

## **Project Update: January 2017**

### **1. Approval of the research permit**

The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) has approved the research permission to implement the project activities in November 2016. In addition, the Chitwan National Park (CNP) granted the research permission to conduct the study inside the park area during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of January 2017.

### **2. Consultation meeting with the staff of GCBC**

Intensive discussion with the Assistant Conservation Officer/ Chief of Gharial Conservation and Breeding Center (GCBC), Mr Bed Bahadur Khadka was held to prepare a detailed field implementation plan of the project, particularly focusing on the breeding behaviour and breeding requirements. Likewise possible collaboration with GCBC and CNP and the role of GCBC in the management of breeding aspects was also discussed. These meetings were fruitful for the preparation of implementation plan of breeding activities.

### **3. Awareness raising on gharial conservation**

The project organised an awareness programme in collaboration with GCBC at Kasara, CNP to the Environment Science students of Tribhuvan University on the aspects of gharial conservation issues and captive breeding program of GCBC.

4. The project will conduct the gharial survey from February 2017 to locate the dispersal of breeding females in different areas of Narayani River. This activity will be followed by the investigation of nesting habitats.