

Headlines Himalaya

April 06- 13, 2015

No. 349

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For the 349th issue, we reviewed 18 news reports from 8 sources and selected 12 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, mountaineering activities decline due to snowfall while snow leopard poachers have been arrested in India. In Tibet, China, tourism has been increasing and windstorm has caused havoc in Bhutan. And anti polio immunization has been delayed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, northwestern Pakistan.

Headlines Himalaya, a weekly e-News is an attempt to keep our global readers abreast with the happenings in the Himalaya. Please share it with your colleagues and friends. Also, subscription is free. Enjoy!

NEPAL *Mountaineering Activities Decline*
Acute Timber Shortage
Waste Concerns At Mt Dhaulagiri
Unidentified Disease Takes Toll
Fire Damage

INDIA *Snow Leopard Hides Confiscated*
Relief To Victims

CHINA *Tourism Upturn*
Preschool Education

BHUTAN *Windstorm Wreaks Havoc*
Golden Mahseer Conserved

PAKISTAN *Anti Polio Deferred*

Nepal-Himalaya

MOUNTAINEERING ACTIVITIES DECLINE

The climbing activities have been reduced in Khumbu region, eastern Nepal since two weeks due to recent snowfall. Around 165 mountaineers along with their support staff have complained of altitude sickness, while Himalaya Rescue Association (HRA) has been treating up to 15 patients per day.

April 08

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Scores+of+mountaineers+taken+ill+&NewsID=450965>

ACUTE TIMBER SHORTAGE

There has been shortage of timber in the market. The yearly demand is 60 million cubic feet, but only 9.40 million cubic feet has been produced including 8.019 million cubic feet by private forests, and about 1.42 million cubic feet by community and government forests. It is 16 percent of the market demand.

April 08

<http://www.karobardaily.com/2015/04/4729/>

WASTE CONCERNS AT MT DHAULAGIRI

The waste thrown by mountaineers, tourists, guides and porters has been polluting the base camp of Mt Dhaulagiri, Myagdi, western Nepal. While locals of Mudi VDC have complained nobody has shown concern in managing the waste.

April 07

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Trash+piles+up+in+Dhaulagiri+base+camp&NewsID=450908>

UNIDENTIFIED DISEASE TAKES TOLL

Locals in the eastern and north western parts of Jajarkot district, Midwestern Nepal have been suffering from an unknown disease. Four have died already, while around 500 have been fallen ill. The patients complained headache, chest pain, leg and hand pain, nausea, and fever.

April 08, 09

<http://epaper.thehimalayantimes.com/Details.aspx?id=2264&boxid=51675024&dat=4/9/2015>

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/09/national/3-die-500-down-due-to-flu-like-disease/403860.html>

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Unidentified+disease+claims+four%26sbquo%3B+hundreds+ill+&NewsID=451062>

FIRE DAMAGE

The property worth NRS 500,000 has been destroyed by a fire at Itatar VDC in Siraha district, eastern Nepal. The security personnel and locals had tried to extinguish the fire while reason behind the fire was not known.

April 10

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Fire+engulfs+house%E2%80%9A+motorbike+in+Siraha&NewsID=451212>

India-Himalaya

SNOW LEOPARD HIDES CONFISCATED

The snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*) hides have been confiscated from two poachers in Kishtwar, Jammu and Kashmir, northern India. It is an endangered animal and hunting is prohibited under J & K wildlife act. The price of full skin ranges between IRS 100,000 to IRS 200,000.

April 09

<http://earlytimesnews.com/>

RELIEF TO VICTIMS

The prime minister's relief fund has provided relief to the victims of recent floods and landslides in Jammu and Kashmir, northern India. 44 persons had lost their lives, while 25 had injures. 211 camps have been established, 2907 families have been displaced, 1474 tents, 3287 blankets have been given to the affected families.

April 09

<http://epaper.thenorthlines.com/>

China Himalaya

TOURISM UPTURN

The tourism of Lhasa, Tibet, southwest China has been flourishing in the beginning of 2015. Around 570,000 tourists have arrived March, a rise of 17.26% than in the same period in 2014. Tibet earned an income of USD 103.38 million in 2014.

April 10

http://english.chinatibetnews.com/tj/201504/t20150410_380628.html

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

The preschool education resources of Tibet, southern China has been increasing and gaining popularity. 1056 kindergartens have been established from 2011 to 2014, with an investment of USD 0.3113 billion. Currently 81,123 kids have been studying with an enrollment rate of 59.11%.

April 10

http://english.chinatibetnews.com/tt/201504/t20150410_380623.html

Bhutan-Himalaya

WINDSTORM WREAKS HAVOC

The strong windstorm had affected 792 households, while injuring three across the nine districts in southern Bhutan. The demolition of about 92 structures belonging to the culture, health and education ministries have been reported. Dagana was the worst hit, where around 310 households, 30 government structures including schools, army camps, health and agriculture extension offices were destroyed.

April 06

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/windstorm-damages-792-homes/#.VSenfvDbUdU>

GOLDEN MAHSEER CONSERVED

The Livestock Department has surgically inserted radio transmitter and released 20 golden mahseers (*Tor putitora*) into Drangmechu river, eastern Bhutan. It was the first research on the fish of the Himalayas, that was funded by Michal Phillips, Fishery Conservation Foundation, USA and WWF Bhutan with USD 0.12 million. The endangered fish has been listed in "The IUCN red list of threatened species, 2010".

April 10

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/saving-the-golden-mahseer/#more-120540>

Pakistan- Himalaya

ANTI POLIO DEFERRED

The anti polio immunization has been delayed due to the inefficient preparations in Swat, Swabi, Bunner and Lakki Marwat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, northwest Pakistan. More than 1.463 million children below age five have been estimated for vaccination.

April 13

<http://www.khybernews.tv/newsDetails.php?cat=3&key=ODA1MTQ=>