

# Headlines Himalaya

March 31- April 06, 2015

No. 348

Editorial Team – Reena Bajracharya & Rabi Maharjan

For the 348<sup>th</sup> issue, we reviewed 18 news reports from 7 sources and selected 11 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, camera trapping has been found effective while hailstorm has caused havoc in India. In Tibet, China, livestock has benefited while Burmese shrike has been found in Bhutan. And hailstorm has caused havoc in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, northwest 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            *Camera Trapping Aids Conservation*  
*Tourism Industry Benefits*  
*FNCCI Dissatisfied*  
*Heavy storm Wreaks Havoc*  
*Commercial Farming Replaces Forest*  
*Tea Price Fixed*

INDIA            *Hailstorm Wreaks Havoc*

CHINA           *Livestock Brings Fortune*

BHUTAN         *Burmese Shrike Discovered*

PAKISTAN       *Killer Hailstorm*  
*Avalanche Hits Buner*

## Nepal-Himalaya

### CAMERA TRAPPING AIDS CONSERVATION

The poaching and smuggling of red panda has been abated through camera trapping at Mabu VDC, Ilam, eastern Nepal. Altogether five cameras were kept on tree holes, bushes, or lichen to record activities in the forest. Around 23 to 40 red pandas have been estimated in the area.

March 31

<http://www.thehimalayantimes.com/fullNews.php?headline=Camera+trapping+effective+to+curb+red+panda+smuggling&NewsID=450028>

### TOURISM INDUSTRY BENEFITS

The travel and tourism sector, Kathmandu, central Nepal is estimated to have created over 487,500 job opportunities across the country in 2014. It represented 3.5 percent of the total employment and 4.3 percent of the total GDP.

April 1

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/01/business/nepal-tourism-generated-487k-direct-jobs-in-2014/403533.html>

### FNCCI DISSATISFIED

The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) has showed dissatisfaction towards government decision to ban polythene bags. It has urged the government to emphasize more on the management of plastics than imposing ban on its use.

April 03

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/rssReference.php?headline=Govt+urged+to+reconsider+decision+to+ban+plastic+&NewsID=450493>

### HEAVY STORM WREAKS HAVOC

The strong wind accompanied by rain had killed a person, while injuring two in Kathmandu, central Nepal. Signboards, flex boards, portable rooftop water tanks, zinc sheets and generated debris have been striped on the streets.

April 04

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/rssReference.php?headline=Strong+wind%E2%80%9A+rain+lash+capital+city&NewsID=450612>

### COMMERCIAL FARMING REPLACES FOREST

The commercial farming of hybrid apples and potatoes has been started over 36.8 ha of deforested area in Manang, western Nepal. About 2,000 trees spread over 14 ha of land had already been cut down to start project, while either side of Marshyangdi river in Bhartang has been tilled.

April 6

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/06/national/commercial-apple-farming-in-manangs-deforested-area/403741.html>

### TEA PRICE FIXED

The buying price of tea leaves has been fixed in Ilam, eastern Nepal. The rates have been ranging from NPR 35 to NPR 45 per kg. Quality tea leaves cost as much as NPR 45 per kg, while organic tea factories have set the price at NPR 60 per kg.

April 06

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/06/business/buying-prices-of-tea-leaves-fixed/403732.html>

**India-Himalaya**

### HAILSTORM WREAKS HAVOC

The seasonal and non-seasonal crops, livestock along with 160 kutcha houses have been destroyed by a hailstorm in

south and east districts of Sikkim, northern India. The hailstones were measured up to 3mm in diameter.

April 04

[http://www.sikkimexpress.com/epaper/page\\_1.jpg](http://www.sikkimexpress.com/epaper/page_1.jpg)

## China Himalaya

### LIVESTOCK BRINGS FORTUNE

The economic condition of locals in Gyadrong, Tibet, southern China has been improved by milking center. It was established in 2013 at the cost of USD 488,990. A cow produces 15 liters of milk in an average per day with average profits of USD 2,400 per year.

April 01

[http://eng.tibet.cn/2012sy/xw/201504/t20150401\\_2565876.html](http://eng.tibet.cn/2012sy/xw/201504/t20150401_2565876.html)

## Bhutan-Himalaya

### BURMESE SHRIKE DISCOVERED

The Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation and Environment (UWICE) has found a male Burmese shrike (*Lanius collurio*) at Lamai Gonpa, Bumthang district, northern Bhutan. The bird was 17-20cm long and 26.7g in weight. It has been listed in "The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, 2012".

April 04

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/biodiversity-richer-by-one-more-bird/#.VSlezy7bUdV>

## Pakistan- Himalaya

### KILLER HAILSTORM

The strong wind and hailstorm has killed four people, while injuring six in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, northwest Pakistan. It has destroyed crops, electricity lines and houses' roof in Bannu district. The rainfall was recorded 21mm in Peshawar and 35mm in Kohat.

April 02

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1173431/hailstorm-rain-claim-four-lives-in-kp-fata>

### AVALANCHE HITS BUNER

An avalanche has taken the lives of three persons of a family in Chamla area, Buner, KPK, northern Pakistan. The avalanche was triggered from an adjacent hillock which fell on the house causing destruction.

April 3

<http://www.khybernews.tv/newsDetails.php?cat=3&key=Nzk3Mzg>