



Swabalamban

changing the quality of lives of low-income people

A glimpse of activities of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

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May-June 2019

New Saving Product Launched

SWBBL introduced an additional new saving product from the month of June 2019. It has now all together six types of saving products including this new product under voluntary saving scheme. Besides that, SWBBL has two types of saving product under compulsory saving scheme. SWBBL has been serving its clients developing innovative saving product to increase savings of clients to set up micro-enterprises.



SWABALAMBI BACHAT YOJANA KHATA has commenced with an aim to return double amount of initial account opening balance to the members. Members could open this account by saving minimum of NRs.5,000/- and maximum of NRs.50,000/- and must save 1 percent amount of initial account opening balance in every centre meeting for the time of 48th centre meeting.



As on mid June 2019 (Jestha end 2075)

Amount in NPR'000'

Total Loan Disbursed	NPR	95,871,426
Loan Outstanding	NPR	14,294,847
Savings	NPR	7,221,884
No. of Active Clients	No.	236,335
No. of Borrowers	No.	159,440
No. of Centres	No.	11,523
No. of Staff (incl. trainees)	No.	651
No. of Female Staff	No.	107
No. of Branch Offices	No.	128
Working Districts	No.	57
No. of Area Offices		9
Currency Conversion		USD 1.00=NPR 111.99



Mrs. Amirkala Devi Yadav, a client of Dharapani branch of Dhanusha district, has been doing clothing business in local market by taking of NRs.300 thousand as general loan. This business gives return about NRs.35 thousands per month to her family.

Central Office Organized a Workshop Entitled 'Manager's Meet for Setting Way Forward'

SWBBL central office organized a workshop entitled 'Manager's Meet for Setting Way Forward' to ink the pathway for the next FY 2019/20 on June 2-3, 2019 in Kathmandu.

The workshop centered on the content of program review of third quarter of the current FY 2018/19. Besides that, the workshop designed for the planning of coming FY 2019/20. Participants of the workshop discussed on branch wise progress, developed action plan and strategies to proceed on rest of the period of current FY and also recommended the budget and program for the next FY 2019/20.

Addressing on the closing session of workshop, Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha, Chairman of Board of Directors expressed his pleasure for the commitment presented by the managers to set-up the future strategies to achieve the goal successfully. He emphasized on keeping the institution's image shining forever in the microfinance industry.



Mr. Bhoj Raj Bashyal, CEO, shared the experiences of Philippines's microfinance sector and its innovative practices. The services delivered by the institution of Philippines were outstanding for the betterment for clients. 'We could do a lot for the betterment of clients through preparing our best policies in client protection', he added. He also expressed his appreciation for wonderful participation of all participants on the workshop. He believed that the workshop has become successful to shape out appropriate planning for the FY 2019/20. There were 25 participants including Area Managers, Department Heads and central office supporting staff members at the workshop. ■

Exposure Visit of BOD to the Philippines



BOD officials with the President and CEO of ASA Mr. Kamrul H Tarafder during their visit at the Philippines.

The team of Board of Directors (BOD) including Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (SWBBL) visited the major microfinance institutions in the Philippines from May 19 to 26, 2019.

The objectives of the visit were to get acquainted with the microfinance operation, process and practices in the Philippines. Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha, Chairman of BOD and Directors Mr. Sanjay Nepal, Mr. Ram Prasad Pandey, Mr. Satish Kumar Shrestha, Mr. Bhaskar N. Joshi, Ms. Sadhana Upadhyaya and

Mr. Bishnu Prasad Tripathi as well as Mr. Bhoj Raj Bashyal, CEO participated in the visit.

During the period participants visited the Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc. (MCPI), Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP-Central Bank of the Philippines), ASA, CARD MRI and ASHI. The program was coordinated by the MCPI, a network of Filipino MFIs. The team also visited central office, branch offices, centre meetings, clients of MFIs and placed discussions and exchanged views with the MFIs officials of said MFIs.

From the exposure visit, the participants have learned that the microfinance institutions are working on more holistic approach in the Philippines and they generally spend 25 percent of profit for the welfare of the clients. They are also following best practices in client protection."To some extent, SWBBL could also inject such best practices including financial and non-financial incentives from client protection fund preparing appropriate rules." said participants.

There are different innovative concepts developing in microfinance sector that Filipino MFIs are practicing. The BOD reports that SWBBL could avail from the exposure visit to strengthen and introduce innovation in the program after observing the scenario of microfinance sector in the Philippines.

Taukhel and Okhaldhunga Branch Distributed Educational Materials to Community School

Branch Office Taukhel, Lalitpur and Okhaldhunga have distributed educational material to the local community school amid a program on 31 May and 24 June respectively.

Branch offices provided school bags, pencils and copies as well as sports materials to the underprivileged students from the marginalized community.

Organizing a function at Tulasi Aadharbhut Bidhyalaya of Godabari municipality of Lalitpur district, branch office handed over the educational and sports materials to Mr. Bijay Pathak, chairperson of School Management Committee. Manager from Area office Gaththagar Mr. Mohan Bahadur Ranabhat handed-over the materials. The program was chaired by Ms. Sangita Nagarkoti, Centre Chief of Centre No. 21. Welcoming to the participants and students, Branch Manager Mr. Rajendra Kumar Shrestha said that SWBBL has been providing such assistantship in many school throughout the nation. To be a part of the community, branch office and SWBBL whole family feels proud to put a brick for the educational development of children and sports infrastructure of the school.



Chairperson of school management committee Mr. Pathak extended gratitude to the branch and thanks for great contribution to the school. Centre Chief and chairperson of the function Ms. Sangita Nagarkoti said, "The work of SWBBL is admirable for empowerment of women and community welfare."

Likewise, in Okhaldhunga branch provides a set of educational materials consists of school bags, copies, pencils, sharpener and erasers to fifty-three students of Shree Jantarkhani Madhyamik Bidhyalaya situated at Sidhdhicharan municipality of Okhaldhunga district. During the program, Head teacher Mr. Mekh Bahadur Magar extended thank to the branch office for providing such educational materials to the student of low-income family. Representatives of school management committee, local representatives of different office, members, students and guardians including the staff members of branch office were participated the function.

SWBBL has been giving continuation to contribute to health, environment, community welfare and educational sector under its corporate social responsibility.



Financial Literacy Program to the Members and Guardians

Branch Office Dharan, Thimi and Laukahi organized financial literacy program on May 24, 29 and 31, 2019 respectively at their respective areas.



Financial literacy program at Dharan Branch

The program was organized to provide general knowledge on

banking system. The program was aimed for informing the clients about advantages of saving and utilization of loan in an appropriate income generating works.

Addressing the program at Dharan sub-metropolitan city, officiating Deputy Mayor and Chairman of Ward No. 15 Mr. Naresh Kumar Iwaram said that the invitation for the involvement of local bodies in such program is very praiseworthy work of institution. It will help to work together for the betterment of locals. Everybody must keep on balance their income and expenses. The credit provided by institution without collateral is seed money for the client. They must use such small credit in proper income generating activities. Putting the views, Mr. Dil Kumar Giri, chairman of Ward No. 16, said that the objective of the program is most welcoming subject matter. Such literary classes help to aware the people for effective economic planning.

Addressing the program at Koshi Rural Municipality of Laukahi, Chairperson of Koshi rural municipality, Mr. Ayub Ansari, Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Anita Devi Yadav, Ward chairman Mr. Ram Chandra Mahato expressed their admiring



Financial literacy program at Laukahi

words for the initiation of Swabalamban to make informed about the saving, credit and other financial education for the economic prosperity of rural people especially the women. Likewise, representative from police station Mr. Abadh Lal Sah and Journalist Mr. Pawan Rauniyar spoke about the importance of such program.

Inaugurating the program at Thimi, Mr. Rabindra Sapkota, Ward Chairman of Ward No.7, said, "The financial literacy to the women and the guardians will help them for financial management. The



Financial literacy program at Thimi

discussion placed on right and proper use of loan and importance of savings leads them toward financial prosperity". Deputy Divisional Manager Mr. Rajan Prasad Bhattarai said that there have been lots of different stories of failures from the misuse of loan. Everyone should invest the loan in appropriate projects.

During the program, participants were well informed about the disadvantages of multiple borrowing, bad effects of loan duplication, role of guardians, need of discipline, policies of institutions as well as they got an opportunity to share success and failure stories of different members through audio-visuals.

Including the banking system, the literary classes highly emphasized on awareness campaign on education, environment, health, and overall community development activities. During the program, participants raised questions and concerns about program, officials from Central office and Area office addressed the issues raised by participants.

There were a total number of about 250 participants including members and guardians at the program in Dharan, about 200 in Laukahi and about 150 participants in Thimi. Likewise, representatives from the nearby branch offices participated in the program. ■

Exposure Visit to the Members



Branch office Khudi of Lamjung district organized a one day exposure visit to twenty seven members of different centres on May 5, 2019. The main focus of the visit was to build the capacity of potential entrepreneurs and the sharing the experiences among the entrepreneurs.

Branch office arranged a visit to observe Centre No. 37 of Dumre of Tanahu district. The centre was comparatively well-organized and most of the women member engaged in different successful projects. A team of members visited Lagansheel Swabalamban Mahila Kendra, Centre No. 37 and studied outstanding projects of the members associated with the same Centre.

After the visit, members expressed their eagerness to carry on the better projects that they observed before. They extended thanks to the branch for giving an opportunity to learn and share knowledge of different centre and community to each other. ■

Compensation Handed-Over

Branch Office Rajbiraj of Saptari district handed-over the life insurance compensation to the family of Ms. Fuliya Devi. Ms. Fuliya Devi, who died after taking the loan amount, was insured with equal amount of loan taken by her. Swabalamban facilitated as an insurance agent and knotted the members with rural credit insurance of the equal amount of loan taken by them. The compensation use to be settled in the case of loss of life and or permanent total disability of insured.

Branch office provided NPR. 1,96,405/- to Mr. Bechu Ray Amat, husband of Ms. Fuliya Devi. The amount is handed over through the hand of Mr. Shri Bahadur Sada, Ward Chairman of Bishnupur Rural Municipality Ward No. 6 amid a small function. On behalf of SWBBL and Branch Office, Branch Manager conveyed condolences to the entire bereaved family at the function. SWBBL has been distributing compensation to the family of insured member who losses of life and or got permanent total disability through its rural credit insurance service.



Branch Office Jumla Conducted Livestock Farming Training to the Members



The participants of livestock farming organized by Jumla Branch on June 6, 2019

Branch Office Khalanga of Jumla district conducted livestock to 30 members of different centres on June 6, 2019. The training was basically centered on buffalo farming and its management.

The resource person of the training was Mr. Hari Khatri, Animal Health Technician of District Livestock Services Office of Jumla district. He imparted knowledge on best practiced buffalo farming process and management. He shared his experiences that farmer must keep in mind while starting the buffalo farming, problems in the business that faced by farmer during the farming and its solutions as well as pathway to be a professional in livestock business.

One of the most popular income source of the locals is buffalo farming and dairy business in and around of Jumla. Most of the families have been doing the business traditionally. It is believed that this professional training would bring additional knowledge to boost the business.

The participants of the training seemed quite happy after receiving the short but comprehensive training. They said that the training would be helpful to promote their business more scientifically. They committed to improve their traditional way and follow the scientific way to do the buffalo farming and dairy business in the coming days.

Similarly, Branch Office Gaighat of Udaypur district conducted vegetable farming training to 29 members of different centres on May 17, 2019. The training was basically centered on off-season vegetable farming and its management. Branch offices of SWBBL have been providing such kind of skill and capacity development training every year to the member and potential entrepreneurs from different centre. ■



The Participants of off-season vegetable farming at Gaighat

Participation on Two International Training Program in Bangladesh



The Participants of training on Advanced Microfinance Operations

A team consists of officials from Central Office, Area Office and Branch Office attended two different international training programs on "Advanced Microfinance Operations" and "Advanced Risk Management for Sustainable Growth of MFIs" separately in Dhaka on March 30 –April 4, 2019 and April 21-25, 2019 respectively.

Ms. Narayan Devi Shrestha, Deputy Divisional Manager, Mr. Rajeswor Yadav, Area Manager, and Branch Managers Mr. Chandra Bahadur Thapa and Sanjay Kumar Jha participated on the training entitled "Advanced Microfinance Operations" held on March 30 –April 4. The training was organized by the Banking Finance and Insurance Institute of Nepal (BFIN) in collaboration with the Institute for Inclusive Finance and Management (InM), Dhaka, Bangladesh. The training was basically centered on the origin and recent developments of microfinance within a global context, financing modalities; performance indicators; customer protection principles, risks and non-performing asset management including interactions with selected Bangladeshi MFIs.

The second one team comprises Mr. Chandramani Chaulagai, Acting Deputy Divisional Manager, Mr. Mohan Prasad Bhattarai, Deputy Divisional Manager, Mr. Lil Bahadur Karki, Area Manager and Mr. Santa Bahadur Sarki, Branch Manager attended the training on "Advanced Risk Management for Sustainable Growth of MFIs" held on April 21-25, 2019. The training was organized by the same institute InM, Dhaka.

The participants learnt the lesson on the subject matter of nature of risk, risk assessment and actions, sustainability vs. social benefits in MFIs, credit risk mitigation through non-credit services, product design and adaptability by the clients. Besides that, loan approvals and monitoring, relationship with the local government, financial ratios/key performance indicators, internal control, use of technology in the MFI operations for enhanced risk management. During the training, the training participants got an opportunity of exposure visit of some of renowned MFIs like SOJAG-NGO, Grameen Bank, PKSF to learn current operation and management scenarios of Bangladeshi MFIs. ■



The Participants of training on Advanced Risk Management for Sustainable Growth of MFIs