wildlife species raid agricultural crops, damage property, kill people or livestock or spread diseases. Human–wildlife interactions vary on a continuum from positive to negative, in intensity from minor to severe, and in frequency from rare to common (Soulsbury and White 2015). Conflict causing wildlife species mainly includes mammals such as Asian Elephant, Bengal Tiger, Great One-horned Rhinoceros, Wild Boar, Common Leopard, Sloth Bear, Deer, Blue Bull, Monkey etc. Conflicts become extremely controversial when people are attacked by species that are endangered and legally protected (Acharya et al. 2015). First, attacks by wildlife are life-threatening and thus are not acceptable to society, so people often retaliate by killing the animals involved in the conflict (Treves and Bruskotter 2014). Second, large mammals are generally involved in the conflicts, and most of these species are threatened with extinction, so the retaliatory killings of threatened mammals further increases their extinction risk (Madhusudhan 2003; Paudel et al. 2015). Third, the penalties for illegally killing endangered animals may further escalate hostile attitudes towards conservation efforts (Sillero-zubiri et al. 2007). Human conflict with wildlife has contributed to the decline and extinction of many species, particularly large terrestrial carnivores (Nyhus 2016). Hence the appropriate solution is essential to mitigate and compensate for the conflict, if not local support for conservation will decline.

There are two major factors that generate conflict which are push and pull factors (Saaban et al. 2011). The push factor occurs when the wildlife habitat is destroyed by humans for urbanization or economic activities. The over-hunting activities also make wildlife feel insecure to stay in their own habitats. However, the pull factors occur when wildlife itself intrudes into the human area because they are attracted to agriculture crops and livestock's that have been freed randomly (Saaban et al. 2011).

Parsa national park is a home for many endangered and globally threatened species; however, associated human-wildlife conflicts are not well documented. Conflicts and poaching associated with globally threatened mega fauna like Bengal Tiger, Asian Elephant, One-horned Rhinoceros, and Common Leopard, followed by Wild Boar, Chital and Antelope species etc. are commonly witnessed and read in the daily newspapers and on television. This is because many people live in the buffer zone and outside the buffer zone of Parsa national park and depend on farming and livestock rearing. Crop raiding is one of the serous issues of all farmers living nearby protected area. Farmers only source of livelihood is the crops he planted. The heard of Elephant and other animals arrive and within a couple of minutes, destroy not only a farmers seasons work and investment, but more seriously takes the food off the table that he was hoping to sustain his family with. This will cross the level of tolerance and in response retaliatory killing takes place. The major reasons for increasing human-wildlife conflicts are the lack of awareness and communication gaps between park and local people. Several measures, ranging from the distribution of compensation and the promotion of wildlife deterrents to support the livelihoods of people, have been implemented to foster the co-existence of humans and wildlife (Woodroffe et al. 2005; Dickman et al. 2011; White and Ward 2011; Gore et al. 2008). However, the efficacy of such measures is largely uncertain due to the absence of information about the patterns of conflicts across various landscapes. Therefore it is necessary to document all associated human-wildlife conflicts to evaluate the economic loss and find ways to conserve the threatened animals. This study aims to understand the pattern in human-wildlife conflicts and their coexistence through direct field evidence and semi-structured questionnaires with local people, community forest user groups, and government officials.

Material and methods