



**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY
KATHMANDU**

4 November 2010

PRESS RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY FUNDS EIGHT PROJECTS WORTH NPR. 11.4 million

The Australian Ambassador to Nepal, Ms. Susan Grace, on Thursday, 4 November 2010, signed agreements with eight different organisations to provide them with support worth NPR 11.4 million for a period of one year to conduct development activities.

The Embassy's Direct Aid Program (DAP) 2010-11 is funding projects in priority sectors including health and sanitation, infrastructure, human rights and disability. The recipients of DAP funds for 2010-11 are:

1. **Nepal Blind Association** for production and development of a Nepali Text to Speech software, audio textbooks for college students and graphic textbooks for primary school level students.
2. **Nepal Eye Program, Tilganga Ophthalmic Institute** for running several Micro-Surgical Cataract Workshops across the country.
3. **Dhunibesi Adarsha Campus, Dhading** for establishing a computer lab and a library.
4. **Scheer Memorial Hospital** to conduct reconstructive surgery for burn contractures and uterine prolapse.
5. **Nepal Network of Cancer Treatment and Research** to conduct breast and cervical cancer screening workshops.
6. **Himalayan Rescue Association** to purchase essential medical equipment for its medical outpost at Pheriche of Solukhumbu.
7. **Siddhi Memorial Hospital** to purchase a generator to ensure the continuous supply of power to the hospital.
8. **Human Rights and Films Centre** to train women from the Dalit community about film making to promote human rights issues.

The Australian Government has announced an estimated AUD 18.44 million of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to Nepal for financial year 2010-2011.

Last year, DAP funded 17 projects across the country totalling NPR 10.9 million.

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