

Words of gratitude from the Chair

My dear friends, Bob Corazza and Frances Corazza; Co Reijnders and Corrie Reijnders, Christine Stengeling, Susi Groeli, Mrs. Sabita Kedia,
Dear children with cp, respected parents, staff members of SGCP, ladies and gentlemen

It is my rare pleasure to share my genuine satisfaction with you at this inauguration of the two buildings constructed within the premises of SGCP for meeting the special needs of children afflicted with cerebral palsy. We have been fortunate to have such feelings of satisfaction in the past as well. To remind you a little, they were the occasions when we purchased this plot of land in September 2003, when we laid the foundation for CP Rehabilitation Centre Building (Holland Building) on 11th of December 2004, when inaugurated that building on, 10th December 2005 and when we laid the foundation of Special Education Programme Building on the 4th of March 2007. With the inauguration of the SEP building (Ireland Bhawan) and the Vocational Training Unit building today, we have the feeling that we have been able to complete the first phase of the construction works so important for providing quality services to children with cerebral palsy and their parents.

For sure, these buildings are very important physical facilities that contribute to the appropriate environment for providing basic rehabilitation activities. In them, adequate thoughts have been put to make them “disability friendly” and to set some reasonable standards with a view to the nature of Cerebral Palsy conditions. We hope, the architecture of these buildings will also serve as a model for others interested to tread in this field of disability in Nepal.

This day, the 29th of October, 2009 is a great day for all of us concerned with the cause of cerebral palsy rehabilitation and its prevention. Today’s experience is a sort of a dream that has come true. It is really a day for us to celebrate expressing our earnest gratitude to each one of our friends who did help us over the years in the process of our growth and development. It really deserves a grand finale so that every one of us, including parents, friends, volunteers and well wishers have a pleasant time together. On this happy occasion, I like to pledge to be ever grateful to the following organizations/ institutions who have supported SGCP to reach to the level where it is now:-

Rehabilitation Centrum Amsterdam, Holland
German Nepal Help Association, Germany,
DANIDA/Royal Danish Embassy, Kathmandu,
Saraswoti Foundation, Switzerland,
Siddhartha Foundation, Germany,
Stichting Lilian Fonds, Holland,
Helvetas, Nepal,
Lion club, Duseldorf, Germany,
VSO, Nepal
Ladies Elite Circle
Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Government of Nepal.

As some of the important details about the buildings have been presented to you a few minutes ago by Mr. Bimal Shrestha, Chief Executive Officer, SGCP, I am not going to talk about them again. The fund required for the purchase of this land at this Dhapakhel VDC, Ward No. 9 was raised mainly by our best friends Bob and Frances Corazza, Ireland and partly by Mrs. Susi Groeli, Switzerland and Mr. Dick Rijkelikhuzen, Holland. A small part of the land cost was met from SGCP savings.

The construction of the two buildings has been possible again due to the untiring fund raising efforts of Mr. Bob Corazza and Mrs. Frances Corazza who were later on joined by Mr. Co Rijnders and Mrs. Corrie Reijnders, Holland. The Reijnders are the sister and the brother-in-law and the torch bearers of our late friend Ben der van Stam who lost his life in the International Pakistan Airlines accident in 1992 while he was on his way to Kathmandu for a business meeting with us. They raised funds in the name of the projects "CP School Charity" and Stichting "Holland Building" Nepal respectively.

I am glad to inform you that the buildings are going to be inaugurated by our children with cp unveiling the prayer wheel. We have taken the prayer wheel as the symbol of our continued commitment for the cause of cp prevention and rehabilitation in Nepal.

I hope this joyful experience of this celebration will go a long way to inspire us to accept additional responsibilities for providing quality services to our target group at the time when it has been difficult to meet the running costs of the on-going programmes.

With deep gratitude, I thank you so much for your genuine concern, help and support to SGCP.

Batuk Pd Rajbhandari
29 October 2009

