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NPD: Dr. Narayan Prasad Chaulagain

NPM: Kiran Man Singh

MISA: Sunjita Pradhan

MODESTY IS ESSENTIAL FOR WOMEN; IT IS HER PRICELESS JEWEL – Shree Satya Sai

BOON OF SURNAYA GAD (RIVER)

While district headquarters as well as capital of the country are facing acute electricity crisis, people of remote VDCs of Baitadi district of the Far Western Development Region are living with uninterrupted electricity generated from four micro hydro systems developed at four different locations but from a single river Surnaya Gad. Supported by the Rural Energy Development Programme, a joint programme of GoN, UNDP and the World Bank, these micro hydro systems produce a total of 32 kW benefiting altogether 370 households, of which 110 households are in Visalpur VDC, 80 households in ward no. 1 and 9 of Shankharpur VDC, 180 households in ward no. 4 and 5 of Shankharpur VDC. Mr. Prithibiraj Awasti, the resident of Shankarpur VDC said, "We do not have the tension of load shedding in our villages."



The villagers are found very happy to use electricity with cheap tariff for lighting households and running electricity based end-uses such as agro processing mill, television and saw mill. The water from this river is also used widely for the irrigation. Ms. Manjila Shrestha, EDO of DEES Baitadi said, "Nine micro hydro plants built with the supports of REDP generate 183 kW benefiting 1,321 rural households (approximately 8,000 people). (Source: Kantipur, 4 March 2009)

CRS AWARD TO KiND

We are very pleased to copy below the email message sent by Mr. Suman Basnet of SN Power/ HPL for your kind information. "Kiran ji: In the SN Power Asia Seminar in Bali in January 09, there was a competition for the best CSR project for 2008 among SN Power projects in Asia. KiND was presented by SN Power Nepal as the candidate from Nepal. KiND was judged to be the best CSR project among SN Power projects in Asia. Regards, Suman. "

We think it as a great tribute to KiND, its staffs and all stakeholders that include AEPC/ MoEST/ GoN, UNDP and HPL for the valuable contributions, comments, suggestions and most importantly the hard works put by KiND and REDP staffs in circumstances plagued by conflicts from community people who are united for the ever new struggles intertwined with individual petty interests/ motives and personal benefits against the common project objectives of prosperity, enhancement and peaceful co-existence. Khimti Neighborhoods Development Project (KiND) is a PPP of GoN, UNDP and Himal Power Limited (HPL) and is executed by AEPC through REDP. Among others, it supports for the establishment of 400 kW MHP. Congratulations to all community people and all stakeholders.

AWARDS TO BEST DISTRICTS



Association of District Development Committees of Nepal (ADDCN) awarded amidst a gala function three DDCs for working significantly in the promotion of energy and environment sectors under the district development plans and programmes in the recently concluded two days long "National Conference on Rural Energy Development in Nepal" held at Kathmandu. The rural energy technologies, among others, include micro hydro, biogas and peltriset. Though requested for participation to all 75 DDCs, only 31 DDCs have participated in the competition. The major indicators chosen for the evaluation are the number of systems supported for the installation, number of beneficiary households and financial allocation (investment) made in energy and environment sector. The first position award went to Kavrepalanchowk DDC followed by Panchthar DDC for the second position award and Tanahun DDC for the third position award. It is gratifying to note that REDP has been supporting to all three DDCs for the establishment and operation of DEESs for the decentralized rural energy

planning and management for the sustainable rural enhancement through rural energy systems. Hearty Congratulations to all three award winning DDCs.