

Headlines Himalaya

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No. 480

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For the 480th issue of Headlines Himalaya, we reviewed 21 news from 10 sources and selected 21 happenings from five countries. In Nepal, modified paddy cultivation is dragging the interest of the farmers in western part of the country. In India, Laos team visited Assam to enhance their knowledge on biodiversity conservation and wildlife issues. Greenhouse vegetable farming is a rising new source of income in China. While in Pakistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Rescue 1122 has provided services in over 140,000 emergencies.

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

Ghaighat waterfall: a new tourist destination
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BHUTAN

Tuskers terrorising Sipsu village
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Export decreases with deteriorated quality

PAKISTAN

Emergency rescue service in Peshawar

GHAIHAT WATERFALL: A NEW TOURIST DESTINATION

With a long, three years plan and effort of the Tourism Board, "Gaighat Waterfall" in Tarakhola-1, Baglung district, western Nepal, has been successfully developed as a tourist destination place. Over the past years, there has been a rapid development in tourism infrastructure development which has attracted a lot of tourists.

Nov 6

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47353>

WIND TURBINE TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY

Studies have been started to know the possibility of generating electricity through wind turbines in Khajura, far western Nepal after detecting it as a potential sites for the purpose. Seeing the potential to generate electricity from wind, probability studies have been started in. For this, Alternative Energy Promotion Center has connected 80 MW high towers, five rotors and other equipment at the regional agricultural training center of Khajura.

Nov 9

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47461>

MODIFIED PADDY CULTIVATION METHOD SEEMS TO HOLD BETTER PROMISE

The cultivation of hybrid species of paddy (*Oryza sps*) have grabbed the attention of farmers in Palpa , western Nepal, after the huge increase in the production rate. US-312, Champion, Gorakhnath, US-312, Arid 6444, Khumaltar are some of the species that have been used as the hybrid species. The production was 33,893 metric tonnes last year which has now increased to 35,888 metric tonnes.

Nov 9

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47446>

CAPTIVE VULTURES INTO THE WILD

Six female vulture species (*Gyps sps*) that have been brought seven months back from the National Center to the Kavasavati Jatayu Restaurant in Nawalparasi, south western Nepal for breeding, have been left into the wild. This is one of the unique practices in the field of conserving this most endangered vulture species. .

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2hB1BiA>

DENGUE THREATENING THE LIVES IN SOUTHERN NEPAL

Paurai Bazar of Chandrapur Municipality-01 located in Rautahat of southern Nepal has dengue victims in the whole town. A guy of age 31 has been found dead due to dengue while it has been detected in other seven individuals. Also, 60 families have been caught in the vicious circle of dengue.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2AJgn4e>

PARAGLIDING: A NEW ATTRACTION FOR PEOPLE

With the introduction of paragliding, Deurali Bhanjyang of Shankarapur Municipality in Kathmandu, central Nepal, has become the new recreation centre these days. Shankarapur Paragliding Pvt Ltd has started paragliding inside the valley three years ago from Deurali Bhanjyang, with an aim of targeting the high potential of tourism in the capital city.

Nov 11

<http://www.myrepublica.com/news/30521/>

PLANTATION OF SUGARCANE STARTED

Farmers have started planting sugarcane in Sunsari district, eastern Nepal as the district has the country's second largest sugar mill and is also a potential area for the sugarcane production. There is also a tremendous increase in the sugarcane plantation area to 3,855 hectares in the fiscal year 2072-73 whereas it was only 1,800 hectares in the last fiscal year.

Nov 12

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47561>

THREE RHINOS RESCUED

Three rhinos (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) that have been carried away on the flood during the last rainy season from Chitwan National Park have been rescued from Valmiki City Wild Reserve area of India. This is not the first such incident as previously four rhinos were also rescued and freed to Chitwan National Park.

Nov 12

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47567>

CLEAN CITY CAMPAIGN BEGINS IN ILLAM

With a motto to rank Ilam, eastern Nepal, in the first place, in terms of cleanliness, a campaign has been started from Tuesday. Newa Pooch Language Culture Society took this initiative by launching sanitation campaigns in different places.

Nov 12

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/47582>

EXTENSION OF TELECOM'S SERVICE TO MOUNTAIN AREAS

Nepal Telecom has started providing telecommunication service to ten rural places in four districts of the Himalayan region, which were till date prohibited with the service. As the road service has not yet reached in the rural areas, telecom has used helicopter for transporting the tools.

Nov 12

<http://bit.ly/2AHCl8Q>

India-Himalaya

LAOS TEAM VISITS ASSAM FOR LEARNING ON CONSERVATION

A team of 22 officers from Laos has arrived in Assam in north eastern India to study Assam's forest management, wildlife, regeneration of endangered species, eco-tourism and joint forest management and its potential in various sectors. The team visiting different National Parks and Zoos will learn about community forest management, wildlife issues, eco-tourism, national park management and wildlife law enforcement. The team also acquired knowledge on regeneration of degraded forest and illegal trade of wildlife.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2zLj50A>

IMPURE WATER INVITING DISEASES

More than sixty students have been reported sick after consuming impure water resulting from pollution from a stone crusher, macadam plants and the garbage dumping on river bank in Tangmarg village, Kashmir, northern India. The locals reported that they were supplied unfiltered water. The sickness was caused due to possible infection of hepatitis in the unfiltered water source as per the authorities.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2mrBegJ>

WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN PALAMPUR

A workshop with the main aim of strengthening early warning for disaster risk reduction in Himalayan agriculture was held in Palampur in Himachal Pradesh, north western India. Agriculture University highlighted the opportunities that were created due to climate change in addition to the challenges posed by the issue.

Nov 11

<http://bit.ly/2mqmizv>

China Himalaya

GREEN HOUSE FARMING AS FINANCIAL ALTERNATIVE

The poor farmers in Xiemai Village of Xexung Town, Dengqen County, Chamdo City, Tibet Autonomous Region in south western China that previously relied on animal husbandry and harvest of Yarsagumba (*Cordyceps sinensis*), now earn through greenhouse vegetable farming. More than 17 families and 66 people now have an alternative to their income via the practice of greenhouse farming. The annual income is expected to increase in the community of 71 households while getting direct involvement in obtaining skills and market trade.

Nov 8

<http://bit.ly/2hCnG0t>

TIBET GEOGRAPHICAL CENSUS COMPLETE

A study, completed in more than three year time, provides the overall situation and includes data on natural tourism resources, such as nature reserves, tourist attractions, wetland parks and rivers. This is the first comprehensive study of its kind in the region and is expected to help in policy making, poverty alleviation, disaster prevention and relief, major project construction and the campaign against illegal land use.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2hCogeF>

COMMERCIALIZATION IN THE NOMADIC COMMUNITY

The sheep herding communities in Sichuan-Tibet Plateau in south western China, have now taken up new financial activities such as the recently grown share market. Individual family members have now increased their annual income by more than USD 300 from what they previously made from traditional animal husbandry practice. Increased investments are expected to provide more economic opportunities to the locals increasing their annual income.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2hAOvIJ>

LOCALS HAPPY FROM POVERTY ALLEVIATION POLICY

More than 147 thousand local residents have been lifted out of poverty in Tibet in south western China. The per capita income of the families has been increased by more than USD 500. The plan will continue to improve the livelihood of the poor people until 2020 A.D.

Nov 10

<http://bit.ly/2ijr5xY>

Bhutan-Himalaya

TUSKERS TERRORISING SIPSU VILLAGE

Farmers in Sipsu village in Bhutan have been affected by constant raids by Wild Elephants (*Elephas maximus*) and Wild boars (*Sus scrofa*). The village faces constant destruction as the village lies in the wildlife passage. Despite different preventive measures such as electric fencing and blocking the entry points of wild animals, using excavators, hectares of produced agriculture is destroyed each year leaving poor farmers without any other options.

Nov 8

<http://bit.ly/2yGuBZJ>

WORKSHOP ADDRESSING HUMAN WILDLIFE CONFLICT

The third Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) workshop was conducted in Thimphu from November 6-8 with the main focus on mitigating human wildlife conflict to protect rural livelihoods and to maintain biodiversity. The program was jointly organized by the Japan's environment ministry, Republic of Korea's environment ministry, International Centre for Mountain Development (ICIMOD), United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) Bhutan, and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Bhutan, which was attended by more than 50 participants.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2mrCksK>

EXPORT DECREASES WITH DETERIORATED QUALITY

The overall export of Bhutanese Apples (*Malus sps*) was decreased due to the deteriorated quality, due to which the export quantity has to be sold at different industrial scale breweries. The country exported 2,896.19 MT apples worth USD 1.35 million in 2015, 6,772.42 MT of apples worth USD 4.40 million in 2014 whereas only 2,724 MT of apples worth USD 1.28 million were exported last year which is in decreasing order. The quality of apple produced this year has largely affected the profit provided to the farmers compared to previous years.

Nov 11

<http://bit.ly/2msQaLH>

Pakistan-Himalaya

EMERGENCY RESCUE SERVICE IN PESHAWAR

The Khyber Emergency Rescue Service 1122 in Peshawar has provided services in 92,000 medical emergencies, 34,000 traffic accidents, more than 5,000 incidents of fire, 498 bomb explosions, 4,000 crime situations, 500 building collapses and 3,600 cases of drowning so far. The agency reports, it has trained more than 100,000 people for emergency first aid and is the first rescue service of its kind in the region. The agency plans on developing and expanding the agency further so that it can serve more people for the good cause.

Nov 9

<http://bit.ly/2zEAiej>