

**Number: 27**

**Friday, 22 January 2009**

**NPD: Mangal Das Maharjan**

**NPM: Kiran Man Singh**

**MISA: Sunjita Pradhan - Editor**

**THE BEAUTY OF LIFE DEPENDS UPON OUR GOOD HABITS – Shree Satya Sai Baba**

### **INAUGURATION OF GIRINDI KHOLA MICRO HYDRO VILLAGE ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT**

Managing Director Ms. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala of the World Bank inaugurated 75 kW Girindi Khola MHVEP at Dagatundada VDC of Baglung district on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2009 amidst a gala function. Mr. Rameshwar Khanal Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr. Dipendra Bikram Thapa Secretary, Ministry of Education and Mr. Dirgha Singh Bom Secretary, Ministry of Health were present during the event. Also attended in the ceremony were Ms. Susane Goldmark, Country Director of the World Bank, Nepal Office, Mr. Ernesto May, Sector Director of the World Bank, and Dr. Rajendra Dhoj Joshi, Senior Education Specialist of the World Bank, Nepal Office. After the inauguration and observation of the micro hydro systems operation inside the powerhouse, the Chairperson of Micro Hydro Functional Group Mr. Netra Lal Thapa made a brief presentation highlighting key aspects of planning, installation, operation and management along with the initiation of various other community development activities and end use promotion initiated with support of REDP.



Ms. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala interacted lively with community people both male and female groups. Thenafter she highly appreciated the working modality of REDP for sustainability of the scheme and holistic development of the remote area. She also expressed that it was hard work done by community people for the positive impacts from the access to electricity in rural area in Nepal focusing to the lives of the poor, particularly on women through health improvements, education benefits and income generation opportunities. Similarly, Secretary Mr. Rameshwar Khanal highlighted that REDP modality and activities carried out through local efforts have proven the need of energy for the transformation of the rural society. He also emphasized that the rural energy technologies are the best options to fulfill the energy need of the rural people who are not likely to be connected by the national grid in the foreseeable future. He further mentioned that the REDP is a national programme and joint initiative of GoN, UNDP and the World Bank.

The visit was facilitated by REA Ms. Tara Shrestha and MISA Ms. Sunjita Pradhan with the assistance and cooperation of EDO Mr. Rudra Bista, CMC Priyanka Thapa, and community people.

### **KHIMTI NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT (KiND) INFORMATION MEETING**

The much awaited and much needed "Kind Information Meeting" was held at Manthali, Ramechhap on Monday, 2 February 2009 followed by the second meeting at Kirne, Ramechhap on Wednesday, 4 February 2009 and the third meeting at Charikot, Dolkha on Friday 6 February 2009. Organized by KREC with the supports of KiND, UNDP and HPL, the meetings at Manthali and Charikot were attended by district level political leaders of all political parties along the officials of government line agencies and other stakeholders while the meeting at Kirne was participated by the local level leaders of all political parties along with newly recruited CMs, and CMC, representatives of both KREC and Haluwakhola MHFG, officials of KiND and HPL at Kirne and representatives of SO. The main purpose of these meetings were to sort out the differences and misconception about the KiND through interactive consultations with key stakeholders, specifically to local leaders of all political parties by sharing and disseminating the facts and figures on the objectives, planned activities and the status of KiND

In line with the stated purpose, the presentations were made by resource persons of key stakeholders on various topics followed by the free and frank discussions by participants with questions and answers. Most of the participants were satisfied with the meeting and expressed that many perceived issues have been cleared. Basically the meetings have been effective in communicating about the implementation modality and achievements made by KiND at particular and in general the rationale of KiND from the long-term perspectives of AEPC/ GoN, UNDP and HPL. Resource persons included Mr. Bipin Karki, Engineer and Focal Point of AEPC, Mr. Vijaya Singh, ARR and Mr. Manoj Khadka, PO of UNDP, Mr. Jonas Oglan, Relations Director and Mr. Suman Basnet, Senior Manager, Relations of HPL, Mr. Kiran Man Singh, NPM, Mr. Keshav Pradhanang and Mr. Rup Narayan Yadav, CTL of KiND.

### **EDO REVIEW MEETING**

A six days long Review Meeting of REDP's Energy Development Officer (EDOs) of DEESs has started at Kathmandu from 2 February 2009. Altogether 37 EDOs are attending the meeting. The main purpose of the meeting was to present and discuss on the works done, achievements made, issues encountered and solutions resolved at district level in 2008. The important objective is come to the common understanding by the REDP team about the workplan, strategy and implementation modality for 2009.