

# Headlines Himalaya

December 22- December 29, 2015 No. 384

Editorial Team –Saroj Basnet & Christina Sharma

For the 384<sup>th</sup> issue, we reviewed 27 news reports from 11 sources and selected 26 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, tree smuggling has increased in Nawalparasi district of western Nepal and the snow leopards were spotted in Gorkha district. The lack of toilets was found in rural villages in Uttarakhand of northern India. In Tibet, China there has been found of Hyenas and the law has revised for the protection of wildlife. Biogas plants have been constructed in Gelephu region of Bhutan. Leopard was found in Margalla hills of 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**

- Tree Smuggling Increase*
- Seven Snow Leopards Spotted In Gorkha*
- Death Male Rhino Found*
- Fear of Losing Investment*
- Increase in Bio-Pesticides User*
- Commercial Farming in Remote Jajarkot*
- Biogas Users Increased In Dang*
- Depletion of River Based Resources*
- Vultures Found Dead*
- Air Pollution Measurement Center*
- Food Shortage in Jajarkot*
- Financial Support by Community Forest*

**INDIA**

- Lack of Toilet in Rural Households*
- Pollution Caused By Waste*
- Crop Destroyed By Wild Animals*
- Distribution of Solar Lanterns*
- Lack of Irrigation*
- Demand to Increase Ethanol*

**CHINA**

- Hyenas in SW China*
- New Revised Law for Wildlife Protection*

**BHUTAN**

- Construction of Biogas Plants Swiftens*
- Mandarin Harvest Decreases*
- Windstorm Destroy Houses*

**PAKISTAN**

- Leopards Return To Margalla Hills*
- Lake Polluted In Pakistan*

### TREE SMUGGLING INCREASE

Smuggling of timber in Nawalpur forest of Nawalparasi district in western Nepal has increased rapidly in the recent days. Locals have expressed their anger at the forest administration's insufficient efforts in tackling this problem. However, the administration claims that they are patrolling through the community forests. Smuggling is common in the national and community forests.

December 22

<http://radionepal.gov.np/radio-nepal/timber-smuggling-up-in-nawalparasi/>

<https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/timber-smuggling-up-in-nawalparasi/>

### SEVEN SNOW LEOPARDS SPOTTED IN GORKHA

Over the course of a technical survey at Manaslu Conservation Area, seven snow leopards (*Uncia uncia*) have been spotted at Samagaun and Chhekampar VDCs in Gorkha district western part of Nepal. A total of about 500 snow leopards are found in Nepal's Himalayas among them Gorkha is home to 17 individuals.

December 25

<http://www.nepalnews.com/index.php/news/47061-seven-snow-leopards-spotted-in-gorkha>

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/7-snow-leopards-spotted-in-manaslu/>

### DEATH MALE RHINO FOUND

A rare one horned rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) has been found dead at Kumroj area of the eastern belt in Chitwan district, southern part of Nepal with multiple injuries in its body parts. All its organs including the horn were found intact and hence could have died of natural causes. The country has celebrated 'zero poaching years' three times in the past years.

December 22

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/rhino-found-dead-in-chitwan/>

### FEAR OF LOSING INVESTMENT

Fish farmers of Parsa, south-central Nepal have been unable to sell their fish in the market due to disruption of transportation caused by Protracted Madhes agitation. A total of 1700 metric tons of fishes were produced in the district by 865 farmers in 1,060 fish ponds that occupy an area of 140 hectares.

December 22

<http://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/fish-farmers-in-parsa-at-receiving-end-of-tarai-agitation/>

### INCREASE IN BIO-PESTICIDES USER

Farmers are increasingly using bio pesticides instead of chemical pesticides because of awareness and easy availability in Illam of eastern Nepal. According to District Agricultural Development Office, about 445 liters of bio-pesticides was used in the past year, up from 290 liters used in the previous year.

December 26

<http://gorkhapatraonline.com/news/18509>