

# Headlines Himalaya

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No. 388

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For the 388<sup>th</sup> issue, we reviewed 32 news reports from 18 sources and selected 30 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, a recent census found that bird population has declined in the wetlands of Nawalparasi district, western Nepal while a rare Kingfisher has been spotted in Asan Conservation Reserve of Uttarakhand state, northern India. Water supplies from Tibetan plateau shall stabilize or increase in the coming decade claims a recent study and the negative effects to the river ecosystem in Bhutan are still reversible through mitigation.

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

*Bird Population Declines in Wetland*  
*Indian Tourists Increase in Mustang*  
*Locals Fear Violent Elephant*  
*Price Hike in Food Items in Karnali*  
*Nayapani Developed As a Tourism Hub*  
*Tiger Census in Bardia National Park*  
*Ginger Export Declined*  
*Boar Attack on Local*  
*Leopard Rescued From Kirtipur and Released*  
*Rhinos Radio-Collared in Bardia*  
*Solar Panel Installed To Run Auto-Rickshaw*  
*Livestock Insurance in Pyuthan*

## INDIA

Kingfisher in Asan Conservation Reserve  
Goat Farming In Nag Tibba Village  
Pneumonia Kills Leopards in Uttarakhand  
Bee Keeping Training at Arunachal Pradesh  
Rhino Poaching At Kaziranga National Park  
Sixty Walnut Tree Axed  
Himalayan Region of India Highly Vulnerable To Earthquake  
Cleanest Town in Assam

## CHINA

Tibet Geothermal Energy Potential to Replace Coal Energy  
Water Supplies from Tibetan Plateau Likely To Increase  
Snow Leopards Found At Mt. Qomolangma

## BHUTAN

*River Ecosystem Not Dead Even After the Threat of Settlement*  
*Water Shortage Faced By Basesa*  
*Water Pumping Project*  
*Actions Taken For Strayed Animals*

## PAKISTAN

*Endangered Fish Sold In Gwadar*  
*Pangolin Rescued*  
*Falcons Released Into National Park*

### TIGER CENSUS IN BARDIA NATIONAL PARK

Bardia National Park, Department of Wildlife Conservation, Department of Forests, World Wildlife Fund for Nature, and National Natural Trust for Nature Conservation has conducted Tiger (*Panthera Tigris*) census in Bardia National Park in mid-western Nepal. Automatic cameras were installed in various 297 locations in the park area to count the tiger. There were 50 tigers found in Bardia National Park in 2015.

January 22

<http://www.myrepublica.com/society/story/35554/tiger-count-underway-in-bardiya-national-park.html>

### GINGER EXPORT DECLINES

The export of ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) to India from Ilam district, eastern Nepal has declined by 62 percent in comparison to the previous year, due to border blockade. The export was only worth NRs 690 million against NRs 3.21 billion. The price of ginger has also decreased by 50 percent in comparison to the last year.

January 22

<http://therisingnepal.org.np/news/8852>

### BOAR ATTACKS LOCALS

A run away wild boar (*Susscrofa*) from the Chitwan National Park, eastern Nepal has hurt six people at Jagatpur, western Chitwan of Nepal. The injured were treated at Chitwan Medical College. The wild boar has since been captured and set free in the park.

January 23

<http://www.dcnepal.com/news/news.php?nid=189140>

### LEOPARD RESCUED FROM KIRTIPUR AND RELEASED

A male leopard (*Panthera pardus*) has been captured from a house where it had been locked in by the owners for safety reasons in Kirtipur, Central Nepal. Technicians and veterinarians from the Central Zoo contained the wild cat and freed it in a forest north of Kathmandu.

January 23

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-01-23/woman-hurt-in-leopard-attack.html>

### RHINOS RADIO-COLLARED IN BARDIA

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), National Trust for Nature Conservation, WWF Nepal and local communities have collared two more rhinos (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) from Bardia National Park, mid-western Nepal with radio transmitters. They were collared to track their movements so as to provide information regarding the behavior and habitat of the endangered animal.

January 24

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-01-24/2-more-rhinos-radio-collared-in-bardiya.html>

### SOLAR PANELS INSTALLED TO RUN AUTO-RICKSHAW

The services by electric auto rickshaw in Dang, Tulsipur and Lami, western Nepal have been affected due to heavy power cuts. To overcome such difficulties the auto-rickshaw owners have installed solar panels to charge the vehicle. The installation costs around NRs. 60,000.

January 24

<http://www.abhiyan.com.np/new/Articles/view/72456>

## RHINO POACHING AT KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK

Kaziranga National Park in Assam, north eastern India has lost a second rhino (*Rhino cerotidae*) to poachers within a span of two weeks. Forest guards found the carcass of the rhino with its horn removed. The rate of Rhino poaching has been increasing over the years at Kaziranga forest. Last year alone, 15 rhinos were poached for their horns.

January 24

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/flora-fauna/Kaziranga-lost-2nd-rhino-to-poachers-in-two-weeks/articleshow/50706819.cms>

## SIXTY WALNUT TREE AXED

At least 60 walnut trees (*Juglans regia*) were chopped down by unknown culprits at Bemnipora village in South Kashmir. The trees belonged to local farmers and were more than 70 years old.

January 24

<http://www.greaterkashmir.com/news/kashmir/60-walnut-trees-axed-in-shopian/207739.html>

## HIMALAYAN REGION OF INDIA HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO EARTHQUAKE

According to the World Bank the Indian Himalayan region is highly vulnerable to earthquake. The World Bank estimated that around 1000 small and big earthquake strike the country. The Natural Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) found that more than 59 percent of India is in danger to face severe seismic hazard.

January 25

<http://www.greaterkashmir.com/news/front-page/quake-in-himalayan-region-overdue-warn-experts/207745.html>

## CLEANEST TOWN IN ASSAM

Goalpara town of Assam, north eastern India achieved a remarkable transformation to become one of the cleanest towns in the State. The activity was initiated by the Goalpara Municipality Board (GMB) since 2014. The remarkable turnaround was mainly due to strict monitoring and cleaning activities launched by the municipality board.

January 25

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=jan2516/state050>

## China Himalaya

### TIBET GEOTHERMAL ENERGY POSSESSES POTENTIAL TO REPLACE COAL ENERGY

China claimed that the geothermal energy found in Tibet is most likely to replace the coal in energy consumption. The survey reveals that Tibet Autonomous region alone has 672 geothermal sites that can combine to produce 800,000 kilowatts. This total energy resource is equivalent to 853 billion tones of standard coal.

January 19

<http://www.tibetanreview.net/tibets-geothermal-resources-to-fulfil-chinas-clean-energy-dream/>

### WATER FLOW FROM TIBETAN PLATEAU TO STABILIZE

A recent study published by the University of Gothenburg and the Chinese Academy of Science showed that in the coming decade water flow from Tibetan Plateau would either be stable or would increase. This is considered as good news because Tibetan Plateau provides water for almost a third of the world's population.

January 20

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/01/160120113706.htm>