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CLASS - IX

ENGLISH

BEEHIVE

CHAPTER - 5

A Visit to Kaziranga and Sivasagar

Part - 1

NIPA DAS

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BEFORE YOU READ

Do you enjoy travelling? The writer, Srutimala Duara, who has travelled extensively, narrates here how two children travelled with their parents to a National Park and also to a place of historical interest.

National Park : ৰাষ্ট্ৰীয় উদ্যান
Historical : ঐতিহাসিক





☛ Do you know that there are several national parks in Assam? Kaziranga National Park, which spreads over the civil jurisdictions of Nagaon and Golaghat districts reaching the hills of Karbi Anglong district, is one of them. It is famous for its one-horned rhinos. Can you name some other national parks of Assam?



☛ Have you heard of the historical town of Sivasagar? The Ahoms established their rule over Assam with the capital at Sivasagar during the early part of the 13th century. It is a place worth visiting. Can you find some more such historical places in Assam?

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Lohit and Trisha got up early in the morning before their mother could wake them up. Usually they loved to sleep till late in the morning when they had no school. But that morning they were too excited to sleep. Their parents would be taking them to Sivasagar. On their way they would spend a night at Kaziranga.

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Every year in the past during their school holidays their father took them to different places, sometimes outside Assam, sometimes within Assam. "Assam is a unique land with tea gardens, ancient temples, national parks, historical monuments and what not!" their father said, "You should know your own state."

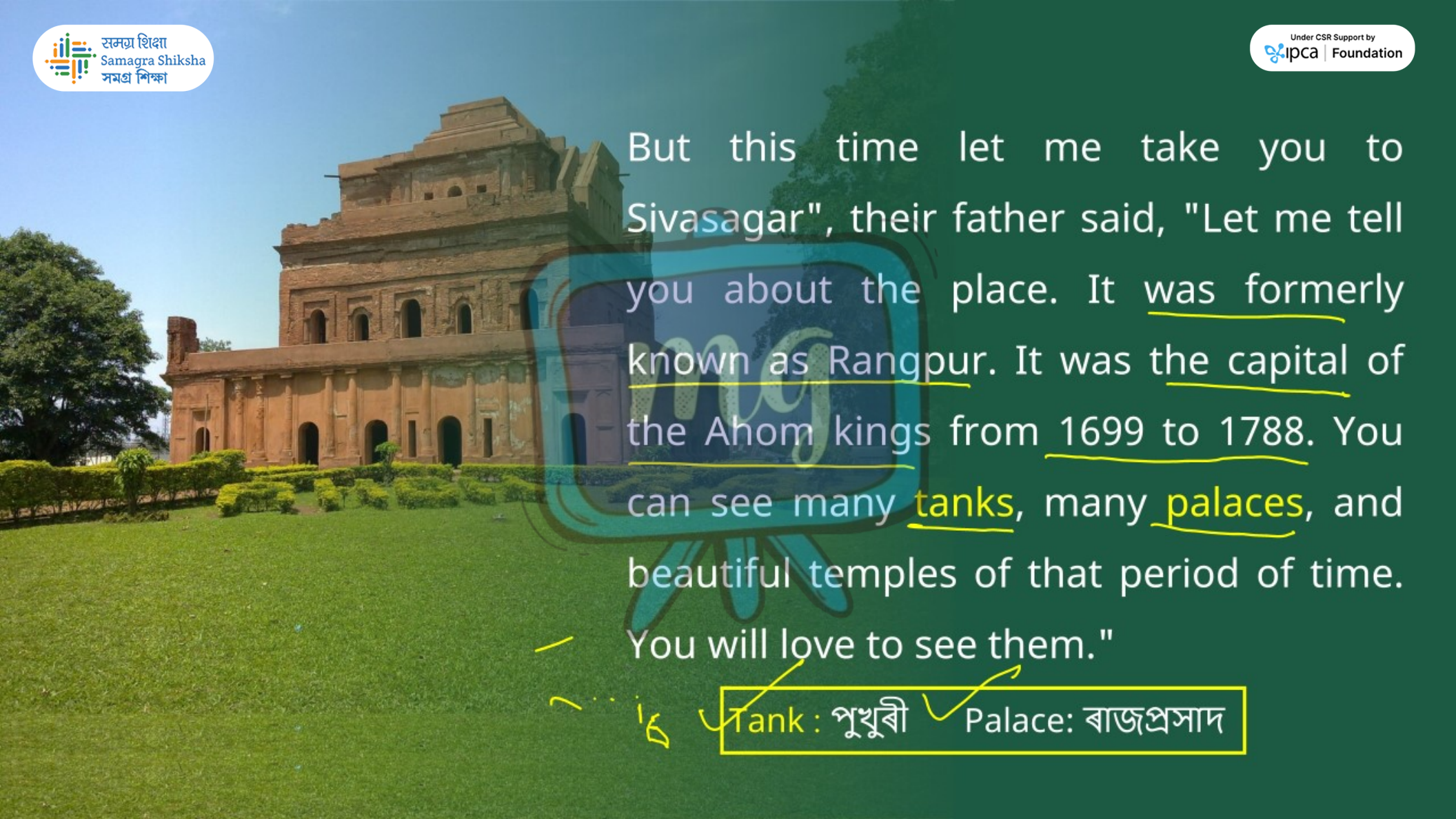
Historical monuments : ঐতিহাসিক স্মৃতিস্তম্ভ
ancient : প্রাচীন unique : অনন্য



Last year, they had visited their uncle who lived in Tezpur. Both Lohit and Trisha enjoyed their stay there so much that they wanted to go again there. But their father said, "This time I will take you to Sivasagar."

"What's there to see in Sivasagar? Let's go to uncle's house in Tezpur instead," Lohit pleaded. "Don't you want to see a new place? You had already seen Tezpur. We will go there again someday.

Pleaded : অনুৰোধ কৰা



But this time let me take you to Sivasagar", their father said, "Let me tell you about the place. It was formerly known as Rangpur. It was the capital of the Ahom kings from 1699 to 1788. You can see many tanks, many palaces, and beautiful temples of that period of time. You will love to see them."

Tank : পুখুৰী Palace: ৰাজপ্রসাদ

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"On our way we can stay for a night at Kaziranga," their mother suggested.

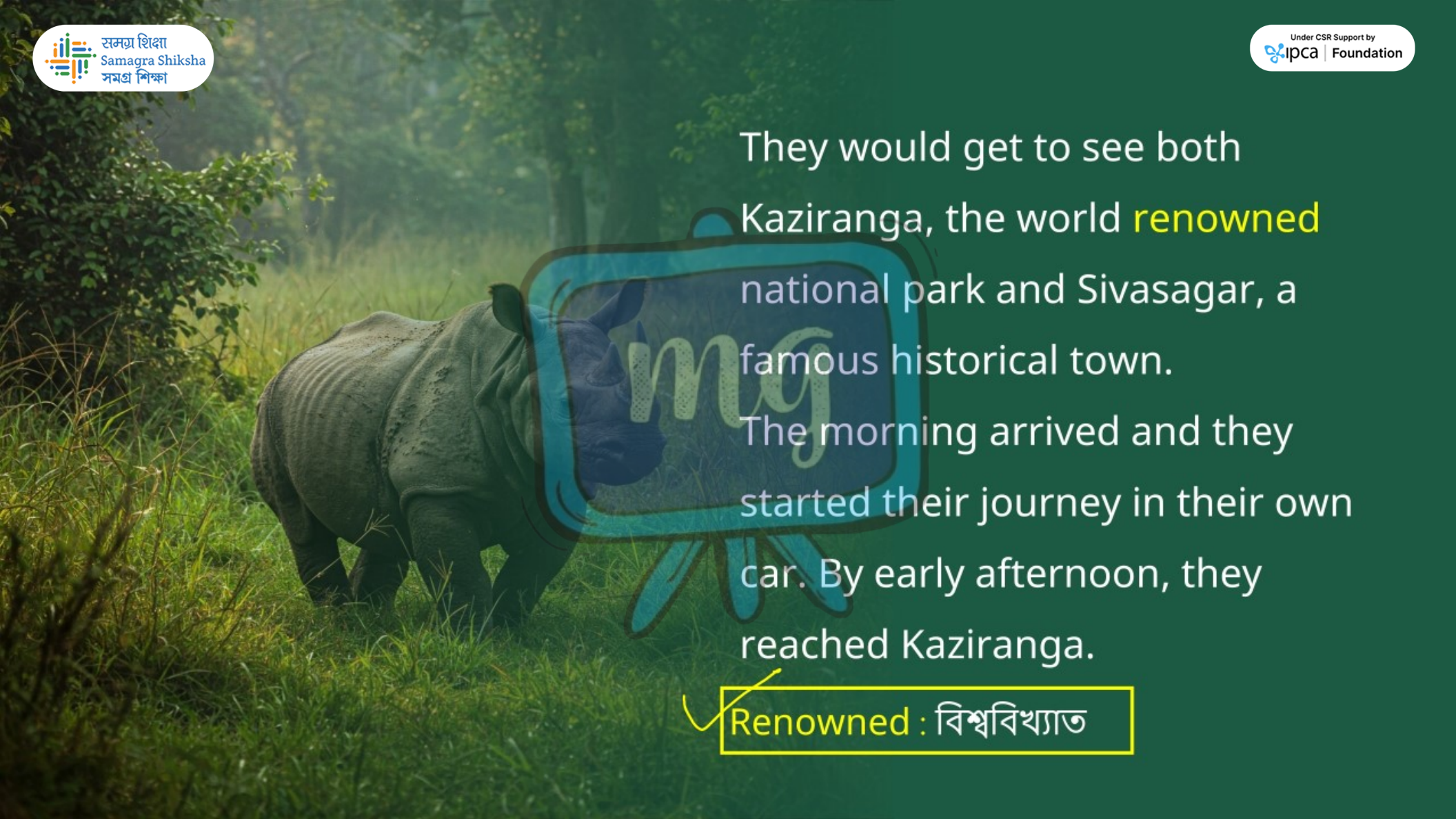
"Oh lovely!" Lohit said, clapping his hands, "We can take an elephant ride and see the rhino."

As the day of their visit dawned, Lohit and Trisha grew quite excited.

Dawn : সূর্য্যদয়

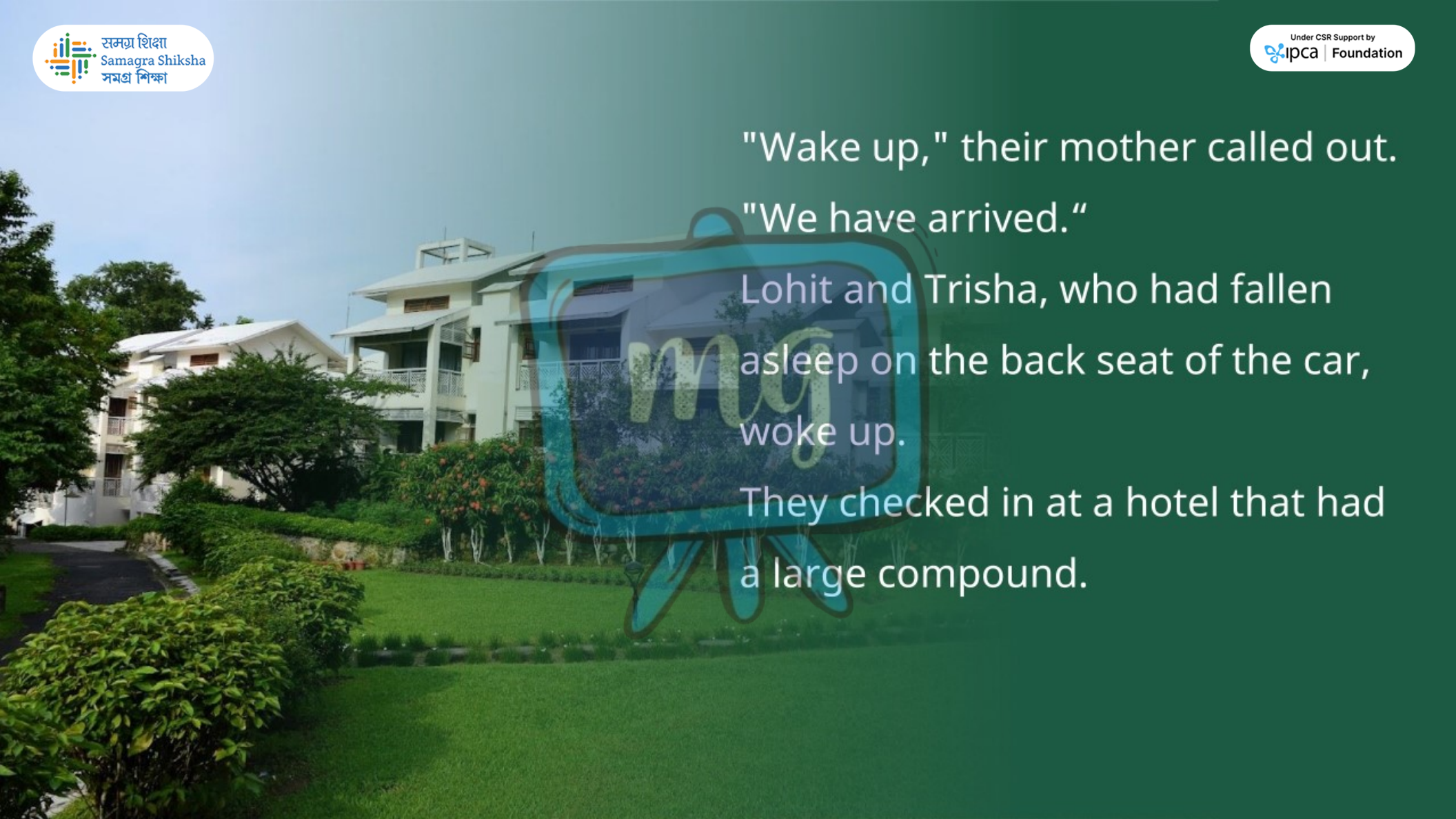
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They would get to see both Kaziranga, the world renowned national park and Sivasagar, a famous historical town. The morning arrived and they started their journey in their own car. By early afternoon, they reached Kaziranga.

Renowned : বিশ্ববিখ্যাত



"Wake up," their mother called out.

"We have arrived."

Lohit and Trisha, who had fallen asleep on the back seat of the car, woke up.

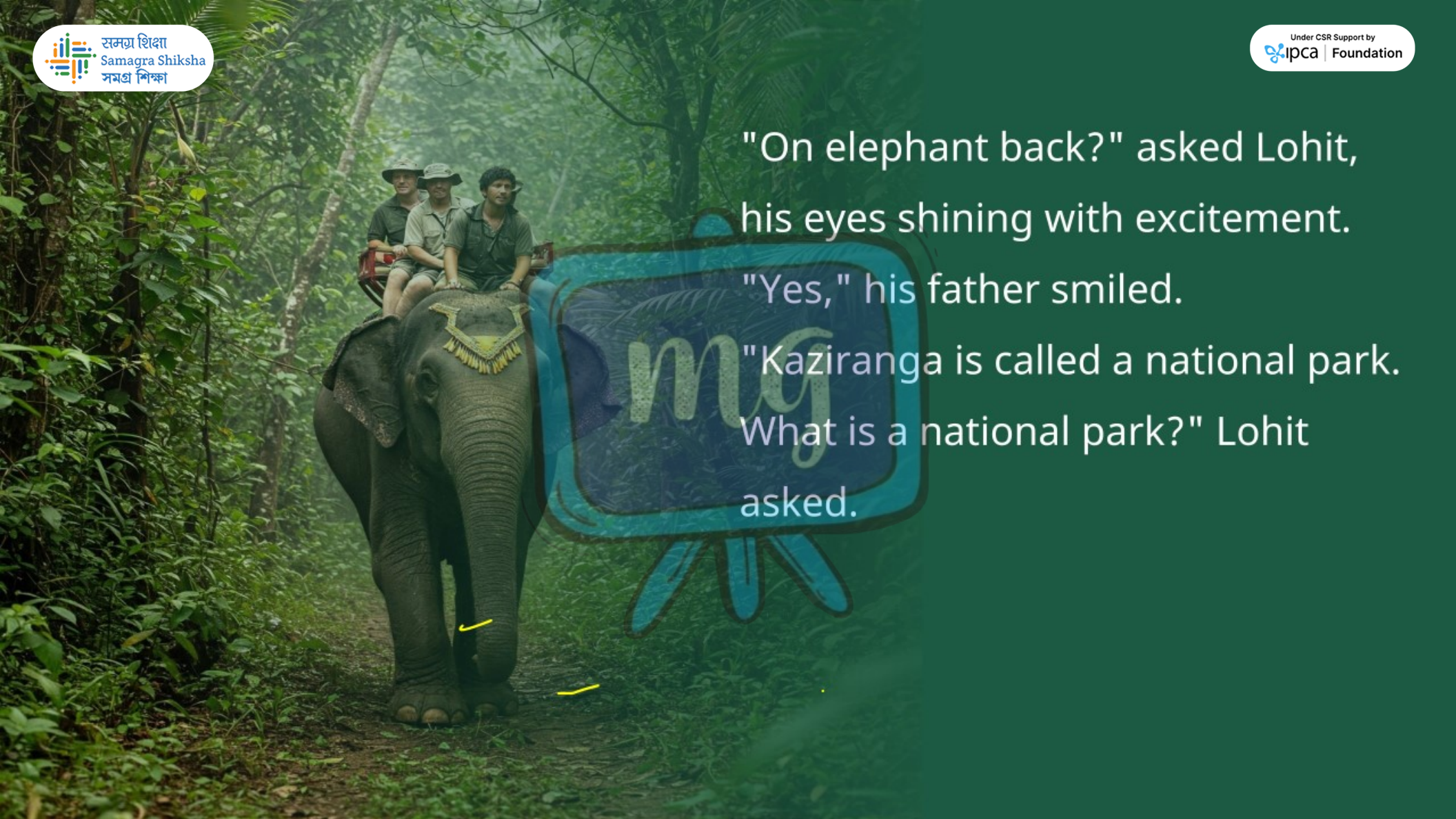
They checked in at a hotel that had a large compound.



After freshening up, they sat on the cane chairs in one corner of the veranda and started to enjoy the greenery around.

"Can we go to see the rhino now?" Lohit asked.

"No, not today. We will go tomorrow early in the morning," his father said.



"On elephant back?" asked Lohit, his eyes shining with excitement.

"Yes," his father smiled. "Kaziranga is called a national park.

What is a national park?" Lohit asked.



"It is a park that is used for conservation purposes. We have the rare one-horned rhinoceros that we need to conserve. "

"Are there only rhinos in this big park?" asked Lohit.

"Of course not, you silly boy!" laughed his sister. "There are elephants and birds too."

Conservation : সংৰক্ষণ কৰা Rare : বিৰল

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"In fact, it is a park gifted with a wide variety of flora and fauna and is a home to animals like wild water buffaloes, Indian wild boar, sambar, barking deer, hog deer, leopard, Indian grey mongoose, white browed gibbon, and ...", said their mother.

"And monkeys?" Lohit quickly put in.

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"Yes, you will be one more of them," said his sister, laughing.

"There are lots of capped langurs, also called leaf monkeys."

"Are there any snakes?" Trisha asked.



"Yes", said their mother. "And tortoises."

"Do you know Kaziranga is a World Heritage Site? The UNESCO declared Kaziranga a World Heritage Site in 1985", their father said.

"Meaning?" asked Lohit.

World Heritage Site : বিশ্ব ঐতিহ্য ক্ষেত্র

"Meaning," he explained, "a place that is listed by the UNESCO as of special significance. The UNESCO feels the need to preserve such sites in the interest of the international community."

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"What is the full form of the UNESCO?" Lohit asked.

"I knew it but forgot," Trisha said. "It is United Nations..."

"United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation," mother put in.

ASSESSMENT



1 What is Kaziranga ?

A A forest

B A national park

C A wild life sanctuary

D A protected area

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ASSESSMENT

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2 What did Lohit and Trisha love to do when they had no school ?

A Sleep till late

B Get up early

C Play games

D See cartoons