

REPORT ON ORIENTATION FOR THE GULMI SCHOOL STAKEHOLDERS ON OLE NEPAL'S DIGITAL LEARNING MATERIALS

Date: 15-16 March, 2012

OLE Representatives: Gaurav Thapa/ Sunil Pokhrel

Objective of the visit:

To sensitize the school leaders of 31 partner schools of Rato Bangala Foundation in Gulmi about the availability and the benefits of *E-Pustakalaya*.

Travel Information:

Tamghas, Headquarter of Gulmi District of Nepal can be reached in 10-12 hours from Kathmandu by a bus or a van that leave Kathmandu early in the morning. The second option for the travel could be to take a bus to Butwal and take another bus to Tamghas after a few minutes rest in the Butwal bus park. The road conditions from Kathmandu to Tamghas is better than Kathmandu's pothole filled roads. The sharp turns in many places on Butwal-Tamghas stretch of the road can be scary for those who aren't used to Nepal's hilly roadways.

Venue:

The Rato Bangala Foundation local office is located in Upalotamghas, fifteen minutes ahead of the main Tamghas bazaar while traveling from Kathmandu. The local RBF office is equipped with printer, scanner, projector and generator. There is no connection the internet yet.

OLE Presentation:

OLE Nepal presenters' presentation focused on OLE Nepal's digital products - *E-Paath* and *E-Pustakalaya*. The school leaders of the 31 school were divided into three groups. The presentation for the first group and the second group happened on 15 and 16 March 2012 respectively.

Both the presentations lasted for about three hours. They consisted of an introduction of the OLE Nepal and its educational digital products. The audience were appraised of the *E-Paath* and were explained its correlation with the National curriculum. The second part of the presentation involved introduction to *E-Pustakalaya*. The features of the *E-Pustakalaya* were explained in detail. The objectives and the benefits of having a digital library in school were carefully laid out.

Achievements:

The response we received were overwhelmingly positive. Seven schools out of the several schools participating on the first day were willing to raise the required money needed to have a digital library with around 20 computers running by the beginning of the new academic calendar in less than one month's time.

RBF, however, didn't look all willing and ready to kick start the process rightaway. The RBF official present in both of the presentations insisted for detailed paperwork be completed before schools in Gulmi see E-Pustakalaya in their regular teaching learning.

The second group of schools had fewer schools with electricity. 4 schools have shown strong interest in installing *E-Pustakalaya* in their schools. Apart from the Gulmi district two school supervisors from Khotang wanted to install *E-Pustakalaya* immediately in six schools in that district. Ram Ucha Madymik Vidhyalaya of Kavre also wanted their school to be equipped with *E-Pustakalaya*. Kedar Tamang of German Nepal Help Association who was present on the first day of the presentation has vowed to work with OLE Nepal for installation of the E-Pustakalaya in Kavre Schools that GNHA are working with.