



IN THIS ISSUE

ACTIVITIES

Nepal National Water and Weather Week-2017

MEETING/WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE

Landslide EVO kick off meeting,
Workshop and field visit

Third International Conference on Mountain Hydrology
and Meteorology for the Sustainable Development
Discussion Programme on Daily Rainfall Measurement
in Nepal via Citizen Science: Data
Collection and Analysis

TALK PROGRAMME

FEATURES – NEWS

SASCOF-2017

Onset of Monsoon in Nepal

CONDOLENCE

Society of Hydrologists and Meteorologists-Nepal
(SOHAM-Nepal)
New Baneshwor, Kathmandu
Tel: +977-1-4115516
www.soham.org.np

G.P.O Box 11444, Kathmandu
Email info@soham.org.np,
sohamnepal2002@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Sujan Subedi
Editor: Binod Parajuli

Meteorology (DHM), Government of Nepal; Central Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (CDHM-TU); Department of Meteorology (DoM), Tri-chandra College; Students' Organization of Meteorology (SoM), Tri-chandra College were engaged to make this event a grand success. Some major events organized in different dates of the week are mentioned below.



March 17

WALKATHON programme was organized by DHM and SOHAM-Nepal. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Madhusudan Adhikari, Secretary of WECS. On the occasion, government employees including high level officials from WECS and DHM, SOHAM-Nepal members and students from SoM showed active participation. The WALKATHON



started from Maitighar Mandala at 7:15 AM and finally the mass entered Department of Irrigation (DoI), Jawalakhel at 8:00 AM.

Bicycle rally was also organized simultaneously under NNWWW-2017. The rally was led by The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) with support from Cycle City Network, Nepal. The route of rally was Patan Durbar Square-Sankhamul-UN Park- Kuponsole-Pulchowk-Jawalakhel with the end point at DoI.

In the same day, formal inauguration of NNWWW-2017 was held at Auditorium Hall of DoI, from 8-10 AM. Secretary, Mr. Adhikari was the Chairperson and Honorable Minister Janardan Sharma, Ministry of Energy was the chief guest of the programme. The programme was inaugurated by Honorable Sharma by watering the plant. Secretaries, Director Generals and other distinguished officials from various

ACTIVITIES

Nepal National Water and Weather Week-2017

SOHAM-Nepal celebrated World Water Day and World Meteorological Day, 2017 under Nepal National Water and Weather Week (NNWWW)-2017 from March 17-23, 2017. A national committee was formed under the chairmanship of Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS), Government of Nepal to organize this event. About two dozen stakeholders such as Department of Hydrology and

governmental and non-governmental organizations, Academicians and students from Tribhuvan University also attended the programme. Mr. Ramanand Prasad Yadav, Secretary, Ministry of Irrigation; Er. Bhim Prasad Upadhyaya, Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply and Sanitation; Mr. Tej Raj Bhatta, Director General, Department of Water Supply and Sanitation (DWSS) and Vice-Chair of NNWWW-2017; Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General, DHM and Vice-Chair of NNWWW-2017; Dr. David James Molden, Director General, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); Mr. Madhav Belbase, Joint Secretary, WECS and Vice-Chair of NNWWW-2017 also spoke on the occasion.

March 20-21

Students' Organization of Meteorology with support from SOHAM-Nepal and DHM celebrated Meteorological Educational Ceremony-2017 at Tri-chandra College, Ghantaghar on March 20 and 21. The programme was followed by inaugural session on the first day which was chaired by Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General of DHM. Prof. Dr. Pradeep Bahadur Neupane, Campus Chief, Tri-chandra College; Mr. Narayan Gautam, Head of Department, Department of Meteorology, Tri-chandra College; Mr. Suman Kumar Regmi, Secretary General of SOHAM-Nepal; and other distinguished personalities were also present during the occasion. The programme comprised series of talk programmes during these two days period as listed below.

- Climate change and its effects on Glaciers by Mr. Amrit Thapa (ICIMOD)
- Cloud Burst by Ms. Archana Shrestha (DHM)
- Remote Sensing by Dr. Hemu Kafle (KIAS)
- Walkers Circulation by Prof. Dr. Lochan Devkota (CDHM, TU)
- Tree Ring: A tool for climate change studies by Dr. Binod Dawadi (CDHM, TU)
- Western Disturbances by Mr. Barun Paudel (DHM)

March 22

Weather Forecasting Center visit programme was arranged on March 22. Altogether, fifteen people (students from Tri-chandra College and media persons) participated in the programme. The programme was organized at Meteorological Forecasting Division of DHM located at Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu.

March 23

Stakeholders Consultation on Hydro-meteorological Services in Nepal and closing ceremony of NNWWW-2017 was organized on March 23 at Hotel Yellow Pagoda, Kathmandu. On the first half, consultation on Hydro-meteorological services in Nepal was held. The programme was chaired by Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma. Stakeholders and officials from various government and non-government sectors were present during the occasion. Four technical papers as mentioned below were also presented during the session.

- Understanding Clouds, Mr. Suman Raj Bhattarai, DHM
- Glimpse of CFGORRP Project, Mr. Top Bahadur Khatri, NPM, CFGORRP/DHM
- Modernization of Hydro-meteorological system in DHM, Mr. Saraju Kumar Baidya, DDG/DHM
- Flood Early Warning System in Nepal, Mr. Binod Parajuli, DHM

Closing ceremony of NNWWW-2017 was also done in the same day. The ceremony was inaugurated by the Honorable Minister, Mr. Jaya Dev Joshi, Ministry of Population and Environment. The programme was chaired by Mr. Madhusudan Adhikari, Secretary, WECS. Stakeholders and officials from various government and non-government sectors were present during the occasion. Distinguished personalities also spoke on the occasion highlighting the importance of water and meteorology day.

In this ceremony, Dr. Hari Man Shrestha, Mr. Kiran Shankar Yogacharya and Prof. Dr. Bidur Prasad Upadhyay were honored by the certificate of appreciation for remarkable contribution in the field of Hydrology, Meteorology and Water Resources.



Similarly, Ms. Parbati Gurung (Gauge Reader: Chisapani) and Mr. Bhadra Bahadur Thapa (Observer: Kusum) received Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma Disaster Information



Award. The award comprises a certificate of appreciation with cash amount of ten thousand rupees.

MEETING/WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE

Landslide EVO kick off meeting, workshop and field visit

The kickoff meeting of Landslide EVO project was held on March 14-15, 2017 at Shangri-La Hotel in Kathmandu. Twenty project investigators and partners representing various national and international agencies such as Imperial College of London, Geological Survey of Austria, Birmingham University, Geneva University, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Practical Action-Nepal, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu University, SOHAM-Nepal, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Wageningen University, ESPA and Kathmandu Living Labs attended the meeting. Dr. Jyotiraj Patra, Regional Evidence Advisor – South Asia, ESPA also joined in the meeting. On behalf of

SOHAM-Nepal, Dr. Jagat Kumar Bhusal, Chairperson, Dr. Janak Lal Nayava, Advisor and Mr. Suman Kumar Regmi, General Secretary took part in the meeting.

The meeting brought project investigators and partners together for the first time to re-appraise the project objectives, exchange ideas on the use of existing research tools, discuss project coordination, and agree on short-term commitments. One major aim of the meeting was to identify the immediate need for a common theoretical methodological framework across all these four work packages as well.

On March 16, the first project stakeholder workshop was also held at Shangri-La Hotel in Kathmandu. In this workshop, twenty additional local stakeholders from various government and non-government agencies such as Department of Water Induced Disaster Prevention, Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management, DFID, Mission East, Save The Children, Oxfam, Mercy Corps, Medair also actively participated.

During March 17-20, some project investigators and partners also visited upper Karnali Basin, Western Nepal. The main objective of this trip was to understand natural and social processes governing landslide occurrence and also to identify potential landslide localities. The team altogether identified three potential localities affecting from landslide accounting two in Dadeldhura and one in Chainpur. The visit strengthened the coordination between central team, local partners and collaborators as well.

Third International Conference on Mountain Hydrology and Meteorology for the Sustainable Development



“Third International Conference on Mountain Hydrology and Meteorology for the Sustainable Development” was organized by SOHAM-Nepal in association with Department of Hydrology and Meteorology on April 10-11, 2017 at Radisson Hotel in Kathmandu.

The conference was supported by Central Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (CDHM), Tribhuvan University (TU); Himalayan Cryosphere, Climate and Disaster Research Center, Kathmandu University (KU); International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD); International Water Management Institute (IWMI); Kathmandu Centre for Research and Education, Tribhuvan University (KCRE, CAS-TU); Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST), OJERI and BK21Plus ELEC of Korea University, Seoul,

South Korea; Real Times Solutions (RTS) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, International Hydrological Programme Nepal (UNESCO IHP-Nepal).

The conference was inaugurated by Rt. Honorable Vice President Nanda Bahadur Pun by lighting the Panas. He highlighted the importance of Hydrology and Meteorology for sustainable development of the country in his inaugural remarks. Dr. Rijan Bhakta Kayastha, Vice-Chairperson, SOHAM-Nepal gave warm welcome speech. Honorable Jay Dev Joshi, Minister, Ministry of Population and Environment, Prof. Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel, Vice-Chancellor, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Dr. Bishwa Nath Oli, Secretary, Ministry of Population and Environment also spoke during inaugural session. SOHAM-Nepal Executive Committee/life members, distinguished guests from various national and international organizations, participants, media persons were also present on the occasion. The programme was chaired by Dr. Jagat Kumar Bhusal, Chairperson, SOHAM-Nepal.

More than 200 participants actively participated in the conference. There were 59 oral and 13 poster presentations along with 6 invited lectures from eminent professionals. The conference also included an exhibition stall from Real Time Solutions and travel desk from Raya Tours and Travels.

Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology chaired the closing session of the conference on April 11, 2017. He also presented the Kathmandu Declaration 2017. In the programme, two participants respectively representing national and international level also shared their experiences on participation at conference. Mr. Suman Kumar Regmi, General Secretary, SOHAM-Nepal gave vote of thanks. At the end, Dr. Kayastha concluded the conference by closing remarks.

Discussion Programme on Daily Rainfall Measurement in Nepal via Citizen Science: Data Collection and Analysis

A discussion program on “Daily Rainfall Measurement in Nepal via Citizen Science: Data Collection and Analysis” was organized by Community Based Rainfall Measurement-Nepal (CORAM-Nepal) with support from University of Wyoming, USA; Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Government of Nepal (GoN); Society of Hydrologists and Meteorologists-Nepal (SOHAM-Nepal); UNESCO International Hydrological Programme (UNESCO IHP-Nepal); Central Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (CDHM), Tribhuvan University; Institute for Social and Environment Transition-Nepal (ISET-Nepal); Kathmandu Institute of Applied Sciences (KIAS) and RECHAM Consult (Pvt.) Ltd. on July 25, 2017 in Kathmandu. The programme was split into two sessions.

The first half of the programme was organized at lecture hall, Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikuti Mandap, Kathmandu. Dr. Rishi Ram Sharma, Director General of DHM was the chief guest of the programme. The programme was chaired by Dr. Deepak Aryal, Head of Department, CDHM-TU. On behalf of

SOHAM-Nepal, Mr. Suman Kumar Regmi, General Secretary attended the programme. During the technical session, Mr. Suresh Marahatta from RECHAM Consult, Mr. Sagun Dhungana, Mr. Jeffrey C. Davids from Smartphones4water and Mr. Ajaya Dixit from ISET-Nepal delivered lectures on different topics related to rainfall measurement and citizen science. Students and teachers from various schools participated in the programme and also shared their experiences on rainfall measurement. At the end, queries received from participants were responded by different experts.



The second session of the programme was arranged at Meteorological Forecasting Division of DHM, Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu. On the occasion, participants visited Meteorological Station and National Weather Forecasting Center and also received briefing on various topics such as weather observation, forecasting and application of meteorological data. Mr. Barun Paudel, Secretary, SOHAM-Nepal provided briefing and also responded queries received from the participants.

TALK PROGRAMME

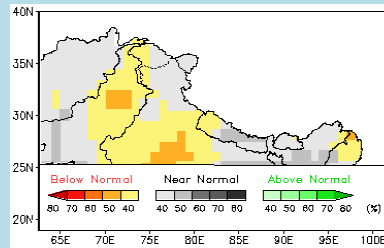


SOHAM-Nepal organized a talk programme on “Deterministic approach towards radar data interpolation” on July 27, 2017 in Kathmandu. The venue was Meeting Hall, Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Naxal. Mr. Binay Shakya, Assistant Professor, Nepal Engineering College, Changuarayan gave a talk on this topic.

FEATURES – NEWS

SASCOF-2017

South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF-7) held in Bhutan from April 24-26, 2017 predicts that normal rainfall is most likely during 2017 Southwest monsoon season (June - September) over much of South Asia. The outlook suggested the below normal rainfall likely over most parts of western

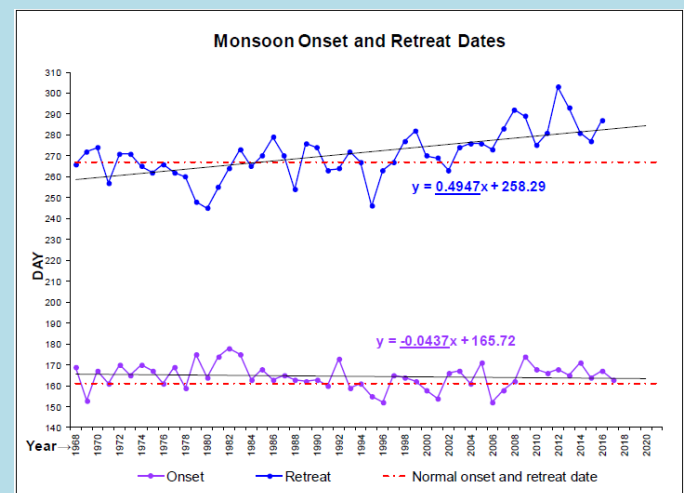


and far-western areas of Nepal and normal rainfall likely over rest of the country.

SASCOF is a consensus product based on expert assessment of the prevailing global climate conditions and forecasts from different climate models from National Meteorological Services of South Asian global key agencies involving in climate modeling.

Onset of Monsoon in Nepal

This year (2017 AD) monsoon entered from the Eastern Nepal on 12th June. The arrival of the monsoon in Nepal was thus delayed by 2 days against the normal date. The normal onset date is 10th June for Eastern Nepal and 12th June for Kathmandu. The record shows the shortest duration of monsoon in the year 1979 with 73 days and longest in the year 2008 with 130 days. The overall early onset was on May 31, 1996 and the late onset on June 27, 1982. The overall early retreat was on September 02, 1995 and late retreat on October 19, 2013.



(Source:DHM)

CONDOLENCE

SOHAM-Nepal is deeply saddened by the sad demise of Dr. Hari Man Shrestha (August 6, 1934 - April 27, 2017). Dr. Shrestha, a water resources expert, was the first in Nepal to find out Nepal’s hydropower potential to be 83,000 megawatts during his Ph.D thesis from Moscow Power Institute (former USSR) in 1966 AD. He was honored by SOHAM-Nepal and Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM), Government of Nepal, with a certificate of appreciation for remarkable contribution in the field of water resources on March 23, 2017 in Kathmandu. SOHAM Nepal would like to express deep condolence to his family members, relatives and friends. May his soul attain eternal peace.

