



WHATS' NEW IN SCHOOL IN RAMACHOR VILLAGE?

At the beginning of March 1999, Mr. Nagaura and other volunteers visited the school. It had been over a year after the school was opened, and students looked much more adapted to their school lives. At present, there are 4 or 5 teachers, including assistants, and 84 students have been learning in the school.

Please be informed of the latest news as follows;

1) Education by TV and Video

It was decided that a TV and video set would be installed in the school as one of education methods. Firstly, Mr. Rishi was expected to offer a 14-inch TV, however, it seemed to be too small. So 'L Angel' decided to buy a 21-inch one. A part of the prices (aprox. Rs 10,000) will be borne by L Angel. As for a video set, Mr. Iwashita, a Japanese voluntary staff staying in Nepal, is going to buy a reasonable one, checking the reasonability of the price and ability. We are going to make full use of these materials showing students Japanese education videos, and it will be more effective for their education.

2) Instruction of Knitting and Sewing Machines

We had a meeting with instructors of knitting and sewing in Nepal. As the results, it was decided that L Angel will buy the good-quality products made by women in the village at the reasonable prices (at Rs 50 for sweater and Rs 35 for rucksack.) 10 % of the amounts will be paid to the instructors.

3) Regular Medical Examination

People in the village strongly needed the regular medical examination for their health care. Mr. Rishi, a voluntary staff in Nepal, arranged to let a doctor who is a friend of him visit the village for 4 times a month. The doctor is going to visit there twice a month voluntarily, and for another times, we are going to pay Rs 4,000 for him. If he judges it is necessary for the patient to take medicine, he would use medicine from India and Nepal.

4) Enlargement of School

At present, there are still lots of children who cannot go to school through they are old enough. We are going to build the 2nd floor on the current building. The construction is going to start around September 1999.

5) Supply of New School Uniforms

The school uniforms students have been wearing became dirty. We are going to supply new school uniforms such as sweaters, trousers / skirts at Rs 20 for each.

6) Tree Planting in School Yard

Last March, we brought young plants of persimmon, chestnuts, and cherry blossoms from Japan, and they were planted on the school yard. It is generally said that it takes 3 years for chestnuts and 8 years for persimmon to grow up. By the time, children would also grow up and there would be more classes and students' smiles. The 5 cherry trees planted, when the school opened last year, have been steadily taking their roots and growing strongly. In Nepal, the best season to see cherry blossoms is in November. We will be able to enjoy having a party under the bloomed cherry blossom trees a few years later. We hope Japanese plants would take their roots in Nepal and they would be one of the cultural exchanges between Nepal and Japan.

INSPECTION OF MINISTRY OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

In March 1999, an assistant manager and staff of Postal Savings for International Voluntary Aid (from Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in Japan) visited Ramachor Village, in order to inspect and confirm if the money they assisted for us was correctly used. After their inspection, they admired the school and workshop, and seemed to fully recognise our activities. It made us a great relief and encouraged for our prospective voluntary activities.

OUR ACTIVITY PLANS IN 1999

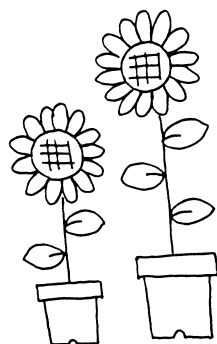
1. Financial Assistance from Postal Savings for International Voluntary Aid

It was decided that we could receive dividend of 4,168,000 Yen from Postal Savings for International Voluntary Aid by Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in the FY 1999. The money is going to be applied to part of the following costs:

A	Costs for enlarging the school	2,162,000 Yen
B	Salary of teachers (5 teachers x 1 year)	369,000 Yen
C	Costs for purchasing cloths for school uniforms	112,000 Yen
D	Labour costs for instructors of knitting/sawing (2 instructors x 1 year)	85,000 Yen
E	Costs for staying a Japanese staff in Nepal (1 staff x 1 year)	1,116,000 Yen
F	Costs for transporting Japanese staffs (From KIX to Pokarah)	324,000 Yen
		TOTAL: 4,168,000 Yen

2 Enlargement of School

At present, there are 6 classrooms in the school. It is expected that students will increase year by year, so it is necessary to have more classrooms. It was decided to build the 2nd floor on the current school. It is going to start to be constructed from September 1999. Moreover, it is important for children to equip the sanitation. We consider equipping facilities utilising solar power; shower rooms, kitchen, etc. prospectively.



3 Supply of Necessary Goods to School /Workshop

We are going to supply medicines for children and cloths / wool for sawing / knitting continuously.

4 Approval of Registration to Non-Profit Organisation (NPO)

L Angel was submitted for the approval to NPO in January 1999, and approved in April 1999 formally. We are going to strive to achieve the assistance to Ramachor village to make their lives stable and happy continuously.

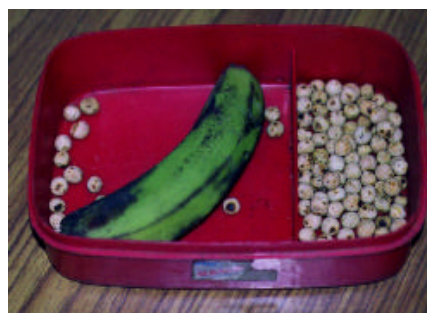
HAND-MADE TOWELS SHAPED ELEPHANTS

Various colours of towels shaped elephants made by some volunteers in Kanagawa reached us. They are going to be sold in flea market sales.

INTRODUCE SCHOLARSHIP SYSTEM

We are considering introducing scholarship system to assist the education costs for . excellent children who want to have more advanced education after graduating the school in Ramachor.

WHAT IS TODAY'S LUNCH?



Children look forward to come the lunchtime every day. The above photos are box lunch some students brought from their home. However, regrettably, most of students have no lunch. How do you feel about it?

EDITORS' POSTSCRIPT

The school is going to be enlarged this year. When more class rooms are available, more children will be able to go to school and learn for their bright future! We wish smiles of lots of children in the school can be seen more...

If you have any requests / inquiries / ideas, please contact at:

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