

Headlines Himalaya

Apr 22- Apr 28 (2019)

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For the 548th issue of Headlines Himalaya, we reviewed 15 news from 8 sources and 13 selected happenings from five countries.

Water scarcity in Sankhuwasabha district of northeastern Nepal, has forced people out of their village. The longest river of Nepal, Karnali, located in the western Nepal is being polluted from the direct disposal of wastes from settlements. Rajpur Rural Municipality of Dang District in western Nepal has been suffered from an outbreak of measles. Spot-billed ducks which are native to south India, have been found reproducing and making Ghodaghodi lake of western Nepal their permanent home since last five years. Two new endemic species of wild orchids has been discovered. In Jammu and Kashmir of northern India, the rapid conversion of agricultural land for other purposes has reduced the productivity. Sanjiangyuan National Park in Qinghai Province of northwest China is a home to 270 species of vertebrates including 69 protected species. A massive forest fire had started in the Yangner in eastern Bhutan. The rain harvesting program has changed the livelihoods in Gangtokha village in Tsirang.

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

*DROUGHT FORCING PEOPLE OUT
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PAKISTAN

DROUGHT FORCING PEOPLE OUT

Water scarcity in Sankhuwasabha district of northeastern Nepal, has forced people out of their village. Over 3,300 families are living under acute water shortage in three municipalities of the district, 45 families have migrated to another area. An integrated water project is needed with a huge investment, but has not been initiated due to budget constraint.

Apr 23

<https://bit.ly/2XBTNMO>

RHINO'S BODIES FOUND DECOMPOSED

The nighten out of forty one dead rhinos (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) were found completely decomposed in Chitwan National Park, south-central Nepal. The park experiences the death of 22-25 rhinos on an average due to natural causes, however 41 rhinos have been found dead so far since July of 2018.

Apr 25

<https://bit.ly/2JEAXkE>

<https://bit.ly/2JkSnDn>

DETERIORATING KARNALI

The longest river of Nepal, Karnali, located in the western Nepal is being polluted from the direct disposal of wastes from settlements. Lack of proper waste management system throughout the Karnali River Basin is the greatest problem in the region.

Apr 27

<https://bit.ly/2Ys2UQF>

MYSTERIOUS DISEASE TAKING TOLL

Tanjakot Rural Municipality of Humla district of western Nepal has experienced a sudden outbreak of an unknown disease. Nine people have died and over a dozen more have become ill from this mysterious disease.

Apr 27

<https://bit.ly/2JCRTcC>

<https://bit.ly/2WICmKL>

OUTBREAK OF MEASLES

Rajpur Rural Municipality of Dang District in western Nepal has been suffered from an outbreak of measles. Over 50 children have been reported ill so far in the village. A vaccination campaign has been initiated with a medical team to control the outbreak.

Apr 28

<https://bit.ly/2LHUOSA>

MIGRATORY BIRD RESIDING PERMANENTLY

Spot-billed ducks (*Anas poecilorhyncha*), which are native to south India, have been found reproducing and making Ghodaghodi lake of wetern Nepal their permanent home since last five years. About 69 spot-billed ducks were recorded this year around the lake.

Apr 28

<https://bit.ly/2JjggVb>

ENDEMIC SPECIES OF ORCHIDS DISCOVERED

Two new endemic species of wild orchids (*Calanthe Himalaicum* and *Habenaria Palpensis*) has been discovered. With this discovery, the total species of endemic orchids in Nepal has reached 19. The species *C. Himalaicum* was found at a height of 2,200 m above the sea level in Doti District of western Nepal while *H. Palpensis* was found at a height of 1,500 m from the sea level at Mujhung hill of Palpa District in western Nepal.

Apr 28

<https://bit.ly/2w09KRk>

India-Himalaya

FISHING NETS BANNED

The government officials in Nalbari District of Assam in northeast India has banned the use of net with mesh size less than 7 cm bar and 14 cm. This prohibition has been effective from April 1 this year to July 15 next year.

Apr 22

<https://bit.ly/2WJODOZ>

CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND AFFECTS LOCAL FARMERS

In Jammu and Kashmir of northern India, the rapid conversion of agricultural land for other purposes has reduced the productivity and has resulted 60% of state's population poorer. The agriculture sector supports over 60% of the employment in the region.

Apr 28

<https://bit.ly/2VkSalb>

China Himalaya

HUMAN – WILDLIFE CONFLICT

Sanjiangyuan National Park in Qinghai Province of northwest China is a home to 270 species of vertebrates including 69 protected species. Many vertebrates including brown bears, snow leopard, and coyote have involved in conflict and resulted the loss of lives and properties. The park management committee has insured for more than 17,000 herdsmen in October 2018 that has provided the compensation for the loss.

Apr 25

<https://bit.ly/2E6PZfi>

Bhutan-Himalaya

MASSIVE FIRE ENGULFED FOREST

A massive forest fire had started in the Yangner in eastern Bhutan and destroyed over 283 ha of chirpine (*Pinus roxburghi*) forest. However, the reason of fire has not been found yet.

Apr 22

<https://bit.ly/2Wiwhh9>

DESTRUCTIVE WINDSTORM

An unfortunate windstorm hit Bardo Gewog of south central Bhutan and destroyed six houses in Langdurbi village and a house in Khomshar village. Relief package with disaster kits had been distributed to victims.

Apr 22

<https://bit.ly/2LHYZO9>

RAIN WATER HARVESTING, A SUCCESS

The rain harvesting program has changed the livelihoods in Gangtokha village in Tsirang. The residents with this program have been collecting the rain water and using to irrigate farmlands. People used to walk more than 2 kilometers to collect water in the past.

Apr 25

<https://bit.ly/2JM4okV>

Pakistan- Himalaya