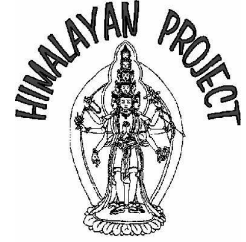




Monitoring Report

November 2007
by rtn. Kurt Lomborg



**Submitted for Køge Nord Rotary Klub, Club No. 10266, District 1480, Denmark
And Rotary Club of Kathmandu, District 3290, Nepal**

Project no. 18: Repair and upgrading of Jana Chetana Preprimary School

Location: Solung, Beni ward 7, SoluKhumbu District, Nepal

Preface:

The project of upgrading Solung School initiated with the Project Description of 31. January 2007 and the approval of Køge Nord Rotary Klub to go into the project.

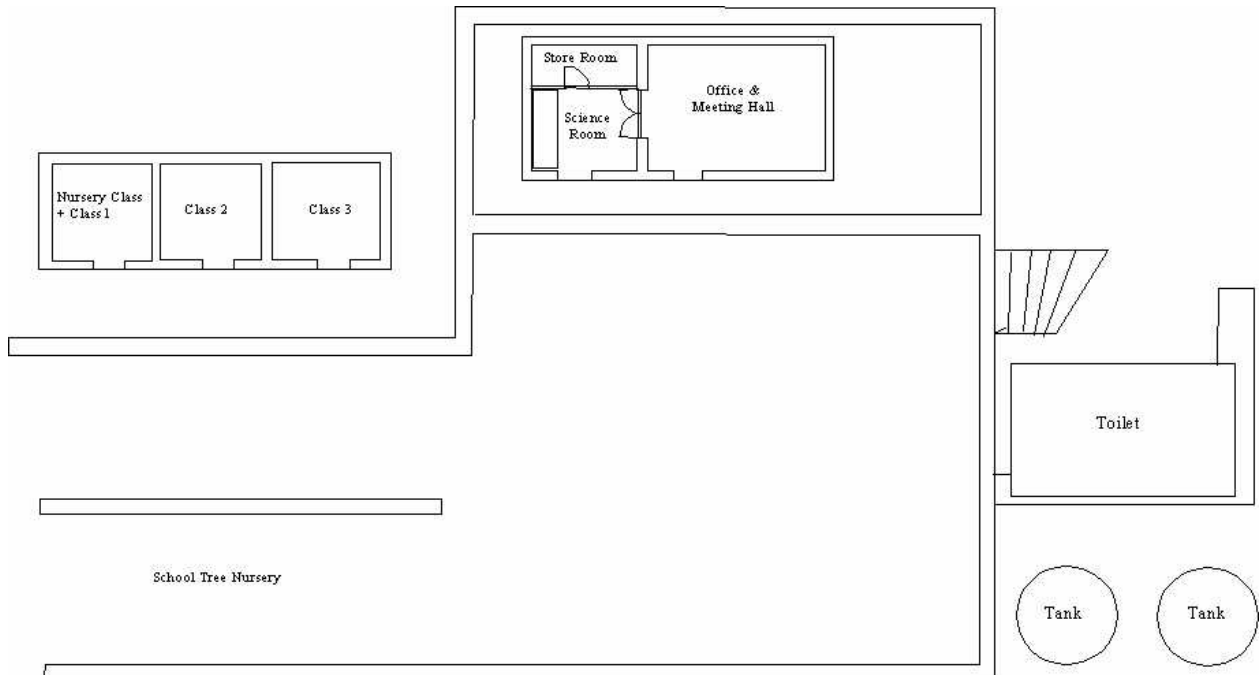
By 6. February 2007 Dansk Rotarys Hjælpefond went into the project.

By July 2007 the villagers of Solung were informed that the practical part of the project can initiate, and immediately they started doing the work with the soil. Villagers and workers started working even they couldn't expect receiving any salary for several months.

By 5. October 2007 the first instalment from Køge Nord Rotary Klub were transferred via Rotary Club of Kathmandu for Solung School. But due to the main festival period of the year and usual slow motion in the world of banks, the money didn't arrive at the bank account of Rotary Club of Kathmandu before 26. October, and 415.509 NRS were transferred for Solung School's bank account in Salleri on 28. October.

The sewing machine which was donated to the Women Group in autumn 2006, was not delivered before end of October, due to many irregularities by the former Headmaster Lhakpa Tenzing Lama. Mid November, by coincidence, I did meet the chairman of the School Managing Committee, Mr. Gyalzen Sherpa, in Salleri, when he came there to withdraw money for salaries. But the bank





claimed that the money hadn't arrived and they rejected Mr. Gyalzen. We then jointly forced the Bank Manager to check once more, and he found that the money actually did arrive 2 weeks before, but still weren't registered in the school's account. Then he claimed that it was because the name of the account was misspelled, so he anyhow couldn't pay out. We forced him to show us the transfer message and found that there was no misspelling at all. Now he claimed that Mr. Gyalzen should write an application to withdraw the money. After doing this the Manager claimed that his signature were differing from the original. After having shown anger and knocking the desk, we finally received the money. I have no idea why the bank wanted to harass us that way. Maybe my presence gave them a hope of receiving some kind of commission. Anyhow it was a very annoying experience, because if I hadn't been there, the withdrawal of salaries for the workers of Solung would have been delayed further for an unknown period.

Project Details:

A) Extension of the Playground:

The main work was completed producing a big playground with a strong and well build supporting wall. Also walls above Nursery and below existing building were on the way. The remaining work on soil excavating for the new building were postponed until my visit at project site, but would continue immediately after the meeting. Even the playground is now much bigger, the need of poles and a net is even more pressing, as balls are disappearing down the slope.

B) Construction of a new building for Office, Science Laboratory and Village Meeting Room:

The decisions on the construction details of the new building were delayed until my presence. It was decided that the house should have two rooms, with a big double door in the separating wall, so the Office Room can be extended when there will be a need of a bigger Meeting Hall. In the smaller room there shall be a wooden separation wall for a Store Room, and the rest of this room shall act as Science Room. It was decided to give the building the exterior size of 11,5 m x 6 m.

C) Interior equipment for the new building:

The whole new building shall be boarded with wooden ceiling under roof as well as on walls. The Office-Meeting Hall shall be equipped with cupboards and shelves for storing of educational materials and furniture for teachers, two big tables, 15-20 chairs and some benches along the wall. Also a cupboard for fabrics, yarn and equipment for sewing and knitting school uniforms, and for the sewing machine provided by Himalayan Project. The science room shall be equipped for science education and science equipment, with shelves, glass cabinets, cupboards and heavy tables for scientific experiments.

D) Toilet:

The toilet will be constructed according to the description in the "Concept Paper of February 2007". It will be built just beneath and besides the Playground on an elevated platform, with the Septic Tanks below the platform.

E) School Tree Nursery:

The land for the nursery is already reserved below the old classroom building. It is now only waiting for the construction period to complete, and then it will be prepared and planted.

Budget

A rough calculation did show that the economic needs are approximately as described in the Budget, or probably a little higher. But all villagers agreed that the Budget amount shall cover anyhow, as no workers or craftsmen are hired from outside the village. Therefore, if the Budget exceeds, it will be taken from the salaries, which then will be considered as volunteer labor.

The first installment on **415.509 NRS** is expected to be spent very soon, for due fees for workers, for goods bought by personal loans among the villagers and for new materials which will be purchased immediately for the construction process to continue and speed up.

Therefore there is a need of having a second installment on approximately **250.000 NRS** already in December 2007.

The third and last installment should be transferred in March-April 2008 being approximately **225.000 NRS**.

Postscript:

The school and the Villagers are very dedicated to complete this project in the best possible way. They will rather do extras than reducing. Even the village is very small and relatively isolated; it was obvious that the villagers themselves are people of great capacity. They juggle with complicated numbers, measures and geometry in an easy way being very conscious that the final result is their own facility, and actually a great facility for such a small village.

I feel very confident that this project will run according to agreement and common plan, and I also feel very confident that the final result will be one in which all of us can be very proud.

