

NAMASKAR Nepal

31st Mai 2016 – Namaskar Nepal - Information / Newsletter Nr. 17

Progress is made.

Progress is like a stream which finds its way on its own.

- Leopold von Ranke, historian from Berlin -



In the European media, Nepal is marginal or has a negative connotation because of the reconstruction which is on delay. This is understandable but in the last week there were some positive news:

The following information we got from the Kathmandu Post:

13rd of May 2016: The Nepal Reconstruction Authority has completed the Post Disaster Recovery Framework just in time to the second earthquake's annual (12nd of May 2016). The five-year-plan was announced by Prime Minister Oli. According to the document, 838 billions Nepali Rupee are needed for the reconstruction.

13rd May 2016: A One-Million-Euro-Program was signed between the EU and TI Nepal (Transparency International) to promote integrity, transparency, accountability and social cohesion concerning the reconstruction. The project's period is 5 years and part of an EU's 105-Million-Euro-Package for reconstruction.

28th Mai 2016: Agreement between NRA and an union of thee banks concerning opening bank accounts and relief payments for affected households. To a defined amount, out payment should be free of charge.



Workers & house owner in Brabal

Our project for reconstruction is progressing as well. Before leaving to Germany, it was an affair of heart for me visiting the reconstruction project in Brabal. Therefore we traveled from the 18th to the 20th of May very quickly to Brabal and back to Kathmandu.

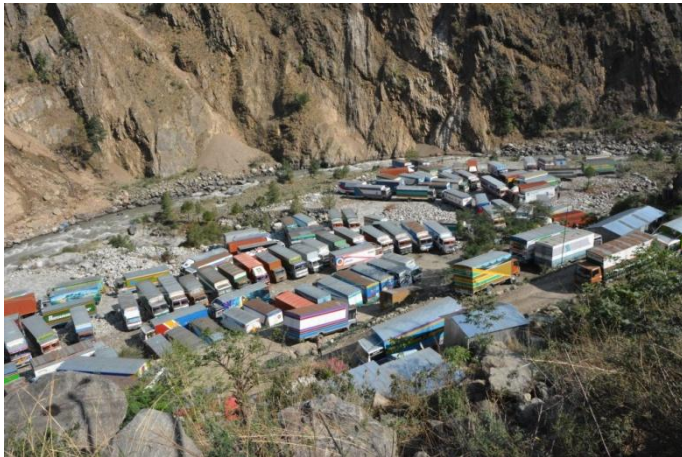


Door frame with wonderful carvings

On our way, we saw a few new houses under construction. Things are going on. Fortunately, most of the houses are built in an earthquake resistant manner - with seismic belts and corner enhancements.

Since Trisuli village we could see so much construction work on the road via Shafu Bensi to the Tibetan border (Rasuwagadhi – Kerung). New slop protections made of

gabion filled stones were fixed. This is necessary since lately import supplies from china are coming via the border Rasuwagadhi – Kerung. Hundreds of colorful painted trucks are waiting in the tiny village Timure (Nepal) for clearing the goods for import and then following the road via Trisulu to Kathmandu. According to the newspapers, the road should be strengthened and renewed within the next two years.



Waiting for clearing formalities

The journey from Sano Barkhu to Brabal was and still is an adventure. The narrow route is full of serpentines. Therefore, we needed several attempts to make our way. If the weather is dry, it is better to close the window. The dust is raising and causes a huge cloud. If it is rainy, one should avoid the muddy road. There is a risk that the vehicle may stick in the mud.

It hurts to see how the idyllic routes for walking changes into trafficable roads. The street is already going to the next village, Thulo Shafru. Nevertheless, it fosters progress to the village. Without the new road it would not have been possible to bring cement, sand and steel to Brabal.



A traversable road is arising

I was overwhelmed when I arrived in Brabal:



First model house in Brabal

One house was completely constructed. Another house was under construction – ready for the roof construction. Meanwhile, this house is also nearly completed and a third is in progress. Temba and I are pleased about the professional way of building, the excellent performance of the Nepalese people and the solidary and collaboration of the villagers. Everyone helps everyone. Together they are cutting wood, building window frames and doors, grabbing stones. The rules are willingly conducted. So everyone has to procure wood, window glass and stones on their own and is responsible for interior fittings (floor, damping, furniture).



Second model house is being constructed



Villagers are helping each other



Wooden work – windows and door frames are constructed

We are still having materials (cement, sand and steel) for five more houses in Brabal. It depends on the monsoon if we are able to continue the construction. Furthermore, Temba is concentrating on getting approval in Dhunche. Having completed two houses, we are able to exactly quantify the costs for one house. The costs include transport (Trisuli to Brabal), material (Sand, cement, steel, corrugated metal), working (workers form Okhaldunga region). For one house this is 7,250 Euro.



Another building site is being prepared

Not included are window glass, wood, stones and materials for interior (damping, ground etc.). Villagers have to pay this amount on their own. This is a guarantor for responsibility and valuation by the villagers.

You can find pictures and more information about the progress on our facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/helpforlangtang/>

NAMASTE!

Sabine & Temba