For the 416th issue of Headlines Himalaya, we reviewed 25 news from 11 sources and selected 20 happenings from five countries. In Nepal, seventeen snow leopards are reported from Mustang while bio corridor in Chitwan National Park now has CCTV surveillance facility. In India, Tulsi farming brings economic prosperity among the villagers of Garhwal region. In Bhutan, electric fencing aids in higher crop yield. Sadly, another animal dies at Marghazar zoo in Pakistan.

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NEPAL

Death Toll from Water-Induced Disasters Reaches 102
Leopard Finally Rescued After 48 Hours
Landslide Obstructs Highways of Nepal
17 Snow Leopards in Mustang
Rules to Abide by Along the Bio-corridor
Landslides Displace Settlements in Upper Dolakha
Landslide Early Warning System Installed
Solar Fencing: A Great Approach in Human-Elephant Conflict
Bagmati Clean-Up Campaign Collects 10 Metric Tons of Garbage
SFM Gets Additional Forests

INDIA

Tulsi Farming Brings Economic Prosperity
Gangotri Glacier Retreats 12 metres yearly
Shimla suffers from Acute Water Scarcity
Vermin Monkeys Yet to Be Culled

CHINA

Dam Burst Inundate Cropland

BHUTAN

Irrigation Problem Being Resolved
Electric Fencing Aids in Higher Crop Yield
BTFEC Approves Four Projects for Environment Conservation
Lack of Irrigation Channel Decreases Crop Productivity

PAKISTAN

Death of One More Animal in Marghazar Zoo
DEATH TOLL FROM WATER-INDUCED DISASTERS REACHES 102
A total of 102 people have died, 22 reported missing and 58 have been injured from the water-induced disasters across the country since July 25. Monsoonal rain followed by floods, landslides and inundation has affected 43 districts of Nepal, especially Pyuthan, Banke and Baglung.
Aug 01

LEOPARD FINALLY RESCUED AFTER 48 HOURS
A leopard (Panthera pardus) that ran amok after entering a residential house in Besisahar, Lamjung, western Nepal has finally been rescued after 48 hours. A senior team of wildlife and animal experts rescued the leopard and relocated it to the forest. Meanwhile, Palpa district of western Nepal has lost a total of 12 leopards within a year. Deaths occurred as 10 adults and 2 baby leopards entered into the human settlements.
Aug 01, Aug 06
www.myrepublica.com/news/3368

LANDSLIDE OBSTRUCTS HIGHWAYS OF NEPAL
Landslide at Galaudi has blocked the transportation and damaged transmission lines in Gajuri, central Nepal at Prithivi Highway. Likewise, vehicular movement was also obstructed in several road sections of Araniko Highway and in Solukhumbu-Odhaldhunga section of Siddhicharan Highway.
July 31, Aug 01

17 SNOW LEOPARDS IN MUSTANG
A research carried out by an NGO named Green Forest in collaboration with Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) revealed 17 snow leopards (Panthera uncia) found in Mustang (trans-Himalayan district in western Nepal). Rise in snow leopard population is reported to be a result of anti-poaching campaigns in VDC levels conducted by ACAP for the last 3 years.
Aug 01

RULES TO ABIDE BY ALONG THE BIO-CORRIDOR
Visitors now need to abide by the rules along the bio-corridor in Chitwan National Park (CNP) as they will be under the CCTV surveillance and if found guilty will soon be arrested. This campaign was started to protect the wild animals as there have cases of hit and run often in the past.
Aug 02

LANDSLIDES DISPLACE SETTLEMENTS IN UPPER DOLAKHA
Residents of Singati bazar, Dolakha district of central Nepal have migrated due to the terror of landslides in the area. Landslides have destroyed seven shops and blocked road access to Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower Project. The area is highly vulnerable as the rock fall and mudslides continued unabated.
Aug 03
LANDSLIDE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM INSTALLED
Keraunja VDC of Gorkha district in western Nepal has installed landslide early warning system to prevent the physical damage and human loss. Landslide risk in the area has immensely increased after the mud slip occurred in both upper and lower part of the village which killed three people.
Aug 04

SOLAR FENCING: A GREAT APPROACH IN HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT
In eastern Nepal from Jhiramale in Ilam district to Mechi River along the Nepal-India border, 17km solar powered fence has been erected since November to keep the wild elephants away. This approach has lowered the movements of wild elephants into the village area and also reduced the crop damage due to these wild elephants.
August 04

BAGMATI CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN COLLECTS 10 METRIC TONS OF GARBAGE
Bagmati clean-up campaign that reached 169th week this Saturday collected around 10 metric tons of garbage from the Balkhu bridge in Lalitpur area. People from the governmental, non-governmental institutions, students as well as locals were involved in the clean-up campaign.
August 06
www.nagariknews.com/news/3223

SFM GETS ADDITIONAL FORESTS
In Nawalparasi district of central Nepal, Janajagaran Community Forest, Chisapani Community Forest and Bhedabari Community Forest have been included in Scientific Forest Management (SFM) scheme. This type of management practice was started in 2011 and has been helping in enhancing the forest as well as generating employment to the local people.
August 07

TULSI FARMING BRINGS ECONOMIC PROSPERITY
Women’s group of two villages in Garhwal, Dehradun who opted for Tulsi (Ocimum tenuiflorum) farming in fallow land have uplifted their economic status. The group now exports about 500 metric tons of Tulsi in a year. Tulsi needs very little water and they are not destroyed by wild animals.
June 07

GANGOTRI GLACIER RETREATS 12 METRES YEARLY
Research findings by GB Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development (GBPIHED) has revealed that Gangotri Glacier, the largest glacier in Uttarkhand is retreating at the rate of 12 metres annually. However, the retreat is not going to affect the river flow because other sources like natural streams, rivulets and rain water contribute the river.
Aug 07

SHIMLA SUFFERS FROM ACUTE WATER SCARCITY
Shimla, one of the major tourist destination of India is facing severe drinking water shortage as the silt load has increased due to heavy rain in Gumma, Kota, Brandi and Giri water sources. This has negatively impacted the tourism sector.
VERMIN MONKEYS YET TO BE CULLED
Though monkeys were declared vermin in about 39 states, culling of the moneys are yet to be carried out. Farmers and the orchardists are fearful of their products because of the risk of monkeys. With this, the farmers have demanded that Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department to be vigilant to deal with the issue at hand.
Aug 07

DAM BURST INUNDATE CROPLAND
The incessant rainfall has caused bursting of dam in Yarlung Tsangpo River of Tibet, Southwest China. The flood water swept three villages and inundated 100 hectares of the cropland but luckily caused no human casualties.
Aug 04
http://eng.tibet.cn/news/1470297584659.shtml

IRRIGATION PROBLEM BEING RESOLVED
The irrigation problem in western Bhutan has now been resolved along with the adequate amount of the rainfall and support provided from the Department of Agriculture and Forests (DoAF). DoAF has provided water pumps and financial support for the construction of the irrigation channel.
August 03

ELECTRIC FENCING AIDS IN HIGHER CROP YIELD
The 15.96 electric fencing in Chokor village of Bhumthang has helped the villagers to get higher yield in wheat production this year. Earlier, more than half of the cultivated crops have been destroyed by wild animals. Recently, 52.65 km of electric fencing has been installed in Bumthang.
Aug 05
http://www.kuenselonline.com/wheat-yield-up-in-bumthang/

BTFEC APPROVES FOUR PROJECTS FOR ENVIROMENT CONSERVATION
The Bhutan Trust fund for Environmental Conservation (BTFEC), established in 1992 has approved grant of worth Nu 48.88 million for implementation of four environmental conservation projects. The grant will be used to reduce pollution, management of park, study of fishes and strengthening the environmental auditing capacity. BTFEC has funded more than 163 projects till date.
Aug 05

LACK OF IRRIGATION CHANNEL DECREASES CROP PRODUCTIVITY
The Langchenphu village in Samdrupjongkha, which is renowned for rice production is in dire need of irrigation channel as the traditional functional channel is damaged. Lack of irrigation channel has decreased
the rice production from 2.8 tons to 0.8 tons per acre. Concerned authorities have not taken any measures to improve the condition.

August 07

DEATH OF ONE MORE ANIMAL IN MARGHAZAR ZOO
A wolf (Canis lupus) has been found dead in the Marghazar Zoo of Islamabad this Sunday making altogether six animals dead this year only in the zoo. Animals that were dead included two Zebras, two Urials and one Ostrich due to the poor management of the zoo in terms of food, treatment and sanitation.

Aug 02