

First of all as a chairman of SHC Society for Helpless Children, Dharan I am thankful to the Chairman and all the board members of Stichting Children's Homes Dharan, Amsterdam, The Netherlands for providing an opportunity to me along with Mr. Sudhir Tamrakar to take part in the prestigious program. As a profession, I am simply a school teacher and at present passing a retired life. I passed my life playing with children I desire to pass the remaining life with them so currently I am attached with the orphanages.

Lying on the lap of world's highest peak, Mt. Everest though Nepal is small, it is beautiful and rich in natural resources. Geographically it is divided into three regions namely Hilly, Mountainous and Terai. Kathmandu is its capital city and is also known as the 'City Of Temples'. Its society is multi-caste and multilingual. Its total population is 22,736,934 (2001 census). And Hindus are excess in number in the religious aspect. Industrially backward, Nepal is an agricultural country and 81% of its people are dependent on it. Though agricultural dependent, due to lack of proper irrigation channel and technical farming, agricultural products are to be imported too. Regarding water resources, though world's 2nd richest, additional electricity is still to be brought in due to incapability of resource utilization. And its major exports are: carpets, clothing, leather goods, jute goods, grains.

From the ancient time, Nepal has not faced the foreign reign. However, the country has also not achieved the relative developments. Today also, Nepal is considered as world's 2nd poorest country. Per capita income of a Nepali is \$1100. Literacy rate is 53.7%. Unable to create participation of the tribal group in the nation's development from the ancient time, unable to industrialize the nation by utilizing the country's resources & components are the main reasons for lagging behind of the country. Today also the literacy of women, who are equal in number of men, is 42.6% only. 5.3% of women have ownership in land, in house 0.8% and 5.8% in others. In the world's scenario, Nepal is positioned as third in the mother's death rate. Similarly under-five child mortality rate is 91 in every 1000 births. In this situation, the Maoist problem continuing from 10 years have even ruined the progress of the country and lives over here have become more troublesome. So rise in number of orphans, disables and helpless children are usual in such situation. Since no national surveys have been conducted since 1980, when the disability rate in Nepal was estimated at 3%. Of the total population of disabled persons in Nepal, 27.8% are reported to be children below the age of 15 years.

Stichting Children's Homes Dharan, Amsterdam, the Netherlands was providing financial support to the children in Dharan and Itahari under the supervision of Mr. Sudhir Tamrakar for 7 years; and now since September 12, 2003, SHC Society for Helpless Children, Dharan, Nepal has been continuing it and doing the additional work of monitoring in an organized way. Currently in the direct support from Stichting Children's Homes Dharan, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, total 18 Children from Shree Saraswati Orphanage (SSO), Dharan, 21 from Helpless Children Welfare Mission (HCWM), Duhabi and 11 children Himalaya Mahayan Dichhen Chyonling Gumba, Dharan are directly benefiting under the headings like education, health & hygiene, nutritious food, clothing, protection on a monthly basis. Additionally the environment of Helpless Children Welfare Mission, Itahari being worse, its branch orphanage in Duhabi as per Dr. Harry's suggestion, as per Mr. Eric's design and on your support a double storied modern building amounting to NRs. 1,754,964.88 has been built and it has recently been inaugurated by Mr. Henk Hooghuis, Chairman,

Stichting Children's Homes Dharan, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. In addition to it, inventory materials are also managed to facilitate children over there.

In Saraswati Home, a boundary wall (205 ft) towards the North is also constructed for the safety measure of the children. Few children over there are mentally retarded thus they are very weak in study. However, results of other children are quite satisfactory. Also it is seen much progress in their health, behaviour and in discipline. In comparison, much progress is not seen in Duhabi children. As we have recently started there in an organized way, we can believe in bringing them continuously in track in near future.

Few children in orphanage are seen unable to sustain their life through academic qualification. So to secure their future, it seems necessary to train them with occupational trainings in time. Such training centre if conducted under SHC then apart from the children of orphanages, people from poor family can also be benefited and SHC can raise the fund as well. But building the training centre, by purchasing the land on the first place increase the initial investment. Currently, if it seems impossible, training can be conducted by constructing a building on the land occupied by the Saraswati Orphanage, Dharan.

Evaluating the achievements till date, the infrastructure for the development of an orphanage has been created. In addition to it, there are more to do in order to secure the children's future still raising their standard. Even though the steering committee of the orphanage has enough contribution, there is no space to expect much from them on the basis of skill and capacity. So there needs a skilled person who can influence manner and discipline of the children.

With the lack of skill and experience we hope we could not have performed outstandingly in the development of children. However, what we did, we did it honesty. We have got opportunity to learn many things from people visiting from here specially Chairman Mr. Henk, Dr. Harry, Mr. Robert, Mr. Michiel, Mrs. Jeniffer, Miss Yong Mi and Miss Martine, Mr. Corbeek, Miss Clartze, Mr. Eric and Mrs. Tabitha and we want to make you believe that our work would be satisfying in coming days.

Thank you,

Shyam Bd. Katwal
Chairman
SHC Society for Helpless Children
Dharan, Nepal