

You are in: [World: South Asia](#)[Front Page](#) Monday, 29 May, 2000, 14:07 GMT 15:07 UK[World](#)**Nepal claims rhino success**[Africa](#)[Americas](#)[Asia-Pacific](#)[Europe](#)[Middle East](#)[South Asia](#)[From Our Own Correspondent](#)[Letter From America](#)[UK Politics](#)[Business](#)[Sci/Tech](#)[Health](#)[Education](#)[Sport](#)[Entertainment](#)[Talking Point](#)[In Depth](#)[AudioVideo](#)

The latest census puts rhino numbers at 600

By Sushil Sharma in Kathmandu

The Nepalese authorities have claimed success in the conservation of one of the world's most endangered species - the one-horned rhino.

They said that numbers had increased by more than 25% in the past six years.

The latest census puts the number of the one-horned rhinos in Nepal at more than 600 - a growth rate of 4% a year.

The Director-General of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Tirtha Man Shakya, said at a news conference that this was a conservation victory.

This has come at a time when environmentalists have been expressing concern that the rhinos are dying in increasing numbers in recent years.

Poaching

There were also reports of growing poaching in the two national parks where the rhinoceroses live.

More than 20% of total rhino deaths is blamed on poaching.

But Mr Shakya said that despite the recent increase in the death of rhinos, the overall result of the conservation programmes and the anti-poaching laws had been a success.

He said the transfer of rhinos from an over-populated national park in southern Nepal to another in the west had had a good effect on increasing their numbers.

Search BBC News Online

[Advanced search options](#)[Launch console for latest audio/video](#) [BBC ONE TV NEWS](#)[WORLD NEWS SUMMARY](#)[PROGRAMMES GUIDE](#)**Internet links:**[International Rhino Foundation](#)[SOS Rhino](#)[Information about the one-horned rhino](#)

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

Top South Asia stories now:[US rules out Tamil state](#)[Fiji warned over martial law](#)[Battling Windies claim series win](#)[Border talks 'to speed up'](#)[Mixed response to Pakistan tax strike](#)[Indian journalists criticise new law](#)[Pakistan complains to Britain](#)[W Indies take Pakistan series](#)

Links to all South Asia stories are at the foot of the page.

Poachers in Nepal face a jail sentence of 15 years and a fine of 7,000 dollars.

One-horned rhinos are only found in Nepal and the western Indian states of Assam and West Bengal.

India has the highest number of rhinos in the world.

The latest count puts the number in India at 1,300.

Links to other South Asia stories



[^^ Back to top](#)

[News Front Page](#) | [World](#) | [UK](#) | [UK Politics](#) | [Business](#) | [Sci/Tech](#) | [Health](#) | [Education](#) | [Sport](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [In-Depth](#) | [Talking Point](#) | [Audio/Video](#)