

Chhimbu School Monitoring Report 10th September 2008

Submitted to
Himalayan Project Demark
By
Namgyal Jangbu Sherpa
Himalayan Project Nepal (HIPRON)



Students are queuing up for the morning exercise and morning prayer

On 30 August 2008, I was at Chhimbu to monitor the office and wall re-construction site. This re-construction site was monitored in March 2008. That time the construction was going to be completed. Though it looked very nice and well constructed but actually it wasn't. This fact was known only after large cracks were appeared in the walls and later newly reconstructed office building started falling down. The wall of the lower part of highway below the playground was also constructed simultaneously with office reconstruction and that too started falling simultaneously. It proved that construction was of very poor quality.

In June 2008, Lucy Staveley from UK visited this school and met with: Bimsen Basnet (Headmaster), Jangbu Sherpa (teacher), Dili (building contractor), Da Chhiri Sherpa. It was decided that Dili should be fully responsible for the rebuilding of those fallen constructions. It is his poor quality of work at the foundation and that caused the subsequent falling of the office building and wall. The additional costs incurred for re-plastering etc will be subtracted from the 20,000 bonus promised to him by Kurt if he

completed the work to expected standards. It means that he is not rewarded for poor quality work.

One of the complaints the school committee had was that they regularly gave Dili advice on the construction but he didn't act on their advice. There are a number of occasions e.g. during school holidays when Dili went ahead and did things which were not suggested. In order to prevent the same problems in future it was suggested that Bimsen and Jangbu Sherpa should observe the site with Dili together. Dili started rebuilding but he again failed to maintain the quality in the initial stage. So, Bimsen and Jangbu stopped him from doing further work.

This time I have inspected all the re-construction and found he is not expert and reliable for the rebuilding. Teachers and school management committee were not found to have been fully sensitive towards the reconstruction.

I met teaching staff, building contractor Dili and cement plastering contractor Gelu and discussed about the cause of collapse of office reconstruction site extensively.



During the discussion teacher blamed to Dilli for the collapse, Dili claimed that it was just coincidence. Headmaster Bimsen has proposed of breaching the contract with Dili as he failed to maintain the standard and quality of the reconstruction site but he rejected it as he already deeply involved in this project.

Then, we visited Sagar Bakanje School and observed newly constructed science lab building and found the work of Pasang Tamang, the major contractor, is highly expert and satisfactory. So, we decided to employ Pasang and his friends, who involved in science lab construction, for the Chhumbu school office rebuilding and wall construction. They also agreed to do the job as per the project description and Dili too agreed to employ Pasang Tamang and his friends. So, we entrusted Pasang for the quality of his work. Dili will act as a contractor- keeping the record of the things, supply stones, keeping the daily attendance of the Pasang and his friends and making payment for them. We also decided that payment of the workers will be done on the weekly basis óend of the week. Pasang and his friends have already started the re-construction site. We also agreed that existing building and wall will be demolished up to the main foundation and reconstruct from the beginning.



Cement plastering work of Gelbu Sherpa

We also monitored the cement work of Gelbu. He has done good job with outside plaster, paving stone slate around surface of the school building, Cement topping wall along the highway. But regarding the work of cement RCC on the office foundation he had used bad stone and too less cement. So, the RCC was not strong enough to resist against the crack. But this is not the main cause of office damage.



Cement Rcc made on the foundation for the stability of the office

New classroom for the nursery students

New classroom for the nursery class, which can also be used for women's groups (sewing to make school uniforms etc) has recently finished. It looks good from outside but inside some minor things like re-plastering inside the room, fixing the proper ceiling and coloring inside the wall which were left to be completed. This is the work of 2 man a day though. Contractor Gelbu Sherpa and Dili Thami agreed to complete the remaining work within a few days. It is their responsibility to handover this room for the school management committee with good finishing.



Nursery class is being inspected by contractors and teaching staff. Bimsen is informing about the remaining work

Supporting wall at the corner of the playground



Support wall for the Geluø land was collapsed. This wall was constructed last year and handed over to the school with the proper condition. But according to the agreement made by the school with Contractor it says that contractor should reconstruct the wall in case something is happened within one year. Contract is still valid. Gelbu Sherpa from Kinja and Dili Thami from Chhimbu were the contractor for this wall. They also respected the contract and wanted to rebuild it again. The main problem with this wall is that water is still springing form the foundation in the rainy season and it makes foundation loose and weaker, and finally resulted the wall to collapse. So, this water source needs to be managed and drainage system needs to be dug to send the water out to the area.

The wall of the lower part of highway

The wall of lower part of highway was constructed not according to the project description. Foundation is still strong enough but wall after the foundation is very loose inside and stones were not properly layered. Dili did the work very fast. Stone was put outside and inside was filled with mud. Stone was not arranged and tied each other properly. So, inside mud has pushed the wall down to demolish. This wall will also be demolished up to the main foundation and reconstruct it again. The same thing will happen with the office reconstruction site.



New furniture in



One cupboard, one table and a couple of benches have been made for the office room. They are kept in nursery class for a while. The quality of the table and benches are alright but cupboard doesn't look nicely fixed. The measurement of the table is: in length 3feet, breadth 2.6feet and height 2.6feet. Benches: length7.5feet and width 1.5feet.



Name:

Designation:

Address:

Age:

Academic qualification:

Faculty:

Major Subject:

Experience in related field:

Employed date:

Started teaching in Chhimbu School:

School was closed for monsoon vacation:

Mrs. Yasoda Thapa resumed her job:

Mrs. Yasda was absence:

Jangbu's comments:

Bimsen Comments:

Mrs Yasoda Thapa

Teacher of Chhimbu Primary School

Goli-5, Solukhumbu

22

10+2

Education

Nepali

2years teaching experience in Budha primary School, Goli

May 27, 2008

Jun 13, 2008

July 16, 2008 to August 4' 2008

August 7, 2008

from August 18, 2008 to August 27, 2008

She teaches well but irregular

he can't say she is a very good teacher

