



About Elephants :

- Elephants are long-lived wide ranging species
- They range over vast areas in search of food and water
- Elephants do not live only inside forests, they stay in human habitations as well and consider tea gardens as their homes too.
- Elephants eat crops in field and stored food from our houses, and preventing these losses is in our interest.
- Elephants are intelligent creatures with family systems similar to our own, they feel pain, anger, fear just like us. If we behave aggressively with elephants, elephants will also be aggressive towards us.
- Elephants play an important role in maintaining forests, forests are essential for proper rainfall and provide water for our needs.

Protecting Crops from elephants :

- If elephants are already in crop fields, chasing them away may lead to human casualties
- Prevent elephants from entering crop fields by creating electric fence around your fields
- Construct simple fence with tin cans and bottles hung loosely so that noise is made when elephants try to enter the fields
- Form local teams to guard the boundaries of fields, if people are present, elephants will not enter field from the same area
- Do no store food crops in house, elephant may break in. Food grains can be stored in a common building and protected using trench or fence.
- If food has to be stored in the house, people should not sleep in the same room to minimize risk of injury when elephants break the building for food

Protecting Ourselves :

- Always expect to see elephants around you and respect their presence.
- When it is dark you might come too close to them so it is important to be very wary of their presence in the dark.
- If one needs to go to the toilet before sunrise, be very wary of elephants around you. Ideally get a toilet built, go with torch light and with someone else who can stand guard.
- Request the tea garden administration or the municipality to light the roads used commonly by people so you are safe in the night time in elephant areas.
- Do no chase elephants at any cost, this will increase risk to your life
- Give way to elephants, don't block their paths. If you come face to face with elephants wait for them to move away before you continue on your way

How to live with elephants :

- Do not block elephant movement routes and their access to water
- Elephants are protected by law, do not do anything that may harm elephants
- It is possible for people and elephants to share space without damage to either sides if there is mutual respect and understanding.
- Inform the Panchayats as well as local forest department about elephant movement by a SMS if possible so that they can inform other local people. This information about elephant presence may help save lives