

# Headlines Himalaya

Aug 01- Aug 07

No 416

Editorial Teams: Reshma Shakya & Aarchana Kafle

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.

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

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*Leopard Finally Rescued After 48 Hours*  
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*17 Snow Leopards in Mustang*  
*Rules to Abide by Along the Bio-corridor*  
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## 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

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-01/102-people-die-in-water-induced-disasters-home-ministry-says.html>

### 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

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-01/lamjung-leopard-scare-ends-after-48-hrs.html>  
[www.myrepublica.com/news/3368](http://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-Okhaldhunga section of Siddhicharan Highway.

July 31, Aug 01

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-01/landslide-obstructs-prithivi-highway-in-gajuri.html>  
<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-07-31/rain-induced-landslides-block-araniko-highway.html>

### 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

<http://www.myrepublica.com/news/3074>

### 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

<http://www.myrepublica.com/news/3161>

### 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

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-03/landslides-drive-people-out-of-upper-dolakha.html>  
<http://kantipur.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-02/20160802141729.html>

#### 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

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/28283>

#### 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

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-08-04/solar-fencing-nepali-villages-relieved-but-more-tusker-terror-on-indian-side.html>

#### BAGMATI CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN COLLECTS 10 METRIC TONS OF GARBAGE

Bagmati clean-up campaign that reached 169<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

<http://www.myrepublica.com/news/3394>

## India-Himalaya

#### 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

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Women-entrepreneurs-growing-500-quintal-tulsi-in-hostile-terrain-of-Garhwal/articleshow/53587135.cms>

#### 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 Uttarakhand 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

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Gangotri-glacier-retreating-at-12m-annually-Experts/articleshow/53587840.cms>

#### 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.

Aug 08

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/shimla/In-monsoon-Shimla-suffers-severe-water-scracity/articleshow/53590123.cms>

#### VERMIN MONKEYS YET TO BE CULLED

Though monkeys were declared vermin in about 39 states, culling of the monkeys 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

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/himachal/delay-in-culling-of-monkeys-leaves-farmers-orchardists-worried/276955.html>

## China Himalaya

#### 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>

## Bhutan-Himalaya

#### 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

<http://businessbhutan.bt/irrigation-no-more-a-problem-in-western-gewogs/>

#### 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

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/4-environmental-conservation-projects-worth-nu-48-million-approved/>

#### 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

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/langchenphu-farmers-in-need-of-irrigation-channel/>

## Pakistan- Himalaya

### 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

[http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02\\_08\\_2016\\_151\\_004](http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailNews.php?StoryText=02_08_2016_151_004)