



# Project Report

Date: 31. January 2007



Submitted for:

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

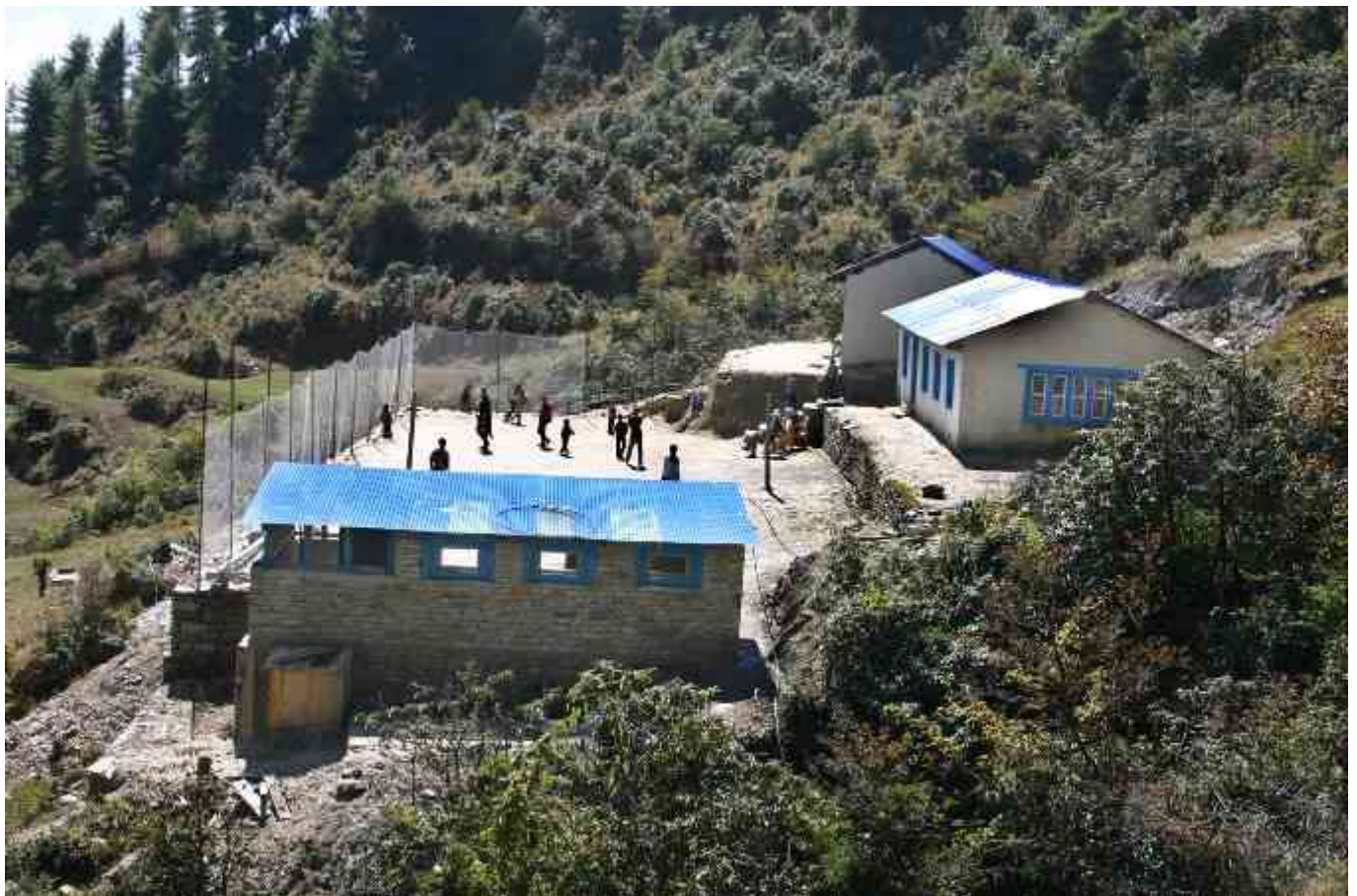
**Project: Repair and upgrading of Jana Chetana Preprimary School**

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

by Kurt Lomborg, Skivehus Rotary Klub and Himalayan Project

Himalayan Project, represented by Namgyal Jangbu Sherpa and Kurt Lomborg, did visit the project site on 24. October, and again on 15. November 2008.

At our first visit we met the 2 teachers and 1 teacher student on internship. Unfortunately they didn't know that we were on the way, so they had to spend the evening before to have a party, and their hangovers were dominating them quite heavily. They just asked the students to sing some songs, which was anyhow very impressive and beautiful, as the students really are very frank and they sang out loud. But the teachers were not able to tell us anything about their education or how they wanted to utilize their new surroundings. They even didn't know anything about the donor or where the money came from. When we asked them to produce a list of science equipment which was needed on the school, they only told us to ask the School Managing Committee for it. I became quite rude towards them and demanded them to



have something ready when we would come again 3 weeks later. As nothing was ready on our second arrival, I decided to write a letter for District Education Office where I complained about the passivity of the teachers at Solung School.

The Chairman of the Construction Committee Mr. Phurwa Gyalzen Sherpa was absent on our first visit, so we didn't see the account details before the second visit. But one of the Craftsmen Mr. Pasang Sherpa was there, and he was well informed about everything and could explain us whatever we wanted to know. He even almost could pronounce Køge Nord. And he was very satisfied with the result of our contribution and their own efforts during the construction. But he was quite dissatisfied with the performances of the teachers and their carelessness.



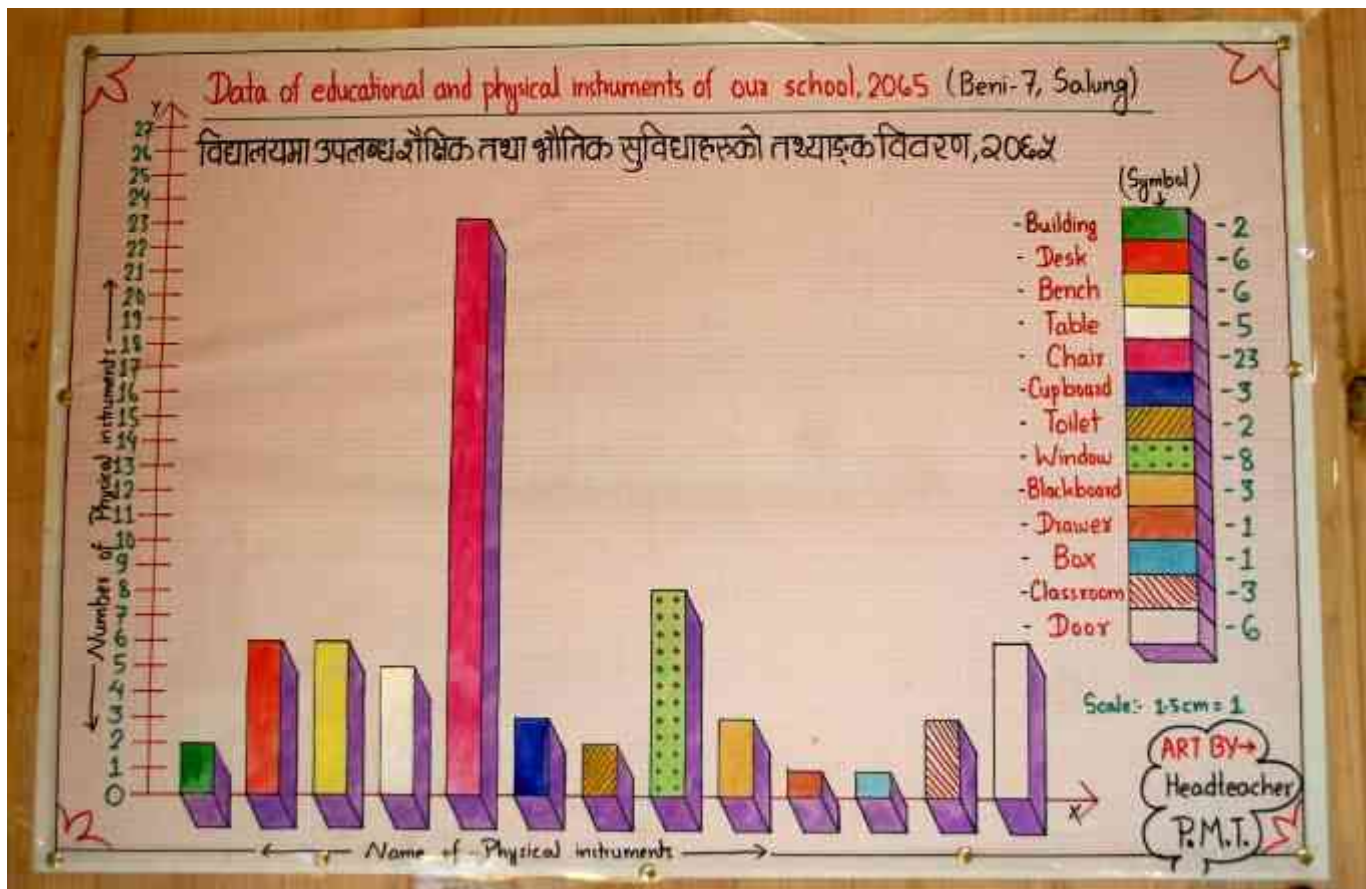
By entering the school compound, we first met the School Tree Nursery. A piece of garden where the students later on shall learn about growing plants and tree seedlings. But right now it still did look quite poor with bad soil and some few poor rhododendron plants and even the garden have been visited by cows several times. They are aware of it and have started producing compost which will be mixed into the soil next spring, and they want very much to build a compound wall to keep the cows out.

The old school building now have 3 classrooms after the office have moved out from one of the rooms, but apart from that this building isn't affected by this project.

The new Office Building is really well built in all details, and the rooms appear light, comfortable and pleasant with the skylight openings and the beautiful fresh wood on the ceilings. Also the windows and



door was done with very fine workmanship. Perfect and complete. Also the furniture was the best quality even with carvings and nice surface handling. The Science Lab appeared in the same quality but was empty. Unfortunately the Headmaster had forgotten her key for the Store Room at home, so we were not able to examine this room, but were told that it is of the same qualities. Even though her passive appearance the Headmaster has shown her pride about the improvements at the school by producing a chart where all the installations of the school is represented in graphical form.



Unfortunately shortly after the tin roof was established a minor landslide on the back side damaged some roof tins. Therefore the construction committee decided immediately to build a supportive wall behind the building, which was not mentioned in the budget. I decided immediately to approve this action. The roof tin has been repaired subsequently.

The toilet is really well built. The outer walls are produced with very well cut stones so it appears very nice and as a very strong construction. The cement plastering was done according to the description and will be easy to keep clean. The carpenter work is very well fit. All water installations were working very





fine. The water supply is still not fully completed, but it will be done soon. But anyhow it isn't in use, as the water is very cold. No one wants to take such a cold shower. They are waiting eagerly for Himalayan Project to add a Solar Water Heater later on in future.

The outlets from each of the two toilets were connected to its own septic tank. They hadn't understood the concept to let the tanks fill one by one, so it can have time to composting. Explained about it Pasang agreed and will make it soon. The outlets from shower room and from washing basin weren't completed as the quite thin outlet pipes were just protruding shortly behind the building. When they have purchased the right dimension of pipe, it will be connected to lead the water further down the slope.

In the urinal there was a smaller problem. The front plate at the urinal groove should have a considerable decline downwards. But the plate was same height all the way, giving the youngest boys problems in reaching the edge. Even the girls had misunderstood the concept, as they climbed up on the front plate, turning around and sitting on the edge to pee. Pasang hadn't realized this problem, but when I asked a small boy to look like peeing there, he obviously didn't understand, but the bigger boy had caught the idea. Pasang promised to do something about the problem, and he suggested that he would build up a step with stones and cement for the small boys (and girls) at the lower end

of the groove.

Pasang told us for our future knowledge, that building such a quality sanitary complex shouldn't go on during the monsoon period as all the cutting work and cementing was very much disturbed by the heavy rain. He also claimed that this very nice cutting of stones is beautiful but not that necessary for a strong construction. It is increasing the construction process with 50%. In total 460 Man Days were spend on building the toilet. Only shaping the stones to brick shape took 150 Man Days. If the construction hadn't been ongoing during monsoon probably 50-60 Man Days could have been saved. He recommended us for future to collect materials during the winter, and construct in March to May. We took that in notice.

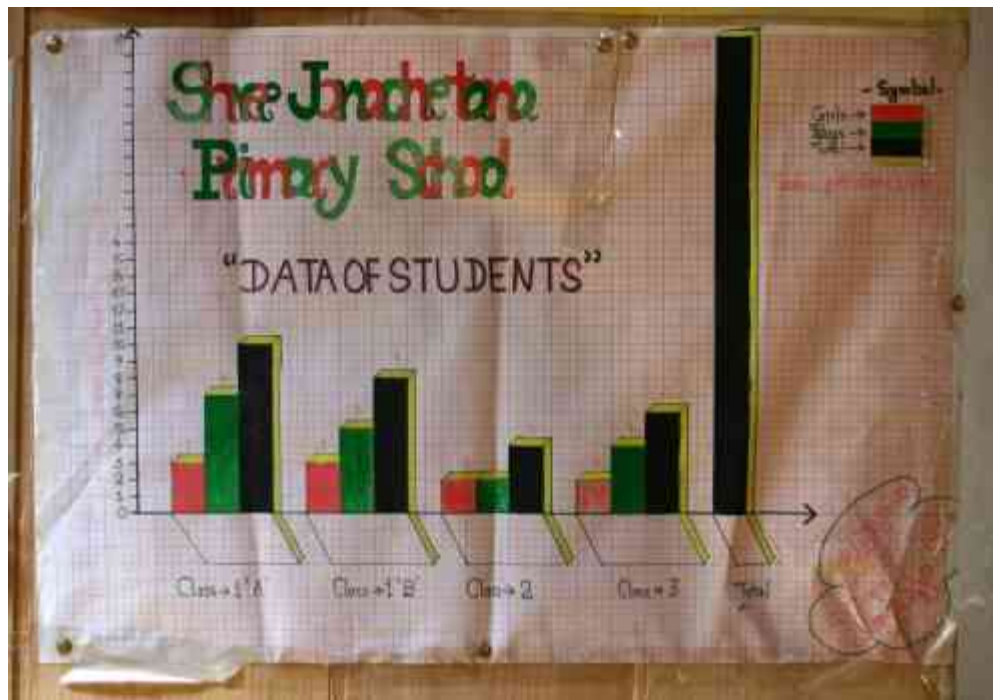


And finally we enjoyed watching how the students were playing on the playground. Before 2-3 fast boys had to wait below the very small playground to catch the ball when it went out over the wall. Now the net around the nice and big playground again and again did catch the ball and the game could continue undisturbed. One problem remained. The children of Solung are extremely active and when they run after a ball it is fast and without hesitation. One of the boys slipped near the net and disappeared under it and down on the land below the wall. Luckily the children of Solung are also strong and robust, so he reappeared very fast with a grin and continued the game.

All in all a very satisfactory and very happy examination of the construction site. The Craftsmen really have done an excellent job and the school will remain the same many years ahead. Pasang claim for

more than 100 years. He was very proud and very happy when I did thank him for an excellent performance and he promised to pass my gratitude on for the rest of the village.

The Headmaster seemed to understand, that her performance was not satisfactory, so she managed to forward me a letter for Køge Nord Rotary Klub just before I left from Kathmandu back home. Unfortunately she mixed something around, as she had addressed the letter to Skivehus Rotary Klub.



Date 13<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2008.

To the headmost person! Rotary Club, Denmark.

Subject:- Admiration for your kind heart.

We would like to spread out our heartiest thanks for your kind support to our school. Having wide interest and showing your best humanity to the school is really praiseworthy; As you have boosted for the best mottoes for the quality education and the supported matters are of course beneficial for the extra curricular activities for both teachers and students.

Furthermore, we must praise you and your further succession in life as we have got the best booster and a good father for our best performance in teaching-learning activities.

Finally, we all, school family are very excited to meet you soon and we never forget to vigil for your visit and we hope to be preached in future days. Thanks, Thanks.

Purnamaya Tamang, Headteacher

Janachetane Primary School, Beni-7, Solung



# ACCOUNT: Abbreviations: MD = Man Day labour & IT = Including Transportation

Particulars	ACCOUNT					Budget		
	No.	Unit	Price	NRS	DKR	No.	NRS	DKR
<b>A) Extension of the Playground:</b>								
Ironpoles IT	14	5m	1.030	14.420	1.154	10	6.000	500
Nylon net IT	100	meter	82	8.140	651	300	8.000	667
Cement IT	8	sacks	2.030	16.240	1.299	8	12.800	1.067
Gravel	28	tin	50	1.400	112			
Sand	28	tin	80	2.240	179			
Fixing iron poles	4	MD	250	1.000	80		151.200	12.600
Cutting mud & construction wall, incl stones - contract				100.000	8.000			
Purchase of land				0	0		5.000	417
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>143.440</b>	<b>11.475</b>		<b>183.000</b>	<b>15.250</b>
<b>B) Construction of a new building</b>								
Contract on rough building - stonework, doors, roof				250.000	20.000		250.000	20.833
Contract on interior - ceiling, furniture, cupboards, colour hinges				250.000	20.000		242.000	20.167
Kitchen				0	0		5.000	417
1 Cupboards and 1 cabinet and 4 benches				0	0		8.000	667
Science equipment				0	0		15.000	1.250
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>500.000</b>	<b>40.000</b>		<b>520.000</b>	<b>43.333</b>
<b>D) Toilet</b>								
Labour: Furwa Gyalzen Sherpa	69	MD	260	17.940	1.435			
Pasang Sherpa	70	MD	260	18.200	1.456			
Sanu Shrestha	70	MD	260	18.200	1.456			
Pemba Gelu Sherpa	70	MD	260	18.200	1.456			
Dawa Sherpa	40	MD	200	8.000	640			
Zeten Sherpa	28	MD	200	5.600	448			
Kancha Gurung	25	MD	200	5.000	400			
<b>Total Labour:</b>				<b>91.140</b>	<b>7.291</b>		<b>29.300</b>	<b>2.442</b>
Stone	10	pile	1200	12.000	960	18	19.800	1.650
Sand	302	tin	80	24.160	1.933		2.000	167
Gravel	210	tin	50	10.500	840			
ALTRA Cement IT	46	sacks	2030	93.360	7.469	31	51.300	4.275
Tin plates 3 x 7 feet IT	21	plates	970	20.360	1.629	30	25.000	2.083
Skylight IT	3	plates	1500	4.500	360	0	0	0
Toilet pan	2	pcs	1040	2.080	166	2	7.000	583
Water Tank for urinal	500	liter	5500	5.500	440	1	2.000	167
Wash Bassin	1	pcs	1310	1.310	105	0	0	0
Water pipe 20 mm	50	meter	31	1.560	125	0	0	0
Water tap with regulator & showerhead & iron pipes				11.372	910	0	0	0
Iron rod 8 mm IT	55	kg	101	5.560	445			
Iron rod 4,6 mm IT	23	kg	101	2.342	187		15.000	1.250
Iron wire	4	kg	100	400	32			
Binding wire	1	kg	105	105	8			
Hinges				600	48			
Nails	2	kg	140	280	22			
Roofing nails				210	17		3.200	267
Rubber for roofing nails				50	4			
Colour	4	liter	250	1.000	80			
Wood for windows and doors				6.160	493		1.500	125
Wood for beams				0	0		1.500	125
Outlet pipe 90 mm		meter		0	0	20	4.000	333
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>294.549</b>	<b>23.564</b>		<b>161.600</b>	<b>13.467</b>
<b>E) School Tree Nursery and fencing:</b>								
Nursery with walls, fences and small trees				25.000	2.000		25.000	2.083
Wall behind building incl stones and labour				35.000	2.800		0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>60.000</b>	<b>4.800</b>		<b>25.000</b>	<b>2.083</b>
<b>TOTAL Construction:</b>				<b>997.989</b>	<b>79.839</b>		<b>889.600</b>	<b>74.133</b>
<b>Administration for Himalayan Project 15%</b>							133.500	11.125
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>							<b>1.023.100</b>	<b>85.258</b>
5/9-07: transfer from KNRK to HP							132.054	11.125
5/9-07: transfer from KNRK to Solung - rate 11,87 NRS/DKR				415.509	35.000		415.509	35.000
15/12-07: transfer from KNRK to Solung - rate 12,44 NRS/DKR				261.300	21.000		261.300	21.000
Dec 08: transfer of rest for Solung - expt rate 13,3 NRS/DKR				252.700	19.000		252.700	19.000
<b>TOTAL Transfer:</b>				<b>929.509</b>	<b>75.000</b>		<b>1.061.563</b>	<b>86.125</b>
<b>Deficit on Construction Account:</b>				<b>68.480</b>	<b>5.149</b>			

## **Discussion on the Account:**

It is obvious that the Account exceeds the Budget.

But it is my personal impression that the construction process and the account are completely honest, and nothing is hidden or misused.

The main reason was actually a lack of proper knowledge on local construction from my side, which I have improved in the passing 2 years since the project was initially described. Especially on the construction of the sanitary complex I failed. This autumn we have approved 3 similar constructions, and they all range in between 225.000 and 315.000 Rs and the sanitary complex in Solung is in the better end in quality and functionality.

The second main reason is the construction of a supportive wall behind the office building which did show urgently necessary as the soil behind the school started to slide during the monsoon. It was not in the Budget as it was claimed by the locals, that the soil was firm and solid and such a wall was not necessary. But it did show wrong.

On the other hand there was surplus on the budget on extending the playground as it did show to be cheaper than I had expected. Also in the construction of the building there was a small surplus, but this was due to some minor but not important omissions from the committee's side. They decided to omit a cupboard, a glass cabinet and 4 benches in the office room and actually there didn't seem to be any space for that anyhow. And they didn't build the small kitchen as they usually bring tea and biscuits up from the village when they have meeting in the room. But worse is it, that they still didn't purchase science equipment although an amount was earmarked for the purpose.

It shall also be remarked that there is a difference in the calculations between Rupees and Kroner in account and budget. The reason is the development in the currency rate. The basis for calculating the Budget was a rate on 12 NRS/DKR, but actually when the main transfer took place the rate had gone down to 11,87 NRS/DKR, but at the next transfer it had risen to 12,44 NRS/DKR, so the average on 12 wasn't that wrong. But during the construction process the rate again went up, mainly due to inflation and higher expenses on the expensive materials like cement, iron and tin plates. Therefore a rate on 12,5 NRS/DKR is used for the comparison between NRS and DKR. Finally right now the rate is 13,3 NRS/DKR so this is the rate which is used for calculation on the last transfer from Køge Nord Rotary Klub, which according to a letter received by me on 17/1-2008 will be on 19.000 DKR. So it is my hope that Køge Nord Rotary Klub very soon will transfer this amount for Solung Construction Committee as they still owe money for contractors and workers.

But nevertheless there is a deficit on the account on 5.149 DKR (= 68.480 NRS) which I have promised them will be covered as they have done a very fine job for your money.



## Small remaining works on the school:

Already twice a ball has busted the windows, and glass is expensive. Therefore they wish to set up window grill in front of all the windows. And the free going cows are every now and then visiting the school and the Tree Nursery, so a compound wall is necessary. And finally there shall be purchased science equipment when the teachers are doing the effort to produce a list.

Therefore the following Budget is set up for the final completion of the school and we hope that Køge Nord Rotary Klub will consider this final project:

### **BUDGET:**

13 pieces of Window Grill produced in Kathmandu - IT:	30.000 NRS	2.250 DKR
Compound wall from Toilet to Office and from Schoolhouse to Entrance and a small wall on the playground wall to fix the net:	40.000 NRS	3.000 DKR
Science Equipment:	15.000 NRS	1.100 DKR
Deficit on Construction Account:	68.480 NRS	5.149 DKR
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>153.480 NRS</b>	<b>11.500 DKR</b>

## CONCLUSION:

I am always happy when I am in Solung. The place is so beautiful and the people are so strong and open minded. But this year I was happier than before, because what we have done there is magnificent. Our compound is a place where children will feel comfortable to stay every day. And the young farmers can take a game of volley ball by evening time. And the villagers can hold meetings and festivals there. And with the quality of work they can continue doing so for 100 years ahead.

On behalf of the villagers of Solung I would like to express our gratitude towards the project committee and all the members of Køge Nord Rotary Klub that you are members of an active club which decided to raise funds and later decided that you wanted to spend it on Solung School in far away Upper Solu in poor Nepal. You shall always remember that high on the mountainside at the feet of Mount Everest, you have planted a shining jewel.

Thank you very much for your efforts.

Yours sincerely Kurt Lomborg!

