

# Headlines Himalaya

August 04- August 11, 2015

No. 366

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For the 366<sup>th</sup> issue, we reviewed 19 news reports from 8 sources and selected 15 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, smuggling of pangolin has increased while rainfall has caused havoc in India. In Tibet, China, the number of blue sheep has increased and integrated farming has been initiated in Bhutan. And power cut has been increased in Rawalpindi, central 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	<i>Fewa Lake Muddied</i> <i>Marijuana Cultivation</i> <i>Pangolin Smuggling</i> <i>Relocating Displaced</i> <i>Birds In Danger</i> <i>Fishing Banned</i> <i>Cholera Outbreaks</i>
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## Nepal-Himalaya

### FEWA LAKE MUDDIED

The major tourist's attraction Fewa Lake, Pokhara, western Nepal has been muddied due to floods triggered by heavy rainfall. Similarly, the inlet of lake, Harpan Khola has been enlarged sweeping away vast strips of farmlands. Likewise, the aesthetic value and aquatic life have been damaged.

August 4

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/08/04/national/flood-muddies-fewa-lake/408901.html>

### MARIJUANA CULTIVATION

The locals of Bharta VDC and some other VDCs in Makwanpur district, central Nepal have been cultivating Marijuana (*Cannabis*) which is an illegal crop. The smuggling has been flourishing as they have been offered with NPR 50,000- NPR

60,000 by the local smugglers.

5 August

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/08/05/national/mawkanpur-villagers-lured-by-pot-farming/408959.html>

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/223-kg-weed-seized-from-truck-in-makwanpur/>

#### PANGOLIN SMUGGLING

The poaching and smuggling of pangolin has increased in Kavre district, central Nepal. Its body parts, mainly scales are higher in demand in China as well as South East Asian countries for traditional medicines.

6 August

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/08/06/national/pangolin-poaching-smuggling-on-rise/409014.html>

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/kavrepalanchok-sees-spurt-in-pangolin-scales-smuggling/>

#### RELOCATING DISPLACED

The displaced 500 families by the Gorkha Earthquake, central Nepal and its powerful aftershocks had been relocated to Laharepauwa of Rasuwa, central Nepal by District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC). Other displaced families have also being relocated to different VDCs.

August 6

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/08/06/national/rasuwa-starts-relocating-quake-displaced-people/409015.html>

#### BIRDS IN DANGER

The Increased pollution, urbanization and unmanaged garbages in Kathmandu, central Nepal has threatened the habitat for large birds like eagle, hawk, owls, cranes and vultures. Most of them are carnivores and feed on small mammals, reptiles and fishes. The study has been conducted by world wildlife fund for nature and department of national parks and wildlife conservation.

August 6

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/kathmandu/pollution-urbanisation-threatening-large-birds-in-valley/>

#### FISHING BANNED

The Koshitappu Wildlife Reserve, eastern Nepal has banned fishing for three months in the Saptakoshi river and its watershed region. This obligatory decision was made considering the rainy season.

August 6

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/fishing-banned-in-watershed-region-saptakoshi/>

#### CHOLERA OUTBREAKS

The Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Diseases Hospital, Kathmandu, central Nepal has reported six people infected with cholera (*Vibrio cholera*). Most of the patients were from Balkhu, Kuleshwor, Kalimati and Teku and found to be drinking water from jars and taps.

August 6

<http://www.ekantipur.com/np/2072/4/21/full-story/414145.html>

## India-Himalaya

#### FIRE WOES

The devastating fire due to electric short-circuit at Bakaliaghat in Karbianglong district, Assam, north eastern India had destroyed around 25 shops. Similarly, the properties worth millions have been damaged.

6 Aug

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=aug0715/state053>

#### RAINFALL HAVOC

The heavy rain occurred in Himachal Pradesh, northern India has accelerated the floods and landslides disturbing the linkage of roads. Similarly, three members of a family were buried in Dharampur sub-division of Mandi district. Likewise, many houses were also damaged.

8 Aug

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/One-killed-as-heavy-rain-lashes-Himachal/articleshow/48404586.cms>

## China Himalaya

#### INCREASING BLUE SHEEPS

The blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*) have been observed at an altitude of 5,200 meters in the Tibet Autonomous Region. The total number has increased by 40 percent in the past 27 years due to the improved wildlife conservation.

6 Aug

[http://eng.tibet.cn/2012sy/2013rdxw/201508/t20150806\\_3752323.html](http://eng.tibet.cn/2012sy/2013rdxw/201508/t20150806_3752323.html)

#### MINING WORRIES

A road leading to the Gyama valley, Lhasa, southern China has become a concern for locals who fear of a new mining project. Its activities had caused the pollution of rivers and water bodies resulting in death of livestock and health hazards.

6 Aug

<http://www.phayul.com/news/article.aspx?id=36324&article=Inroads+near+Lhasa+set+fears+of+new+mining+projects+in+Gyama+valley&t=1&c=1>

## Bhutan-Himalaya

#### INTEGRATED FARMING INITIATED

An integrated dairy and horticulture farming on 9.3 ha land has been started at Norzinthang, eastern Bhutan. The technical support was received from agriculture and livestock departments. The locals have 30 cows and 30 calves for a dairy farm which helps in marketing products in future, to make up for the cost of production and hiring of workers.

5 Aug

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/trashigang-rabdey-starts-integrated-farming/>

#### TAKINS RADIO COLLARED

The officials including a researcher at Tsarijathang in JigmeDorji National Park, northern Bhutan had collared one male and five female takins (*Budo castaxicolor*) out of 180 to study their geographic position and migration pattern. A takin is a mystical animal believed to be created by the divine madman, placing the head of a goat with the body of a cow.

6 Aug

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/six-new-takins-radio-collared/>

#### HOMELESS ANIMALS

The Thimphu Thromde, western central Bhutan had confiscated over 300 homeless animals from Changangkha since January 2014 to May 2015. The owners have to pay per day fine of USD 3. Similarly, the unclaimed animals were given to Jangsa Animal Saving Trust, a non-profit charitable organization and Department of Livestock.

8 Aug

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/impounding-vagrant-city-animals/>

## Pakistan- Himalaya

#### INCREASING POWER CUTS

There has been inadequate power supply to the consumers in Rawalpindi, central Pakistan. It has caused financial loss as the electrical appliances have been damaged, while the humidity level had crossed 65 percent resulting in health problems including unconsciousness among the children, women and elderly people.

9 Aug

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-6-333240-Pindiites-brave-severe-hot-&-humid-weat>