

# PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

## **TITLE OF THE PROJECT: SAFE WATER PROJECT**

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The project is located in Tibetan Refugee Resettlement village named Tashi Jong. The complete postal address is the following.

**Village:** Tashi Jong,      **Post office:** Taragarh,      **Tehshi:** Baijnath,      **District:** Kangra

**State:** Himachal Pradesh,      **Country:** India, **Pin:** 176081

**Contact Person:** Mr. Yeshi Chogya, General Secretary, Tibetan Craft Community.

Tashi Jong, is 15 kilometres from Palampur and 2 kilometres from Baijnath (one of the oldest Hindu's religious place). This is a small village in between Paprola and Tara Garh (famous for its Taragarh Palace hotel, beautiful tea gardens and main Indian Army base (Alhilhal)) in Mandi – Pathankot National Highway No.: 70 in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh.

**Nearest Airport:** Dharamshala (Kangra) Airport – 65 Kms.

**Nearest Railway:** Pathankot (Broad gauge) Railway Station – 165 Kms

Paprola (Small Gauge) Railway Station – 5 Km.

**Nearest Town:** Dharamshala: 48 Kms.      Shimla: 195 Kms.

Mandi: 80 Kms.      Manali: 167 Kms.

Kullu: 125 Kms      Amritsar: 235 Kms.

Chandigarh: 225 Km.      Delhi: 475 Kms.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** *Tashi Jong* is an intimate portrayal of life in one of the first Tibetan refugee communities established in India for the preservation of Tibet's ancient culture, sacred arts, and Buddhist teachings. There lies unbroken faith, devotion, and courage of the Tibetan people as they preserve their endangered heritage as a living reality in exile.

In 1958, having foreseen the imminent coming of the communist Chinese, the 8<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche, Kalzang Dongyu Nyima, left for India with a group of 16 monks and reincarnate lamas. In Eastern Tibet he had been the head of Khampagar Monastery, which had over 200 branch monasteries, nunneries and retreat centres. It was considered one of the foremost monasteries of the Drukpa Kagyü lineage. In India, they settled first in Kalimpong in West Bengal, where many lay people from the Khampagar area in Kham came seeking refuge, and affiliated themselves with the newly formed community. In 1969, they moved to Himachal Pradesh in North India. There they settled in the peaceful Kangra valley on 37 acres of land, which was named Tashi Jong, Tibetan for Auspicious Valley.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche was born in 1980. He was recognised as a reincarnation of the 8th Khamtrul Rinpoche by H.H. the 16th Karmapa. It was said that, in his youth, Shedrub Nyima was often seen in a position of meditation and that he inspired awe in those who saw him. Shedrub Nyima currently maintains his seat as the head of Khampagar Monastery in Tashi Jong.

**Nowadays Tashi Jong includes:**

- A monastery of around 250 monks.
- A lay community of about 650 people.
- A group of highly realized yogis called Tokdens. In Tibet the Tokdens lived in retreat centres or in caves. In Tashi Jong there is a retreat centre with all the facilities needed for extended periods of seclusion. Although they are fully ordained monks, the Tokdens display the matted hair and white robes of Milarepa's traditional attire. At present, there are around thirteen retreatants, who have been practicing for many years, and who have not set a definite conclusion date as yet.
- Other monks at Khampagar are studying Buddhist philosophy, and training in ritual activities and practicing different tantric rituals. Annually they perform ritual dances called Cham, generally known as 'lama dances'.

**ISSUES OF THE PROJECT AREA:** Being a Tibetan refugee resettlement village the first and foremost issue in the area is of individual identity. Those who came from Tibet are still living as refugee even after 53 years in exile. They have been issued Residential Certificate (RC) to be renewed every year and not to leave the area without prior information to District Police Foreign division, and also outside 8 Km of radius. Those who took birth in India were also not given the Indian Nationality. During recent past one 25-year-old girl named Namgyal Dolkar, after rejection of application for Indian Nation Passport, fight for her citizenship at the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and granted Indian citizenship. Thus doors opened for each Tibetan who is looking for Indian citizenship.

*"According to the Indian Citizenship (Amendment) Act 1986, any person born in India on or after January 26, 1950, but prior to the commencement of the 1986 Act on July 1, 1987, is citizen of India by birth."*

Tashi Jong is not considered as a revenue village because of being a refugee resettlement village. Therefore state level development activities are limited to only supply of electricity. Construction of roads, schools, Public distribution Service (PDS), Hospital, supply of water, sanitation system etc., by the state/national government are not existing there. People/community is managing for water, sanitation, road, education, health, food etc., by themselves.

Tashi Jong has culturally sound and socially structured and disciplined community. Most of the men, women and youths are working or doing some business (Shops & restaurants) for their livelihood in different places in India or outside the country. They send money to their parent/families to survive. Some families use to go to sell woollen cloth in winter to different part of country and earn 35 – 60 thousand rupees. With this money they live for entire year.

The village is in Dauladhar Range of Himalaya Mountain. This range of the mountain has thin layers of forest so is in Tashi Jong. One can see soil erosion and degenerated forest there. Plantation has rarely done there. Conservation methods of soil and water is rarely practised there. Therefore underground water recharge is poor leading to dried up of bore wells.

Youth of the community are mostly dependent to their family. One or two person from each family has gone out for job or business. Their earning satisfies basic need of all the family. Due to lack of opportunity locally many youth's life is just wasting in vein.

Lama dance is one of the most prestigious, holy and auspicious occasion of Tashi Jong. It is performed to bring peace, happiness and wisdom to our world at this time of great need for these things. It is

believed that Guru Padmasambhva has a superior power of blessing by his vow to protect beings in the dark era and of his full accomplishment in compassion and wisdom. People from different part of the world witness every year. It is about one week festival in the month of April. Despite being so important this dance find less response from outside. The costumes, ornaments, and different articles used for this dance has become old and requires either change, repairing, colouring or redecorations. Professional outlook to this event is lacking.

**ISSUES ADDRESSED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:** Tashi Jong is a holy and auspicious place for Tibetan Community. This place is inhabited by 83 Tibetan refugee families, a Monastery, a Tibetan institute, place of HH 9<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche and several Lamas & tokdens. The project was designed to provide safe water to all living in Tashi Jong.

There were earlier existing 7 borewells in Tashi Jong with a maximum 4” boring upto depth of 200 ft. Out of the seven bore wells 4 dried up or not functional at present. The existing bore wells are not sufficient to meet the adequate water need of the area. Community People and Lamas use to go to Sampha Kha river at down side for bathing and washing their cloths.

**ACTIVITIES PERFORMED DURING THE PROJECT PERIOD:** The following activities were performed under the project;

- a) Baseline Survey and data collection
- b) Software development
- c) Site selection & Bore well digging
- d) Construction of Water tank
- e) Installation of Water meter
- f) Inauguration of the Water supply system
- g) Formation of development committee
- h) Project Sustainability
- i) Project Performers Detail
- j) Project Achievements

**PLAN MEASURES:** The detail procedures and process under the project activities may be summarised as follows:

- 1) Base Line Survey and Data Collection:** A survey format was developed by SSS and sent to the collaboration NGO the “Tibetan Craft Community”. The survey was done by TCC to collect base line data of community people, Monastery, Institute, Lamas etc. The data collected contain demography, socio – economic status, present water uses and requirement. All the data were feed in the software prepared for the purpose.
- 2) Software development:** A computer software named “ACT for Water Project” with 3 versions has been developed. Web form of the software is under construction. The detail of the versions are as follows:
  - a. Version 1: - Baseline survey data entry and reports
  - b. Version 2: - Consumer coding, meter installation with IMR and reports
  - c. Version 3: - Water bill generation, money receipt, and reports
  - d. Version 4: - Web based reports and search (work in progress)

 <p>Developed By :- <b>CONSOLE (INDIA) INC.</b> Customer Care 09308549593 Sales and Marketing (0651) 2330060 Email bhaskarkayal@hotmail.com</p>	<p>WATER CONSUMPTION DOC. <span style="float: right;">CONSUMER COPY</span></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SAPTRISHI TCC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</b> TASHI JONG, HIMACHAL PRADESH</p>
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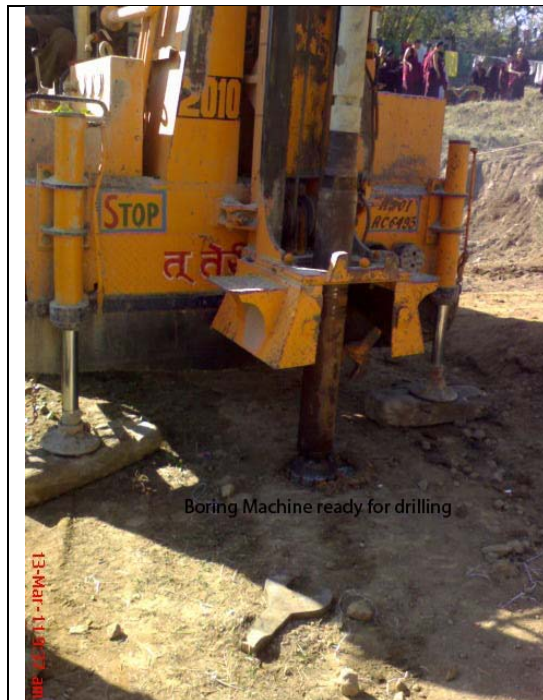
- 3) Site Selection & Bore well digging:** With the help of community people, Lamas, Manager of Monastery & Institute, Secretary TCC and the bore well contractor Mr. Dilip Singh 3-4 sites were visited. Finally one site at topmost boundary of Tashi Jong close to a stream was selected for bore well. This selection was done on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011. However the site was good but there was no approach road. Therefore it was decided that a JCB Machine will be brought and approach road will be constructed. The JCB machine could able to shape a road which require finishing by manpower. The community members and Lamas were requested for labour contribution to prepare the approach road. About 100 people contributed hard labour on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011 and prepared the approach road.



The bore well digging was started on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2011 after offering Puja by HH 9<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche at the boring site. After the Puja bore well digging was started. It took 3 day to complete the boring. 11 inches diameter boring with 8 inches surrounding pipe capacity boring having 370 ft. deep was drilled. Water started from 90 ft. and gradually the force of water increased while digging. A good source of water came out having 2 – 2.5 inches water out flow at the depth of 370 ft. The Pressure of water was so high that further boring was not possible.

There is always uncertain in bore well digging. The formation of underground land and availability of water is difficult to predict. The site selected based on the experience was close to a stream, horizontal to the closed hill and having land ownership of Khampagar Monastery Retreat Centre, Tashi Jong.





The bore well was fitted with 340 ft. of 2 inches stainless steel top quality GI pipes connected with 12 HP submersible pump on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011. Three phases electric supply in the name of TCC, Tashi Jong has been taken. The output of submersible pump is connected with the RCC Water tank connected at a distance of about 100 ft. and height of about 40 ft.



- 4) **Construction of Water Tank:** A solid RCC casted of approx 56000 litres storage capacity rectangular water tank has been constructed. The dimension of the tank is 21 X 12 X 11 ft with foundation of 2 fts depth RCC. Three output lines has been taken first to Monastery Kitchen and west side of Lama's residences, second to Community Tank and third to Institute and east side of lamas residence. The Ownership of this Land also lies with the Monastery.



- 5) **Installation of Water Meter:** Previously there exist on bricks made water tank of capacity about 40000 Litres. The community were given supply from that tank. Other had kept big polymer water tanks to store water.



Water meter brand "Kranti Meter" were purchased from Jalandhar, Punjab, and install with each user. For the purpose of control and calculation three meters were also installed at the output of Water Tank Lines.

- 6) **Inauguration of Water supply system:** After completion of installation of water meters and supply system in Tashi Jong formal inauguration was planned for 15<sup>th</sup> July 2011. Appointment from HH 9<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche was taken. But sudden unavailability of HH 9<sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche inauguration was done by Tokden Chuchay Lopdhu in the morning at 9.00 am. Puja was performed in which all community member participated. Though there was heavy rain but all were present and inauguration was done with full gratitude and devotion.





- 7) Formation of Development Committee:** A committee named SAPTRISHI TCC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE was formed for the purpose of supervision and follow-up of after completion of current project and carry on future developmental activities. The project was handed over to this committee. This committee comprises of seven members as follows:
- HH Khamtrul Rinpoche Shedrub Nyima
  - Secretary Tibetan Craft Community – Presently Mr. Yeshe Chogya
  - Treasurer Tibetan Craft Community – Presently Mrs. Tenzin Wangmo
  - Representative from SSS – Mr. Harjeet Singh
  - Representative from Monastery – Lama Lhundhup Palden Negi
  - Community Representative (Male): Mr. Sopa Rabjam
  - Community Representative (Female): Ms. Kelsang Youdon

This committee will monitor water supply, financial aspect, initiate developmental activities, follow up of ongoing developmental activities, implementation of decision taken by communities at different level etc. A bank account in the name of the Committee will be open for financial transaction of the committee.

- 8) Project Sustainability:** For the sustainability of the project the followings are required:
- Management of water supply services
  - Regular Maintenance of supply systems
  - Adequate Water conservation system
  - No financial burden to pay recurring and non recurring expenses

For the management of water supply services Saptrishi TCC development Committee is constituted as above mentioned. A local person named Mr. Sopa Rabjam is appointed by TCC to take care of proper supply of water. He will daily start the pump to fill water tank and look after proper water supply. He is paid Rs. 2000.00 per month. In case of any requirement he will contact the committee to solve the problem.

For regular maintenance of water supply system Mr. Purshottam Kumar, a local plumber is given contract. He will repair and maintain all water supply system. Rs. 2000 per month is proposed for his services.

The stream near to the Bore well is being checked by stones of height of 4-5 ft. , at two different intervals. This will ensure underground recharge of rain water. Plantation is planned in Tashi Jong in Late August – September every year. This year at least hundred plants will be planed. Free land in Tashi Jong shall be converted into rainwater harvesting pits.

Each water consumer has been given one ID. Monthly water uses bill shall be charges @ Rs. 0.009 per unit i.e., less than One paisa. The maximum bill in July was Rs. 201.00 only and minimum was Rs. 23.00 only. From the community a development fund is creating by charging 23 rupees from each water users per month. This money will be made available for maintenance and development of water project. The money collected from water charge is calculated as such that it will cover the electricity cost of the water pump running. Thus no fund is required from outside to support water project after completion. After 3 month the committee will sit to review it and decide accordingly. If there will be shortage of fund then water charges will be increased if excess then the charges will be minimised.

- 9) Project Performers detail:** This project was carried out by Support or Sustainable Society, Ranchi, Jharkhand in collaboration with Tibetan Craft community, Tashi Jong, Himachal Pradesh. The following persons were performed in successful implementation of the project:

Name of the Person	Organisation Name	Project Designation	Major Responsibility
Mr. Harjeet Singh	Support for Sustainable Society	Key Person	Project implementation & Management
Er. Pravin Kumar Dayal	Dayal Architect, Ranchi	Consultant Engineer	Design the construction of water tank and water supply system
Adv. Arvind Kumar Lall	Support for Sustainable society	Trustee, SSS	Legal advisor & Mid-term evaluation of the project
Mr. Bhaskar Kayal	Console (India) Inc., Ranchi	Software Consultant	Design the software "ACT Water Project"
Deeptej Singh	Support for Sustainable Society	Project Assistant	To assist & supervise construction activity in Tashi Jong; To assist in software development
Yeshe Chogyal	Tibetan Craft Community	Key contact Person in Tashi Jong	Collaboration & Mobilisation of project in Tashi Jong; management at grassroot level.

- 10) Project achievements:** The achievement of the project may be listed as follows:
- Availability of good and quality source of underground water;
  - Increased water storage capacity to meet the basic need of entire Tashi Jong ;
  - Safe water supply to 83 Tibetan Refugee families; restaurants, guest houses and office.
  - Safe water supply to monks & Lama living in Khampagar Monastery, Tashi Jong;
  - Safe water supply to about 250 lamas studying in Khampagar Druk College, Tashi Jong;
  - A comprehensive computer software for managing water project;
  - Establishment of perfect water supply system for all people of Tashi Jong
  - Initiation of system to conserve and water recharge at Tashi Jong
  - Smart functioning of Development Committee formed for maintenance & future development of Tashi Jong.
  - Settlement of all bills and vouchers of different parties engaged/hired under this project;



**MAJOR EVENTS AT A GLANCE:**

Sn.	Date	Event	Remarks
1.	09 March 2011	Bore well Site Selection	With the help of local people
2.	10 March 2011	Approach Road construction	Local Labour Contribution
3.	13 March 2011	Offering Puja by HH 9 <sup>th</sup> Khamtrul Rinpoche before start of boring	
4.	13 – 15 March 2011	Bore well Drilling	M/s. Sarawagi & Sons, Palampur
5.	17 March 2011	Installation of Submersible pump and pipes in the bore well	-Do-
6.	18 March 2011	Community meeting	Participated by Community members and Monastery People
7.	16 April 2011	Community meeting	Mr. Arvind Kr. Lall, Mr. Geleg & Marshal also Participated
8.	02 – 10 June 2011	Installation of Water meter at community houses.	82 meters installed
9.	25 – 13 July 2011	Installation of pipe lines and water meter to Monastery & Lamas	13 meters installed
10.	15 July 2011	Inauguration of water project	Tokden Chuchay Lopdhu, Teacher of HH 9 <sup>th</sup> Khemtrul Rinpoche
11.	16 July 2011	Distribution of first water consumption bill to community people.	Total bill generated of approx Rs. 5.5 Thousand.
12.	17 July 2011	Community Meeting	Project handed over to Saptrishi TCC Development Committee

**CONCLUSION:** This is one of the successful projects of Support for Sustainable Society with high degree of achievements. This project could be completed by people's participation. People's participated in selection of bore well site, water tank site, construction of approach roads, supervision during digging of bore well, construction of water tank, water pipe line and water meter installation, Cleaning of existing water tanks, wall board painting and colouring of water tanks, selection of Committee members, construction of water conservation structures was remarkable. Local contribution in terms of labour has generated. This project is unique as despite being a charitable project the further recurring expenses like cost of electricity, manpower and maintenance covering by paying water charges. A development fund is being generated through contributing Rs. 23.00 per month by each water users. Computer software has made easy to maintain records, generate water bills and receive payment. This software will be available on net after few months. The support of local NGO (TCC) was remarkable. TCC has work hard to fulfil the recommendation made in pre funding report. It has applied for 12 (A) Income tax exemption, filed FCRA report for last three years in the Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi. They also changed their Chartered Account and had appointed qualified CA.

This project will emerge as one of the mother project which will support many projects in future by its fund generated through paying water uses charges.

**(HARJEET SINGH)**

Support for Sustainable Society

Ranchi, Jharkhand.