, at around 2.30 pm, Accused Nos. 1 and 2 were nabbed from NH 39 at Juria Dolong Beat of Golaghat Forest Division while they were returning in a public passenger bus.
- The next day, on 25/09/2011 at around 12 am at night, cross-examination of Accused No. 2, Latu Kutum led to recovery of his weapon .303 rifle and 8 rounds of live bullets in the house of Mr. Miney Chetry. Accused No.2 also confessed to have killed Rhino on earlier occasion in KNP, Agoratoli with same .303 rifle on 13.05.2011 with 3 other accomplices
- Around 1.30 am, the investigators were able to secure confessions from Accused No.1, Ganesh Pegu which led to the residence of Accused No.3, Shri Dibyajyoti Doley.

- Accused No. 3 was picked up from his residence and after cross questioning led to the recovery of another .303 rifle with 11 live bullets and one silencer kept hidden in a bush in the said premises

The participants after considering the facts pointed out some major deficiencies that needed to be addressed:

Pranab Teron, RO, Karbi Anglong pointed out :

- That the provisions of Section 50(b) and (c), Wildlife Protection (Assam Amendment) Act, 2009 cannot be incorporated in the complaint as these are procedure and powers.
- Details of when they were detained, questioned, time, place are totally missing.

Pankaj Kalita, RO, Jorhat Division, further enquired :

- Whether it was not necessary to disclose the bus number of the public transport in which the accused were apprehended or travelling? The faculty pointed out that it was a serious lacunae on the part of the department.

Anjan Kumar Das, RO, Sonitpur East Division pointed out :

- The entire time period and the sequence of chain of events are not properly inked.
- All the confessions seem to have taken place in one go by probably on 25.09.2011.

Ms.Gosain further mentioned another significant loophole:

- In the application made to the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Golaghat, the Range Forest Officer has mentioned that the accused persons were cross-questioned and they confessed of their involvement.

After elaborate discussions, the following Recommendations were put forward by the expert faculty:

- The RO (Range officer) should have mentioned that the accused persons were interrogated, investigated and their evidences were recorded wherein they have confessed of their involvement.
- The incidents appear to have been given in a sequence where it seems that the poachers were waiting to be detained, questioned and arrested.
- The confessions can only be looked into after examining the content. However, it is not clear why Sections 49(a), 49(b), WP Act have been shown in the FIR.



Case No: III

Title of the Case: State Vs Sisuram Pegu and others.

Brief Facts of the Case: Presented and explained by Mr. Pradeep Das, RO, Digboi Division. Co-presenter: Mr. Prahlad Kro, Karbi Anglong East Division.

- On 24/05/2010, Kartik Pegu entered KNP illegally at night along with Ganesh Pegu and an unidentified poacher with a .303 rifle with an intention to poach rhinos.
- On the same day at around, 5:45 a.m, the staff of Shola and Duramani camp inside the KNP, while on ambush duties spotted three unidentified persons along with one rifle, who had entered KNP illegally. The three persons were moving in a line and were spotted from a distance of about 60 to 70 meters.
- Having seen the forest staff on duty, they started to run. The Foresters on duty alerted the Range Headquarter as well as the neighbouring camps. All probable exit routes were guarded by the staff.
- The search operations commenced in the field comprising of dense tall grass and jungles. Foot prints of the poachers were found on the muddy ground. The same were trailed very cautiously, which moved towards north and east directions.
- At around 11.05 am, following the footprints for 06 to 700 meters, suddenly, two rounds were fired towards the Forest Staff. This resulted in exchange of fire and one of the poachers was hit by .303 rifle bullet, who succumbed and died.
- The main poacher could not be identified but appeared to be an inhabitant of either Nagaland, Manipur or Nagaland.
- On further tip off, Kartik Pegu was apprehended for cross-questioning.

- Both Kartik and Sisuram Pegu, younger brother of Kartik Pegu are serial poachers
- Both of them were in possession of .303 rifles, which have not yet been recovered as they were kept buried in the house of Sisuram Pegu and were removed by their accomplices at night.

The participants after considering the facts pointed out some major deficiencies that needed to be addressed:

Mr. Manjit S.Ahluwalia initially pointed out a few ambiguities, which he explained could influence on the court proceedings.

- The secret tip off on intelligence reports about Kartik Pegu is not clear.
- Where and how was he detained?
- How was the confession recorded?

Mr.Praneswar Das, Sonitpur East Division, mentioned:

- On record, the accused had allegedly entered on the night of 25.4.2010.The presence of the accused on 25.04.2010 is not connecting well.
- The provisions are mentioned promptly without connecting with the incident.

Ms. Gosain then put a question to the range officers of KNP:

- Whether any article is seized or not, is not mentioned?
- Was there any actual poaching is not known?
- The documents annexed are the remand application is of the incident relating to 7.5.2010 are incomplete.



Sh. K. Deori (RO, Kaziranga), presenting the case



Ms.Gosain interacting with the participants



A particiapant presenting his queries during the case

DAY 2: SESSION 1:

MOCK CASE ENACTMENT-FIELD STUDY-

The said exercise was undertaken at 7.00a.m. because of the peak summer. The trainees were divided into two teams who first reported in the auditorium. They were explained the facts of the case for which the field study had to be undertaken. The facts were explained which took nearly one hour and the teams were formed. The participants were served the breakfast in the auditorium and were transported to the field along with the faculty in gypsies, which had been hired from the forest department to the field training station at Kohora range of Kaziranga National Park. The trainees along with the faculty arrived at 9.00 a.m. in the field.

Participants in course of Field Training-

Before the commencement of the field training, Ms. Anjana facilitated a quick recapitulation of the major provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972 including relevant provisions of the Act, as Section 9, Section 37, Section 48A, Section 51A, etc. These had formed the major part of the discussions during the first training of Phase II that had been conducted at Guwahati. However, since most of the participants were attending the workshop for the first time, it was essential that they be briefed on the details that they were to keep in mind during the field training.

Ms. Anjana then proceeded to apprise the participants of the importance of the mock case session, which was to be conducted within the precincts of the Kohora Range of the Kaziranga National Park. Elaborating on the significance of such exercises, she informed the participants that this exercise meant translating the classroom teaching into a practical demonstration that would

enable the participants to be clearly acquainted with their strengths and weaknesses when conducting the investigations.

The participants were divided into two groups-one the accused party and the other the investigating team. They were then briefed on the mock case that was to be carried out.

This was expected to inform the participants of the nuances of on-the-spot investigations. Most importantly, it was expected that the trainees would take proper cognizance of the mock crime and prepare seizure-memo and seizure report. The imperative of conducting proper investigations can hardly be overestimated, as it is only a proper investigation that can lead into successful prosecutions. The mock cases were expected to familiarize the trainees with the nuances of conducting proper investigation, including observation of scene of crime, proper collection of samples etc.

Ms Anjana Gosain gave the following brief facts for the mock case to be investigated upon by the trainees.

Name of the Village –Dhubaati, KNP.

The forest department post at this Village receives the information of presence of three suspicious persons within the fringe of the park. The guard on duty inside the park also reports the presence of a suspicious person. Within 15 minutes the forest department is alerted and a group of officers including forest guards are rushed to the spot. The teams were divided for prosecution and defence. The scene of crime was inside the park. The investigating officer in the flying squad questions two suspicious looking person who have been detained by the forest guard on duty. He deposes two Conservators and a Range Officer for investigations on foot. This entire exercise takes around 35 minutes.

The Range Officer while walking finds an empty bottle of liquor, match box, some blood and on search a rhino horn. He calls out for the other forest staff to lift the evidence and cordon the area by asking for extra force. The entire situation takes around 25 minutes. The staff is asked to go to various directions and were Range Officer Harinath comes across two villagers who are in an inebriated state. However, with persistent questioning, he utters the name of few villagers who are supposedly within the vicinity. The extra staff is mobilized and other two villagers are apprehended. The entire exercise takes another 60 minutes.

What the trainees were asked to do?

- a) The prosecution team had to lift the evidence;
- b) It had to question the villager and seek information;
- c) Recovery of the empty bottle and other evidence from the alleged accused;
- d) Preparation of the site plan along with recovery memo;
- e) Recording of statement by the Range Officer of the villagers and the witnesses on the spot.

Defence Team

- a) To deny the offence or any plans to do so.
- b) Send information to the Villagers for coming to the scene of crime for obstructing the investigations.
- c) Not to help out in recovery of the tools used for the offence, if any.

The entire mock case was narrated to the other participants who were expected to note down their own observations while the mock case was being enacted by the team and record their responses-prepare their own seizure memos, while also taking into account the loopholes that they could pinpoint while the mock investigations were being carried out.

The field training began with the facilitators along with the entire team of faculty members and trainees moving to the spot, which had been selected for the training after much careful inspection. Each detail had been worked out very carefully so that the enactment would appear as real life as could be made into. At the forests post near Kohora range of the Kaziranga Park, as per the facts there was some likelihood of hunting of rhino around that area. The information was received by the forest post within a few seconds. The forest squad went into action and in 10 mns. The gypsy arrived with the patrolling team, consisting of the RO and two foresters. At around 11.20 am, the stage was finally set for the mock case investigations

SPOT DETECTION AND INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE IN THE FIELD STUDY-

The moment the information of a possible instance of poaching was received on the wireless, the raiding party arrived on the spot and took the rounds of the open field, as they do in real raids and the two villagers started fleeing. They were nabbed and taken to a secluded place. The Range Officer tried to seek information from the said villager as to what he was doing in the field since he did not have anything with him to prove that he had any lawful purpose to be there. They persuaded and interrogated him for quite some time but he did not yield any information immediately. They decided to segregate the other accused and tried to persuade him to give the information on the ground that the other accused had divulged the information of him being informed to kill the rhino. The accused on hearing this broke down and confessed that the other accused was equally involved and he had nothing much to say beyond the fact that they had come to kill the rhino for its horn which was highly valued in the international market. Immediately a seizure memo was prepared. The raiding party was convinced about the involvement of a gang of hunters. They recovered articles and after they were seized, the seizure memo was prepared. The other two villagers who were caught were

found in an inebriated state and they tried to record their statements. The staff on the spot prepared the skit plan, recorded the statement and prepared the seizure memo. The entire field training was participated with great enthusiasm.

The entire exercise was concluded around 12.30 pm. The trainees were then transported back to the Convention Centre where the post-lunch session involved another round of brainstorming on the pending cases and the case study in the field.



Explaining facts of the case during the mock case exercise



Participants taking notes of the facts explained by Ms.Gosain



Enacting the case on field



Discussions on individual observations during the mock case exercise

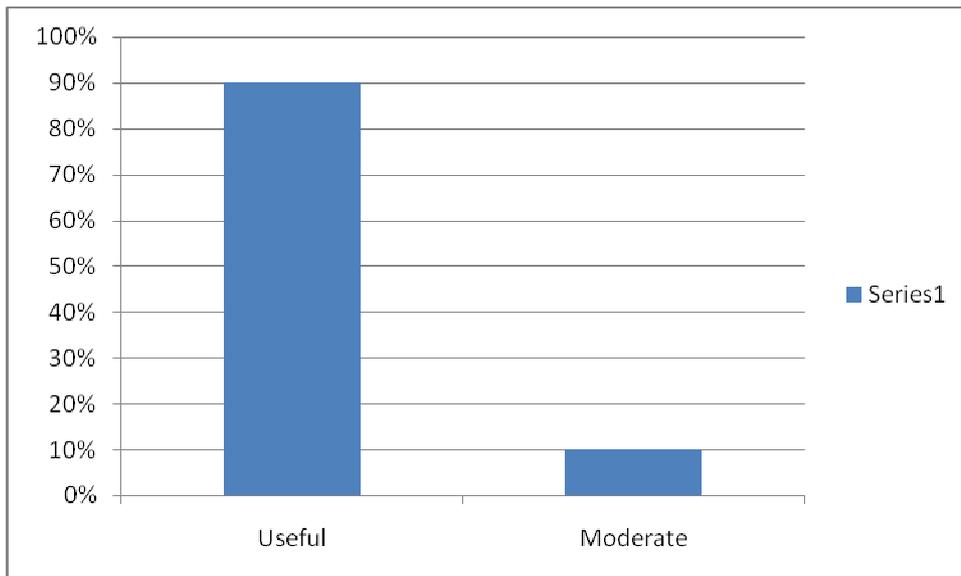
FEEDBACK & EVALUATION

Since Tiger Trust had stressed on a homogenous batch of forest officers, in this case, Range Officers, proved a worthy pursuit. The trainees were unanimous that they had been much benefited by the case discussions and exposure to the field training. In fact, Ms. Gosain was much appreciative of the proactivity of the officers present and acknowledged that it had been a great learning experience for the faculty as well. The feedback received from the participants is always an indicator of the level of confidence that the programmes conducted by Tiger Trust have been successful in allaying apprehensions and empowering the staff with requisite knowledge and skills. The participants on their part indicated that such skill upgradation training workshops are a must if the department is keen on an effective forest force for combating crime and preservation of wildlife.

Participant responses to the training Programme:

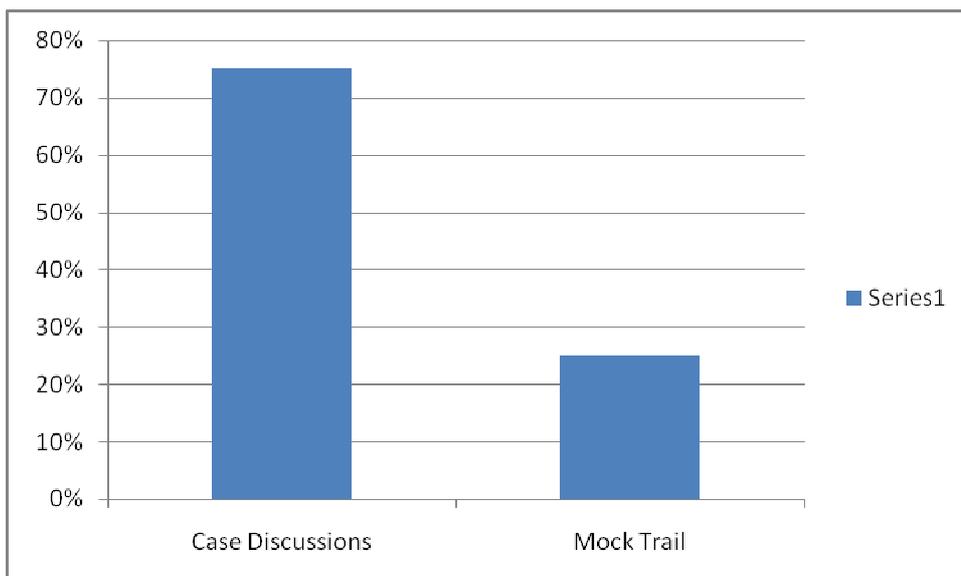
➤ **Have you found this “Hunting the Hunters programme” useful?**

The module, case studies, presentations and the entire execution of the training programme was applauded not only by the trainees but also by the Senior Forest officers. Around 90% of the participants found the programme useful while 10% admitted there was scope for improvement.



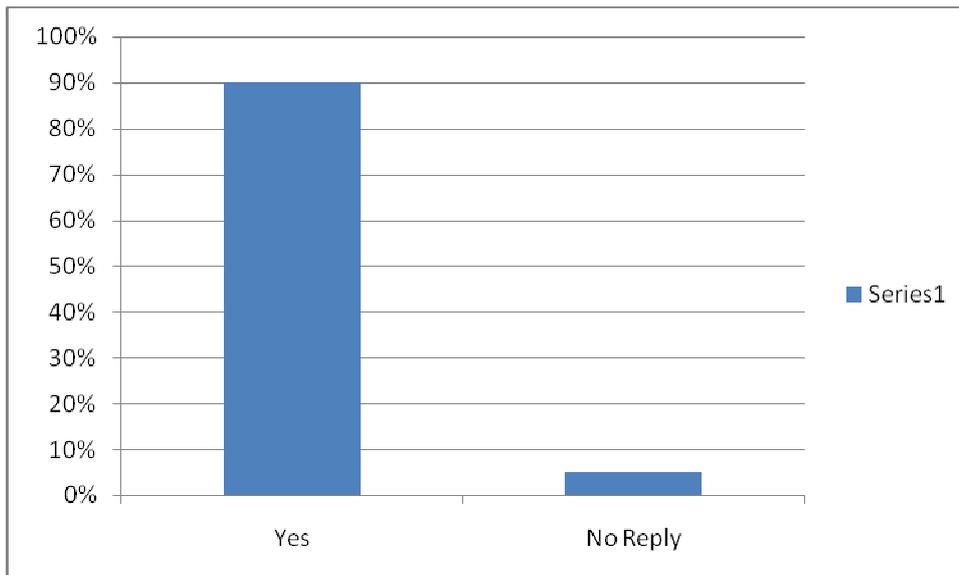
➤ **Which of the three topics you found most interesting?**

The feedback revealed that 75% of the participants expressed that they really benefited from the case discussions, 25 %of the participants found mock case trial to be a fruitful exercise. The participant response indicated that they found the sessions on the case discussions highly relevant followed by procedures which have to be observed so that they can build up a strong case and court pleadings respectively.



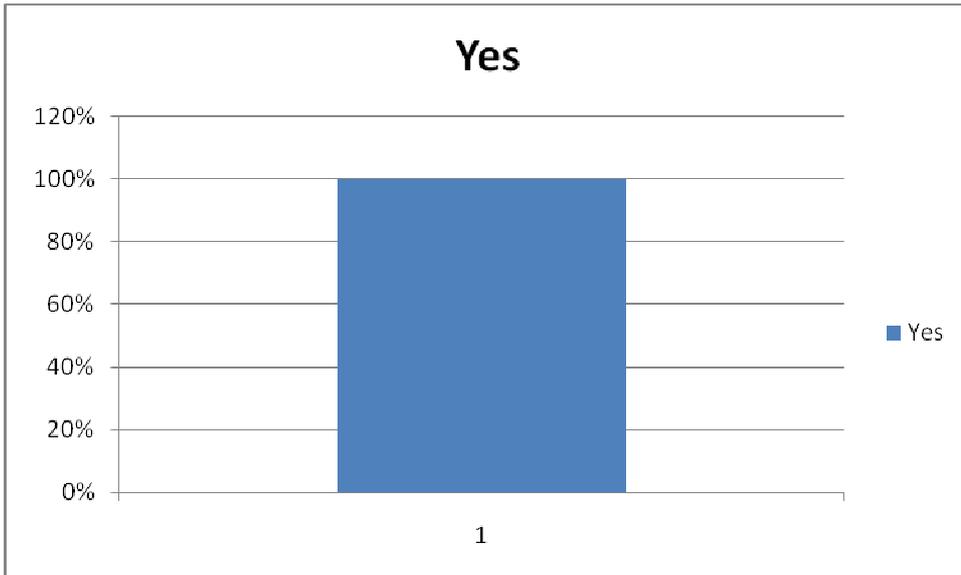
➤ **Whether these topics were adequately addressed by the trainers?**

90% of the participants expressed their satisfaction with the trainers exposition of the various topics while around 05% of the participants did not participate in the questionnaire.



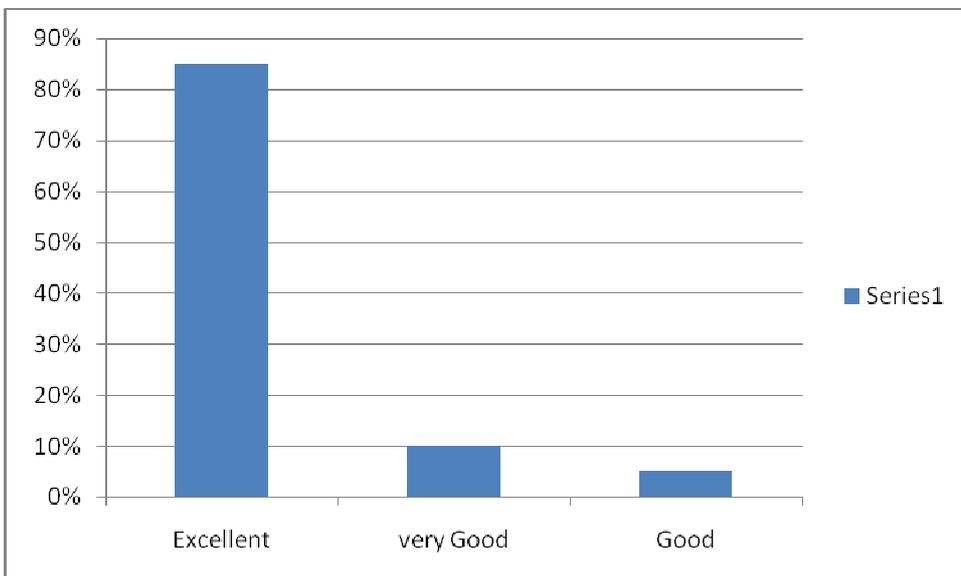
➤ **Whether this training program is useful and beneficial towards better law implementation to combat wildlife crime?**

Almost all the participants acknowledged that the modules had been very beneficial and practice oriented.



➤ **Quality of the Resource Persons-**

The resource persons received much appreciation for being focused, articulate and dedicated.



ANNEXURES:

1. SCHEDULE FOR THE PROGRAMME:



SCHEDULE FOR THE WORKSHOP – DAY I **VENUE: CONVENTION CENTRE, KOHORA** **12.05.2012**

9.30-10.00	Registration of participants for the training at Convention Centre
10.00-10.35	Inaugural ceremony by Sh.Suresh Chand, PCCF (Wildlife) and Ms. Anjana Gosain, Hony. Secretary.
10.35-11.00	High Tea
11.05-1.00	Recapitulation of previous training by the faculty
1.00-2.00	Lunch
2.00- 3.30-	Presentation and Discussions on pending cases and redressal by the faculty including SP Singh, CCF(Wildlife), Ms. Anjana Gosain and Mr. Manjit Ahluwalia
3.30-4.00	Tea
4.00- 5.30	Overview on the field procedures by Mr.Manjit Singh Ahluwalia.
5.30- 6.15	Concept of the Field Training, Distribution of the Team and Briefing on the Mock Case.

DAY II
13.05.2012

7.45- 11.30	Enactment of the Scene of Crime-
11.35-1.00	Analysis of field training and applicability of Section 50, Wildlife Protection Act on the field procedures.
1.05-2.00	Lunch
2.00-3.15	Feedback and Analysis of the Field Training facilitated by Ms. Anjana Gosan and Sh. S.P Singh, CCF(Wildlife)
3.15-4.00	Tea to be followed by Vote of Thanks and Conclusion

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE TRAINING:



Registration Form

Legal Training Workshop, Tiger Trust, in collaboration with USFWS and supported by Assam State Forest Department.

12 and 13 May, 2012 at Kaziranga National Park.

Sl.No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	DIVISION
1.	RANJIT MEDHI	Range Officer	SIBSAGAR
2.	HAMIDUR KHAN	Range Officer	SIBSAGAR
3.	D.J. BURAGOHAIN	Forester	DIBRUGARH
4.	M.C.DAS	Range Officer	DIBRUGARH
5.	ARABINDA TALUKDAR	Forester	KARBI ANGLONG WEST
6.	PRANAB TERON	Forester	KARBI ANGLONG WEST
7.	AMRIT DOLEY	Forester	WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE
8.	JYOTIRMOY BARUA	Range Officer	WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE
9.	BHANU BORA	Range Officer	WESTERN ASSAM WILDLIFE
10.	DINARAM BORDOLI	Range Officer	NAGAON(WL)
11.	DILIP CHANDRA	Forester	NAGAON(WL)

	BAIDYA		
12.	RINMONI SAIKIA	Range Officer	TINSUKIA(WL)
13.	NEPAL MONDAL	Forester	SONITPUR(EAST)
14.	PRANESWAR DAS	Range Officer	SONITPUR(EAST)
15.	P.D.NATH	Range Officer	GOLAGHAT
16.	S.BORDOLOI	Range Officer	GOLAGHAT
17.	PANKAJ KALITA	Forester	JORHAT
18.	JOY RAM BARUAH	Forester	JORHAT
19.	PRAHLAD KRO	Range Officer	KARBI ANGLONG EAST
20.	D.RONGHANG	Range Officer	KARBI ANGLONG EAST
21.	ANJAN KR.DAS	Forester	SONITPUR WEST
22.	JAGDISH DAS	Range Officer	SONITPUR WEST
23.	SWAPAN PHUKAN	Forester	NAGAON(SOUTH)
24.	JIBAN CH.BORA	Range Officer	NAGAON(SOUTH)
25.	PRADEEP DAS	Range Officer	DIGBOI
26.	N.GOHAIN	Forester	DIGBOI
27.	SALIM AHMED	Range Officer	MANGALDOI
28.	N.DAS	Forester	NAGAON(TERRITORIAL)
29.	U.SHARMA	Forester	NAGAON(TERRITORIAL)

3.LETTER FROM CCF(WILDLIFE)TO DIVISIONS SEEKING NOMINATIONS:

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, WILDLIFE,
BASISTHA, GUWAHATI-781029.**

No. WL/PF/WORKSHOP/Pt.

dt. 30/5/2012.

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Assam, Rehabari, Guwahati-8.

Subj:- Legal Training (Phase-II) at Kaziranga Tiger Reserve on 12-13 May/2012.

Sir,

It is to inform you that Tiger Trust, a Non Government Organization, New Delhi in Collaboration of Wildlife Wing, Assam is organizing a training workshop on 12-13 May, 2012 at Kaziranga Tiger Reserve under the capacity Building Programme. Having the Hunter Phase - II.

In this connection, the Range officers from Wildlife Division and territorial Forest Division are proposed as participants for the said training as per list enclosed. It is requested to kindly issue the necessary instruction to the concerned Divisional Forest officers for nominating the name of Range Officers for their respective division to attend the workshop.

Incl:- As above.

Yours faithfully,


Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam.

Copy to:-

- 1) The Chief Conservator of Forests (U), Upper Assam Zone, Guwahati-1 for information.
- 2) The Chief Conservator of Forests (L), Lower Assam Zone, Guwahati-1 for information.
- 3) All concerned Divisional Forest Officer for information and necessary action. They are requested to send the name of Range Officer alongwith their e-mail address, mobile phone No. in order to contact them for intimation the detail programme of training.
- 4) The Director, Kaziranga National Park, Bokakhat for information and necessary action.
- 5) The Divisional Forest Officer, Western Assam WL, Divn./Mimgaldoi WL, Divn./Nagaon WL, Divn./Tinsukia WL, Divn. for information and similar necessary action.
- 6) Ms. Anjana Gossain, Hony. Secretary, Tiger Trust, Founder Kailash Sanikhala, 206, Rakeshdeep, 11 Commercial Complex, Gulmohar Enclave, New Delhi- 110 049, India, for information and necessary action.


Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Assam.

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS:WILDLIFE:ASSAM
BASISTHA:GUWAHATI-29

No.WL/FG/Workshop/Pt

dt. 05.05.2012

To

The Divisional Forest Officer,
(1) Sibsagar Divn (2) Dibrugarh Divn (3) Western Assam WL Divn (4) Eastern Assam
WL Divn (5) Karbi-Anglong East Divn (6) Karbi-Anglong West Divn (7) Nagaon WL
Divn (8) Nagaon South Divn (9) Nagaon Territorial Divn (10) Tinsukia WL Divn (11)
Sonitpur East Divn (12) Sonitpur West Divn (13) Golaghat Divn (14) Jorhat Divn (15)
Digboi Divn (16) Mangaldoi Divn.

Sub:- Legal training workshop for forest officers being organised by Tiger Trust, India on
12 – 13th May, 2012 at Kaziranga National Park.

Ref:- This office letter No. WL/FE/WORKSHOP/ Pt dtd. 26.03.2012.

Please refer to this office letter under reference nominating various officers and
staff of your division for the said training to be conducted by Tiger Trust on 12 -13th May,
2012.

You are directed to confirm their participation to the organizers by e mail and allow
them to attend the said training.


(Suresh Chand)

PCCF (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden: Assam

E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCES WITH THE FOREST DEPARTMENT FOR THE SECOND TRAINING OF PHASE-II

1.Dates for second training-Tiger Trust

Kawaldeep Kour 11/16/11

to pccf.wl, ccf.wl

Dear Sir,

Greetings from Tiger Trust, India.

This is with reference to the second part of our legal training programme. As per your suggestion, the third week of April would be convenient timings for the field training programme.

However, may we seek your proposition on conducting the training in February 2012 before the onset of the rainy season as this would be a field training. We propose to then conduct the final in-house training programme which we had proposed for the DFO's.

We look forward to your suggestions.

Regards,
Ms. Anjana Gosain
Hony.Secretary, Tiger Trust India.

2.Holding of Capacity Building Programme under Hunting The Hunters-II, Assam as second training for the field at Kaziranga National Park

Jan 16
Kawaldeep Kour

to dfo.eawl

Dear Mr.Gogoi,

Greetings from Tiger Trust India!

Tiger Trust is thankful to the Forest Department for granting the opportunity for holding the capacity-building programme in Assam. In the second phase, as per the syllabus and module, we require the trainees to undergo field training as well as the investigation processes at site. Hence, we need a field station.

As advised by the PCCF, Sh.Suresh Chand,we seek your suggestion on the feasibility of organizing the training on 12-13 May, 2012 at the Kaziranga National Park.We would request you to convey us if the staff can be made available as the participants would be decided by the forest department .

We would be obliged in case you could guide us as per your availability and convenience for the above said dates. We may hasten to add that the project is coming to end on 31.12.2012 and the possibility of holding field training between June to August is difficult due to heavy rains during the monsoon season. We would deeply appreciate in case you can send us your views in this regard at the earliest so that we can process the arrangement and booking of accommodation.

(ANJANA GOSAIN)

HONY. SECRETARY

TIGER TRUST INDIA.

Jan 21

Divisional Forest Officer Eastern Assam Wildlife Divn. dfo.eawl@gmail.com

to me

Dear Madam,

Sorry for the belated reply. Actually server has been erratic at this place for last 3-4 days. However, coming to the point of concern in your message I would inform you that there should not be any problem on the part of participating Staff and Officers to participate in the next phase of work shop as proposed by you to be held on 12th and 13th of May 2012 at KNP. The accommodation part can be worked out with further confirmation in this regard.

With regards,

D.D. Gogoi, KNP.

**3.Sub: Capacity Building programme Hunting the Hunters Phase-II-
Proposed Schedule of Training No. II**

Kawaldeep Kour Feb 1

to dfo.eawl

Dear Mr.Gogoi,

Greetings from Tiger Trust India.

Tiger Trust is grateful for the support and cooperation extended by you in organising the capacity-building programme. We would like to inform you that we propose to hold the second training. We would like to inform you on the final proposal as put up to the PCCF (WL) for approval, as follows:

Training No.II:

Location: Kaziranga Tiger Reserve

Proposed dates: 12th - 13th May 2012

Number of trainees: 35 as per the project

Level of trainees: As suggested the gazetted and non-gazetted officers need to be separate. We appreciate this idea and would like to be guided in this aspect. The levels can be as follows:

1. DFOs
2. ACFs
3. Range officers
4. Foresters.

We leave this aspect of selection and grouping to the wisdom of the department.

Accommodation: We would be guided by the level of officers in terms of their seniority by the department. The matter can be discussed with the Department and arrangements can be made as per the project budget.

Faculty members: In the field training one departmental faculty member of senior level may be suggested by your goodself. The remaining three faculty members shall consist of lawyers and an expert.

Module: As suggested pending cases are being collected from the respective DFOs namely, Guwahati, Mangaldoi and Kaziranga in addition to the regular module.

Resource material: we would be providing forest kit along with compilation of cases in addition to the regular workshop kit..

We would welcome any other suggestion by your goodself and the department and start the preparation accordingly.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

Ms. Anjana Gossain

Hony. Secretary, Tiger Trust India.

4. LETTER TO CCF (WILDLIFE) SH.S.P.SINGH

Mar 10

tiger trust tigertrustindia@gmail.com

to spsingh.ifs, me, dfo.eawl

Shri S.P. Singh

CCF Wildlife

Assam Forest Department

Gauhati.

Sub: Proposed II Training to be held in Kaziranga Tiger Reserve on 12- 13 May, 2012

Mr. Singh

Thanks for the up-date on the approval of the training. I had the opportunity to meet Shri Suresh Chand, PCCF in Delhi. It has been decided that we have the training only for Range Officers from the divisions to be decided by the department.

I am sending you the proposed module and also clarify that at times, the subjects are changed according to the choice of trainees on spot due to various factors, hence, it always a guideline.

I would appreciate in case you could tell us your preference of subject / topic for the training. I would appreciate in case you could guide us with regard to the final names and number of the trainees so that we could look into the accommodations.

I would request my Co-ordinator to be in touch with you in case of any suggestions, modifications in the programme.

Kind regards

ANJANA GOSAIN

HONY SECRETARY



LETTER TO SP SINGH CCF.doc

5.Reg: Booking of Convention Centre for the Capacity Building Programme scheduled for the 12-13 May, 2012.

Kawaldeep Kour ^{Mar 31}

to Divisional

Dear Mr. Gogoi,

Greetings from Tiger Trust India!

This is with reference to the Capacity Building Programme scheduled ofor the 12-13 May, 2012 at KNP. We would be obliged in case the charges for the usage of the hall is waived and permission is granted for complimentary use like previous trainings.I have spoken to PCCF and he has asked me to refer the matter to you.

In addition, may we also request that we would require two gypsies and two wireless sets for the field training. Please convey us on the procedural formalities for the same.

We appreciate your cooperation in every aspect of the preparation and look forward to a positive response.

5.

Regards,

Kawal Deep Kour

On Behalf of
Ms. Anjana Gossain
Hony.Secretary, Tiger Trust.

Divisional Forest Officer Eastern Assam Wildlife Divn. dfo.eawl@gmail.com ^{Apr 2}

to me

Dear Kawal Deep,

The Centenary Convention Centre has been reserved for holding the workshop on the 12th and 13th of May 2012.

Waiving of the charges will be subject to the approval of the Executive committee of Kaziranga Staff Welfare Society

the organization, which runs it. Hopefully that will be done.

Regards.

DDGogoi

KNP

Kawaldeep Kour Apr 3

to Divisional, bcc: tiger

Dear Mr.Gogoi,

Greetings from Tiger Trust India!

Thanks very much for the confirmation on reservation. We would be obliged to honour the decision of the Executive Committee and eagerly look forward to their approval.

Regards,
Kawal Deep Kour

6.Kind Attn: PCCF office letter for sparing of officers for the training on 12-13 May, 2012 Kaziranga National Park organised by Tiger Trust .

Kawaldeep Kour

May 9

to Divisional, dfo.magaldoiwl, dfo.digboi, dfo.t.sonitwest, dfo.wawl, dfo.t.jorhat, dfo.t.dibrugarh, dfo.t.soniteast, dfo.t.karbieast, dfo.t.karbiwest, Rajen, dfo.t.sivsagar, dfo.t.nagaont, dfo.t.nagaonso., dfo.nagaonwl, bcc: tiger

Dear Sir,

Greetings from Tiger Trust India!

With reference to the legal training programme organised by Tiger Trust to be held on 12-13 May 2012 at KNP, please find attached a scanned copy of the official intimation from the PCCF(WL) office, including the list of nominated officers from the divisions. May we kindly request you to spare the officers for the said training.

We sincerely thank you for your utmost cooperation.

Regards,
Kawal Deep Kour
Project Coordinator for NE-Tiger Trust India.
+91(0)9706038299.

PRESS RELEASE:

बनलखा हमल क बरान उनक शरत

काजीरंगा 'फिश एंड वाइल्ड लाइफ' का प्रशिक्षण

गुवाहाटी, १५ मई (पू.सं.)। काजीरंगा अभयारण्य में अमरीका के 'फिश एंड वाइल्ड लाइफ' के तत्वावधान में गत १२ व १३ मई को 'टाइगर ट्रस्ट' की ओर से 'हंटिंग द हंटर' (शिकारियों का शिकार) शीर्षक से एक क्षमता निर्माण वेध प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया।

उल्लेखनीय है कि इस दो दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम में राज्य के वन अधिकारियों को बाघों की सुरक्षा के संबंध में विभिन्न विषयों पर दो तरह के प्रशिक्षण प्रदान किए गए। इनछोर प्रशिक्षण में वन्य जीवों की सुरक्षा से संबंधित विभिन्न नीति-नियमों और कानूनी प्रक्रिया पर चर्चा की गई, जबकि आउटडोर प्रशिक्षण में 'मोक ट्रायल' किया गया। प्रशिक्षण शिविर में राज्य के मुख्य वन्य जीव संरक्षक एनके वामु के अलावा अन्य कई वन अधिकारी, पुलिस अधिकारी और कानूनविद उपस्थित थे।

चिकित्सक की लापरवाही से एक की मौत

श्रीरामपुर, १५ मई (नि.सं.)।

DAINIK PURVODAY: 16.05.2012.

"Kaziranga Initiative of USFWS."

On the initiative of US Fish and Wildlife Service, a two-day legal training programme was conducted by Tiger Trust on May 12 and 13, 2012. Titled 'Hunting the Hunters,' this capacity building programme was aimed at skill upgradation of the forest staff of the Assam State Forest Department.

A unique facet of the two day training was a mock case study-concept designed and conducted under the expert guidance of the faculty at Tiger Trust. The training was attended by the middle level officers as well as high ranking officials of the Assam State Forest Department

PHOTO GALLERY



Felicitation Ceremony-At the Inaugural Session



CCF(Wildlife),Sh.N.K.Vasu interacting with the participants



Participants in rapt attention during a session



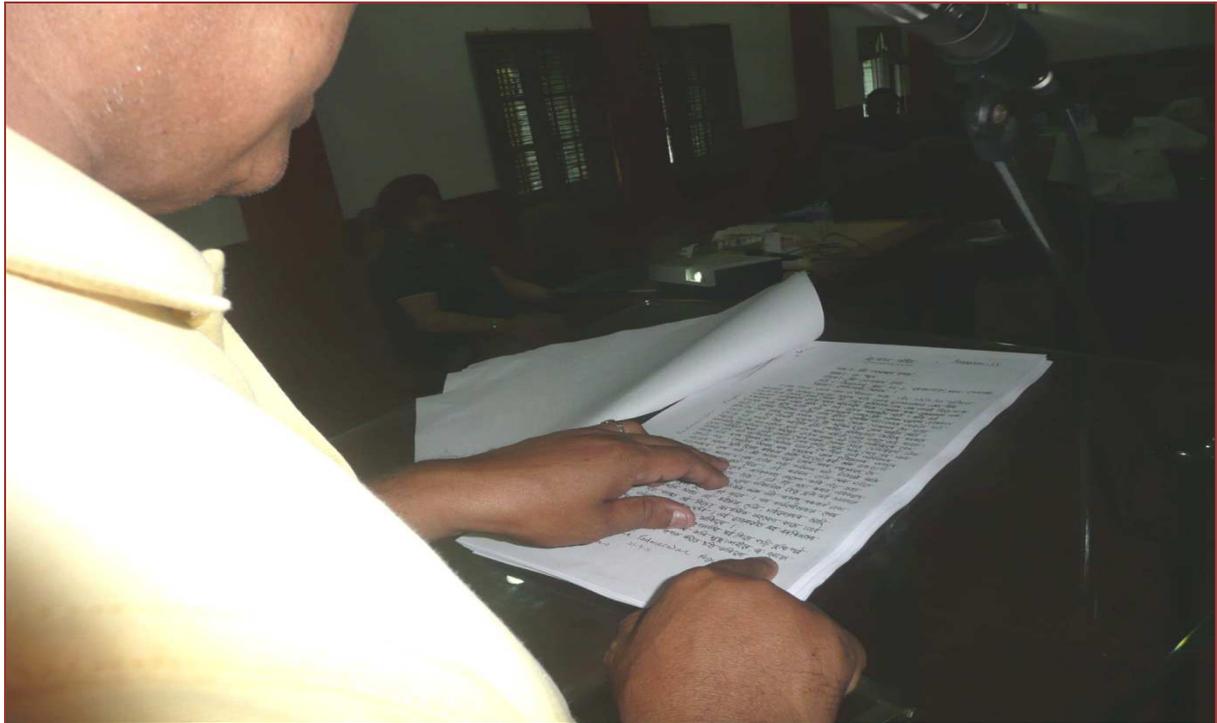
During the Interactive Session



Sh.Deori, RO, Kaziranga during the interactive session



Participants preparing the seizure memo



A participant reading out contents of a case being discussed



Debating on the observations –during the case study session

The Mock Case Trial- Field Study-Kohora Range, Kaziranga National Park.





































We hope to continue to serve the cause with such Capacity Building Programmes and we thank USFWS for the support.

