



First Steps Himalaya

Changing lives one classroom at a time

Progress Report: June 2018



The Sita Project, Sindhupalchok, Nepal

Progress Report to Katey Lane

June 2018

1.0 Introduction:

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Katey Lane and supporters on the progress of the Sita Project in Nepal.

1.2 Background: The Sita Project came about in early 2017 when FSH volunteer, Katey Lane recognised that Sita's husband who had been crushed and paralysed by the 2015 earthquake, urgently needed improved health and sanitation facilities to avoid risking ill health through infections. Since their home in rural Sindhupalachok collapsed, they had lived in a tiny temporary tin shelter



where Sita gave birth to their young son. There was only an outside tap and no toilet or showering facilities. Confined to a wheelchair, Ram Krishna urgently needed a home with disabled facilities.

25 year- old Sita, is not only Ram Krishna's main caregiver but also works full time as an early childhood teacher at one of the First Steps Himalaya early childhood centres. Their own home would provide them with a bathroom affording Ram Krishna greater independence, privacy and dignity.

The Sita Project aimed to raise enough money to build a modest house and provide Sita and Ram Krishna with hope and purpose for the future. By June 2018, The Sita Project raised \$23,101 as well as Rs 40,000 (NZ\$555) thanks to the hard work of Katey Lane and generous donors. This is a total of **NZ\$23,656**. There



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are also further reserve funds of Rs 285,891.00 (NZ\$3,515.29) donated by First Steps Himalaya earthquake relief fund to be used to support any disabled people in need of similar facilities.

2.0 Finance

Total income	Expenses in Nepal	NZ\$ expenses
Sand, concrete, gravel, transport	Rs 733,513	\$10,478.75
Labour	Rs 312,000	\$4,456.50
Paint	Rs 31,621	\$451.66
Water	Rs17,000	\$242.85
Windows	Rs 16,000	\$228.57
Electrics	Rs 23,584	\$336.91
Ambulance	Rs 3,000	\$42.85
Toilets	Rs 105,760	\$1,510.64
Miscellaneous	Rs 15,585	\$222.64
Total Nepal expenses to June 25th 2018	Rs1,258,063	\$17,971.37
Air cushion	N/A	\$1,598.50
Total expenses to June 25th 2018	Rs 1,258,063	\$19,569.87
Balance remaining		\$4,086.13

Note: There are additional expenses to complete the house and this is being provided to Ram Krishna to pay the labour and costs of windows and doors. Any left-over funds (including the funds donated by FSH) will be used to support another disabled person in need of facilities.



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3.0 **Project progress:** In 2017, the government of Nepal provided Ram Krishna and Sita with a 2- room basic building as compensation for the loss of their home in the earthquake. However, the building provided insufficient facilities for disabled people and there was no toilet. With funding from the Sita Project, Ram Krishna and Sita were able to construct an additional 2 large rooms with one wheelchair accessible bathroom as well as a sperate Nepali style toilet. The 2 rooms provided by the government function as a kitchen and additional bedroom. The family are delighted with their new home and it is being made wheelchair friendly.



A specialised air cushion designed for wheelchair users was purchased in NZ and sent over to Nepal. This has made a huge difference to Ram Krishna who was suffering from pressure sores due to lack of cushioning.





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4.0 Conclusion

The project has been a huge success and the family are enormously grateful for their new home and hope for Ram Krishna's future. The house has been constructed to high standards and once complete will be a good home for the family. Ram Krishna loves the new air cushion and his pressure sores have reduced. Without the support of Katey Lane, Ram Krishna would not have wheelchair friendly facilities and his health could have seriously deteriorated. First Steps Himalaya would like to thank Katey Lane for all her hard work and express its thanks to everyone who donated.