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IGNORANCE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CAUSE OF SORROW – Shree Satya Sai

HIGH LEVEL BANK OFFICIALS VISITED TO MOLUNG MHVEP

The World Bank Sector Director of South Asia Sustainable Development Unit, Mr. John H. Stein, Country Director of Nepal Ms. Susan G. Goldmark, Sr. Sanitation Engineer Mr. Tashi Tenzing, Lead Economist Ms. Claudia Sadoff and other World Bank officials visited to 26 kW Molung Khola Micro Hydro Village Electrification Project (MHVEP) at Chyannam VDC of Okhaldhunga district on 7th April, 2009. The main purpose of the visit was to observe and understand about the impact of electricity generated from a micro hydro in a remote rural community of Nepal. During the visit, Mr. Stein appreciated the working modality of REDP for the holistic development. He expressed that it was a great experience for him to see the positive positive impact made in the rural areas from a small funding of the World Bank. He also added that Nepalese rural communities can come together and build infrastructure to meet their own needs. He further emphasized that with some supports of REDP, the community people are found willing to built other infrastructure such as road and carry out other community level development activities. He said that the rural energy technologies are the best options to fulfill the energy need of the people who are not likely to be connected by the national grid in the foreseeable future.



TRAININGS ON MICRO HYDRO OPERATOR

With the objective of developing trained technical manpower at the local levels, the REDP has conducted the 10th batch of Micro Hydro Operators training starting from 9th April, 2009 through the Nepal Micro Hydro Development Association of Nepal at Teku, Kathamandu. Altogether 21 participants from Achham, Baitadi, Pyuthan, Panchthar, Kavre, Dolakha, Darchula, Okhaldhunga, Humla and Dailekh are participating in the training programme. The participants will be trained both theoretically as well as practically on different aspects of micro hydro plant operation, electricity distribution and minor repair and maintenance. The training will last for 22 days. In the meantime, the 9th batch of Micro Hydro Operators training was successfully completed on 8th April, 2009.

PANCHTHAR ALTERNATIVE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DECLARATION 2065

The Panchthar Alternative and Renewable Energy Declaration 2065 was declared upon the successful completion of a day long "District Energy Workshop" on 5th April, 2009. The declaration was agreed and signed by all participants that included representatives of different political parties, government agencies and NGO working in energy sector, donors communities, line agencies, media, and civic societies after the through discussion and consultation. The text is presented below.

1. Formulate a long term district energy plan for the implementation by the District development Committee
2. Mobilize resources and investment for energy development through
 - District Development Committee Fund
 - Village Development Committee Fund
 - Financial Institutions
 - Donars funded programmes/projects
3. Develop networking and coordination among organizations engaged in the energy and environment sector in the district
4. Execute policy for providing access to enhance communities, Dalits and marginalized groups in the promotion of energy technology in rural areas.
5. Implement promotional works for the uses of renewable energy through people's participation.
6. Adopt policy to coordinate energy development projects with the activities of the subject-wise line agencies in the district.
7. Develop energy policy by Village Development Committee and to access energy by rural community through the creation of energy development fund
8. Implement policy to utilize royalty obtained from hydro power projects in line with the government to respected areas on the priority basis through district energy fund.
9. Enhance the energy sector attaching sectoral importance in the annual plan. *(Source: DEES, Panchthar)*