

The Asian Reporter

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Habitat destruction
orphans orangutans

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Armisen startled to find
he's a "quarter Korean"

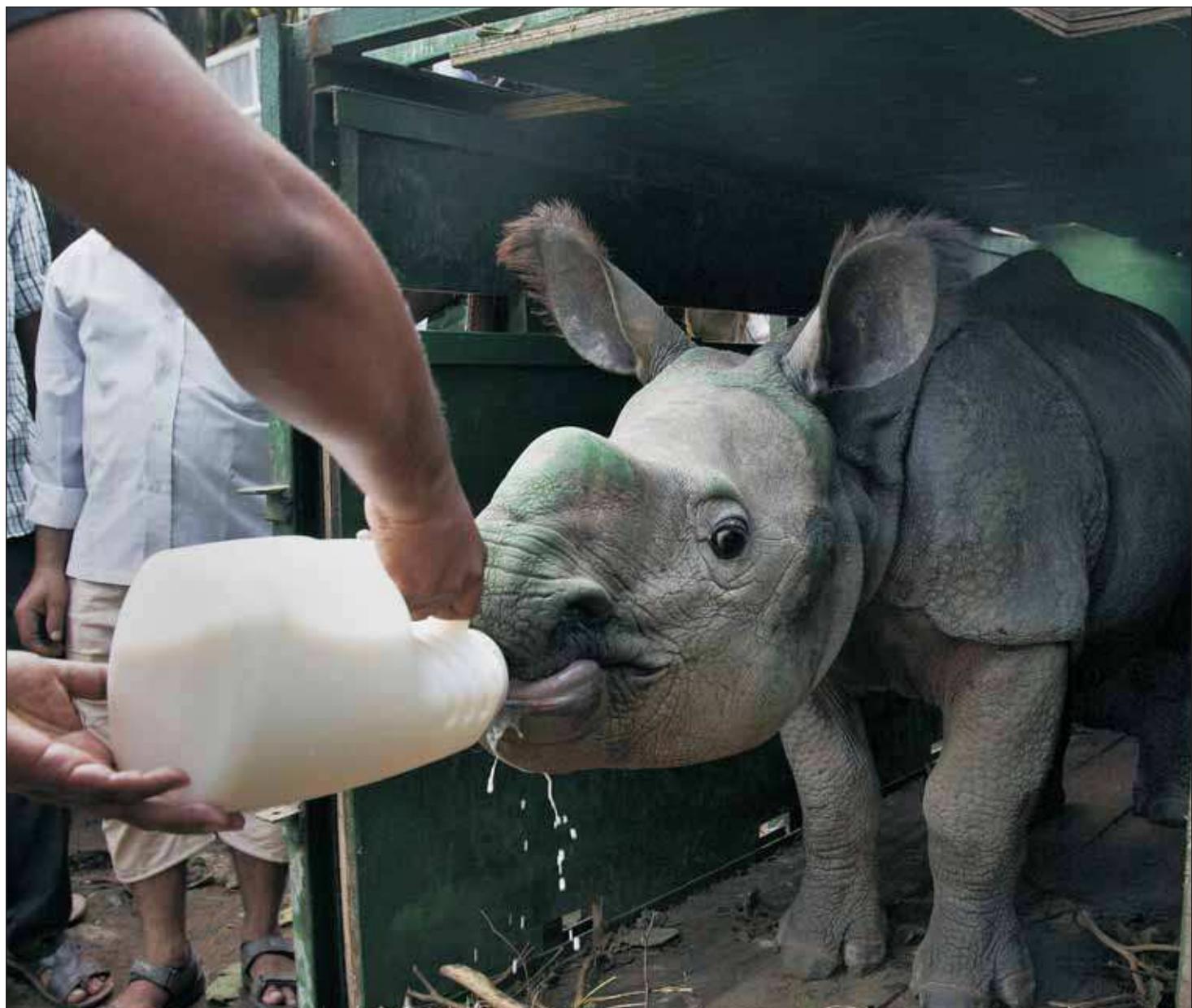
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Hmong pop singer
gains popularity

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Three rhino calves survive Indian floods, sent to zoo



RESCUED RHINO. A female rhino calf drinks milk after arriving at the state zoo in Gauhati, India. One male and two female one-horned rhinoceros calves, who were rescued during monsoon floods over the past two years from a famed wildlife preserve in India's northeast, have been transported to a local zoo for breeding. The three — one and two years old — were put in cages on three different trucks and brought to the zoo from the Center for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation, said Tajas Mariswamy, a regional forest officer. (AP Photo/Anupam Nath)

By Anupam Nath
The Associated Press

GAUHATI, India — Three rhinoceros calves, rescued during monsoon floods over the past two years at a famed wildlife preserve in India's northeast, have been transported to a zoo as part of a conservation program.

The calves, between one and two years old, were taken by trucks to the zoo in

Gauhati, the capital of Assam state, from the Center for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation near Kaziranga National Park, said Tajas Mariswamy, a regional forest officer.

Injured or orphaned wild animals are treated at the center and returned to their natural habitats or to adopted homes.

The Gauhati Zoo already has eight rhinoceroses.

Every year, Kaziranga National Park, which has the world's largest population of

more than 2,500 one-horned rhinoceroses as well as many other species, gets flooded by heavy monsoon rains which force animals to move to higher ground. India's monsoon season runs from June through September.

S.M. Singh, director of the park, said that during this year's monsoons 32 rhinos died because of floods.

Forest guards rescued seven rhinos with varying injuries and sent them to the center for recovery and rehabilitation.

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