This quarter has been very busy and packed with several calendared events as well as periodic monitoring visits carried out by none other than the Hon’ble President of the Foundation Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck. She visited the project sites in Lamthang, Digala and Langdurbi under Zhemgang Dzongkhag from 26th February to 6th of March 2011, meet with the communities of the remote villages of Nagor, Dak, Gyalgaon, Silambi, Chaibi Pam and Brokshar in Mongar Dzongkhag from March 26 to April 7th 2011 and the Lhop villages of Samtse from 15th-18th of April 2011.

During the monitoring visits Her Majesty carried out several consultative meetings with the community members. The Hon’ble President was happy that the initiatives taken up by the various Tarayana programmes in these villages have brought about better growth and development resulting in improved living conditions for the communities. It was gratifying to note that the confidence and the overall empowerment of these communities are taking place. These are demonstrated through their active participation in the community meetings and in their dealing with regards to the development initiatives in their communities. The Hon’ble President was able to observe first hand the improvements made and the lives transformed.

The annual restorative surgical camp (April 3-12) held at the Paro District Hospital, continues to draw significant numbers of patients who benefit from the procedures. This is the seventh annual Surgical camp organized by Tarayana, the sixth such camp with the Surgicorps International team. The Annual Fair (May 6-8) and the Mountain Echoes – A literary Festival (May 20-23 – at the Tarayana Centre) and 24th at Zhiwaling Hotel, were well attended and the participation at both events were good.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the donors, collaborators and those who worked behind the scene to make these events possible. Our appreciation goes to all who have sponsored, donated and volunteered your time in making these events successful. For the first time, we had international partners involved during the Annual Fair and we take special pleasure in thank PEEDA, Nepal and Tara Machines/DA, India, (our partners in an FK funded Exchange Project), in participating at the Fair. We would also like to thank our institutional partner, the Royal Institute of Management, for their support during the Fair, through the participation of the students of the Post Graduate Diploma in Public Administration.

As a hectic second quarter draws to a close, we look forward to reporting on more community capacity building activities in the next quarter.

Her Majesty led a 10 day monitoring visit to project sites in Lamthang, Digala and Langdurbi in Zhemgang Dzongkhag. Her Majesty was happy to note the progress made in the provision of basic services to these remote villages and commended the hard work of the Tarayana Field Officers in motivating the people to help themselves. Her Majesty also acknowledged the support and good will extended by all the local government officials in the service of the people. It was noted with satisfaction that the communities were growing in their capacities of self-empowerment. The facilitation service provided by Tarayana was ensuring the growth in confidence and gradual empowerment at the grassroot levels.

From March 25 to April 6th 2011, The Hon’ble President of Tarayana Foundation, Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, led a monitoring team to review project implementation activities in the remote villages of Nagor, Dak, Gyalgaon, Silambi, Chaibi Pam, Brokshar and Kalapang in Mongar Dzongkhag.

The positive impact of targeted strategic intervention in poverty alleviation in these villages are evident in the improved housing, better health and nutrition, better clothing, overall confidence of the populace, alert children in schools, various self help groups formed and the presence of some form of income generating activities within the villages.

Reminiscing Her Majesty’s earlier visit, these communities expressed their gratitude to Her Majesty for founding Tarayana through which their lives have been transformed for the better. They reported that their lives have improved multifold over the past years and that all their children were also able to go to and stay in school. Many of the children initially sponsored by Tarayana were now in High School and doing well.

The Hon’ble President was happy that the initiatives taken up by the various Tarayana programmes in these villages have brought about better growth and development resulting in improved living conditions for the communities. Her Majesty also appreciated the coordinated efforts of all the Government agencies who collaborated to strengthen the efforts of serving these remote communities.

Her Majesty was accompanied by the Dasho Dzongda of Mongar, the Drungpa of Weringla and the Drungthrim of Weringla on these visits.

“Happiness is ...

......surrounding myself with people of good character who appreciate life and aspire to work toward the common good”

Linda
Coordinator, Surgicorps International
**Monitoring Visit to Samtse**

The Hon’ble President and Founder of Tarayana Foundation, Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck undertook a monitoring visit to the Samtse project sites from 15th -18th of April 2011.

Her Majesty and the entourage were received by the Samtse Dzongda and the Sector heads at Samtse and the community members of Lotokuchu warmly received Her Majesty and the team. Her Majesty met the community members and hosted a dinner for them. Her Majesty also gifted kiras and ghos to all the households and met with the community in an open discussion of the development processes, implementation challenges and issues. The Hon’ble President was happy and satisfied to note the significant positive impacts in all the villages. Her Majesty graciously took time to visit several households and observe how they live.

The next day Her Majesty visited the self help groups of Lotokuchu; the Weaving group and Paper making group. Her Majesty also visited the Buzip programme and noted them to be running successfully in all the three villages of Lotokuchu Jigme, Singye and Wangchuck.

During the monitoring visit to Samtse Her Majesty visited the Tarayana School club members, coordinators and teachers of Gedu Higher Secondary School, Sangdhen Primary School, Dorokha Middle Secondary School, Samtse Higher Secondary School, Samtse College of Education and Tshimalakha Primary School.

The Club members reported on the social work activities that they had undertaken in the previous years. Her Majesty interacted with the club members and pointed out that cultivating compassion would help enrich their own lives while being able to make a positive contribution to improving the lives of those in need.

They also thanked Her Majesty for this opportunity to be part of the social work initiated by Tarayana. Lastly, the President honored the participants by pinning the Tarayana School Club badges on all the members and coordinators.

**Surgery Camp 2011**

Tarayana has once again conducted our restorative surgical camp with technical support from Surgicorps International, an American surgical group based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The team is comprised of medical personnel that conduct the surgeries and non-medical volunteers who serve to organize medical charts, assist with pre operation preparations and help with post-operative care. Surgicorps International serves people across the globe including Bhutan. The Ministry of Health and Royal Government of Bhutan provide support and necessary resources for the efficient operation of surgical camp.

Paro General Hospital has again hosted this surgical camp as well as all the previous surgical camps. Hospital staff including the Chief Medical Officer, Head Nurse and nursing staff, OT staff, ward boy, electricians and housekeeping staff all fully participated in a joint effort with the surgical team from America. The collaborative efforts helped this year’s surgical camp provide quality care to the patients and achieve our goal of reaching out to those people in need. The visiting team of surgeons, anesthesiologists, surgical technicians, nurses and volunteers was led by Dr. Jack Demos, a plastic surgeon, who has founded Surgicorps International. This year’s restorative surgical camp 2011 was held from 3rd till 12th April. During the camp, 148 people registered, 125 patients came for screening, and 66 surgical procedures were completed.
Surgicorps’ Reason For Being In Bhutan

Written From Personal Experience Through the Eyes of a Surgicorps Volunteer

Every once in awhile on these surgical volunteer camps reality raises its head, stares you in the face and strikes you deep down in your heart and reminds you just why we do this. Today was one of those days. After the organized chaos of the first couple of days of getting to know each other, setting up the supply room, organizing the operating theater and just getting into the daily routine of the ebb and flow from pre-operation to recovery, the third day usually goes smoothly. Today, we had a full schedule and thought we would be here late, but this remarkable team of 18 has come together very quickly, and surprisingly our team had almost gotten through 13 surgical cases in a reasonable amount of time. Lots of patients with cleft palates, cleft lips, a variety of burn contractures, and cute kids with ear tags that Dr. Jack removed under local anesthesia. Then, the last case of the day, PATIENT # 36, came out of surgery.

PATIENT #36’s name is Pema Yangchen. She is a 21 year old married woman and a mother. Until the fateful day of February 18, 2011, she lived with her husband and three (3) year old daughter in her town of Chamkhar, Bumthang. That’s that day her life changed forever when a raging fire swept through her neighborhood. At about 1:30 am, she was awakened by her daughter Jamyang, now our PATIENT # 37, who had run into their room screaming and crying, “Ama my arms are hot! My arms are hot!”. Realizing that Jamyang’s arms were on fire, Pema grabbed her and pulled her to her chest to put out the flames and shielded her from the raging fire. Her husband then ran to find a way for all of them to escape. He went through one of the doors, when suddenly, the roof collapsed and engulfed him completely in flames. He vanished and disappeared in the smoke and flames. Pema ran in the other direction, with her hair and much of her body in flames, but shielding Jamyang by holding her to her chest. While still holding Jamyang, she was able to run outside away from the burning house.

Pema and her daughter were taken to the national referral hospital in Thimphu. There, she laid in a hospital bed with third degree (3rd) burns over 50% of her body that burned her entire head, arms and feet. One the scale of burns, 3rd degree burns are the worst type of burns to have besides having 4th degree burns which are fatal. Pema’s condition was extremely serious and her wounds became so badly infected that she was not expected to live. Then hope came when the 2011 Surgicorps team arrived in Paro to conduct its surgery camp and both Pema and her daughter, Jamyang, were transferred to Paro hospital. Both were scheduled for surgery on Monday. Fortunately, her daughter Jamyang’s burns were not so serious. During surgery, she had a skin graft taken from her thigh to treat her most serious burns on her wrist and hand.

The first time I saw Pema was during our first day at the hospital for pre-operation preparations. After the initial shock of seeing the complete burns of her face, head and shoulders, I became acutely aware of the deep sorrow in her eyes. Pema was scheduled to be treated every day in surgery, first having her infections cleaned and treated, and then, having skin grafts performed on different parts of her body. On this day, Wednesday, Dr. Kim, a surgeon, completed some more cleaning of her wounds, and, as is normally the case, was brought to the open area outside of the operating room for recovery.

Then something remarkable happened….

As she began waking from her anesthesia she appeared to go into a trance. Slowly her face that was always full of sorrow and tears seemed to be transformed and she even appeared to smile. Our super multi-talented OT Engineer and trained Emergency Technician, Bob Kirschner, who was nearby her, became transfixed as Pema began to speak, having a serious conversation. There were changing expressions on her face. And stranger still, her voice seemed disembodied, as if it was coming from another place and not from her body. She was still wearing an oxygen mask since she had just come out from surgery. As everyone in the area became aware of what was happening, the room became very quiet as we listened to the ongoing dialogue she seemed to be having with herself. We then asked Pema and Wangmo from Tarayana to translate what she was saying. It became increasingly difficult and painful for them to translate as they realized that she was revealing all of the terrible things that had happened in her young life, including the fire, and then, she spoke directly to her husband who perished in the fire. “Thank you …it was because of you that Jamyang and I are alive… you gave your life for us”. Although not present with Pema, she then spoke tenderly to Jamyang, her daughter, and told her not to be worried, that she will always be safe and that her mother will always be there to take care of her and love her.

And at that moment all of us, Surgicorps team members, Tarayana staff and OT staff looked at each other with tears streaming down our face. As Surgicorps team members, we realized once again, why we are here and why will continue to come back here and go wherever else we are needed.

Mario Francisco Gutierrez  (Surgical Team Member)
Tarayana Fair, 2011: Technologies For Sustainable Rural Development

The 7th Annual Tarayana Fair, was held from the 6th – 8th May, 2011 to celebrate eight years of Tarayana’s existence in the service of our rural communities. The Fair was first organized in 2004 to celebrate the birth anniversary of the Foundation and has become part of our tradition. The opening day was graciously inaugurated by Her Royal Highness Ashi Kesang Wangmo Wangchuck, the Fair was also attended by HM Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, HRH Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck, HRH Dasho Jigyel Ugyen Wangchuck, representatives from national & international agencies, members of parliament, Tarayana Board of Trustees, members and representatives from the rural communities that Tarayana works, friends and volunteers of Tarayana and the Thimphu community.

Tarayana Fair is an annual event of the Foundation which provides a platform for the craftsmen from core communities to market their products and generate income. Tarayana’s different community programs have helped craftsmen re-tool their skills to produce the various products on the Fair.

Theme for the Fair, 2011 was ‘Technologies for Sustainable Rural Development’. Where our development partners both national and international working with green technologies show cased their activities. The Fair, 2011 was more special than the past Fairs where we had very special area designed creatively by our Hon’ble Board Member HRH Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck for Crafts, technology, food, incredible games which are complemented by beautiful weather.

The Fair also provided an opportunity for the students of the Royal Institute of Management to put in practice some of what they have learnt in theory. There are also many other volunteers including the talented artists who added color, fun & success to the Fair. The Tarayana Fair, 2011 was accomplished with a beautiful memory by a grand dinner with artist performing songs & cracking jokes at the Folk Heritage Museum by the Hon’ble President of Tarayana, thanking all the volunteers & members who made the success of Fair by awarding a certificate of appreciation.

SAARC Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN IV)

Mr. Dhendup Tshering, Program Officer attended 8 days South Asian Conference on Sanitation (SACOSAN) IV, which was held at the Colombo (Sri Lanka) from April 1 to April 8, 2011. The pre meeting to SACOSAN IV for the community leaders and CSOs was held at the grand Hotel Tamarind Tree on the outskirts of the capital city of Sri Lanka.

The conference was attended by over 150 participants consisting of a mix of various community leaders, representatives of NGOs and media persons from Japan, United Stated, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, Israel and member countries of SAARC.

The SACOSAN process has become an important agenda for the sanitation policy debate in South Asia. Three conferences had already been successfully organized. The fourth SACOSAN was held at luxurious Cinnamon Grand hotel in the heart of capital city Colombo, Sir Lanka.

The 3 days conference saw more than 300 dedicated professionals, representing the governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and even the representative of the common masses of the SAARC members countries, friends of SAARC and other representatives from the international community come together to commit themselves towards tackling and shouldering the vastly necessitated challenges of the promotion of sanitation and hygiene that is of a concern in South Asia.
Her Majesty’s Visit to Tarayana School Clubs

Tarayana School Clubs were first started in the year 2004 in sixteen high schools. Currently, there are 93 Tarayana School Clubs with more than 3500 student members.

The main purpose of starting these clubs was to reach out to all the communities close to the schools and institutes, and to foster the spirit of volunteerism. It is hoped that all the club members will learn to be more socially responsible and seek ways and means to be useful to the community at large. The Foundation provides Nu. 10,000 to each club as a starting fund to support the activities of the clubs. The choice of activities depends on the club members based on their community needs. This in turn encourages innovation in the search for local solutions to solving the multi-faceted issues of poverty. In the long run, Tarayana would like to see these clubs mainstreamed into all schools, empowering children to be part of the solution in addressing local problems through volunteerism.

The Tarayana School Clubs in Thimphu met with Her Majesty in two batches. The first batch comprised of the Coordinators and members of the Yangchenphu HSS, Rinchen HSS, Lungtenphu MSS, Loselling MSS, Babesa MSS, met with Her Majesty in the auditorium of YHSS. The second group comprising of coordinators and members from Jigme Namgyel LSS, Changzamtok LSS, Khasadrapchu MSS, and Yangchengatsel MSS met the Hon'ble President at the Tarayana center.

During the monitoring visits to Mongar, Zhemgang and Sarpang, Her Majesty visited the Tarayana School Club coordinators and members of Chumey MSS, Jakar HSS, Kurichu LSS, Nagor MSS, Gelephu HSS, Gelephu MSS. Her Majesty interacted with the club members after the Club Coordinator presented the various social services that they had carried in the past year. Her Majesty also visited with the club members and faculty of Dorokha MSS, Sangdhen Primary School, Samtse HSS and the Samtse College of Education during her monitoring visit to Samtse Dzongkha. Enroute, she also met the faculty and club members of Gedu Higher Secondary School and Tshimalakha Primary School.

Her Majesty reiterated the importance of reading and keeping up their academic grades as it would hold them in good stead in furthering their career options. The President pinned the Tarayana School Club badges on all the members and coordinators. The various creative ways in which our student club members have made themselves useful in their local communities have been impressive. It is very encouraging to note that all these little social workers are being nurtured and given a platform through which to practice compassion. Most have reported that they have grown and benefited from these social services as much as they have been able to help others. The main aim for organizing this programme is to foster the spirit of volunteerism in our youth and providing them a social service platform through which they can be of service to the local communities.

In Brief

Photo Exhibition at Alaya Gallery

A photo exhibition titled “Life in Ngangla through the eyes of the Children” was inaugurated by Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck on the 4th of May 2011 coinciding with the 8th anniversary of the establishment of Tarayana Foundation. This photo exhibition is an activity of the EU funded project, “Preserving and Leveraging Bhutan’s Cultural Diversity” jointly implemented by Helvetas, Bhutan and Tarayana. The overall objective of this project is to leverage cultural diversity to alleviate poverty, improve livelihood options and enhance local ownership through capacity building, intercultural dialogue and preservation measures.

Prep Course of FK project in Bangkok

Ms. Roseleen Gurung and Ms. Sonam Yangden attended the Prep course for the FK project “Promotion of Appropriate Green Technologies to bring about Rural Prosperity” in Bangkok from 25th -28th April, 2011. Tarayana’s partners in the project are Technology and Action for rural Advancement (TARA), India, People, Energy and Environment Development Association (PEEDA), Nepal and Practical Action, Bangladesh and through this project, seven exchange participants will reside in host countries to learn/share their skills/knowledge in green technologies. Tarayana has sent one participant to TARA and one to PEEDA and has received one participant from Practical Action.
Mountain Echoes 2011

It is believed that it takes a thousand voices to tell a single story. It is then natural that Mountain Echoes 2011, a literary festival, put together by the India-Bhutan Foundation in association with Siyahi, saw the presence of not one but several literary giants from India and Bhutan. What was most remarkable about the festival was its location. Set in the heart of Thimphu, Bhutan, the beautiful Tarayana Centre is a concern of the Tarayana Foundation, an initiative of the Queen Mother Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck who is the chief royal patron for Mountain Echoes.

The festival was inaugurated on May 20, 2011 at the India House followed by a dinner hosted by India’s ambassador to Bhutan, His Excellency Pavan Varma. Mita Kapur, CEO, Siyahi, commenced the event by welcoming the Queen Mother, the Honorable Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley and His Excellency Pavan Varma by inviting them on stage to light the lamp. Inspired by and based on the work of Rabindranath Tagore, Ananda Dhara highlighted the relevance of his philosophy in the contemporary world. The performance by Sharmistha Mukherjee, Jayati Ghosh and team lived up to its hype and enthralled the audience to no end.

Now was the time for much intellectual deliberation and many opportunities to listen to luminaries from various walks of life. The festival had a wholesome representation ranging from culinary experts to bestselling authors, Pulitzer awardees to artists and textile connoisseurs to journalists. The three days (May 21-23) were replete with sessions that sparked many conversations, debates and also were a mill for much gossip!

The festival saw participation by many Bhutanese luminaries. Lam Kesang Chhoepel, a freelance translator and consultant, was seen in a conversation with Dasho Sherub Gyeltshen, Secretary of the Dzongkha Development Commission dedicated to advancement of the national language, moderated by Rinchen Khandu, a scholar and renowned translator and author of the book, Buddhism and the Environment. The New Social Media - a very relevant discussion on the changing face of society because of new media was moderated by John Elliott, previously associated with Financial Times. The session saw the presence of Lyonpo Tshering Tobgay, Member of Parliament and Leader of the opposition party, Gopilal Acharya, author of Bhutanese Folktales, David Davidar, author of The House of Blue Mangoes selected as a New York Times Notable Book and Dorji Wangchuk, an author and lecturer at Paro College for Education. It was highlighted in the session that 43 thousand in a population of 7 lakh people in Bhutan were on Facebook and they were driving many political agendas through communities on this social networking site.
The audience was further engaged by the conversations of Dr. Chencho Dorji who until very recently was Bhutan’s only Psychiatrist; he is nominated for the Geneva Prize this year. Joining him in the discussion were Dasho Kinley Dorji, a Bhutanese journalist who has recently become a bureaucrat, with his wife Siok Sian Dorji as a moderator. The mainstay of the discussion was the transition that Bhutan is experiencing and cultural changes the media is bringing in as the country becomes more open to new ideologies. The session with Sonam Kinga was one of the highlights of the event. He discussed how he chanced upon Lozey, an oral tradition of Western Bhutan, one day when he went to use the toilet that had run out of toilet paper and he found a random excerpt of Lozey that he was about to use - this incident had the audience in splits! Author Kunzang Choden clicked instantly with the audience as she traced how her definition of taste of home changed as she went from Bhutan to Delhi to complete her education and then married a Swiss man in Bhutan. Her latest books, Aunty Mouse and Room in your Heart were launched at the Mountain Echoes Literary Festival, 2011. The festival saw two other book releases by Bhutanese writers. Dance to Death is a collection of poems by Gopilal Acharya - an entrepreneur and writer. His poems were sensitive and underlying emotions, genuine. Another anthology was released by Dr. Nitasha Kaul - A Kashmiri writer and her students - November Light.

The festival saw the presence of many noted personalities from the Indian Film Industry. R. Madhavan who has essayed critical roles in path-breaking movies like Rang De Basanti, Rohan Sippy, an avant-garde filmmaker of movies like Bluffmaster and more recently, Dum Maaro Dum, Imtiaz Ali has box office successes like Jab We Met and Love Aaj Kal behind him and Jaideep Sahni - a storyteller for movies like Chak De India, Buntu aur Babli and Company spoke about cinema as a modern literature. Celebrity Author, Shobhaa De, in an interaction with Lily Wangchhuk - a highly successful Bhutanese diplomat drew a beautiful contrast in their session between Shobhaa who has a big family with many children and grandchildren compared to Lily who has decided to stay unmarried.

Soil, Soul and Song - the final session of Mountain Echoes 2011. Malashri Lal, Professor at the Department of English, University of Delhi, was moderating the session between Chang Dorji, the author of The Clear Mirror of Archery in Bhutan and Kencho Lham - repertoire of knowledge on Bhutanese folklore ranging from legendary epics to short stories. It was a perfect way to end the day and also the festival because Kencho Lham with her exceptionally gifted voice sang the traditional songs of the Bhutan. On being asked to give an advice to the youth of Bhutan, Chang Dorji replied that foreigners come to Bhutan and learn so much here then why does the youth of Bhutan not value their culture? In this rut of looking outside we might end up losing what is inside and hence, the message was to value, appreciate where you come from. The session was concluded by Lham singing a farewell song and the rest of the Bhutanese community couldn’t stop themselves from singing along. It was a sentimental moment, one that connected India to Bhutan like never before.

The festival was beautiful in every sense of the word and was made still more special by its setting Tarayana Centre. The Queen Mother referred to it as a new venue for intellectual crossover from where the Mountain Echoes will be heard. She also reassured everyone to keep their diaries blocked for Mountain Echoes 2012 - here’s hoping!
Upcoming Events

July, August & September 2011

July: Organic Farming, Vermi composting and seed production training in Lotokuchu Jigme, Singye and Wangchuck villages in Samtse.

July: Mushroom cultivation and Medicinal plants cultivation training in Langdurbi and Digala villages in Zhemgang.

September: Three women from Lotokuchu to be trained in ceramics in Bangladesh through the AGFUND project.

September 21st: Mid-term review meeting for the FK Project, “Promotion of Appropriate Green Technologies to bring about Rural Prosperity”.

Support Tarayana

We invite you to be a part of reaching out to the most vulnerable members of our society through your support to Tarayana. We operate with financial support of individuals and organizations, without which we would not have the opportunity of helping so many families help themselves. Tarayana complements and supplements the initiatives of the Government in empowering rural communities towards sustainable livelihoods.

The Foundation maintains its accounts in accordance with accepted financial norms and is audited annually by the Royal Audit Authority of Bhutan. An audited financial report and an annual progress report are published every year and is available for all interested individuals and organizations.

Please contact us for more information.

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From the Tarayana School Clubs

“With every sun rise there is a good day waiting for you”. 21st of April, 2011 was very exciting for those of us who love lending helping hands to the needy ones. We were overwhelmed to see “The QUEEN OF COMPASSION”, Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck and Her Royal Highness Ashi Sonam Dechan Wangchuck gracing the occasion of incepting the value of Tarayana in the young students like us.

The wonderful day bloomed with the welcome speech by the principal of YHSS. The day was celebrated by five different schools and the focal person from each school submitted their reports. After the reports, Her Majesty gave us the clear idea of how Tarayana came into existence and the meaning of the logo of Tarayana.

“The eye which is located at the middle of the hand is the “Chen” of the goddess Tara, which can see the needy people and the hand is the “CHAG” of the goddess Tara which reach out to help the needy ones. “ Yana means the journey or path.

We the students were emotionally touched when Ashi shared with us her enchanting stories of walking miles and miles from the road point to the remote areas of the country and meeting the people personally, learning about their problems. Moreover, we got the opportunity to share our feelings and gratitude as being a part of Tarayana. The moment we awaited for the most came when membership badges were awarded to each and every student by Her Majesty.

As a saying goes “Every happy day must come to an end “, the programme came to an end with some cultural dance performances and the offering of a vote of thanks.

For graciously taking their time to meet us and bestowing us with the opportunity to help the needy and our own communities, we would like to offer our heartiest gratitude.

“THANK YOU VERY MUCH LA”.

CHONEY DEMA
CLASS: X ‘F’
YANGCHENPHU HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL