

The Rufford Foundation

Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

Josh Cole, Grants Director

Grant Recipient Details	
Your name	Khima Nand Balodi
Project title	Community Based Conservation of Critically Endangered Vultures in Terai Arc Landscape, Uttarakhand, India
RSG reference	aefe50-1
Reporting period	April 2019
Amount of grant	£5000
Your email address	knbalodidoon@gmail.com
Date of this report	03-05-2019

1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

Objective	Not achieved	Partially achieved	Fully achieved	Comments
To identify new safe sites for the dumping of livestock carcasses and shift all unsafe sites to a safe location				Even with proper consultation with the skimmers, many times re-use of older unsafe sites was observed, and also the disposal of slaughter house waste in unsafe sites was observed. As a result, three Himalayan vultures and three steppe eagles were electrocuted at these sites. Moreover, even after shifting the unsafe sites about 0.5-1.0 km away from the older ones, the vulture and other raptors were observed to be using powerline towers as perches. A major issue was that the newly shifted sites were not allocated by governmental authorities.
To advocate for the complete removal of diclofenac from veterinary treatment				The banned veterinary use diclofenac and large vials of human use diclofenac were not found in 200 pharmacies surveyed and also were not being used by State Animal Husbandry department. Its substitute, aceclofenac, was also not being used by the department. However, it was available in about 30 % of surveyed pharmacies. Meetings were held with the department to ban aceclofenac and ketoprofen as well.
To implement the awareness education and outreach plan for various stakeholders				We organised seven programmes with students and teachers in schools and colleges (more than 2500 students and teachers attended), seven programmes with skimmers, farmers, pharmacists and BMCs (more than 500 individuals attended), one event with frontline staff of forest department (more than 50 forest guards attended) and one stakeholder workshop on transboundary vulture conservation issues (attended by 115 participants).
To contribute for vulture conservation			Yes	The study outcomes (vulture population status, NSAIDs availability, threat to

actions and implementation of a Vulture Safe Zone in Uttarakhand lowland				vulture, community participation, etc.) were shared with state forest department, state biodiversity board, animal husbandry department, state drug controller and other conservation organisations time to times, which would help the authorities in declaring the lowland as a Vulture Safe Zone (VSZ)
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2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

Four Himalayan vultures died due to electrocution in two carcass dumping sites in Dehradun, which were not recorded during 2016-17. By involving the skimmers, both the sites were shifted to the newly identified safer sites and mortality risk was reduced.

The trans-boundary workshop was not organised (postponed three times) on earlier dates due to unavailability of key stakeholders from Nepal and India. Also the scheduled dates overlapped with parliamentary election in India. However, with proper consultation with the key departments it was organised on April 22, 2019 on the occasion of Earth Day under the theme "Protect our Species".

3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

- i. **Electrocution mortality was reduced up to 85-90 %; however, other mortality risks could not be ascertained:** After shifting the seven unsafe carcass dumping sites with the help of skimmers, the older unsafe and newer safe sites were monitored to understand the site use pattern by vultures up to March 2019. A total of seven Himalayan vultures were found dead due to electrocution in Dehradun district during the winter migratory season from December 2017 to April 2018. However, after necessary actions, no mortality was recorded till the survey period March 2019. We also recorded six dead Himalayan vultures (three in 2018 and three up to March 2019) and two dead steppe eagles in safe dumping sites of Dehradun district; however, the cause of mortality was not ascertained. It was also understood that the newly shifted safe sites were visited by more vultures than the unsafe ones.

- ii. **Market availability and use of vulture toxic diclofenac has reduced while availability and use of vulture safe meloxicam is on rise:** We conducted surveys in 260 pharmacies of Uttarakhand Terai region from 2016-2017 and found large vials of human use diclofenac in about 26 % of pharmacies, while the surveys under the present study revealed that large vial of toxic diclofenac was not available with any surveyed 200 pharmacies in the six Terai districts. The availability of other vulture toxic NSAIDs like aceclofenac, flunixin, ketoprofen and nimesulide was slightly higher in comparison with the surveys in 2016-17. However, availability of vulture safe meloxicam with about

63 % of the surveyed pharmacies is a good indication and it seems to be replacing the diclofenac and being used as a leading alternative.

- iii. **Record of all four critically endangered vultures in Uttarakhand:** Population surveys in carcass dumping sites and surrounding areas in the Terai arc landscape of Uttarakhand state revealed that it supports all the four critically endangered vultures found in the Indian Sub-continent. Two critically endangered vultures, white-backed vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*) and red-headed vultures (*Sacrogyps calvus*), in different carcass dumping sites during previous surveys from 2015 to 2017, but the Indian vulture (*Gyps indicus*) and slender-billed vulture (*Gyps tenuirostris*) were recorded only during the present study. The study also revealed that the population of critically endangered white-backed vulture is on rise (as recorded more number of individuals with sub-adults and juveniles than earlier surveys) which is good news for conservationists and the wildlife managers. Moreover, the high altitude resident near threatened bearded vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*) was also recorded once below the 1000 m asl nearby a carcass dumping site in Dehradun district.

- iv. **Stakeholder workshop on Indo-Nepal transboundary vulture conservation**
Issues: Besides the comprehensive awareness education and outreach activities with schools, colleges and villages, a meeting with the Indo-Nepal stakeholders was proposed under this project, to discuss the transboundary vulture conservation issues and develop transboundary collaboration. A stakeholder workshop on Indo-Nepal transboundary vulture conservation issues was organised on 22 April, 2019. This workshop was attended by more than 120 participants (officers, scientists and young researchers), from the four organisations of Nepal (the Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation, Bird Conservation Nepal, National Trust for Nature Conservation and Nature Guide Association Suklaphanta) and many governmental and non-governmental organisations of India (including the State Forest department, State Biodiversity Board, Animal Husbandry Department, Power corporation, Zoological Survey of India, National Centre for Good governance, Bombay Natural History Society, HISER Society, GIZ, Doon University, Drug Controller Office and many others). The representatives from community based organisation such as farmer groups, Biodiversity Management Committees and skimmers associations have also participated and shared their issues and ideas in this workshop. Also, the ban on vulture toxic NASIDs and provision of allocating safe dead livestock carcass dumping sites throughout the state by the responsible authorities was strongly agreed and recommended. The workshop has been the first of its kind in Uttarakhand state on vulture conservation issues and would important in developing transboundary collaboration for vulture conservation actions in near future.

4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).

Local communities like skinner associations, traditional skimmers, Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), farmers, pharmacists, Vulture Mitra, teachers and students have been involved in this project. The skimmers were involved in site identification and shifting of carcass dumping sites from unsafe to safer locations. The groups were benefitted with reduction in conflicts with villagers residing in adjoining villages, forest department and power department. Many of the youth skimmers were recognised as “Vulture Mitra” or “Friends of Vultures”, which have been instrumental in monitoring vulture population in their respective dumping sites. Also, it was the first time they felt that their issues are being perceived, recognised and raised with the administrative authorities, and their work is being given importance in keeping cities clean and in conservation as well. BMCs and villagers (farmers, livestock owners, etc.), pharmacists, and school teachers and students were involved in awareness programmes conducted under this project, they benefitted with increased awareness about vulture toxic NSAIDs, issues of dead animal disposal and status of vulture population. The BMCs have also been encouraged for allocating safe dumping sites in their respective jurisdiction which would work as safe feeding sites for vultures and to monitor vulture population in such sites by themselves.

5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

Yes, to understand the outcomes of the project activities especially shifting of unsafe dumping sites, regular monitoring is need to be carried out further in the study area. Moreover, as the newly shifted safe sites are temporary (not allocated by governmental authorities with proper orders), the focus would be on advocating for permanent sites in Dehradun and Haridwar districts. Also, continuous follow up with Animal Husbandry department and Drug Controller to ban on vulture toxic NSAIDs would be the major task. Also, similar activities are to be undertaken in other districts as well.

6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

The project outcomes would be share with others through presentations in workshop, conferences, seminars, talks/lectures with students and through articles in magazine, new papers and peer reviewed journals.

7. Timescale: Over what period was The Rufford Foundation grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

March 2018 to February 2019 was the actual time period of this project, however, the population monitoring surveys were carried out till March 2019. Also, due to parliamentary election in India, various governmental issues and unavailability of stakeholders, the transboundary meeting was postponed many times and could not be organised till the February 2019. On the occasion of “Earth Day” on 22 April, 2019, it was organised as a stakeholder workshop at the Doon University, Dehradun.

8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

Item	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Difference	Comments
Hiring of vehicle for site identification and population surveys	1200	1145	-55	Many visits were within 50-60 km distance, and also some expenses meet out from other available funds
Food and accommodation during field surveys	800	760	-40	Many times field sites were closer to home
Organizing stakeholder meeting/workshop and arrangement of venue, refreshment	1000	1256	+256	Expenses incurred more than expected, as the stakeholder workshop on Indo-Nepal Vulture Conservation Issues has been a relatively grand event than expected and attended by various departments
Pharmacy surveys and purchasing of banned drugs (if any)	350	350		
Printing of awareness material	480	480		
Stationary and office items for the project	300	280	-20	Additional amount meet out from other funds
Purchasing of field items (binocular, GPS, recorder, tripod, book, field guide)	400	294	-106	GPS and field guides were purchased from other funds
Printing of reports, dissemination of project outcomes	220	185	-35	Less amount incurred than expected
Miscellaneous and other unforeseen expenses	250	250		
Totals	5000	5000		Exchange Rate (£1= INR 90.89) or the rate applicable at the time of fund received (22 March, 2018)

9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

- i. Continuous monitoring of dead livestock carcass dumping sites (both safe and unsafe), to understand the feasibility of such intervention in reducing vultures mortality.

- ii. Continuous follow-up with governmental authorities to allocate permanent carcass dumping sites to skimmers that would serve as safe feeding sites for vultures.
- iii. Continuous follow-up with authorities for complete ban on vulture toxic drugs.
- iv. Advocacy for conducting annual vulture census throughout the state by the state forest department (currently no such provision is there).
- v. Initiating studies on population status and threats to vulture in highland districts (areas above 1000 m asl) of Uttarakhand State is very important, as much data is available for lowland districts or terai arc landscape, however, detailed studies on highland districts is lacking.
- vi. Comprehensive actions in provisional Vulture Safe Zone (pVSZ) with ensuring healthy transboundary collaboration with Nepal.

10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did The Rufford Foundation receive any publicity during the course of your work?

Yes, the Rufford Foundation logo was used in every awareness material (banners, posters, pamphlets, workshop kit, presentations, etc.) produced under the project. The Rufford Foundation received widespread publicity during presentation in International Biodiversity Congress, SAVE Meeting in Nepal, 14 awareness programmes on vulture conservation issues, awareness cum discussion meeting with frontline staff of forest department, one stakeholder workshop on Indo-Nepal transboundary vulture conservation issues, Rufford conference in Corbett, presentation at State Biodiversity Board and through media coverage as well as through social media like Facebook.

11. Please provide a full list of all the members of your team and briefly what was their role in the project.

Khima Nand Balodi (Team Leader): Responsible for overall project management and coordination development with other stakeholders. Organizing stakeholder meetings, awareness events and transboundary workshop. Population surveys, drug surveys in six Terai districts of Uttarakhand. Data analysis, report writing and dissemination.

Mr. Sunny Joshi (member): Assisting team leader in organizing awareness events, meetings and transboundary workshop, drugs surveys in pharmacies and population surveys in different carcass dumping sites.

Ms. Himani Singh Khati (member): Assisting team leader in organizing awareness events, meetings and transboundary workshop.

Mahesh Chandra (member): Conducting awareness events and surveys in safe and unsafe livestock carcass dumping sites.

12. Any other comments?

The outcomes from the project have been possible due to the financial support and continuous encouragement from the management of Rufford Foundation. We hope these activities would go further in ensuring the conservation of critically endangered vultures in the state of Uttarakhand, its adjoining Indian states and in Nepal as well. The project helped in developing collaboration with various governmental and non-governmental organisations for vulture conservation in the state. We are very thankful to the Rufford Foundation for supporting our activities on vulture conservation.



Khima Nand Balodi addressing the participants during the workshop



Participants during the Stakeholder Workshop on Indo-Nepal Vulture Conservation Issues



Guest of Honour Dr Dhanajay Mohan PCCF Uttarakhand Forest Department addressing the participants during the workshop



Prof. B.C Choudhury addressing the participants



Prof. Kusum Arunachalam addressing the participants



Dignitaries on dice (Prof. Kusum Arunachalam, Shri Haribhadra Acharya, Dr. C.S Nautiyal, Dr. Dhanajay Mohan, Prof. B)

Stakeholder Workshop on Indo-Nepal Transboundary Vulture Conservation Issues

Doon University, Dehradun

22 April, 2019

Media Coverage

Vulture population in southern India 'negligible' compared to north: Study

FOOD FACTOR Vultures in north India enjoyed abundance of food due to a lack of cattle disposal system where dead animals were skinned and thrown out by livestock owners

Suparna Roy
@suparnaroy1986

DEHRADUN: A study conducted by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) in collaboration with other institutes shows that density of population of vultures in the southern part of the country is lower or "negligible" compared to numbers of the species in the north Indian states. The study named, "Recent changes in populations of Critically Endangered Gyps vultures in India" from 2017, states, "Our opportunistic observations suggest that average densities of two of the three vulture species (found in India) are much lower in the south than in the north. For the third species, the Slender-billed Vulture, the breeding range does not include the south of India."



• Critically endangered white-rumped vultures spotted by researchers in Corbett. COURTESY: SUNNY JOSHI

Vidya Prakash, deputy director and incharge of the BNHS Vulture Conservation Breeding Programme and lead author of the paper, said, "The natural distribution range of vultures is along the Indo-Gangetic plains because of availability of food." The redistribution areas of the vultures found in India are areas with a height of up to 1,500 meters. The researchers had studied vulture population in 13 states but no surveys were particularly conducted in any of the five southern states "as these areas were about 1,000 km from the nearest transect points". When asked that on why no

surveys were conducted in the south Indian states, Prakash said it was a known fact that the density of the species is lesser in that area. He said unlike the Slender-billed Vulture, the White-rumped Vulture and the Indian Vulture have breeding ranges in the southern states but their numbers are almost negligible. "There are factors like abundance of food due to high cattle

population and better habitat available for the species in the north Indian states which is why they are found in more numbers. "Traditionally there was no cattle disposal system in the north Indian states, cattle was skinned and thrown out, and that provided a lot of food to vultures, giving rise to comparatively higher population," added Prakash. The conclusions of the

research were reflected in results from regression models of the effects of latitude and longitude within the sampled region. The results of the models which predicted densities of all three species of vultures showed that at typical latitudes from the un-sampled southern regions was less than 1% of the density compared to typical latitudes of the sampled northern region.

'Banned drug used to treat livestock'

Suparna Roy
@suparnaroy1986

DEHRADUN: A pharmaceutical survey done by a retired scientist of Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India to know threat assessment of vulture species in Terai region of the state found that banned drug diclofenac is still used for veterinary treatment. The research was conducted across a 40km stretch.

A team of researchers, led by BC Chaudhary, surveyed 260 pharmacies across the region between August 2016-October 2017. It found that 12 non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are found to be used in veterinary treatment. This also included the human use diclofenac drug, even after ban on production of large vials. The researchers had taken a total of 100 samples of kidney and liver from dead livestock for their study and found traces of the drug in between 1.5% to 12% in the samples.

"What the livestock owners do is that they take the human use diclofenac from the pharmacies and give the same to the livestock in higher doses. So, diclofenac which is available for human use is being given to animals in double or triple quantity," said Chaudhary, the primary scientist. He said in place of diclofenac, the available drug and recommended one is meloxicam, as "it is not dangerous at all", but livestock owners still use it because of the difference in cost of the two drugs. "Meloxicam is expensive compared to the human use form of diclofenac and the dosage is also more so livestock owners prefer to give diclofenac in higher quantity and treat the animals," said Chaudhary.

These dead livestock when disposed in open after fed on by the vultures, which when they get affected and the drug acts deadly for them. "After 2015, the government put restrictions on large quantity production of diclofenac for human use and it was noted that diclofenac vials of only 3ml will be produced as that is enough for humans. But still it is being used illegally to treat animals in large quantities, depending on the body weight of the animal," said Khima Nand Balodi, professor at Doon University, co-leader of the research team.

RESEARCHERS FOUND THAT 12 NON-STEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS (NSAIDS) ARE USED IN VETERINARY TREATMENT. THIS ALSO INCLUDED THE HUMAN USE DICLOFENAC DRUG.

Indo-Nepal vulture conservation issues discussed in Doon

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Experts from Uttarakhand and Nepal stressed on the importance of conserving species like the vulture at a stakeholder workshop on Indo-Nepal vulture conservation issues here.

Expressing his views, the State biodiversity board chairman Dhananjai Mohan said that conservation of threatened birds like vulture is vital for the environment. "Protecting the vulture is the need of the hour, though we need to bring all stakeholders within and outside the country together to facilitate this," he said.

Hari Bhadra Acharya, representing the Department of National Park and Wildlife Conservation, Government of Nepal said, "Vultures and other wildlife are not restricted by any national and international boundaries and can freely move from one nation to another, thus

protecting a global species like vulture becomes the responsibility of its range countries. However, it is only possible through healthy transboundary collaboration," he said.

Krishna Bhusal from Bird Conservation Nepal said, "Even if we eliminate all the possible threats like poisoning due to veterinary NSAIDs in a country and it is available in the neighboring country, the vultures still remain prone to such threats during their migration. Considering this too, we must initiate collaborative efforts in order to protect them."

Former professor of Wildlife Institute of India, BC Choudhury, the person behind initiating research and conservation action on vultures in Uttarakhand, said that veterinary drugs like diclofenac were responsible for the severe decline in vulture population in the recent decades.

Hindustan times 24 April 2019

Pioneer New 24 April 2019

गिट्ठों की संख्या वृद्धि पर मंडराया संकट; संरक्षण विषय पर हिताधारकों की कार्यशाला का आयोजन

April 24, 2019 | Sushil Kumar Joshi | 0 Comment | #Stakeholders, Biodiversity Board, Bombay Natural History Society, conservation vultures, Earth Day Protect our species, GIZ, Himalayan Institute for Sustainable Environment and Research Society, Member of Biodiversity Management Committees, Mussorie, National Center for Good Governance, National Trust for Nature Conservancy Nepal, State Drug Controller Office, Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited, vultures, vultures save tips, Zoological Survey of India

संकटप्राय गिट्ठों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए अति आवश्यक : डॉ० धनञ्जय मोहन

April 23rd, 2019 | by garhwalkavikas

UTTARAKHAND Earth Day 2019: Protect Our Species
Venue: Senate Hall, Doon University, Dehradun
22 April, 2019

देहरादून (गढ़वाल) का विकास न्यूज़। दून विश्वविद्यालय एवं हिमालयन इंस्टिट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एन्वायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी के संयुक्त तत्वाधान में स्थावर-नेपाल सीमापार गिट्ठों के संरक्षण विषय पर हिताधारकों की कार्यशालाए का आयोजन किया गया। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के अवसर पर आयोजित इस कार्यशाला के मुख्य अतिथि राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष एवं पीसीसीएफए डॉ० धनञ्जय मोहन व कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्ष डॉ० सी० एस्० नौटियालए कुलापति दून विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा की गयी। इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य उद्देश्य भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिट्ठों के संरक्षण हेतु दोनों देशों के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करना था। इस अवसर पर डॉ० धनञ्जय मोहन ने कहा कि संकटप्राय गिट्ठों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए अति आवश्यक है, किन्तु इसके लिए देश के भीतर एवं सीमापार से सभी हिताधारकों को एक मंच पर आना होगा। यह कार्यशाला उच्च शिक्षा में मंगलवर्ष चिन्ह होगी। नेपाल से सरकार के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में शामिल हुए वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के उपसचिव हरिभद्र आचार्य तथा बर्ड कन्सर्वेशन नेपाल के अध्यक्ष प्रसाद भुसालए ने कहा कि गिट्ठों सहित अन्य जन्तुवर्गीय किन्हीं भी सीमा में कहीं नहीं होते हैं। अतः प्रवास के दौरान

Uttarakhand Josh online 24 April 2019

Garhwal ka vikas online news 24 April 2019

State » Indo-Nepal vulture conservation issues discussed in Doon

Indo-Nepal vulture conservation issues discussed in Doon

Pioneeradmin | April 24, 2019 | No Comments

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India And Nepal Join Hands To Strengthen The Trans-Boundary ...

INDIA AND NEPAL JOIN HANDS TO STRENGTHEN THE TRANS-BOUNDARY COLLABORATION IN VULTURE CONSERVATION

To secure the trans-boundary cooperation for vulture conservation delegates from India and Nepal came together for a joint stakeholder workshop in Indo-Nepal Transboundary Vulture Conservation

Pioneer News Online 24 April 2019

Birdlife Nepal Online 22 April, 2019

Stakeholder Workshop on Indo-Nepal Transboundary Culture Conservation Issues Doon University, Dehradun

22 April, 2019
Media Coverage

गिद्ध संरक्षण पर कार्यशाला

देहरादून। विश्वविद्यालय एवं हिमालयन इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनवायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में एक कार्यशाला आयोजित हुई। कार्यशाला भारत-नेपाल सीमा पर गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर आधारित रही। सोमवार को दून विवि में आयोजित कार्यशाला का शुभारंभ जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष पीसीसीएफ डॉ. धनंजय मोहन ने किया। कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता दून विवि के कुलपति डॉ. सीएस नौटियाल ने की। डॉ. धनंजय मोहन ने कहा कि संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों का संरक्षण अति आवश्यक है।

Hindustan 23 April 2019

पर्यावरण के लिए गिद्धों के संरक्षण को बताया जरूरी

समग्र न्यूज ब्यूरो देहरादून। पृथ्वी दिवस पर दून विश्वविद्यालय व हिमालयन इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनवायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में भारत-नेपाल सीमा पर गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यशाला में गिद्धों के संरक्षण के लिए ठोस कदम उठाने की वकालत की गई। सीमापार को अयोचित कार्यशाला में कौर मुख अतिथि पीसीसीएफ व राज जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष डा. धनंजय मोहन ने कहा कि संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए जरूरी है। इसके लिए देश के भीतर व सीमापार से सभी हितधारकों को एक मंच पर आना होगा। नेपाल सरकार के प्रतिनिधि के तौर पर बन वन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के उपसचिव हरिभद्र आचार्य ने कहा कि गिद्धों का संरक्षण अति आवश्यक है। ऐसे प्रवास के दौरान गिद्धों का संरक्षण दोनों देशों के विभागों की जिम्मेदारी होती है। प्रोफेसर बीपी चौधरी ने कहा कि उल्लेख में संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों की संख्या में वृद्धि देखने को मिल रही है, लेकिन मृत मवेशियों का निस्तारण हाई वोल्टेज फंबर लाइन के आसपास होने के कारण बिजली के करंट से गिद्धों समेत अनेक पशुओं की मृत्यु हो रही है। ऐसे में कुछ सालों में बिजली का कट ही गिद्धों के संरक्षण में काम के लिए जिम्मेदार हो सकते हैं। पशुपालन विभाग के अध्यक्ष डा. अशोक कुमार, राजेश कुमार आदि ने भी विचार व्यक्त किए। कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता करते हुए दून विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति डॉ. सीएस नौटियाल ने कहा कि कार्यशाला का उद्देश्य भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण के लिए दोनों देशों के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करना है। कार्यक्रम के समन्वयक खीमानंद बलोदी ने कार्यशाला को सफल बनाने के लिए सभी का आभार जताया।

Rashtriya Sahara 23 April 2019

Throwing of seeds marks Earth Day in Mussoorie

HT Correspondent
A version of this article appears in the Hindustan Times.

MUSSOORIE/DEHRADUN: On the occasion of World Earth Day, over 1500 seeds were thrown in the unapproachable spots in the forest areas in the Mussoorie division under the seed ball campaign on Monday, started with an objective to motivate people in keeping the hill town clean and green.

Children from government schools participated in campaign and three seed balls containing seeds of Devdaar, Tur Dal etc covered with mud and cow-dung in the private forest areas near Camel's Back Road, Gandhi Chowk, George Everest House, Barlowganj, and Dalai Hill among other places.

Arvind Shukla, the project co-ordinators of the campaign said "Through seed ball campaign we are trying to ensure that the seeds reach the areas that have remained bereft of trees till now. We are also motivating people to plant more trees and keep the town clean and green with this campaign."

Naseem Kakhshani, divisional forest officer of Mussoorie said, "The campaign will help in propagating seeds around Mussoorie to ensure the green cover. The campaign is old and was started after the Second World War when the seed bombs were thrown to revive the forest cover damaged by the war."

Tourists also participated in the campaign enthusiastically. Sushmita Biswas a tourist from Noida said, "I also engaged in throwing the seed balls in the forests as found it to be a unique technique that will help in ensuring the seeds survive and germinate during rains."

In Dehradun, a day-long workshop on Indo-Nepal Trans-boundary Culture Conservation Issues was conducted by Uttarakhand State Biodiversity Board, Rufford Foundation and Mohammad Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund at the Doon University for the theme of Protect Our Species of the 49th World Earth Day.

Delegates from both India and Nepal stressed on the need to conserve the population of vultures across the Himalayan region and spread awareness about usage of the meloxicam drug instead of diclofenac drug, which is deadly for the species and led to rapid decline of population of the bird in both India and Nepal since the 60s.

Hindustan times 23 April 2019

पर्यावरण के लिए गिद्धों का संरक्षण जरूरी

देहरादून। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के उपलक्ष्य में दून विश्वविद्यालय एवं हिमालयन इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनवायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी की ओर से मंगलवार को भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर कार्यशाला का आयोजन हुआ। मुख्य अतिथि राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष एवं पीसीसीएफ डॉ. धनंजय मोहन ने कार्यशाला का शुभारंभ किया। उन्होंने कहा कि गिद्धों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए बेहद जरूरी है। इसके लिए सभी को एक मंच पर आना होगा। प्रो. बीपी चौधरी, पशुपालन विभाग के अपर निदेशक डॉ. अशोक कुमार, राजेश कुमार, डॉ. अनिल मिश्रा ने भी विचार रखे। अध्यक्षता दून विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति डॉ. सीएस नौटियाल ने की। कार्यशाला में बांबे नेचुरल हिस्ट्री सोसाइटी, नेशनल ट्रस्ट फॉर नेचर कन्जर्वेशन नेपाल, जैव विविधता बोर्ड समेत 100 से अधिक प्रतिभागियों ने हिस्सा लिया। कार्यशाला के समन्वयक खीमानंद बलोदी ने सभी का आभार जताया। ब्यूरो

Amar Ujala 24 April 2019

भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर कार्यशाला का आयोजन

By Kapil Garg · April 23, 2019

गैरेजी इन्फोर्मर

देहरादून-कल विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के अवसर पर दून विश्वविद्यालय एवं हिमालयन इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनवायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर हितधारकों की कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष एवं पीसीसीएफ डॉ. धनंजय मोहन व कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता डॉ. सी.एस. नौटियाल कुलपति दून विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा की गयी। इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य उद्देश्य भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण हेतु दोनों देशों के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करना था। डॉ. धनंजय मोहन ने कहा कि संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए अति आवश्यक है किन्तु इसके लिए देश के भीतर एवं सीमापार से सभी हितधारकों को एक मंच पर आना होगा यह कार्यशाला उस दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण सिद्ध होगी। नेपाल से सरकार के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में शामिल हुए बन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय के उपसचिव श्री हरिभद्र आचार्य तथा बर्ड कन्जर्वेशन नेपाल के श्री कृष्णा प्रसाद भुसालर ने कहा कि भूकें गिद्धों सहित अन्य वन्यजीव किसी भी सीमा में बंधे नहीं होते हैं अतः प्रवास के दौरान उनका संरक्षण दोनों देशों के विभागों की जिम्मेदारी होती है। ऐसे में इसके लिए उचित आपसी समन्वय होना जरूरी है। प्रोफेसर सी.सी. चौधरी ने कहा कि मजसुराखंड में संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों की संख्या में वृद्धि देखने को मिल रही है किन्तु मृत मवेशियों का निस्तारण हाई वोल्टेज फंबर लाइन के आसपास होने के कारण के कारण बिजली के करंट से गिद्धों

Galaxy informer Online 23 April 2019

विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस पर भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर हितधारकों की कार्यशाला का आयोजन.....

By Vision Desk 3 · April 23, 2019

देहरादून- विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के अवसर पर दून विश्वविद्यालय एवं हिमालयन इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर सस्टेनेबल एनवायरनमेंट एंड रिसर्च सोसाइटी के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में "भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण विषय पर हितधारकों की कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि राज्य जैव विविधता बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष एवं पीसीसीएफ, डॉ. धनंजय मोहन व कार्यक्रम की अध्यक्षता डॉ. सी.एस. नौटियाल, कुलपति दून विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा की गयी। इस कार्यशाला का मुख्य उद्देश्य, भारत-नेपाल सीमापार गिद्धों के संरक्षण हेतु दोनों देशों के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करना था। धनंजय मोहन ने कहा कि संकटग्रस्त गिद्धों का संरक्षण पर्यावरण के लिए अति आवश्यक है, लेकिन इसके लिए देश के भीतर एवं सीमापार से सभी हितधारकों को एक मंच पर आना होगा, यह कार्यशाला उस दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण सिद्ध होगी। नेपाल से सरकार के प्रतिनिधि के रूप में शामिल हुए बन एवं पर्यावरण मंत्रालय

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