



## Himalayan Project Nepal

A Nepali NGO dealing with Development Aid in Nepal

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### Monitoring Report 12 April to 14 April 2015

by

*NamgyalJangbu Sherpa*

Manager of HIPRON

<b>Project</b>	: Chhiringkharka Primary School Reconstruction
<b>Location</b>	: BakanjeVDC -2, Solukhumbu, east Nepal
<b>Project Status</b>	: Fundament and Construction phase
<b>Purpose of monitoring</b>	: Check the materials supplied and being supplied : check the Fundament of the school buildings
<b>Donor</b>	: Padborg-Krusa Rotary Club, by Rtn. Bonnik Hansen Fund : The Human Practice Foundation



### The Phase Sequence of the project

Phase 1	Transfer the legal ownership of the land in the name of the School	verified/approved by Ngima Chhewang Sherpa
Phase 2	Prepare the land for the construction by villagers through labor donation, set a marks on the place where building are going to be built	Monitored and approved by Namgyal in January 2015
Phase 3	Digging out for the fundament where the markers are approved. Building fundament and septic tank up to 15 cm above ground level for all buildings at the same time shall be approved before soil is refilled.	Monitored and approved by Namgyal in April 2015 This is the stage of the project with this report.
Phase 4	Door and window frames are built. Cement workers and bricklayers are alternating producing the 3 RCC bands and the stone wall of 3 buildings. Toilets and septic tanks, Plumbing in toilet will also be ongoing.	Ngima Chhewang shall oversee scrupulously and report almost daily to Namgyal. Namgyal can choose approving this phase by what is obvious and by Ngima Chhewang's reporting. If he or Ngima Chhewang is in doubt then monitoring can even be before the end of the phase, and it can even be with beforehand approval on the basis of the work done.
Phase5	Varanda Fundament and floor as well as floor of the rooms. Roof construction of all three building	Namgyal has to check and approve by the end of this phase.
Phase 6	Plastering, completion of sanitary complex, wooden panels, Furniture Setting of the roof, gutter and water outlet, completion of doors and windows, cement	Namgyal visit during this phase to check and approve it.
Phase 7	Completion of remaining work and handing over and inauguration	Final approval by with the visit of donor and official

### Construction Progress:

#### **Phase 1.: Land ownership transfer**

The school has received the necessary land as a donation from Mr. Chhewang who is also the contractor of the school. The legal ownership has been transferred in the name of the school. The total size of the land is



1,527 Square Meter which is enough for construction blocks, one sanitary complex and for playground.

### **Phase 2.: Land preparation for the fundament of the construction**

Villagers had prepared the surface of the land for the construction through labor donation which actually took very long time than expected. It is because the surface of the land was very hard and rocky and someplace it was very damp. Moreover, weather during the last winter was unusually very bad. So it was very difficult to complete by the villagers labor donation. But finally they did it. We had monitored it 2 times before it was finally completed. The last

monitoring was carried out in mid-January 2015 when the preparation was still ongoing. Soon after that monitoring, the ground preparation was completed and made it ready for digging out for building the fundament. The chairman of the School Management Committee and Head Master Ngima Chhewang Sherpa informed me by telephone that the ground leveling had been completed. When I received the message, I approved and I asked the contractor to start the foundation. The digging can be seen on a



YouTube video by searching "Upper Solu".



### **Phase 3.: Digging out and build the foundation**

I was in Chhiringkharka 12 to 14 April to check up the progress of the foundation when it was nearly completing. Some 30 people were working on it.

Our Contractor has employed skilled and non-skill manpower under the in-charge of a very experienced Constructor Pasang Tamang, who we know as a skillful builder for the construction. I feel safe with him in terms of the construction quality.

We together went through the drawing,

measurement and all the materials to be used for the construction. We also discussed lot of issues related. By the time the contractor was in Kathmandu.

During the monitoring, it was found that they started fundament building immediately after the ground preparation by villagers was done. It was found that fundament of all three buildings are well built and quite firm.

Actually we had asked them not to put the soil from the foundation back while building the fundament or after it was built so that we could see the whole part of fundament built during the monitoring, but it was very difficult for them to stop the soil falling back during construction as the depth and base of the fundament was 1 meter width each way. As a result most part of the fundament was covered under the soil. At least it was not by the purpose.



I let constructors dig out 6 different places with random sample and took measurement and photographs of the fundament. I found all measurement and quality construction to a satisfactory level.

According to the Project Description, the depth of the foundation of all three building is 1 meter. In reality I found it deeper, some part of the office wing foundation is more than 2.5 meter deep. It is because this place is made of new filling mud while leveling the ground. So, it needed to dig out all the way to the original hard surface of the earth for the stability.



They also built very strong compound wall against the terrain with iron Gavin net at some places as you can see in the picture. The foundation of this wall is as strong as the foundation of the building.

All in all I found the work of the foundation is very satisfactory.

I asked them to go ahead with next step, and accordingly next day they started building cement RCC on the top of the foundation as described in the PD.

### **Materials Supply**

#### **Wood cutting and transportation**

All the necessary wood for the construction was cut during the last autumn which was supposed to be transported to the construction site and stored properly during the winter, but only the woods for windows and doors construction were transported due to the bad weather in the winter. They were waiting for the good weather to dry the wood, but the weather was bad during the whole winter hampering the wood transportation. We didn't expect such weather and it is totally unusual. Now the rest of the wood is being transported and still they are not completely dried. It is not carelessness of the contractor but it was just a bad luck.

It is important that all the wood has to be dried before its use for the construction and contractor is aware of that.

#### **Stone breaking and transportation**

All the necessary stone was cut and transported to the construction site. So there is no problem with stone.

#### **Sand and gravel**

All the necessary sand is collected and transported to the construction site. The quality of sand seems to be good.



They have not collected inadequate gravel (Crash stone). Only half of the total gravel is seen at the site, but they are going to supply the rest of the gravel as they need it quite soon for RCC.

### Iron materials

I have checked and seen only half of the iron materials are at the site. All tin plate for roof is already supplied at the site, but there is too less iron rod. It is because we have 10 mm iron rod for RCC in our materials calculation list where as 12 mm rod is mentioned in the Project Description for the same purpose. Contractors choose 12 mm rods and the price was obviously higher than the budget. So the budget was not enough to purchase the necessary iron rod. Contractor and I have discussed about it and we agreed to use the same quality of rod (12 mm) for the rest of the construction and HIPRON will accept the justifiable bill after the construction is complete.

### Cement

Contractors supplied only 100 out of 310 sacks cement to the construction site. He has ordered for rest of the cement but wants supply only after supplied cement has been used. It is because cement has to be fresh while using. It is understandable that it is not good to store cement for long time before it is used. So HIPRON accepts the contractor's idea.

### Payment

HIPRON received following amount from HP and paid to the contractor on the following date as an advance for the purpose.

S.N.	Date	Amount (in Rs.)	Purpose
1	27 March 2014	2.00.000	Stone Breaking and Transportation
2	23 April 2014	3.00.000	
3	15 August 2014	3.00.000	Wood cutting
4	08 December 2015	18.00.000	Rest of the wood cutting and transportation
			Cement purchased and transportation
			Sand and Gravel
			Iron materials purchased and transportation
<b>Total Advance paid</b>		<b>26.00.000</b>	

Contractor need more money quite soon and has asked for next advance Rs. 800,000.

I believe the phase 4 of the construction will be quite fast as they already started working on window and doors. As soon as I was back to Kathmandu, I was informed that they also started working on the stone wall after the first RCC was set up.

It is good that constructors are working full of energy and enthusiastic aiming to complete all three building and put the roof on before monsoon starts.

The weather condition right now has improved little bit. It least it rains once or twice every week only. This will not hamper in progressing the construction. We still hope that all 3 houses can get roof before monsoon.

We have to release the payment to the contractor frequently according to the speed of the construction progress. So I would like to recommend for the prompt transfer of the money by concerned donor.

On 02 May 2015, In Kathmandu  
By Namgyal Jangbu Sherpa

