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peculiar fossils. The section near the ravine where the nodule with the Decapod Chela was collected is very similar in character. It is due west of Kunnam village, *i.e.*, within a mile from Odhium village proper.

INFORMATION WANTED ON THE INDIAN RHINOCEROS

Tabulated by

E. P. GEE.

1. The Rhino's Horn.

- (a) It is known that the Indian Rhino (*R. unicornis*) often uses its tushes (in its lower jaw) for attacking, fighting and biting. Does it also use its horn ? If so, does it use its horn at the first charge only, and then its tushes later ? Or when ?
- (b) Does it use its horn for "rooting", *i.e.*, digging up roots, grasses, etc. ?
- (c) Does it use its horn for steering its calf when the calf runs in front of the mother, as in the case of the African White Rhino ?

2. Rhino Mating and Fighting.

- (a) It is known that bull rhino sometimes fight. Does this happen in the breeding season for the possession of a cow ? If so, in what months does it happen ?
- (b) In what months of the year does the actual mating of rhino take place ?
- (c) Where, and at what time of the day does it take place ?
- (d) Do females ever fight ? Or a male with a female ?
- (e) Do fights ever take place in dispute over "territory" ?

3. Rhino Breeding.

- (a) It is believed that the period of gestation of rhino is $18\frac{1}{2}$ or 19 months. Is this correct ?
- (b) How does birth take place, lying down or how ?

- (c) What happens to the afterbirth ?
- (d) What time of the year are rhino calves born ?
- (e) Does the newly born calf have a pinkish colour ? If so, for how long ?
- (f) Are twins ever born ?
- (g) Does the previous calf remain with the mother after a new calf is born ? If so, how big was the previous calf (height to shoulder) ? And how long does it remain ?
- (h) How soon after the birth can the baby follow its mother ?
- (i) Which goes first along the path, the baby or its mother ?
- (j) If ever a newly born calf is found dead, it should be carefully measured, giving height at shoulder, length of body from tip of nose to root of tail, length of tail, and weight in pounds.

4. Rhino Dung Heaps.

- (a) It is known that the rhino deposits its dung in heaps. Does each particular rhino have its own heap ?
- (b) Or do rhino deposit at any heap that happens to be there, as they happen to pass by ?
- (c) Do dung heaps denote "rhino territory" ?

5. Rhino Swimming.

- (a) It is known that the Indian rhino can swim, but does it swim willingly and deliberately ?
- (b) Or does it only swim when it is compelled to ?

6. Rhino and Birds.

- (a) It is noted in Kaziranga that the jungle Mynah is the mynah seen on the backs of rhino looking for ticks, etc. and that egrets are also seen accompanying rhino. Is this confirmed by other observers ?

(b) Which kind of egret is found with rhino ?

(c) Do any other kinds of bird keep company with rhino ?

7. Rhino and other Animals.

(a) It is believed that tiger possibly avoid rhino, and are afraid of them. How do tiger react when they meet rhino, and vice versa ?

(b) Are wild elephants scared of rhino, as are domesticated ones ?

(c) Wild buffalo have occasionally been seen in close company with rhino. Is this confirmed ?

(d) Do deer of different kinds, swamp deer and hog deer, consort with rhino ?

(e) Are wild pig ever found in close company with rhino ?

(f) Do any other wild animals show friendship for or enmity against rhino ?

8. Rhino in Olden Times.

(a) It is recorded that in olden days rhino were kept by Princes and others, and used in battle against their enemies. This implies domestication and a great deal of training. Are there any detailed accounts of domestication and training of rhino, and of their use in war, etc. ? If so, how was it done, when, where and by whom ?

(b) In these old accounts, is there any information about the life history, etc., of rhino, such as is sought about their breeding, etc. ?

9. Noises made by Rhino.

(a) Grunts and whistling noises have been recorded (as well as roars when a rhino is trapped). Is the whistling noise made only in the mating season ?

(b) And by which sex is the whistling noise made ?

N.B. All observations made in the field should be strictly accurate, and not based on hearsay without verification, or coloured by imagination. Every report should contain the date, time of day, full name and status of the person(s) who made the observation, and names of any witnesses—especially if the event reported is noteworthy. It is suggested that, with the approval of the Conservator of Forests, all reports made by members of the Forest Staff should be sent through the usual channels to their respective D.F.O.'s, copy to Mr. E. P. Gee, Doyang T.E., Oating P.O., Assam, who will only be too pleased to compile all information thus received.

DOYANG T.E.,

OATING P.O.,

ASSAM.

April 24th, 1953.

E. P. GEE.