

Headlines Himalaya

April 21-28, 2015

No. 351

Editorial Team –Preety Pradhananga & Bimala Dhimal

For the 351st issue, we reviewed 18 news reports from 9 sources and selected 11 happenings in five countries. In Nepal, earthquake has caused massive destruction while red pandas have been killed in India. In Tibet, China, rivers have gained beauty and wild animals' smugglers have been arrested in Bhutan. And deforestation has disturbed the environment of Peshawar, northwestern 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>Wild Yak Spotted</i> <i>New Bird Species In Chitwan</i> <i>Earthquake Hits Nepal</i> <i>Everest Avalanche</i> <i>Timber Shortage</i>
INDIA	<i>Red Panda Dilemma</i>
CHINA	<i>Rivers Promoting Beauty</i> <i>Earthquake Terror</i>
BHUTAN	<i>Leopard Hides and Bones Confiscated</i>
PAKISTAN	<i>Deforestation Continues</i> <i>Heavy Rains Wreak Havoc</i>

Nepal-Himalaya

WILD YAK SPOTTED

The wild yak (*bos grunniens*) was spotted after 50 years in Limi valley of Humla district, far western Nepal. It has been listed under "The IUCN red list of threatened species, 2000". The endangered animal was seen at an aerial distance of 10 kilometers, which was far from the reach of national growth and modernization.

April 21

<http://e.myrepublica.com/component/flippingbook/book/1905-republica-21-apr-2015/1-republica.html>

NEW BIRD SPECIES IN CHITWAN

A new species of bird, Phusre Bhuim Robin has been found inside Chitwan National Park, central southern Nepal. The number of bird species has reached 628 in Chitwan.

April 21

<http://therisingnepal.org.np/epaper/showimage?img=uploads/epaper/2015-04-21/94a2fd9e8ea922942aef6c4aceecb12b.jpg>

EARTHQUAKE HITS NEPAL

The deadly 7.9 magnitude earthquake with its epicenter at Gorkha district, western Nepal on Saturday had taken about 2,500 lives. Around 777 have lost their lives in Kathmandu, 224 in Bhaktapur and 151 in Lalitpur. The central region was the worst hit with 1,017 deaths followed by western region with 209, 50 in eastern region, two in Mid Western, while No deaths have been reported in Far Western region. The worst hit regions after Kathmandu Valley included Sindhupalchowk, Rasuwa, Dolakha, Dhading and Gorkha. The death toll has reached 4,400.

April 26, 28

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/26/top-story/deadly-earthquake-death-toll-crosses-2500/404548.html>

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/28/top-story/deadly-earthquake-death-toll-reaches-4400/404555.html>

EVEREST AVALANCHE

An avalanche triggered by Saturday's destructive earthquake at Mount Everest base camp in Solukhumbu district, eastern Nepal had killed 17 people, while injuring 61 and 217 has been missing. Rescue operation has been initiated and six helicopters have been dispatched for the same. About 13 people were killed previous year.

April 26

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/26/top-story/17-killed-in-everest-avalanche/404547.html>

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/26/national/217-missing-in-everest/404550.html>

TIMBER SHORTAGE

There has been shortage of timber at the Pashupati Aryaghat, Kathmandu, central Nepal for cremation of around 300 dead bodies .A total of 16 temporary ghats (podium for cremation) were created at the bank near the Tilganga bridge. While cremating a single body had consumed around 250 kg of wood amounting to NPR 750,000 for total bodies.

April 27

<http://www.ekantipur.com/2015/04/27/top-story/pashupati-aryaghat-running-low-on-timber-for-cremation/404568.html>

India-Himalaya

RED PANDA DILEMMA

The skeleton of a red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) has been found in Dhotreh near Singalila National Park, while two had died of old age at Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHNP), Darjeeling, West Bengal, eastern India. The officials have ordered to investigate about the case.

April 21

<http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20150421/2576866.html>

China Himalaya

RIVER PROMOTING BEAUTY

The Yangtze, Yellow and Lancang nature reserve known as sanjiangyuan has started to melt, promoting its beauty as spring entered in Qinghai, Tibet, central china. It covers an area of over 30 million ha, highland ecosystem comprising glaciers, meadows, wetlands and wildlife .Tibetan antelopes found have been found at 4,000 meters.

April 21, 2015

http://eng.tibet.cn/2012sy/xw/201504/t20150421_2718809.html

EARTHQUAKE TERROR

The deadly earthquake had killed at least 17 people in Tibet, southern China on Saturday. While a 5.3 magnitude quake has cut off telecommunication lines and destroyed several buildings in Nyalam County, Kyirong County and neighboring regions. The national road No. 318, about two kilometers away from Nyalam County have developed deep cracks.

April 26

<http://www.phayul.com/news/article.aspx?id=35987&article=17+dead+in+Tibet+quake>

Bhutan-Himalaya

LEOPARD HIDES AND BONES CONFISCATED

The officials of forest have detained an eight feet long leopard (*Pantherapardus*) skin, 150 bones of endangered species, and a skull of an unidentified animal from Bhangtar in Samdrupjongkhar district, southeastern Bhutan. It was being smuggled to Nepal through Siliguri. The two smugglers have been taken to the Jalpaiguri court in West Bengal.

April 23, 2015

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/two-bhutanese-arrested-for-smuggling/#.VTieGPD5Hcs>

Pakistan- Himalaya

DEFORESTATION CONTINUES

The rapid deforestation over the past 10 years have been adversely disturbing the environment of Peshawar, northwestern, Pakistan. Tress are being cut in the name of dry trees and trees fallen by wind. The government has banned the activities, while a committee has been formed against illegal harvesting of trees.

April 21, 2015

http://epaper.dawn.com/DetailImage.php?StoryImage=21_04_2015_181_006#top

HEAVY RAINS WREAK HAVOC

The heavy rains accompanied by strong wind has killed 45 people, while injuring about 200 in Peshawar, Charsadda and surrounding villages, northwestern Pakistan. The wind had reached up to 110 kph, while an emergency was announced at all local hospitals of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

April 27

<http://khybernews.tv/newsDetails.php?cat=3&key=ODE1NDg=>