

Thursday, 21. May 2015

Over the next three days Kritan and I want to find proper places to install at least three Pauls. Therefore we have been looking for suitable locations and found one in Jorpati, Kathmandu. There is a center for physically and / or mentally handicapped people and next door is an orthopedic clinic.



Many buildings there had to be evacuated after the earthquake; the patients were currently housed under tarpaulins or in tents. With every brisk of wind, the tarpaulin was blowing away. It is really scary to imagine how the situation would be like when in a few weeks, the monsoon comes.



We were accompanied by Kamlesh, the current president of LIONS club of Kathmandu Chabahil and Purna, the former president of the club. Purna really has a strong attachment with the people here. When we walk together through the grounds, many come to him and want to talk to him. Many of them knew him here because he had worked here for long before 10 years.

This was originally his idea to think many people would benefit from the clean drinking water, people with disabilities, the patient in the hospital, their visitors and the adjacent population that sleeps very close together under tents.



To install a PAUL more effectively at a site, one has to examine various parameters and discussed. In the first step it is important to check whether the water here has germs. Interestingly, we found in some villages and higher hills, in spite of massive destructions caused, they always had good access to good spring water, while the water is often contaminated with germs in the Kathmandu Valley.

Then it is important to clarify where the water comes and if it is at all suitable for purification with PAUL. At this location, the water is pumped out of an old well.



The Pauls are expensive and only 23 kilograms, the chances that it gets stolen is very high, therefore it must be installed in a secure location. Also importantly there should be the proper supply of water.

Then at least two persons should caring for the operation of the Pauls, here we had physiotherapist and Purna.

We also made it clear that we have this PAUL at this place for a limited amount of time. Later, we plan replace the PAUL by installing three to five BioSandFilters, so that we could use PAUL in some other places with urgent need of pure water. One has to understand that, the PAUL will do the task of quick help while the biosand is being brought up with the idea of sustainability.

On the way back we drove past the sewer, in order to see how the new batches appear on the

t-shirts. I had chosen a somewhat more colorful motif on light and dark blue shirts yesterday. The first five t-shirts are already finished. We meet Jan and Padam who collected old plastic bottles to build lightweight walls for the temporary accommodation. Since their T-shirts were dirty, they were looking for new ones. I gave a T-shirt to each of both with the new logo of GESINAS.



I found the idea of building walls with plastic very interesting. For the kitchen they plan to use glass bottles, so that the wall would not catch fire. For bathrooms, the wanted to use milky bottles to make it translucent. According to Jan, this type of house could accommodate up to 20 people. An interesting project that GESINAS would support if necessary.

Translator: Kritan

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