

bring warm clothes for locals, which they do need. Don't carry pens or other typical Western gifts: give them food (they basically eat only rice), possibly proteins, especially for the children. With the equivalent of \$50 you can buy them a few tons of beans—enough protein for a year. Don't leave any garbage, nor bury it: locals will recover it to see if they can find something useful and leave the rest to the wind to blow away.

Only really environmentally conscious teams should consider an expedition to this area.

EMANUELE PELLIZARI, *Italy*

ASIA

INDIA

UTTAR PRADESH

CENTRAL GARHWAL

Mukut Parvat East, First Ascent. A Korean team made an important and difficult first ascent in July and August when Oksun Hong led an expedition to Mukut Parvat East (7130m). Two members of the team reached the summit. The team accessed the peak through the West Kamet Glacier. This was the last virgin 7000-meter peak in the Garhwal.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Badrinath to Kedarnath, Second Mortal Traverse, and Ascent of Pt. 5758. The crossing of the Satopanth Col and across the Markanda Ganga valley involves a mixture of mountaineering and bushwhacking to negotiate three 15,000-foot ridges through some of the wildest bits of the Indian Himalaya. In 1934, after hearing the legend of a Hindu priest who had preached at both temples on the same day, Eric Shipton and Bill Tilman attempted what they thought would be a two-day crossing, and found themselves involved in a two-week epic hacking their way through dense forest and competing with bears for a diet of bamboo shoots when their food ran out. Two Bengalis who attempted to repeat the route in 1986 disappeared without a trace. In 1997, a team from Bombay led by Harish Kapadia attempted to repeat the route but via the Panpatia Valley. They were stopped lower in the valley and did not reach the Panpatia Col.

Between May 25 and June 7, an Indo-British team (Brede Arkless, John Harvey, Ben Lovett, Martin Moran, and Sobat Singh Rana) repeated the watershed crossing from the Badrinath to Kedarnath valleys which had remained unvisited since Shipton and Tilman's 1934 traverse. The route commenced at Badrinath, crossed the Inner Line at Mana village, then ascended the Satopanth Glacier to a col at its head at ca. 5450 meters. The icefall beneath the col was badly broken and objectively dangerous, so the team climbed a mixed face on the left, assisted by excellent pre-monsoon snow conditions. While camped at 5100 meters on the far side of the col, Arkless and Moran were able to ascend the unclimbed peak (Pt. 5758m) immediately south of the col, which they propose to name Shipton's Peak. The ascent (AD) was made by the south ridge and face, with descent down the north slope back to the col. The climb enabled a thorough inspection of the upper Panpatia Glacier, where there are numerous