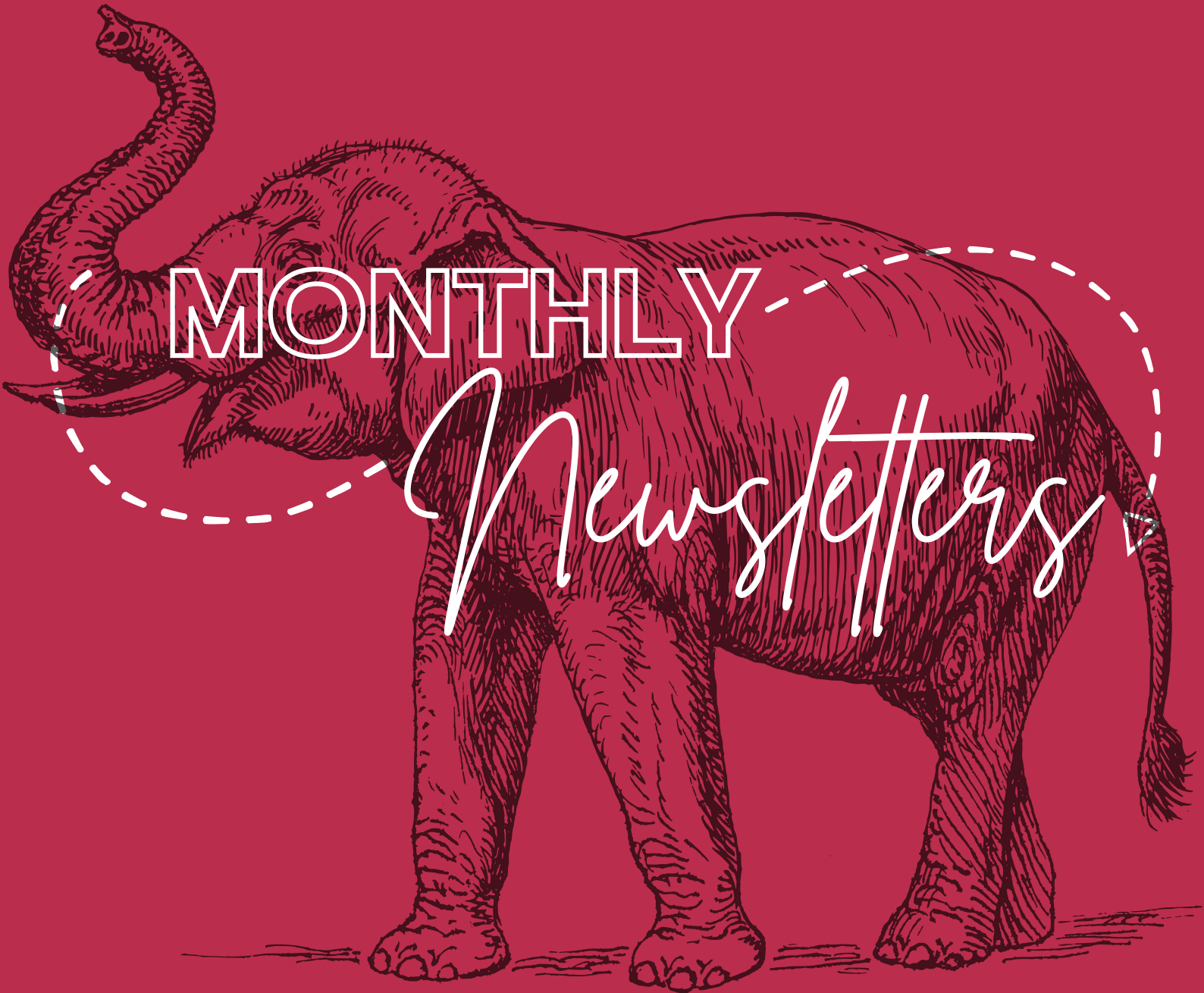


DECEMBER 2025



Project Highlights

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AT ACHUBALU PANCHAYAT | UNDER VHC PROJECT

A Rocha India, in collaboration with SST–TVS, facilitated a community dialogue at Achubalu Panchayat under our Village Hygiene & Coexistence (VHC) project. The event brought together over fifty residents, panchayat representatives, PHC staff, and sector experts to discuss critical themes including livestock health and FMD prevention, rabies awareness, sanitation challenges, and ongoing human–elephant conflict.

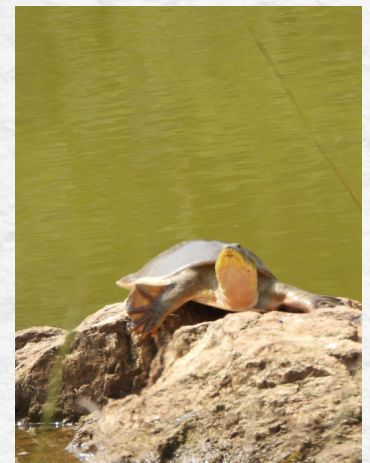
Participants actively explored ways to improve hygiene practices, strengthen waste management systems, and promote preventive health measures across their villages. The dialogue concluded with a field visit and a constructive meeting with the Block Development Officer, who reaffirmed support for enhanced waste collection and the 'Clean Achubalu Panchayat' initiative, marking a significant step toward coordinated, community–led action for health, sanitation, and coexistence.



CAMERA TRAPPING IN KODIHALLI RANGE | WILDLIFE MONITORING PROJECT

As part of our ongoing Wildlife Monitoring Project, A Rocha India has initiated a camera trapping study in the Kodihalli Range to better understand wildlife presence, movement patterns, and habitat use. Strategically placed camera traps are helping document elusive and nocturnal species, providing crucial insights into biodiversity distribution and activity across the landscape.

Once monitoring in Kodihalli is complete, the survey will expand into the Harohalli and Anekal ranges, allowing us to build a broader understanding of wildlife patterns across connected habitats. The data collected through this non–invasive approach will inform conservation planning, identify potential human–wildlife conflict zones, and support long–term strategies for habitat protection and sustainable coexistence.



SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS

HUMAN–ELEPHANT COEXISTENCE WORKSHOP | DIBRUGARH, ASSAM

Avinash Krishnan, National Director at A Rocha India, participated in a workshop on human–elephant coexistence in emerging conflict regions of India, held in Dibrugarh, Assam and organised by Aaranyak, The British Asian Trust, and Elephant Family. The workshop brought together practitioners from southern and northeastern India, sharing grounded, field–tested insights on HEC management, from early–warning systems to community engagement and landscape–level best practices.

A key highlight was the field visit to Dehing Patkai National Park, observing bio–fences, local mitigation strategies, and anti–depredation efforts that showcase the resilience and innovation of frontline communities and conservation teams. The dialogue reinforced the collective commitment to reimagining coexistence, one landscape at a time.



ASIAN ELEPHANT CONSERVATION AT AINP–VPM 2025 | BENGALURU

At the Annual Review Meeting of the All–India Network Project on Vertebrate Pest Management (AINP–VPM) 2025, hosted by the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, discussions focused on human–wildlife interactions in agricultural landscapes. Avinash Krishnan, National Director of A Rocha India and member of the IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group, presented a detailed case study on the Asian elephant, analysing human–elephant conflict patterns across India, with a focus on Karnataka (2020–2025).

The session highlighted the need to balance farmer livelihoods with elephant conservation, recognising the species' status on the IUCN Red List, CITES, CMS, and under India's Wildlife Protection Act (1972). Participants called for science–based measures to prevent crop depredation, integrating agriculture, forestry, revenue, insurance, and disaster management frameworks. Encouragingly, discussions pointed to upcoming reforms in terminology, insurance, and compensation mechanisms, emphasizing ethical, informed, and effective management of Asian elephants as keystone and heritage species not as pests.



Special highlights

A R O C H A I N D I A A T E C H O E S O F E A R T H F E S T I V A L 2 0 2 5

A Rocha India was proud to participate as the local NGO partner at the Echoes of Earth Festival, a celebration that blends culture, music, and environmental awareness to inspire connection with nature. Over the course of the festival, our stall and Nature & Science Exhibit offered visitors a hands-on experience of conservation, showcasing our field gear, ongoing projects, and the work we do across landscapes and communities.

Through engaging interactions with students, families, and first-time visitors, we shared how science, community, and coexistence shape our conservation efforts. Festival-goers also had the chance to explore our merchandise, learn about volunteering opportunities, and actively get involved in our initiatives. Beyond a showcase, the festival became a space for learning, curiosity, and connection—reminding us that conservation thrives wherever people come together with care, openness, and energy. The experience was inspiring, and we are grateful for the meaningful interactions and memories Echoes of Earth created.



AFSC Events

A R O C H A I N D I A A N N U A L G E T - T O G E T H E R & C H R I S T M A S C E L E B R A T I O N

A Rocha India hosted its Annual Get-Together and Christmas Celebration under the theme "Under the Stars", bringing together staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters to reflect on the year's accomplishments and celebrate the community that drives our conservation work. The event provided an opportunity to acknowledge the collective efforts of everyone involved in advancing our mission and to share insights into upcoming initiatives for 2026.

The evening featured a thoughtfully curated program, including a showcase stall, a photo booth for capturing memories, and informal networking over dinner and refreshments. Conversations flowed around the year's achievements, ongoing projects, and ways for participants to further engage with A Rocha India's work. The celebration was a testament to the vibrant, diverse community committed to conservation and a reminder of the collective spirit that underpins our initiatives.

