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CITES IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP IN NEPAL

PREPARED BY

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SUPPORTED BY

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States-Asia Environmental Partnership of the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Office of International Affairs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have joined in partnerships with the wildlife management agencies of five Asian countries to present workshops on the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES). The purpose of this program is to provide basic, practical training in the provisions of CITES, the reasons why they were developed, and their implementation. An emphasis is placed on the daily actions to be undertaken in the implementation of CITES and the associated law enforcement procedures and techniques available for use. In the Kingdom of Nepal the partnership was formed with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation.

The workshop was held May 16-22, 1995, at the Hotel Himalaya, Sahid Sukra Marg, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal. It was conducted by three U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service instructors. Several valuable presentations were made by personnel of the Government of Nepal. Over 40 individuals participated in the workshop representing 14 government agencies plus NGO's and the media. All participants were directly or indirectly involved with CITES and/or wildlife law enforcement within Nepal. Training was conducted by using videos, slides, overheads, handout material, oral presentations, and open discussions.

The agenda for the workshop emphasized law enforcement, inspection, and identification techniques. CITES administration received less emphasis than in workshops conducted under this program in some other countries. This was appropriate as Nepal is involved in very little permitted wildlife trade but does experience cross border smuggling of wildlife parts and products.

The first day of the workshop opened with discussions on the history of CITES and CITES implementation in Nepal. The second day focussed on investigative techniques and included an overview of investigative programs, U.S. wildlife laws, training, conducting a criminal investigation, the phases of an investigation, investigative tools, intelligence gathering, surveillance, use of informants and witnesses, and interviewing. A focus on the criminal investigation process continued on the third day and included undercover operations, report writing, media/NGO roles in wildlife law enforcement, ways to improve interagency coordination, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Forensic

Laboratory and how it can assist Nepal. The fourth day emphasized wildlife inspection procedures including types of inspections, document analysis, document fraud, inhumane shipments, safety, smuggling techniques, and disposition and use of confiscated specimens. This day also featured a presentation by the Wildlife Protection Society of India on the status of global, regional, and Nepal trade in illegal wildlife parts and products. A field trip for all workshop participants to Nepal's Customs Port on the Tibet border at Kodari was conducted on the fifth day. The final day of the workshop emphasized species identification and included use of the Canadian CITES Bird Identification Guide, use of the CITES identification manuals, identification of key species of concern to Nepal, and the closing ceremonies of the workshop.

The primary accomplishment of this program in Nepal was the presentation of much needed training to Nepal's officials involved in CITES. An additional benefit was that it brought together a very diverse group of individuals/agencies who were charged with wildlife/CITES enforcement, yet had previously not worked together. During the workshop they discussed various problems related to the day-to-day implementation of CITES, identified problem areas, discussed limitations to an effective law enforcement program, and offered suggestions for improvements. This gave them the opportunity to develop ties with these other agencies which will strengthen their ability to implement CITES.

The U.S. Government benefited from this workshop as it provided insight into what Nepal feels is important in CITES implementation and law enforcement issues, opened a dialog where international coordination has been limited, and provided the Service with a mechanism to give quality training in proven law enforcement import/export inspection and CITES implementation techniques. Workshops such as the one in Nepal add to U.S. Government knowledge of wildlife smuggling trends and techniques.

Under this partnership the Nepal Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, with the assistance of the World Wildlife Fund and a USAID/Nepal Mission grant to The World Conservation Union, provided for logistical support. USAEP funded the international travel costs and per diem for two of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service instructors while in Nepal and air freight for handouts. The Service funded the salary for the three Service instructors. It also provided the educational materials used and paid the international travel costs and per diem for one of the Service instructors.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors wish to thank the Ministry's Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation for hosting the workshop and the Department personnel who planned, coordinated and participated in the workshop. The excellent participation of the personnel of the Department and other government agencies made a major contribution to the success of the workshop.

Appreciation is expressed to the World Wildlife Fund, the USAID Mission-Nepal and The World Conservation Union for financial support of workshop expenses incurred in Nepal. The USAID's United States-Asia Environmental Partnership and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of Management Authority and Office of International Affairs are thanked for funding support of international travel costs.

Environment Canada is recognized for providing their CITES Identification Guide to Birds to each workshop participant. The Wildlife Protection Society of India is thanked for their presentation on the status of wildlife trade in the Region. Appreciation is expressed to the CITES Secretariat for allowing use of their educational materials.

Finally, the Service's Office of International Affairs is recognized for their management of the CITES Implementation Training Program for Asia and is thanked for the international coordination of this workshop.

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## INTRODUCTION

The United States-Asia Environmental Partnership (USAEP) of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Office of International Affairs of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have joined in partnerships with the wildlife management agencies of five Asian countries to present workshops on the implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES). The purpose of this program is to provide basic, practical training in the provisions of CITES, the reasons why they were developed, and their implementation. An emphasis is placed on the daily actions to be undertaken in the implementation of CITES, the associated law enforcement procedures and techniques available for use.

In the Kingdom of Nepal, the partnership was formed with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNP&WC). The Department, with the assistance of the World Wildlife Fund and a USAID/Nepal Mission grant to The World Conservation Union (IUCN), provided for rental of the workshop site, travel and per diem of participants, and other costs incurred in Nepal for presentation of the workshop. USAEP funded the international travel costs and per diem for two of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service instructors while in Nepal and air freight for handouts provided by Service instructors. The Service's Law Enforcement Division funded the salary of their two employees which participated as instructors. Law enforcement handouts and audio-visual materials were developed by the Law Enforcement Division and jointly funded by that division and the Office of International Affairs. The Service's Office of Management Authority (OMA) funded the salary, international travel costs and per diem for one of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service instructors and provided handout materials on CITES administration and species identification. The cost-sharing effort which permitted the workshop is summarized in attachment #1.

The workshop was held May 16-22, 1995, at the Hotel Himalaya, Sahid Sukra Marg, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, Nepal. The first day of the workshop opened with discussions on the history of CITES and CITES implementation in Nepal. The second day focussed on investigation techniques and included an overview of investigative programs, U.S. wildlife laws, training, conducting a criminal investigation, the phases of an investigation, investigative tools, intelligence gathering, surveillance, use of informants and witnesses, and interviewing. A focus on criminal investigation continued on the third day and included undercover operations, report writing, media/NGO roles in wildlife law enforcement, ways to improve

interagency coordination, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Forensic Laboratory and how it can assist Nepal. The fourth day emphasized wildlife inspection procedures including types of inspections, document analysis, document fraud, inhumane shipments, safety, smuggling techniques and disposition and use of confiscated specimens. This day also featured a presentation by the Wildlife Protection Society of India on the status of global, regional and Nepal trade in illegal wildlife parts and products. A field trip for all workshop participants to Nepal's Customs Port on the Tibet border was conducted on the fifth day. The final day of the workshop emphasized species identification and included use of the Canadian CITES Bird Identification Guide; use of the CITES identification manuals; identification of key species of concern to Nepal and the closing ceremonies of the workshop.

In addition to the training, the workshop provided an opportunity for officials of concerned government agencies throughout the Kingdom of Nepal to meet and discuss various problems related to the day-to-day implementation of CITES. Training was conducted by using videos, slides, overheads, handout material, oral presentations, and open discussions.

The primary instructors were from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. They were Neill Hartman, Deputy Assistant Regional Director for Law Enforcement from Denver, Colorado; Karen Halpin, Supervisory Wildlife Inspector, Chicago, Illinois; and Carol Carson, Senior Biologist, OMA, Arlington, Virginia.

This group of instructors provided a well rounded basis of experience and expertise. Neill Hartman has 23 years with the Service. He started with the National Wildlife Refuge System in Washington, D.C., and in California. He was a Special Agent in Colorado and Missouri. He was a Senior Resident Agent (Supervisory Special Agent) for Illinois/Indiana and Colorado/Utah/Kansas before he became Deputy Assistant Regional Director for law enforcement in Region 6. Karen Halpin has been with the Service for 13 years as a Wildlife Inspector, Special Agent, and Supervisory Wildlife Inspector in Chicago, Illinois. Carol Carson has been with the Service for 15 years with the Office of Biological Services, Endangered Species Office, as a Wildlife Inspector in Georgia, and Senior Wildlife Inspector with the Law Enforcement Division in Washington, D.C., before she became a Senior Biologist with OMA.

Over 40 individuals participated in the workshop representing 14 government agencies plus NGO's and the media. All participants were directly or indirectly involved with CITES and/or wildlife law enforcement within Nepal. The list of participants and their respective agencies may be found in attachment #2.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### **THE KINGDOM OF NEPAL**

Nepal, which is landlocked between India and China, is about the same size as the State of Tennessee. It is a country of enormous physical diversity. The approximate 100-mile width of Nepal ranges from the low elevation of the plains and steamy jungle in the south along the Indian border (400 ft MSL) to the Middle Hills, where entire mountain sides are farmed and where most of the population is found, to the majestic heights of the Himalayan mountains on the Tibetan border. Eight of the world's ten highest peaks, including Mount Everest which is the tallest at 29,028 feet, are found within the borders of Nepal.

The 19 million people of Nepal are culturally diverse including numerous ethnic groups. There are about 30 languages and dialects spoken in the country. Nepal, sometimes known as the Zone of Peace, is the site of many important Buddhist and Hindu temples, including the birthplace of Buddha.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. The average per capita income is about \$200, and 90 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture, most of them farmers. Poverty is pervasive in Nepal and is the driving force behind environmental degradation. Less than 40 percent of Nepal's population can read or write.

Despite the extreme poverty, Nepal is unique in that it has had the foresight to set aside about 14 percent of the Country's total land in protected areas. These consist of National Parks, Controlled Nature Areas, Wildlife Reserves, and Hunting Reserves. Few other countries in the world can match Nepal in terms of the percentage of land set aside for conservation. Nepal is rich in wildlife. There are 175 species of mammals including the Asian elephant, greater Indian rhinoceros (one-horned rhino), royal Bengal tiger, snow leopard, common leopard, musk deer, gaur, sambar deer, spotted deer, and red panda. Nepal has 640 species of butterflies and 850 species of birds. Nepal has 10 percent of the world's known bird species, and one-half of these are found in the Royal Chitwan National Park.

### **WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT IN NEPAL**

The first wildlife law in Nepal was published in 1957. It provided protection for rhinos and their habitat. In 1964 the Royal Chitwan

National Park was established along with a special rhino patrol squad called the Gaida Gasti. This force is still in existence and patrols areas adjacent to the Royal Chitwan National Park for poachers.

Wildlife law enforcement on the National Parks is currently handled in a two-prong manner. The Chief Game Warden, who is employed by the DNP&WC is responsible for management of the parks and law enforcement operations within the park. The Chief Game Warden has law enforcement authority to investigate and apprehend poachers within the park. He also serves as the judge and assesses penalties (fines and/or imprisonment) for wildlife violations that occur within the park. The Chief Game Warden is responsible for paying any rewards for information received about poaching activities. Although he often apprehends armed individuals, the Chief Game Warden is not authorized to carry a firearm.

The Royal Nepal Army is the primary source of law enforcement within the National Parks. Over 600 military troops are stationed within the National Parks. Colonel Gaynu Babu Adhikari serves as the Senior Liaison and Chief Security Officer to the National Parks. A brigade of military personnel are assigned to a park for a 2-year rotation during which time they are charged with establishing a high profile anti-poaching presence. At the end of the 2-year assignment, the entire brigade rotates out and is replaced by a new brigade. There is a 2-3 month transition period for the change.

The troops are stationed randomly throughout the National Park and conduct day-time patrols and operate check points along park roads. At the check points the military thoroughly inspects any vehicles and persons traveling through the parks for any illegal wildlife. They are not allowed to conduct night time patrols, primarily due to concerns about tiger attacks. The military is armed with fully automatic rifles and have the authority to shoot a suspected poacher who does not stop on command.

Outside the National Parks, wildlife law enforcement is a much more complicated situation. The Department of Forestry is charged with enforcement of the wildlife laws, yet its obvious priority, and interest, is in the protection of the forest (tree) resources and not wildlife conservation. The District Forest Officer (DFO) is responsible for investigating wildlife violations that occur outside the National Parks including surrounding villages throughout the rest of Nepal. The DFO has minimal training and/or experience in wildlife law enforcement, yet he also serves as the judge when violations are detected. The DFO, like the Chief Game Warden, hands out rewards and assesses penalties for wildlife.

violations that occur outside of the National Parks.

Within the major cities, such as Kathmandu, it is the responsibility of the National Police to investigate and apprehend individuals who unlawfully possess and/or commercialize protected wildlife. If an individual reports a store owner who has endangered leopard skin coats for sale, the National Police must conduct the investigation and seize the evidence. They will then turn the matter over to the District Forestry Officer for adjudication. Again, the National Police have had minimal, if any, training and/or experience in wildlife law enforcement.

When wildlife is illegally imported or exported across Nepal's borders, Nepal Customs takes the lead in conducting an investigation and seizing the illegal wildlife. The primary jurisdiction of Customs at the international airport in Kathmandu, however, is only while the item is within the Customs facility. Most of the smuggling of wildlife is done along remote trails rather than via the traditional roads or through the international airport. It is difficult for Customs to control/stop smuggling activities unless they have good intelligence about violations.

While at the Tibet/Nepal border, Customs told us that they had received information about shahtoosh being smuggled over the border 50-60 km from the traditional border crossing. Nepal Customs was able to find the smugglers and seized over 100 KG of shahtoosh (fur from the CITES Appendix I Tibetan antelope). These types of seizures, however, are rare due to lack of enforcement personnel away from the main border crossing.

If Customs is able to identify a wildlife violation while the individual is still within Customs control, the Chief Customs Officer serves as the judge and assesses the appropriate penalty. Lack of ability to identify the species of wildlife, or get an expert to assist in a timely manner, is the biggest obstacle for Customs to overcome in wildlife law enforcement. The open borders with India and Tibet, coupled with a limited Customs presence along the borders, makes wildlife law enforcement an extremely difficult undertaking. Shipment of wildlife to and from China and India appeared to be the main concern of Nepal.

Customs retains authority to investigate smuggling activity within Nepal's borders. The primary responsibility, however, to investigate smuggling violations, seize the evidence, apprehend the individuals, and assess the penalties lies with the Department of Forestry. Again, the Department of Forestry has minimal training or experience in conducting investigations into smuggling of wildlife.

## WILDLIFE TRADE IN NEPAL

Nepal is not a traditional wildlife consumer country. There is little, if any, legal trade/commercialization of wildlife. The few CITES permits that are issued by Nepal are for scientific and/or educational purposes. With the exception of a few psittacines and finches that were being offered for sale on the streets and information about turtles being sold for food, there is little commercial activity with live wildlife.

Poaching of tiger and rhino on National Parks appears to have been, until recently, the major concern to the wildlife conservationist. An individual could poach a rhino and sell the horn in the villages to a buyer for \$16,000. The sudden wealth of a villager, however, is difficult to keep quiet. A highly successful and very active reward/informant program usually turns up the poacher in short order. The anti-poaching patrols (military) are quite effective on the parks and have significantly reduced the poaching problem. Poaching on areas adjacent to the parks is still a problem with jurisdictional issues being the focus of the concern.

Until the late 1980's and early 1990's, Kathmandu was known for having a multitude of shops that openly sold fur coats made from protected cats. These were primarily the leopard cat, common leopard, clouded leopard, and snow leopard. Tiger skin rugs were also abundant. It appears that in the last few years the demand for fur coats has decreased, and the overt selling of illegal furs went underground. Some feel the supply of illegal wildlife furs has significantly decreased with many of the items that have gone underground being quite old. A heightened tourist awareness has significantly reduced the demand for these furs.

One year ago there was a meeting in Kathmandu which was sponsored by the Nepal Journalists for the Environment. It was after that meeting that the Nepal government published a notice advising the public of the penalties for possessing illegal furs. It is not known how strong the black market in furs is at this time. There are indications, however, that the Spanish, Italian, Greek, and Eastern European tourists are most likely to buy the illegal furs.

Illegal wildlife, such as tiger bones/skins, rhino horn, and shahtoosh fur continues to be transhipped through Nepal. The market for tiger bone/parts is extremely strong, especially in China. Shahtoosh is often exchanged for rhino horn and tiger bones. Shahtoosh is nine times finer than cashmere wool! Items, such as shawls, made from shahtoosh, sell for \$800 - \$3,200 on the

open market.

The items are either going north from India to Tibet or south from Tibet to India. Open borders, lack of training in wildlife enforcement techniques and/or identification, and a limited number of Customs personnel/patrols continue to be major obstacles to effective wildlife law enforcement.

#### **CURRENT NEPAL WILDLIFE LAW**

The National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act was implemented in 1973 and still serves as the basis for wildlife law enforcement efforts in Nepal. It has been amended four times. The basic law appears to be quite comprehensive.

The law provides for areas to be set aside as National Parks, Strict Nature Preserves, Wildlife Reserves, and Hunting Reserves. Within a National Park, hunting, building structures, damaging trees/plants, mining, possessing weapons, and cultivating crops are all prohibited. The law identifies wildlife that is protected both on and off of the parks and provides penalties for individuals found to be poaching wildlife, commercializing in wildlife, or assisting others to do so. It authorizes rewards to be paid to those who provide information that leads to a conviction. The law provides for powers of arrest and seizure of property. There are significant jurisdictional issues/concerns associated with various authorities.

The latest amendment, in 1993, established a buffer zone around the protected areas to provide access to the local people for the management, development, and utilization (e.g. collection of fuel wood, timber for construction, thatch for houses, and pasture) of renewable forest resources. This amendment provides the residents with a voice in the management of the protected areas as well as the buffer zone. A portion of the funds generated from park permit fees and other park income will be returned to the villages in the buffer zone. This amendment also increased reward provisions and penalties for wildlife violations.

A copy of the unofficial translation of this law may be found in Attachment #3.

## SCHEDULE

The following is a general summary of the agenda while in Nepal:

- Tuesday, May 9 - Arrive in Nepal
- Meet with Mahendra K. Shrestha, Chief Conservation Officer, and Hum P. Adhikari, Section Officer, DNP&WC
- Wednesday, May 10 - Meet with Dr. Bijaya Kattel, Deputy Director General of DNP&WC
- Meet with Shyam Sunder Bajimaya, Chief Conservation Officer with DNP&WC
- Prepare for workshop
- Thursday, May 11 - Meet with Dr. Dan Miller, Environmental Specialist, USAID
- Meet with Shree Ram Paudel, Acting Secretary for the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
- Meet with Dr. Bijaya Kattel
- Meet with Vijay Raj Bhatta, Superintendent of the Nepal National Police
- Prepare for workshop
- Friday, May 12
- Travel to Royal Chitwan National Park with Dr. Kamal Gazairhe, DNP&WC Veterinarian, serving as a guide
- Meet with Ram Prit Yadav, Chief Game Warden at Royal Chitwan National Park
- Saturday, May 13
- At Royal Chitwan National Park viewing wildlife and discussing poaching/enforcement problems
- Sunday, May 14
- At Royal Chitwan National Park viewing wildlife and discussing poaching/enforcement problems
- Meet with Biswa Nath Upreti, former Director General of DNP&WC and current organizer of the

Buffer Zone Act project

Visited Gharial crocodile breeding and reintroduction project at Chitwan headquarters

Meet with Pradeep Jung Tlapa, the new Colonel over the military anti-poaching teams stationed at Royal Chitwan National Park

Return to Kathmandu

Monday, May 15

Meet with Dan Miller and Bijaya Kattel

Meet Dr. Tirtha Maskey, Acting Director General of DNP&WC

Meet with Krishna Bahadur Shrestha, Officiating Director General for Nepal Department of Forestry

Meet with Sandy Vogelgesang, United States Ambassador to Nepal

Prepare for workshop

Tuesday, May 16

Opening ceremonies for workshop  
Workshop - CITES overview

Evening Banquet for all workshop participants-  
Hosted by Shree Ram Paudel, Acting Secretary,  
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation  
(informal meetings with many participants)

Wednesday, May 17

Workshop - Law enforcement techniques and procedures

Thursday, May 18

Workshop - Law enforcement techniques and procedures

Friday, May 19

Workshop - Import/Export inspection procedures

Saturday, May 20

Field trip with workshop participants to Kodari, Nepal Customs Port on the Tibet border

Met with Indra Joshi, Chief Customs Officer

Sunday, May 21

Although this was intended to be a non-work day, many hours were spent preparing for the

last session of the workshop.  
Escorted around Kathmandu by Nima W. Sherpa,  
Chief Game Warden of Langtang National Park

Dinner meeting with Dr. Kattel

Monday, May 22

Workshop - CITES Identification  
Developing Recommendations  
Closing Ceremonies

Evening Banquet for all workshop participants-  
Hosted by Dr. Tirtha M. Maskey, Acting  
Director of DNP&WC (informal meetings with  
many participants)

Meet with Ravi Sharma Aryal, Under Secretary  
for Law (legal section) with the Ministry of  
Forest & Soil Conservation

Tuesday, May 23

Meet with Bhagabati Kumar Kafle, Chief Customs  
Officer at Tribhuvan International Airport

Farewell dinner with Anil Chitrakar, Program  
Manager for IUCN, his staff, Dr. Maskey, and  
Dr. Kattel

Wednesday, May 24

Leave Nepal

## OFFICIAL CONTACTS OUTSIDE WORKSHOP

Dr. Bijaya Kattel is the Deputy Director General of the DNP&WC. He was the organizer of the workshop and primary contact for Service personnel. Dr. Kattel was excellent in this capacity as he had spent the previous 6 years at Colorado State University receiving his Ph.D in wildlife biology. He was quite articulate in the English language and provided an excellent liaison between Service personnel and the workshop participants. He recognized a strong need for the various agencies dealing with wildlife law enforcement to come together at the workshop and receive exposure to the various CITES and law enforcement techniques. Dr. Kattel had several objectives for the workshop. These included opening a dialog between the agencies charged with various aspects of enforcing wildlife law, helping them to recognize that communications and coordination between their agencies is critical to an effective law enforcement program, and getting the various agencies to understand the importance of CITES and wildlife law enforcement.

Dr. Daniel J. Miller is the Environmental Specialist with USAID. He was actively involved with setting up the workshop and ensuring that it ran smoothly. He has been in Nepal for almost 20 years and takes a very active interest in wildlife conservation efforts. Dr. Miller was able to attend only the opening session of the workshop due to a trip back to the U.S. on May 17.

Mr. Shree Ram Paudel is the Acting Secretary for the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation. A courtesy contact was made with him at his office during the week prior to the workshop. A brief overview of the workshop was provided. Initially, he gave general support for the workshop, but as positive feedback was received about its progress and success in bringing agencies together, his level of support and enthusiasm increased tremendously. He asked several questions about the effectiveness of fines, disposition of evidence, and interagency coordination efforts in the United States. He was quite interested in how/why the U.S. Congress increased Service authority to enforce all laws and to carry firearms.

Dr. Tirtha Maskey is the Acting Director General of the DNP&WC. This office is the Nepal Management Authority for CITES. During many discussions, Dr. Maskey expressed concerns about jurisdictional issues and the lack of training and coordination between the various agencies charged with wildlife law enforcement. He felt the workshop was critical in establishing a dialog between the various agencies and in the development of a central CITES

coordination unit. Disposition and utilization of seized wildlife products was a frequently mentioned concern. He was especially enthusiastic about the CITES identification materials that were provided during the workshop.

Prior to the beginning of the workshop, a meeting was held with Mr. Vijay Raj Bhatta, Superintendent of the Nepal National Police, Criminal Investigation Division. He is in charge of both the uniformed and plain clothes divisions of the National Police throughout Nepal. A lengthy discussion took place regarding his responsibilities should illegal wildlife items be located in the cities. He agreed that he would provide officers to conduct investigations and seize the illegal wildlife items, but admitted they had no training in the wildlife laws, what to look for, or how to identify illegal items. He pledged to fully support the workshop (and gave it). He offered many suggestions on how to conduct investigations and was very anxious to develop interagency coordination in wildlife investigations.

Mr. Ram Prit Yadav is the Chief Game Warden at Royal Chitwan National Park. He took Service personnel on a personal tour of the Park and spent quite a bit of time explaining the law enforcement program and associated poaching problems. Lack of basic law enforcement equipment (binoculars, vehicles, radios, etc.) was a major concern. There is no radio communication equipment. Park personnel often confront armed poachers, yet they are not authorized to carry firearms. They have to depend on the military (if they can contact them) to provide armed support when violations were detected. He was very frustrated with his inability to address violations which he detected or heard about occurring outside of the Park boundaries. This was the responsibility of, yet a very low priority with, the District Forestry Officer. Mr. Yadav is the judicial officer who assesses penalties for poaching on Royal Chitwan National Park.

Mr. Shyam Sunder Bajimaya is the Chief Conservation Officer with DNP&WC. He formerly was in charge of the anti-poaching patrol unit which is located just outside of Royal Chitwan National Park. He explained at length many of the enforcement techniques used by the anti-poaching patrol and provided in-depth analysis as to why they were so effective. He also expressed concern about the lack of enforcement equipment (radios, binoculars, vehicles, night vision equipment, etc.) and the negative impacts lack of equipment had on law enforcement operations. Many of his ideas were either directly or indirectly discussed with the various agencies during workshop discussions on effective law enforcement techniques.

Dr. Miller took us to meet with Mrs. Sandy Vogelgesang, the U.S.

Ambassador to Nepal. She was very supportive of the workshop and the efforts Nepal has shown towards wildlife conservation. She expressed concern that the Nepal conservation officers were so poorly equipped (lack of radios, binoculars, night vision equipment, back country supplies, etc.). She strongly advocated transferring surplus/outdated equipment which U.S. law enforcement/military agencies no longer need to countries like Nepal for use in wildlife conservation efforts. She indicated she would be talking to several people who are highly placed in the U.S. Government about utilizing, rather than destroying, this equipment.

While in Sauraha we met with Dr. Biswa Nath Upreti. He is the former Director General of DNP&WC and is currently heading up the Buffer Zone Act project. His primary responsibility is to develop a meaningful program that will allow the village people surrounding the National Parks to buy into the need to protect the resource. There are many inherent conflicts between the Park and the people of the surrounding villages on how the Park should be utilized. The people feel a tremendous need to utilize the resources of the park (timber for construction, fuel wood, thatch for houses, pasture) just to survive. This is an extremely important project that seeks to integrate the needs of the protected areas with the needs of the populations surrounding those areas to the benefit of both. The project is well received and supported by the local communities.

Mr. Anil Chitrakar is the Program Manager for IUCN. USAID provided funding through IUCN to support the workshop. Mr. Chitrakar and his co-worker, Ms. Nabina Shrestha, were our primary contacts for ensuring materials necessary for the workshop were available. They worked with Dr. Kattel and Dr. Miller to ensure the workshop went smoothly.

Mr. Ravi Sharma Aryal is the Under Secretary for Law (legal section) with the Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation. He is responsible for drafting proposed amendments to the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act. The proposed amendments are a direct result of interagency discussions held during the workshop. At his request, several hours were spent outside of the workshop reviewing, in detail, several U.S. laws (Lacey Act and the Endangered Species Act) and determining which of their provisions might be appropriate for use in the Nepal law.

Mr. Bhagabati Kumar Kafle is the Chief Customs Officer at Tribhuvan International Airport. He is responsible for the supervision of the Customs Officers and import/export inspections. He acknowledges that his agency is primarily charged with revenue

collection; however, as a result of the workshop, his interest in wildlife smuggling appeared to be greatly increased. He serves as the judicial officer when smuggling violations are detected. He is willing to look for and seize illegal wildlife, however expressed frustration in the lack of coordination with the various wildlife agencies. He had several wildlife items that he could not get identified. This is a common problem. Also, if an illegal wildlife item is detected, jurisdictional issues preclude an effective law enforcement effort. He was very appreciative of the CITES identification material that was provided and said wildlife ID, coupled with resolving jurisdictional issues, were two arenas that needed badly to be addressed.

Ms. Belinda Wright is the founder and Executive Director of the Wildlife Protection Society of India. She gave a presentation at the workshop and caused many skeptical individuals to realize that there is a flourishing market in illegal wildlife items being trafficked between India and Nepal.

Dr. Sewak Ram Bhandary is the Chief Forensics Specialist at the Nepal National Forensic Science Laboratory. He was very interested in any support the Service's Ashland Forensics laboratory could provide in the arena of standards and procedures for wildlife forensics.

Mr. Indra Joshi is the Chief Customs Officer at the Tatopani Customs check point in Kodari, Nepal, on the Tibetan border. Mr. Joshi expressed concern as to the difficulty of enforcing Customs laws due to the open border between Tibet and China. Smuggling methods associated with shahtoosh were discussed. Workshop participants were taken to a Customs storage area to see a recent seizure of 119 KG of shahtoosh.

## WORKSHOP ISSUES

1. Despite the underdeveloped nature of the country, Nepal is far ahead of many countries in recognizing the need for wildlife conservation and taking steps to protect its wildlife.
2. The National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act of 1973 is an excellent document that affords protection to Nepal's wildlife. The workshop identified several areas where the law could be improved. These include providing cross-credentials to officers from other agencies, addressing vagueness in jurisdictional responsibilities, directing money from fines to go to rewards rather than the general treasury, extending authority to carry firearms and enforce other laws associated with wildlife crime, paying informants for information that does not directly lead to a conviction, and disposition of seized/forfeited wildlife.
3. Jurisdictional issues continue to be a major concern, primarily when wildlife violations are detected off National Parks. The workshop identified the need for a better understanding of various agencies' jurisdiction and authority to enforce laws.
4. There is no central CITES law enforcement coordinator. Many agencies do not know to whom they should turn for assistance and/or direction when dealing with CITES issues.
5. There needs to be an increased emphasis on equipping law enforcement personnel with the tools necessary to do the job. This includes radios, night vision equipment, vehicles, surveillance equipment, firearms, forensics equipment, etc.
6. The workshop identified the need for a continued and enhanced interagency coordination in addressing wildlife law enforcement issues. Expansion in the international arena was also determined to be critical to an effective wildlife law enforcement program.
7. There was a strong desire for more training in the traditional law enforcement techniques as opposed to the CITES permit procedures and import/export techniques. Training in species identification is also highly desired by the Nepal personnel.
8. Participants of the workshop recognized the need to expand their coordination with other countries whose wildlife trade impacts Nepal and where Nepal has an impact on other countries' ability to manage their wildlife.

9. Due in part to the limited funds for government agencies, NGO's play a significant role in the ability of the government to accomplish wildlife enforcement work. They provide substantial supplemental funding, without which many enforcement activities could not be accomplished. These groups need to be recognized, and when possible included in projects involving protection of wildlife.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Identified, in a relatively short period of time, the needs of the Nepal government as it related to the workshop agenda. These needs were much different than what were initially anticipated during the planning sessions in Washington. The workshop agenda was adjusted accordingly.
2. Prepared a significant amount of instructional material in a manner that was sensitive to the Nepal culture and needs. The material was presented and/or handed out to the workshop participants.
3. Presented a well-received workshop to 40 participants on CITES and its implementation, import/export inspection, wildlife identification, and wildlife law enforcement techniques.
4. Developed close personal relationships with several individuals in Nepal. It is expected these relationships will continue long after the end of the formal training.
5. We developed a keen understanding and appreciation for how an underdeveloped country can be so progressive in its wildlife conservation efforts. Through field trips we obtained a first hand appreciation and understanding of the wildlife problems and issues facing Nepal.
6. We were the catalyst for bringing together a very diverse group of individuals/agencies who were charged with wildlife/CITES enforcement, yet had previously not worked together. They were provided quality training in arenas where they felt they were lacking in both experience and understanding.
7. The participants of the workshop identified seven general recommendations which would increase Nepal's ability to more effectively implement CITES (see attachment #4).
8. IUCN identified funding totaling \$37,000 that would be used to implement the workshop recommendations (see attachment #5).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue/expand CITES training/implementation programs in other countries.
2. After individual countries receive training, there needs to be a Regional training program that will involve the major supplier/traffic/consumer countries.
3. When planning these programs, recognize the need to be flexible. Avoid lecturing the participants on what you think they need. Instead, find out their needs/desires and adjust the program accordingly. Be flexible. It is vital that instructors educate themselves in cultural differences prior to the workshop so that presentations are given in a manner that is appropriate to the host country.
4. Continue with 3-5 days for planning/coordination prior to the actual beginning of the workshop. This time is critical to be able to find out the needs of the country, establish key working relationships, familiarize oneself with customs of the host country, arrange for logistical needs for the workshop, and make necessary adjustments to the schedule.
5. Plan for more people to attend the workshop than is initially indicated by the host country. It is much better to have too many instructional materials than not enough. Realize that once there is a better understanding of exactly what training is being afforded (this does not occur until after the team is in the host country), there is a higher interest level and increase in the number of individuals interested in attending the workshop.
6. Having the workshop in the same facility, or near the lodging facility, makes logistics much easier.
7. Prior to going to the host country, contact local universities in the US and determine if there are any graduate students in wildlife management from the host country that could give the instructors an idea of what to expect during the workshop. It was unfortunate we were not aware Bijaya Kattel was doing his Ph.D. work at Colorado State University, as being able to work with him in the US prior to departure for Nepal would have made planning much easier.
8. Acquire the necessary CITES permits and bring hands-on examples for wildlife identification. If the host country

says they will provide examples, try to get them to be specific as to what they will provide. Hands-on samples are extremely important as many participants have not had exposure to the various types of wildlife and wildlife products.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. These workshops can be very beneficial to the host country. They provide a forum for discussing CITES implementation issues, identify problem areas as perceived by the host country and other countries, identify limitations to an effective law enforcement program, and offer suggestions for improvements.
2. The U.S. benefits from this type of workshop as it provides insight into what other countries feel is important with CITES implementation and law enforcement issues, it opens dialog with countries where international coordination may have been limited, and it provides the Service with a mechanism to give quality training in proven law enforcement import/export inspection and CITES implementation techniques.
3. These training workshops are a critical predicate to regional wildlife law enforcement coordination programs.
4. The face-to-face contact between individuals of different countries who are involved in CITES implementation is vital for CITES to be an effective mechanism. Often more can be accomplished in even one face-to-face meeting than years of letters, faxed messages, and/or telephone calls. This type of contact is also important in helping the U.S. to understand many of the difficulties encountered by other countries in implementing and enforcing CITES. Workshops also help those countries understand the difficulties and/or successes we have had in the U.S.
5. Workshops such as the one in Nepal add to our knowledge of wildlife smuggling trends and techniques.

Attachment 1

EXPENDITURES FOR PRESENTATION OF  
CITES IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP IN NEPAL  
(U.S. DOLLARS)

Item	United States- Asia Environmental Partnership	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	NEPAL'S <sup>1</sup> DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Salaries		16,690.00	XXXXX
Airline tickets and per diem	10,165.00	4,850.00	
Air freight	1,661.00		
Training supplies		2,475.00	
Training site rental and domestic travel of students			XXXXX
Copying/ Communications		1,500.00	
TOTALS	11,826.00	25,515.00	XXXXX

XXXXX indicates that the identified agency assumed responsibility for these expenses. Information on the exact cost was not exchanged.

1

The USAID/Nepal Mission assisted the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation with the funding of logistical support through a grant of US\$5,500 to IUCN.

The World Wildlife Fund assisted the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation with their funding component by providing per diem for all participants from outside Kathmandu and by providing briefcases for all workshops participants (estimated cost \$3,000).

IUCN provided a wildlife display and publications amounting to approximately US\$3,300.

# CITES IMPLEMENTATION TRAINING/WORKSHOP NEPAL

(May 16-22, 1995)

## List of Participants

<u>SN</u>	<u>Name of Participants</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Res.</u>
1	Mr. Ravi Sharma Aryal	Legal Officer	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation	220067	416103
2	Mr. Thir Bahadur G. C.	Section Officer	Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation	220067	
3	Mr. Khagendra Dev Joshi	Under Secretary	Ministry of Home Affairs	224849	
4	Mr. Shiva Kumar Giri	Section Officer	Ministry of Law and Justice	224633	
5	Mr. Purushottam Kunwar	Section Officer	National Planning Commission	228200	
6	Col. Gyanu Babu Adhikari	Colonel	Royal Nepal Army, National Park Division	226008	535609
7	Mr. Om Bikram Rana	Sup. Police (SP)	Police Head Quarters	216190	
8	Mr. Vijay Raj Bhatta	Sup. Police (SP)	Criminal Investigation Dept	420538	
9	Mr. Madhav Joshi	Inspector	District Police Office, Kathmandu	211162	416994
10	Mr. Indra Bahadur Karki	Inspector	District Police Office, Bhaktapur	610284	
11	Mr. Yam Bahadur Thapa	DFO	District Forest Office, Chitwan	056-20215	
12	Mr. Gopal P. Banskota	DFO	District Forest Office, Kathmandu	473438	
13	Mr. Udaya Raj Sapkota	Legal Officer	Department of Forests	221231	474258
14	Mrs. Renuka Malakar	Asst. Sci Off	Department of Plant Resources	250546	217531
15	Mr. Madhu Sudan Pokharel	Section Officer	Department of Customs	226662	
16	Mr. Reshmi Raj Pandey	Custom Officer	Department of Customs	226662	
17	Mr. Shanta Raj Subedi	Section Officer	Department of Postal Services	410224/411353	
18	Mrs. Nirmala Pradhan	Scientific off	Natural History Museum	271099	
19	Dr. Sewak Ram Bhandari	Chief	Forensic Lab, RONAST	526927	472552
20	Mr. Top Bahadur Khatri	Sr. Cons. Officer	KMTNC	526571	
21	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhujra	Sr. Prog Officer	WWF	410137	
22	Ms. Nabina Shrestha	Res. Asst.	IUCN	522712	
23	Mr. Baluk P. Upadhyaya	Forestry	USAID	271916	
24	Mr. Divakar Chapagan	Legal Consultant	Makalu Barun NP & Cons. Area Project	419224	418821
25	Mr. Krishna Shrestha	Journalist	Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists	227691	
26	Mr. Ram Pril Yadav	Chief Warden	Royal Chitwan National Park	056-21932	
27	Mr. Niima W. Sherpa	Chief Warden	Langtang National Park		
28	Mr. Megh Bahadur Pandey	Chief Warden	Sagarmatha National Park	038-21114	
29	Mr. Shyam Sunder Bujmaya	Chief Cons. Off	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912/220850	
30	Mr. Mahendra Kumar Shrestha	Cons. Edu. Off	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912/220850	
31	Mr. Purni Bhakta Shrestha	Asst. Plan. Off	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912/220850	
32	Mr. Hun P. Adhikari	Section Officer	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912/220850	
<u>Instructors</u>					
33	Mr. Neill S. Hartman		US Fish and Wildlife Service		
34	Ms. Carol L. Carson		US Fish and Wildlife Service		
35	Ms. Karen Halpern		US Fish and Wildlife Service		
<u>Coordinator/Participant</u>					
36	Dr. Bijaya Kattel	Deputy DC	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912	419100
<u>Observers</u>					
37	Mr. Devendra Bajracharya	Lecturer	Andal Science Centre		
38	Mr. Pushkar Mathema	Journalist	Gorkhapatra Daily		
<u>Resource Persons</u>					
39	Dr. Tirtha M. Maskey	DC	Dept. of National Parks & Wildlife Conservation	220912	
40	Dr. Tirtha Bahadur Ghoshtha	Coordinator	TRCP, IUCN	522712	
41	Mr. Anil Chhakravarti	Member	Environmental Protection Council/IUCN	522712	

For Telephone Purpose  
Country Code 977  
Area Code for Kathmandu 1

**NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT, 2029 (1973)  
With Amendments Made in 2031 (1975) and 2039 (1983)**

*Unofficial Translation*

**Compiled for the Training/Workshop on CITES Implementation in Nepal  
16-22 May, 1995  
Kathmandu**

**IUCN**

The World Conservation Union

# **NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT, 2029 (1973)**

**With Amendments Made in 2031 (1975) and 2039 (1983)**

## **Preamble**

Whereas it is expedient to make provision for national parks, conservation of animals and birds and their habitats, control for hunting, protection, conservation, development, proper management and utilization of the sites of special importance, of natural beauties and for the maintenance of good conduct and comfort of the people in general.

Now, therefore, His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah, Dev made this Act on the device and with the consent of the National Panchayat.

## **1. Short title, extent and commencement**

- (1) This act may be called the "National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 2029".
- (2) It shall extend to the whole of the Kingdom of Nepal.
- (3) It shall come into force on such date as His Majesty's Government may specify by notification in the Nepal Gazette.

## **2. Definitions**

Unless the subject or context other wise requires, in this Act :-

- (1) "National Park" means an areas set aside for conservation, management and utilization of animals, birds, vegetation or landscape together with the natural environment.
- (2) "Strict Nature Reserve" means an area of ecological significance or other significance set aside for purposes of scientific study.
- (3) "Wildlife Reserve" means an area set aside for the conservation and management of animals birds and other resources and their habitats.

- (4) "Hunting Reserve" means an area set aside for the management of animal and bird resources for purposes of sport hunting.
- (5) "Reserve" means Strict Nature Reserve, Wildlife Reserve and Hunting Reserve declared under Section 3.
- (6) "Animal" means any animal species other than a domesticated animal i.e. mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, frogs (Amphibians) and insects and includes their eggs.
- (7) "Weapons" means any type of gun, pistol, or similar other firearms, as well as bow and arrow, spear, trap, snare, booby trap, catapult, or any other weapon that causes injury.
- (8) "Hunting" means any act of pursuing, capturing, molesting, killing of any animal or bird or attempting to do so or taking or destroying any part of its body or taking or destroying or disturbing its egg or nest.
- (9) "Trophy" means any body of an animal or bird whether alive or dead or any part of its body which is in such form as to be recognizable.
- (10) "Authorized Officer" means an officer specified by His Majesty's Government by notification in the Nepal Gazette.
- (11) "Prescribed" or "As prescribed" means prescribed or as prescribed in the rules framed under this Act.

### **3. Declaration of National Parks or Reserve by His Majesty's Government**

- (1) His Majesty's Government, as deemed necessary declare any area of land as a National Parks or Reserve with detailed description of the boundaries thereof by notification in the Nepal Gazette.
- (2) His Majesty's Government may alienate or transfer ownership or alter the boundaries of a National Park of Reserve declared under Sub-section (1) by notification in the Nepal Gazette.

**4. Restriction on entry into a National Parks**

- (1) No person shall enter a National Park unless in possession of an Entry Permit as prescribed or a written permission of an authorized officer.

Provided that this Sub-section shall not apply to a Government official who is on duty or a person travelling on a recognized right of way through a National Park.

- (2) The form, kind and the fees and other conditions of Entry Permit under Sub-section (1) shall be as prescribed.

**5. Prohibited Acts within a National Park or Reserve**

No person unless in possession of written permission of an authorized officer shall commit any of the following acts within a National Park or Reserve :-

- (a) Hunt any animal or bird.
- (b) Build or occupy any house, hut, shelter or other structure of whatever materials,
- (c) Occupy, clear, cultivate or plant any part of land, grow or harvest any crops,
- (d) Pasture or water any domesticated animal or bird.
- (e) Cut, fell, remove, girdle, burn or otherwise damage any tree, plant, bush or any other forest produce.
- (f) Mine, quarry or remove any minerals, stone, gravel, earth or other such substances,
- (g) Damage any forest produce, animal, bird or land.
- (h) Use or carry any weapon, ammunition or poison,
- (i) Introduce any domesticated or other animal or trophy other than by a Government official on duty or by a person travelling on a recognized right of way through a National Park.

- (j) Obstruct or divert any river stream or other source of water flowing in National Park or introduce any harmful or explosive substances therein.

**6. Operation of Services within a National Park or Reserve**

- (1) His Majesty's Government may in the best interests of a National Park or reserve either directly or by contract with any other person make provision for hotels, lodges, public transport or any other such services or amenities within a National Park.
- (2) No person unless entering into a contract under Sub-section (1) shall operate any kind of services or amenities within a National Park or reserve.

**7. Restriction on entry into Strict Nature Reserve**

No person shall enter a Strict Nature Reserve without the written permission of an authorized officer.

**8. Prohibited Acts within a Reserve**

No person shall within a Reserve commit any of the acts prohibited under Section 5 without written permission of an authorized officer.

**9. Entry into National Park or Reserve at one's own risk**

- (1) Entry into a National Park or Reserve shall be at one's own risk.
- (2) His Majesty's Government shall not be held responsible to pay compensation for any death, loss, damage or injury suffered by any person within a National Park or Reserve.

**10. Protected animals and birds**

The animals and birds listed under schedule 1 of this Act shall be regarded as protected animals and birds and their hunting is prohibited.

- (a) A rogue wild elephant or a man eating tiger or animal suffered from chronic disease or wound may be hunted or caught by the order of the prescribed authority.
- (b) Animals coming out of the forest and seriously injuring man, domesticated animals and birds may be hunted, caught or driven away by order of the prescribed authority.

**11. No hunting without licence**

- (1) No person unless in possession of a valid licence shall hunt any animal or bird. A hunting licence must be obtained to hunt the prescribed animals and birds.
- (2) Any person intending to obtain a licence under Sub-section (1) shall apply to the prescribed authority in the prescribed format and on receipt of such application and payment of the fees as prescribed, the prescribed authority shall issue a licence in the prescribed form for hunting the animals or birds listed under schedule 2 .
- (3) Any person in possession of a valid licence under Sub-section (2) shall hunt subject to the conditions and methods as prescribed.
- (4) The prescribed authority may refuse the issue of a licence under Sub-section (2) with or without showing any reason therefor.

**12. Fixing of hunting annual quotas**

Based on periodic population inventories of animals and birds, the prescribed authority shall fix annual quotas of the animals or birds which may be hunted within a Hunting Reserve during the year.

**13. Cancellation of licence by His Majesty's Government**

His majesty's Government may as it deems necessary at any time cancel the licence issued under section 11 with or without showing any reason therefor.

**14. Closed Season**

His majesty's Government may, by notification in the Nepal Gazette, declare a closed season in any area and for any period specified in the same notification.

**15. Permits to collect specimens**

- (1) No person unless in possession of a permit shall collect specimens for purposes of scientific study within a National Park or Reserve.
- (2) Any person desirous of obtaining such a permit under Sub-section (1) shall apply to the prescribed authority in the prescribed form.

- (3) On receipt of such application under Sub-section (2) and on payment of the fees as prescribed, the prescribed authority may issue a permit for collecting specimens of any animal or bird other than those listed in schedule 1 or for the collection of any insect, fish or other natural produce subject to the prescribed conditions.

**16. Management of National Parks or Reserves**

The prescribed authority may, if he deems it necessary for the proper management of a National Park or Reserve, hunt any animal or bird, remove any natural produce or carry out such other necessary activities within a National Park or Reserve.

- (a) **Permission for forest produce or other service**

Specified forest produce or other service may be taken from National Parks and Reserves on the payment of the fee specified and on obtaining an order from the prescribed authority.

**17. Trophy to be presented before the officer issuing licence**

- (1) Any person in possession of a trophy obtained under a valid licence shall present the same before the licence issuing authority or the authority specified by him within twenty-four hours, excluding the period of travel from the place where such trophy has been obtained.

- (2) Where the licence issuing authority is of the opinion that the trophy presented before him under Sub-section (1) has been obtained in accordance with a valid licence, he shall, having recorded the particulars thereof, return the same to the person presenting it together with a certificate as prescribed.

Provided that in a case where the licence has been issued on condition that the whole or any part of the body of any animal or bird hunted shall remain the property of His Majesty's Government it shall be effected accordingly.

**18. Possession of illegal trophy without certificate**

- (1) Any person who has obtained a trophy prior to the commencement of this Act shall present the same before the prescribed authority within six months of the date of this Act coming into force and shall obtain a certificate as prescribed.

- (2) His Majesty's Government may confiscate any trophy possessed without obtaining the certificate prescribed under Sub-section (1) above or Sub-section (2) of section 17.

**19. Transfer of trophies**

- (1) No person shall sell, barter or otherwise transfer the possession of any trophy to another person without having written document therefor.
- (2) Any person buying a trophy from a person having the certificate of ownership in accordance to Sub-section (1) or after obtaining the transfer of legal ownership right of trophy, must present the trophy to the prescribed authority within a specified time and must obtain the certificate of legal ownership of the trophy from the prescribed authority.

**20. Recommendation to be obtained for the import and export of trophies**

Any person desirous of exporting or importing a trophy under the existing Nepal Law shall first obtain a recommendation from the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation of His Majesty's Government.

**21. Necessary action may be taken for self defence**

- (1) Where necessary for self defence or for the defence of any other person or domestic animals against an actual or immediate attack by any animal, and where there is no possible alternative, the use of weapon or any other appropriate action may be resorted to, and as a result if any animal is killed or wounded it shall not be deemed as an offence under this Act.
- (2) If any animal is killed or wounded under Sub-section (1) it shall be notified to prescribed authority within twenty four hours excluding the period of travel from the place where such action has been taken.
- (3) No such facilities under Sub-section (1) shall be available to person committing an act in contravention of this Act or Rules framed thereunder.

**22. Damage to boundary marks**

No person shall destroy, damage, deface, remove or otherwise interfere with any boundary, fence, fence wall, signpost or notice of any National Park or Reserve.

### **23. Powers of inspection and search**

Where the prescribed authority has sufficient reason to believe that an offence has been committed in contravention of this Act, and where it is necessary for the purpose of collecting evidence or arresting an offender, he may after obtaining a warrant from the prescribed authority enter and search any house, premises, land and vehicle of any type at any time whatsoever.

Provided that where it appears that the offender is likely to abscond or destroy the evidence within the time taken for obtaining a warrant, the prescribed authority may after making a due record of such matter enter and search such house, premises, land or vehicle without warrant.

#### **Explanation**

No official below the rank prescribed in Section 30 shall enter and search under this Act. Where the evidence under this Act has not been obtained the official entitled to search under this Act without warrant shall provide a certificate thereof to the concerned person and also report it in writing to the prescribed authority showing the cause of the same within fifteen days of the date of such entry or search.

### **24. Power to arrest without warrant**

- (1) Where the authorised officer has reason to believe that any suspect under this Act is likely to abscond, he may arrest such person. The person so arrested shall be presented before the authority empowered to hear the case for trial within twenty-four hours, excluding the period of travel from the place where such arrest has been made.
- (2) Where in the course of arrest by an authorised officer under Sub-section (1) or at any time thereafter the offender or any person assisting him resists arrest and the situation thereby appears such that the offender is likely to escape or the life of the official himself is threatened, or where the use of weapon is unavoidable, the official effecting such arrest may shoot, aiming at as far as possible below the knee. Under such circumstances the official concerned shall not be held responsible for any death or injury which may result.

## **25. Rewards to Informer**

- (1) Any person who furnishes information which leads to the conviction of any person for possession of rhinoceros horn or killing or wounding a rhinoceros, tiger or musk deer shall be entitled to a reward not exceeding five thousand rupees.
- (2) Where a person furnishes information leading to the recovery of illegal trophies, he shall be paid a reward equivalent to fifty percent of the value of the same or if the trophy is not saleable in view of the animal being protected, then he shall be paid, considering the trophy's size, condition and importance, a reward not exceeding ten thousand rupees.
- (3) Any person who furnishes information which leads to the conviction of an offender under this except as mentioned in Sub-section (1) and (2) shall be entitled to a reward not exceeding one thousand rupees.

## **26. Penalties**

- (a) Any person, with an intention of selling, found guilty of possessing, selling, buying or transferring the right of ownership, both persons involved, shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding twenty five thousand rupees or imprisonment not exceeding five years, subject to a minimum of one year or both such fine and imprisonment according to the quantity of rhino-horn or musk pad.
- (b) Any person found guilty of killing or injuring protected animals except birds (by hunting) shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand rupees, subject to a minimum of five thousand rupees or from one year to three years imprisonment or both such fine and imprisonment.
- (c) Any person found guilty of killing or injuring animals except birds and fish in national parks, strict nature reserves or wildlife reserves without obtaining a hunting licence, shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand rupees, subject to a minimum of one thousand rupees or imprisonment not exceeding two years, subject to a minimum of six months or both such fine and imprisonment.
- (d) Any person found guilty of killing or injuring protected birds shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding ten thousand rupees, subject to a minimum of five hundred

rupees or imprisonment not exceeding two years, subject to a minimum of three months or both such fine and imprisonment.

- (e) Any person found guilty of killing or injuring other than protected birds in national parks, strict nature reserves and wildlife reserves without obtaining a hunting licence shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding ten thousand rupees, subject to a minimum of five hundred rupees or imprisonment not exceeding two years, subject to a minimum of three months or both such fine and imprisonment.
- (f) Any person found guilty in contravention of the sections of this act or rules framed under this act, of matters other than those mentioned in Sub-sections (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding ten thousand rupees or imprisonment not exceeding two years or both with due consideration to the degree of offense.

#### **27. Penalties for accomplice**

Any accomplice who knowingly assists a person committing an offence under this Act shall be punishable with half the penalties awarded to the offender.

Provided that an accomplice in an offence concerning rhinoceros, tiger, musk deer or elephant shall be awarded the same penalties as the offender.

#### **28. Power of confiscation**

Where any person is found guilty of an offence under the provisions of this Act or of any rule framed thereunder the authority empowered to hear the case may confiscate any trophy, weapon, vehicle and other objects directly involved in the commission of the offence. A seized hunting dog can be killed by the order of authority empowered to hear the case prior to the decision of the case.

#### **29. State cases**

Cases under this Act shall be construed as state cases.

#### **30. Investigation and institution of cases**

- (1) Investigation of a case under this Act shall be undertaken by the Range or an official of the rank of Subedar concerned with the management of the wildlife and forest or by an official of the rank at least of non-gazetted first class or in the case of police at least

by Sub-inspector and after the accomplishment of such investigation such official shall institute a case to the authority empowered to hear a case under this Act in the name of the National Park Office, Reserve Office or Wildlife Conservation Officer or the Forest Officer or such other offices relating to forest.

- (2) The official concerned instituting a case to the authority empowered to hear a case under Sub-section (1) may consult with the Government lawyer.

**31. Power to hear cases**

- (1) The prescribed court or authority is empowered to hear a case under this Act.
- (2) The prescribed court or authority shall follow the same procedures which are applicable to an original court.
- (3) An appeal shall lie to the Zonal Court against any order or decision of the prescribed court of authority within thirty five days of such order or decision.

**32. Power of His Majesty's Government to amend the schedule**

His Majesty's Government may amend the schedule of this Act by notification in the Nepal Gazette.

**33. Power to frame Rules (Regulations)**

To carry out the purposes of this Act His Majesty's Government may frame Rule (Regulations).

**34. Repeat and saving**

- (1) The Wildlife Protection Act 2015 is hereby repeated.
- (2) Matters other than those mentioned in this Act or rules framed thereunder shall be governed by existing Nepal Law.

## **Schedule 1 (Presetting to Section 10)**

### **1. Animals (mammals)**

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) Rhinoceros           | (n) Wild elephant            |
| (b) Wild buffalo         | (o) Tiger                    |
| (c) Clouded leopard      | (p) Snow leopard             |
| (d) Musk deer            | (q) Wild yak                 |
| (e) Gaur (Indian bison)  | (r) Black buck               |
| (f) Four-horned antelope | (s) Swamp deer               |
| (g) Great Tibetan sheep  | (t) Tibetan antelope (Chiru) |
| (h) Brown bear           | (u) Gangetic dolphin         |
| (i) Red panda            | (v) Pygmy hog                |
| (j) Hispid hare          | (w) Pangolin                 |
| (k) Assamese monkey      | (x) Wolf                     |
| (l) Lingsang             | (y) Hyena                    |
| (m) Leopard cat          | (z) Lynx                     |

### **2. Birds**

- (a) Impeyan pheasant (Dante)
- (b) Crimson-horned (Monal)
- (c) Bengal florican (Khar mayor)
- (d) Great pied hornbill
- (e) Black Stork
- (f) White Stork
- (g) Saras
- (h) Cheer pheasant
- (i) Lesser florican

### **3. Reptiles**

- (a) Python
- (b) Gharial crocodile
- (c) Golden lizard

Since the newly elected democratic government established in the country, a substantial amendment has been made to the **National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2029** in 1993. Some of the significant characteristics of the amendment are :

Declaring buffer-zone around the protected areas to provide access to the local people for the management, development and utilization (e.g. collection of fuelwood, timber and pasture) of renewable forest resources.

Provision of user committees for the management of the buffer-zones and provision of 30-50 of the income earned by the national parks and protected areas to the user committees for the management and development of the buffer-zones.

Provision for the utilization of faunal resources inside the protected areas in accordance with the protected areas' management policies.

Provision for any person who furnishes information which leads to the conviction of any person for killing or wounding endangered wildlife such as rhinoceros, tiger, musk deer, clouded leopard, snow leopard and gaur shall be entitled to a reward not exceeding Rs. 50,000.00 and for other protected animals shall be entitled to a reward not exceeding Rs. 25,000.00.

Provision for any person found guilty of killing or injuring or found guilty of possessing trophies of rhinoceros, tiger, musk deer, wild-elephant, clouded leopard, snow leopard and gaur and any person, with an intention of selling, found guilty of possessing, selling, buying or transferring the trophies of other protected wildlife shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding Rs. 100,000.00, subject to a minimum of Rs. 50,000.00 or from 4 years to 15 years imprisonment or both such fine and imprisonment.

Provision for any person found guilty of killing or injuring other protected animals shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding Rs. 75,000.00, subject to a minimum of Rs. 40,000.00 or from one year to ten years imprisonment or both such fine and imprisonment.

The above discussed provisions in the recent amendment of law have provided substantial encouragement to the authorities of the field of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation for the implementation of recommendations which shall emerge from the findings of field investigations.

**An Act Enacted to Amend the National Parks and Conservation of Wildlife Act,  
2029**

**Preamble**

Whereas it is expedient to amend the National Parks and Conservation of Wildlife Act, 2029

Now, therefore, the parliament has made this Act in the twenty-second year of the reign of His Majesty King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev.

**1. Short Title and Commencement**

(1) This Act may be called the "National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (Fourth Amendment) Act, 2029.

(2) It shall come into force immediately.

**2. Amendment to Section 2 of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 2029**

Of Section 2 of the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 2029 (herein after referred to as the Original Act) :-

(1) The following part (E 2) has been added after part (E 1) : "(E 2) 'Buffer Zone' means a peripheral zone of a National Park or Reserve as prescribed under Section 3 (A) so as to provide the local inhabitants with privilege for the regular consumption of the forest products".

(2) The following part (J 1) has been added after part (J) : "(J 1) 'Preserver' means a person appointed by His Majesty's Government for the Conservation and Management of National Park, Reserve, Preservation Zone or Buffer Zone".

**3. Addition of 3 (A), 3 (B) and 3 (C) to the Mother Act**

The following Section 3 (A), 3 (B) and 3 (C) have been added after Section 3 of the Original Act :-

*3 A . Prescription of Buffer Zone*

- (1) His Majesty's Government may prescribe any peripheral area of National Park or Reserve as Buffer Zone with description of the four borders thereof by the notification in the Nepal.
- (2) His Majesty's Government may alienate, transfer ownership or alter the boundaries of a Buffer zone prescribed under Sub-section (1) by the notification in the Nepal Gazette.

*3 B. Management and preservation of Buffer zone*

The preserver shall carry out activities regarding the management and preservation of Buffer zone.

But in the course of such management and preservation, land ownership of the local people in such zone shall remain unaffected.

*3 C. To provide Compensation*

Where the land building of any inhabitant within Buffer Zone fall due to flood and slide within the natural boundaries of National Park or Reserve, and resultantly such inhabitant becomes homeless, the concerned National Park or Reservation shall on the recommendation of the user's committee constituted in accordance with Section 16 C, "provide reasonable compensation to such inhabitant from the amount set aside for the community development of the local people in accordance with Section 25 A".

**4. Amendment to Section 6 of the Original Act**

The words, "National Park, Reserve or Conservation " have been placed instead of the "National Park or Reserve used in place to place in Section 6 of the Original Act.

**5. Addition of Section 16 C to the Original Act**

The following Section 16 C has been added after, Section 16 B of the Original Act :-

*16 C. User's Committee*

- (1) The concerned preserver may, in a coordination with local body, constitute user's committee so as to manage the fallen trees, dry woods, fire woods and grass within the National Park, Reserve, Preservation Zone or Buffer Zone.
- (2) Except stated in Sub-section (1) other functions, duties and rights will be as prescribed.

**6. Amendment to Section 22 of the Original Act**

Instead of the words "National Park or Reserve" contained in Section 22 of the Original Act, the words "National Park, Reserve, Preservation zone or Buffer Zone" have been placed.

**7. Amendment to Section 25 of the Original Act**

The following Sub-section (1) has been placed instead of Sub-section (1) of Section 25 of the Original Act :-

- (1) Any person furnishing the information and helping the arrest of any person killing or wounding rhinoceros, tiger, wild elephant, musk deer, clouded leopard, snow leopard or Gaurigai may be given a cash reward not exceeding fifty thousand rupees, and any person furnishing the information and helping the arrest of any person killing or wounding other conserved wildlife except aforementioned wildlife may be fine a cash reward not exceeding twenty five thousand rupees.

**8. Addition of Section 25 A to the Original Act**

The following clause 25 A has been added after Section 25 of the Original Act :-

*25 A. Expenses may be made for local development*

From thirty to fifty percent amount out of the amount of income made by a National Park, Reserve or Conservation Zone may be expended by making coordination with the local body for community development of the local people.

**9. Amendment to section 26 of the original Act**

The following Sub-section (1) and (2) have been placed instead of Sub-section (1) and (2) of Section 26 of the original Act :-

- (1) Any person killing, wounding, buying, selling or exchanging (transferring) rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, musk deer, clouded leopard, snow leopard or Gaurigai, and keeping shooting, buying, selling of rhinoceros horn, leopard skin, deer musk and such other protected wildlife shall be punishable with a fine from fifty thousand to hundred thousand rupees or imprisonment from five to fifteen years or both such fine and imprisonment.
- (2) Any person killing or wounding the other protected wildlife except these stated in Sub-section (1) shall be punishable with a fine from forty thousand rupees to seventy five

thousand rupees or imprisonment from one year to ten years or both such fine and imprisonment.

Royal Seal affixed on : 2029/11/28

**General Recommendation from the Workshop**

- Need for a separate unit for CITES implementation in the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, which is also the CITES Management Authority. This unit will coordinate with all concerned agencies, e.g. Police, Customs, Postal Services etc., and with Scientific Authority.
- Need for improvement in existing laws and by laws specifically for CITES Implementation incorporating all related existing rules and regulation.
- All related agencies must be provided with the protected species lists of animals and plants included in CITES Appendices and National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 2029 by the CITES Management Authority for Nepal, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation.
- Workshop participants recommended for a mechanism to be developed for disposal of confiscated items of the protected species and their derivatives.
- Need for more effective public awareness in collaboration with National and International NGOs and media people.
- Need for a pressure group to surveillance and monitoring of illegal trade of endangered species and their derivatives in Nepal, and to recommend strategies to the government.
- Workshop also recommends to celebrate a wildlife week every year for better awareness to general public of the conservation in general and of CITES Implementation.



**Notes for discussion on follow-up activities to some  
of the General Recommendations of the CITES  
Workshop (16-22 May 1995)**

I. Resolving conflicts/contradictions among various rules and regulations vis-a-vis CITES Implementation in Nepal (assistance to be sought from IUCN Law Centre, Bonn).	US \$ 6,000.00
II. Mobilizing NGO Pressure Groups for surveillance and monitoring of illegal trade of endangered species and their derivatives.	US \$ 7,000.00
III. Campaigning items for public information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posters/Charts/Wall newspapers (special issues)</li> <li>• Stickers, Book marks, School copies</li> <li>• Badges, T-shirts, etc.</li> </ul>	US \$ 10,000.00
IV. Identification aids for CITES Implementing authorities.	US \$ 2,000.00
V. Multi Media Campaigning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TV - Documentary films on wildlife trade.</li> <li>• Radio programme on wildlife trade.</li> <li>• Print media</li> </ul>	US \$ 5,000.00
VI. Wildlife Week	US \$ 7,000.00
	<hr/> <hr/> US \$ 37,000.00 <hr/> <hr/>

CITES  
ENFORCEMENT TRAINING SEMINAR

KATHMANDU, NEPAL  
MAY 1995

May 16, 1995 (Tuesday)

9:00 - 10:30 Opening Ceremonies  
10:30 - 11:00 Tea  
11:00 - 12:30 CITES in Nepal  
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch  
1:30 - 3:30 History of CITES  
3:30 - 3:45 Tea  
3:45 - 5:00 CITES Implementation

May 17, 1995 (Wednesday)

9:00 - 10:00 CITES and Plants  
10:00 - 10:30 Overview of Investigative Program  
- Wildlife Law Enforcement - What is it?  
10:30 - 10:45 Tea  
10:45 - 12:30 Overview of Investigative Program (cont'd)  
- U.S. Wildlife Laws  
- Training  
Conducting a Criminal Investigation  
- Phases of an Investigation  
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch  
1:30 - 3:00 Conducting a Criminal Investigation (cont'd)  
- Investigative Tools  
- Investigative Techniques  
- Intelligence Gathering  
- Surveillance  
3:00 - 3:15 Tea  
3:15 - 4:30 Conducting a Criminal Investigation (cont'd)  
- Investigative Techniques (cont'd)  
- Use of Informants and Witnesses  
- Interviewing

May 18, 1995 (Thursday)

9:00 - 10:30 *Belinda Wright - International Commercialization*  
Conducting a Criminal Investigation (cont'd)  
- Investigative Techniques (cont'd)  
- Undercover Operations  
- Report Writing  
10:30 - 10:45 Tea  
10:45 - 12:30 Breakout Groups  
- Media/NGO Role in Wildlife Law Enforcement  
*- ways to improve interagency coordination*  
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch  
1:30 - 3:00 Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory  
3:00 - 3:15 Tea  
3:15 - 4:30 *conclude crim INV section*

CITES  
ENFORCEMENT TRAINING SEMINAR

KATHMANDU, NEPAL  
MAY 1995

May 19, 1995 (Friday)

9:00 - 10:00 Wildlife Trade in Asia  
10:00 - 10:30 Wildlife Inspection Procedures  
- Types of Inspections  
10:30 - 10:45 Tea  
10:45 - 12:30 Wildlife Inspection Procedures (cont'd)  
- Document Analysis Exercise # CA  
- Document Fraud  
- Inhumane Shipments  
- Safety  
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch  
1:30 - 3:00 Smuggling of Wildlife  
3:00 - 3:15 Tea  
3:15 - 4:30 Disposition and Use of Confiscated  
Specimens/Outreach Programs - Exercise # 8  
~~Nepal Forum for Environmental Journalists~~

May 22, 1995 (Monday)

9:00 - 11:00 CITES Identification  
11:00 - 11:15 Tea  
11:15 - 12:30 Closing Ceremonies

## Curbing Trade In Endangered Species

**By Our Correspondent**  
PRESENTLY CITES, or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, is a hot topic in Kathmandu valley among the law enforcement authorities, with a week-long workshop on CITES implementation in Nepal in progress.

The training is being organised by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation in cooperation with the US-Fish and Wildlife Service, CITES Secretariat, IUCN (World Conservation Union), USAID, and WWF-Nepal Program.

CITES, which was adopted in 1973 in Washington and came into force in 1975, aims to control the trade in animal and plant specimens and their products.

Nepal is a signatory country that ratified the convention in 1975. The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation is the

management authority for CITES in Nepal.

Although Nepal ratified the convention from the very beginning, it is felt that little has been done to implement the CITES provision. Till two years back, the poaching of the one-horned rhino and the tiger was a matter of grave concern.

As mentioned by Shree Ram Paudel, acting Secretary in the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, during the inaugural session of the workshop, fur trade in tourist shops in Kathmandu has been of "great concern to all of us."

Despite the provision of heavy fine and punishment under the acts, poaching of some commercially viable wildlife resources is still continuing.

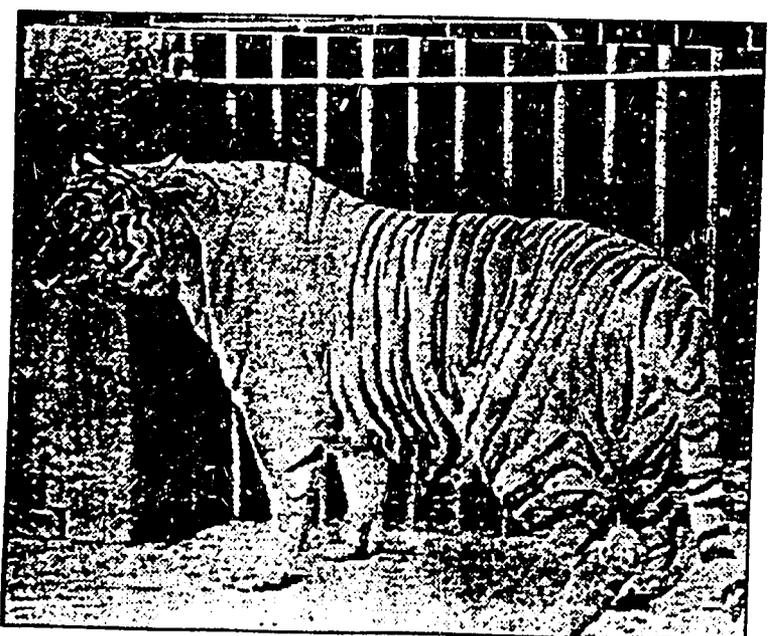
The main aim of the training is to identify useful networking and coordination for effective protection of Nepal's wildlife resources. And Neill S. Hartman, Supervisory

Special Agent of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior Division of Law Enforcement along with two other experts Carol L. Carson and Karen Halpin from the same department are here to deliver the ideas and techniques to enforce the law.

However, participants, who include representatives from the customs department, the Home Ministry, Law and Justice Ministry, the police, army, NGOs and INGOs, journalists, National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Department, Forest Department etc, suggested that there should be a separate wing or department under the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Department to look after the issues related to CITES.

In addition to this, participants after a three-day hectic discussion, suggested that there should be a separate council for the conservation of wild fauna-flora.

Participants suggested that hunting license should be issued by a single particular unit; forensic lab should be upgraded; law enforcement authorities should be well-equipped; exit points should be fixed for the purpose of export and import of wildlife and plants and their products; and the media and NGOs should play an active role in educating the people in this field.



The endangered tiger safe inside the zoo.

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## 38 listed as endangered species

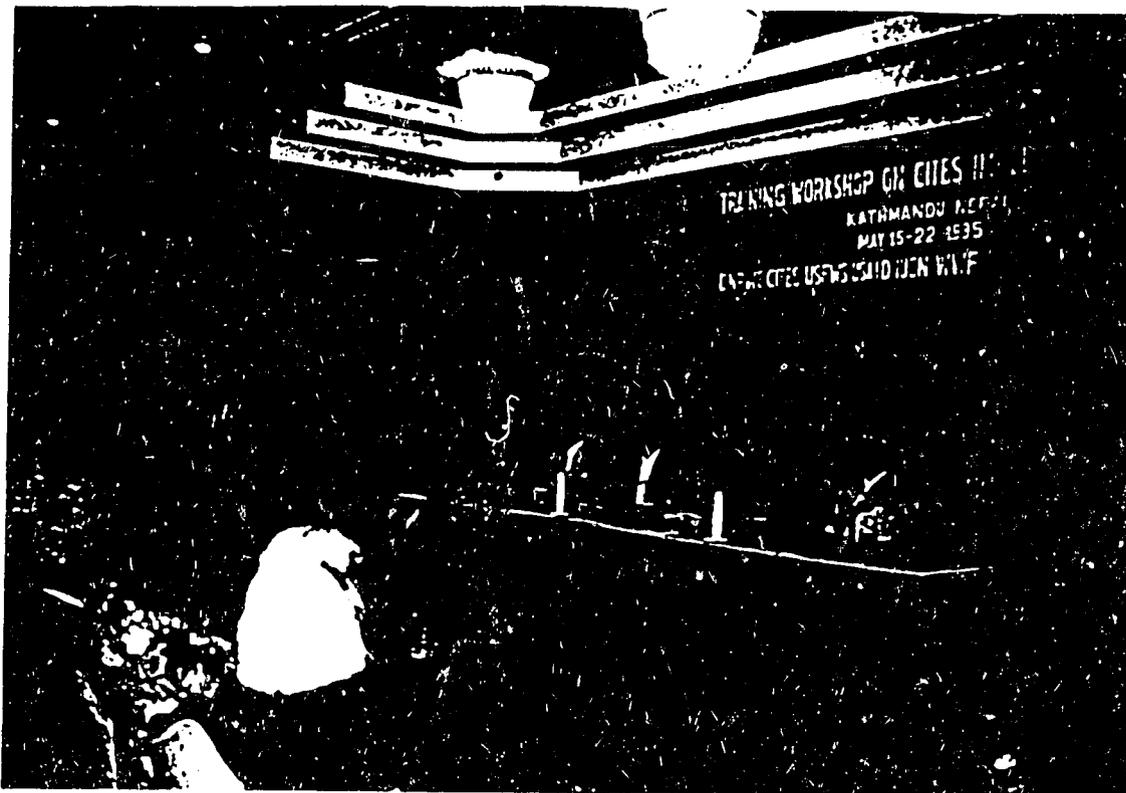
Lalitpur, May 17 (RSS):

Minister of State for Works and Transport Ashok Kumar Rai declaring open the cities workshop organised by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (NPWCD) has said that the workshop would be instrumental in contributing to the conservation of wildlife facing extinction.

On the occasion, Minister Rai revealed that as formulated in the National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, 2029 B.S., a total of 26 wild animals, the reptiles and nine birds are listed as endangered species.

The workshop is run with the help of fish and wildlife service of USA cities secretariat, USAID, IUCN and WFP Nepal programme.

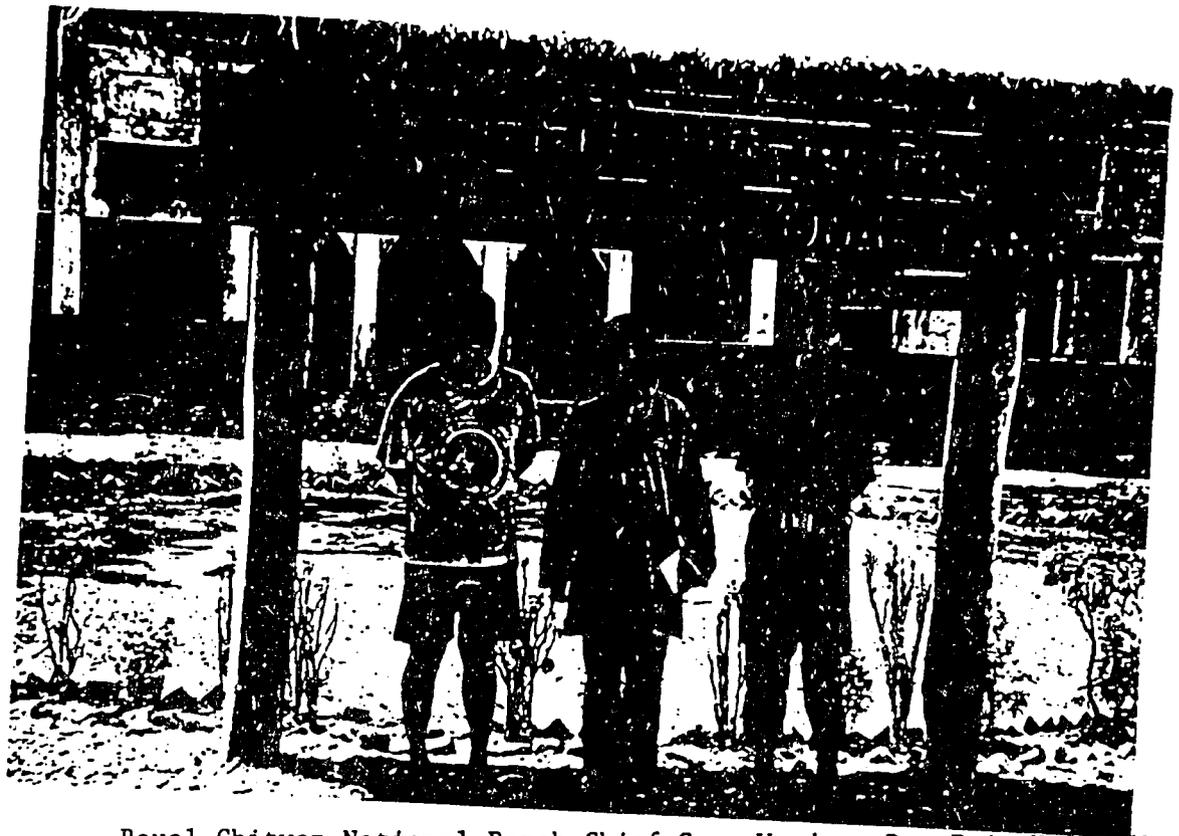
At the programme presided over by Shri Ram Poudel, Tirtha Maskey of NPWCD, Bijaya Kattel, Shyam Bajimaya and Noll Hartman of fish and wildlife service shed light on the objectives of the workshop and wildlife conservation.



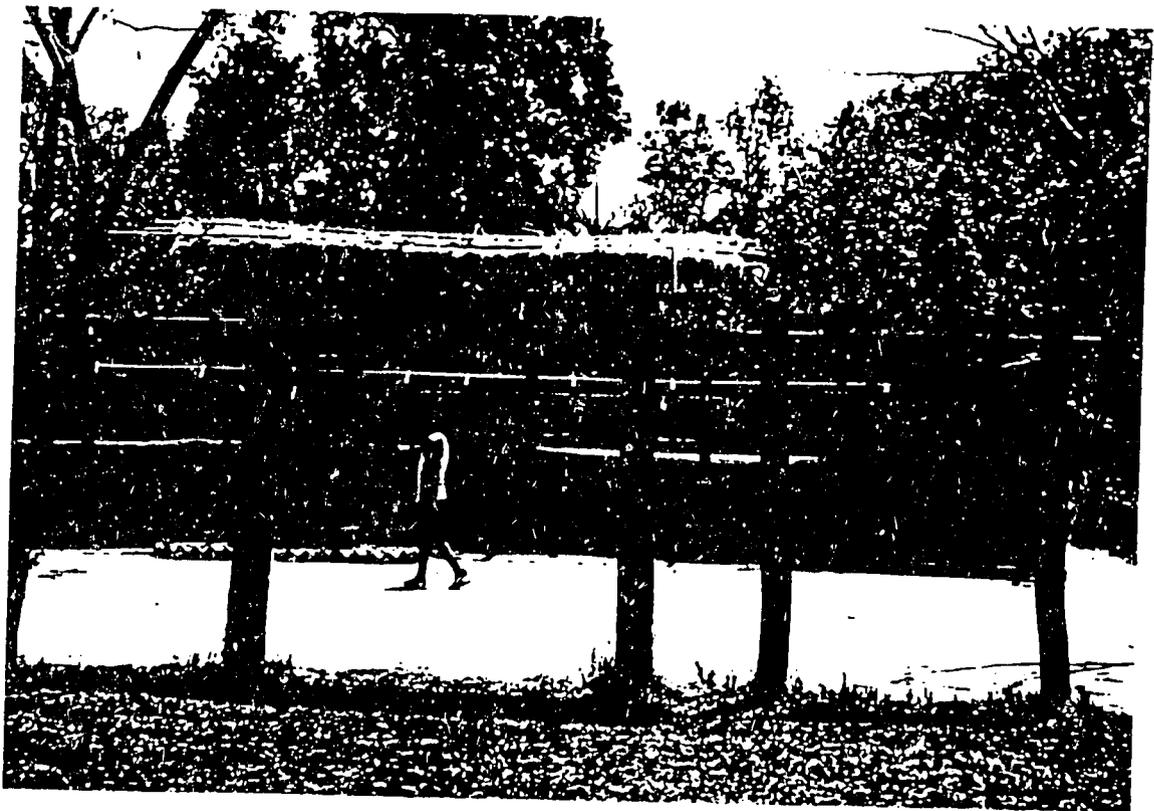
Opening Ceremonies for workshop



Key Instructors and Nepal Coordinators  
Carol Carson (left), Karen Halpin, Neill Hartman  
Dr. Bijaya Katell, Dr. Tirtha Maskey



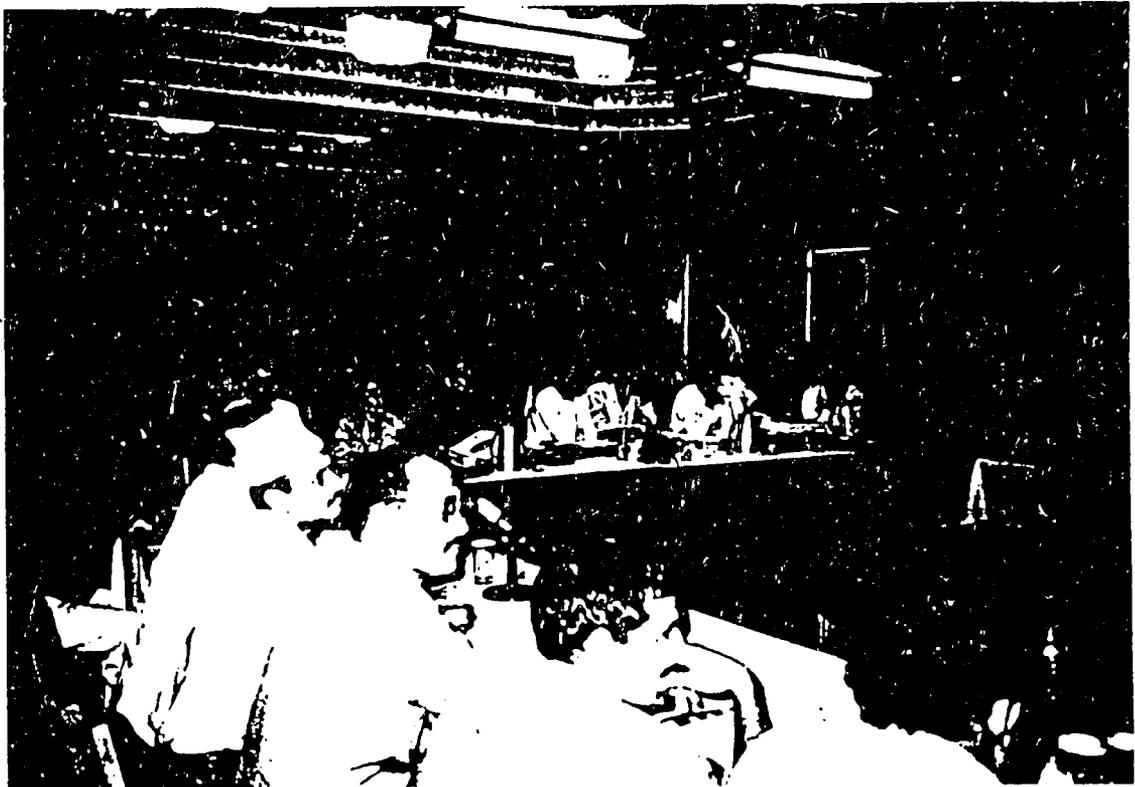
Royal Chitwan National Park Chief Game Warden, Ram Prit Vadav (left)  
Colonel and Major in charge of Anti-poaching military troops on RCNP



Gharial crocodile breeding and reintroduction project on  
Royal Chitwan National Park



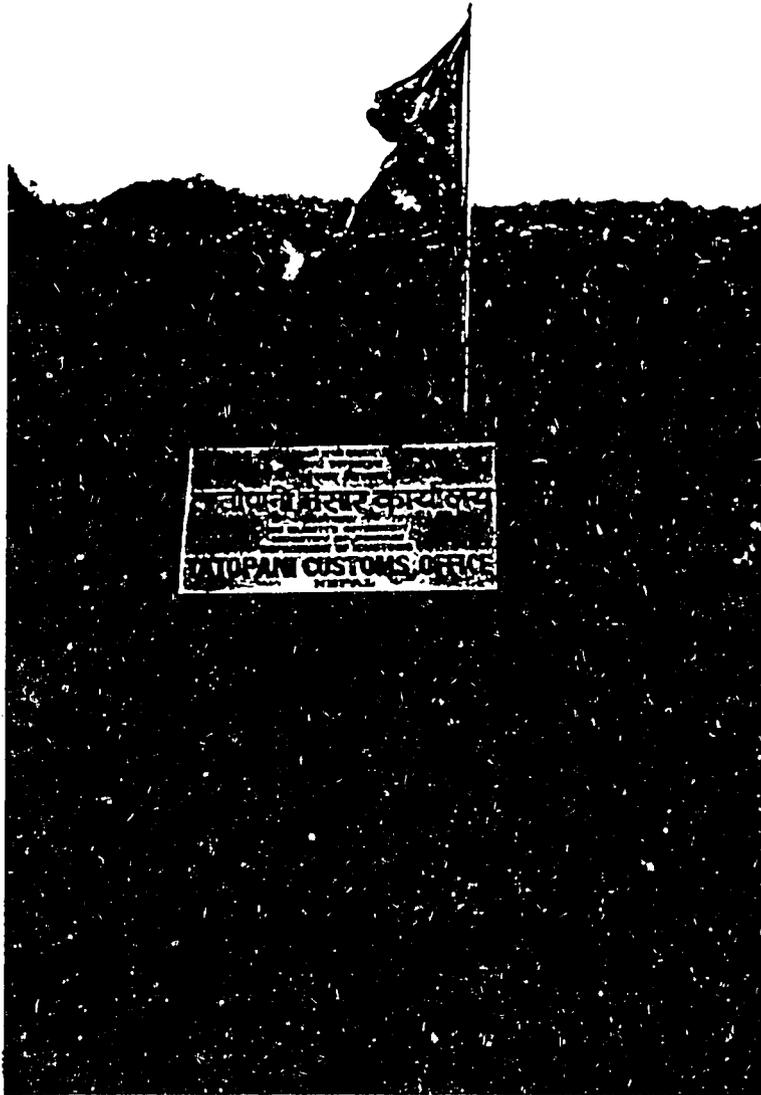
Group photo of workshop participants



Workshop in session



Examination of Customs Facility At Kathmandu Airport



Field trip to Customs Facility at Tatopani- Tibet/Nepal border





Anti-Poaching check station on Royal Chitwan National Park



Looking for Rhinos and Tigers on Royal Chitwan National Park

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