



# Nirdhan Newsletter

Newsletter of Nirdhan Utthan Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited / April 2022 Edition

Nirdhan Utthan Laghubitta  
Bittiya Sanstha Limited  
(formerly Nirdhan Utthan  
Bank Limited)

An MFI Providing Services to  
the Poor

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## Message from the CEO

Dear Readers,

Greetings!

We are delighted to present you progress highlights for April 2022 together with a brief account of the activities accomplished by the institution during the month.

To begin with, we are pleased to share that we have released this month a new book on "Financial Literacy and Business Projects." The book includes 9 topics under financial literacy and 21 agricultural/farming business projects, which were transmitted earlier - one at a month - to about 400 thousand Nirdhan client members.

The new book was released amidst a function in the Gandaki Provincial Level Workshop for our Centre In-charges where they shared on achievements and discussed, among others, on entrepreneurship promotion.

In this issue, we present you the success story of Mrs. Devi Kumal (Agro-nursery and Poultry-farming) from Tansen, Palpa, who received Dr. Harihar Dev Pant Best Micro-Entrepreneur Award from among the entrepreneurs in Lumbini Province in 2021 (2078 BS).

The Corporate Social Responsibility and Client Protection activities continued during the month with 256 members availing maternity allowance, 69 receiving disaster relief and 19 receiving critical illness relief. Likewise, we facilitated settlement of 155 insurance claims from the members.



A series of 3-day training events were organized for the client members on various income generating activities. In total, 9 events were organized during the first-half of April 2022 covering pig farming (1), sheep farming (1), goat farming (3), and vegetable farming (4).

Finally, our coverage and outreach continued to expand with addition of 100 Centres/SRGs this month and selected financial indicators also suggest a slight increase in the business volume.

Janardan Dev Pant



Nirdhan Utthan Board Members in a Centre Visit, Mahajidiya Branch, Rupandehi — March 2022

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## SUCCESS STORY The trail mapped by Nirdhan — Devi Kumal

Resident of Ward 10, Tansen Municipality, Devi Kumal is a successful farmer. She was born in February 1974 as the eldest daughter among 6 daughters with 3 elder brothers in the family of Nanda Lal Thapa (father) and Putali Thapa (mother) of Tulasi Bhanjyang, Ward 8, Galyang Municipality of Syangja District. She could gain formal education only up to grade 2 as she was born in an ordinary family. Her childhood spent in taking care of younger sisters as her father had no permanent source of income.

She was married at the age of 15 years to Ram Bahadur Kumal of Ward 10, Tansen Municipality. At the time of her marriage, the income source at in-laws was limited and she tried to send her spouse in foreign employment as it became difficult managing daily household expenses. However, she could not succeed and her spouse started to work in a *dhaka* (hand-woven cotton fabric) industry. As the wages was low in the industry, she thought of engaging herself in vegetable farming. Yet, she was disturbed as she could not manage the required money for vegetable farming. In the meantime, in 2007 she came in contact with Nirdhan staff. She formed a group as she learnt from the staff on collateral-free loan on group guarantee and regular saving facilities.

In 2007, she started vegetable farming with NPR 10 thousand loan through group affiliation. Though the farming generated some income that was not as expected. She gained additional knowledge on mushroom and vegetable farming attending the training conducted by Nirdhan in 2009. The training encouraged her further in pursuing the business. She continued availing loan facilities in subsequent cycles including NPR 20 thousand, NPR 25 thousand, NPR 40 thousand and so on respectively up to 15<sup>th</sup> cycle. Currently, she has been availing NPR 300 thousand loan facility and engaged in vegetable farming, poultry farming and buffalo farming also registering a nursery - 'Ramdev Agro Nursery.'



*Mrs. Laxmi Devi Pathak, Deputy Mayor of Tansen Municipality, Palpa District handing over Dr. Harihar Dev Pant Best Micro-Entrepreneur Award to Mrs. Devi Kumal from among the entrepreneurs in Lumbini Province in 2021 (2078 BS)*

Especially, she has been engaged in both seasonal and off-season vegetable farming that include cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, radish, tomato, cucumber, eggplant, potato, bean, mushroom etc. Her produce is collected at home by the wholesalers from Tansen and Butwal as well as sold retail in local market. As she gained good income, she has continued with both seasonal and off-season vegetable farming and production of fruit saplings. Her nursery is famous with the brand name 'Ramdev Nursery.'

Devi keeps monthly NPR 1 thousand in Sambriddhi Savings out of business income. She has over NPR 181 thousand in both group and Sambriddhi accounts. With the business income, she has acquired 15 Ropani land where she has been operating vegetable farming, nursery, poultry and buffalo farming. The business has employed 3 persons fully including herself, her spouse and a son. Though the couple are deprived of formal education, their elder daughter is serving since last 7 years in Nepal Police with education up to grade 12, the elder son has passed SLC and younger son has studied up to BA. She states that, currently she makes monthly income of over NPR 120 thousand, which include NPR 20 thousand from the nursery and NPR 100 thousand jointly from vegetable, poultry and buffalo farming. She shares that, she considers Nirdhan as the God-like as it has supported with finance, courage and skill in bringing her in the current position rescuing from the troublesome past. The path shown by Nirdhan has not only brought greenery in my farm but also in my life. She proudly states that, "Nirdhan is my guide and I will remain its devotee lifelong."

Contributor: Arjun Prasad Khanal, Section In-charge,  
Branch Office Banstari, Palpa

## NON-FINANCIAL SERVICES CSR and CP Activities

Nirdhan has several initiatives ensuring its Corporate Social Responsibility and Client Protection. It has also facilitated micro-insurance services for member/clients. A summary of the initiatives undertaken during the month of Chaitra 2078 (corresponding mid-March to mid-April 2022) as well as cumulative figures for the ongoing fiscal year as of mid-April 2022 are presented in this section.

### Maternity Allowance

Maternity period is a very sensitive period for the mothers as they need nutritious food for themselves and in keeping the infant healthy. To support this cause, Nirdhan provides NPR 1,600 up to two time delivery as maternity allowance.

Nirdhan distributed maternity allowance to **256** members during the month amounting to a total of **NPR 408,600** through different branches. With this payment, the facility has been availed by **2,201** members amounting to **NPR 3,519,100** as of mid-April 2022 during this fiscal year.

### Critical Illness Relief

Critical Illness Relief with a value of NPR 5,000 per case covers illnesses including cancer, major organ damage, major heart disease and other major illnesses as specified in the Critical Illness Relief Manual.

Nirdhan provided Critical Illness Relief to **19** members during the month amounting to a total of **NPR 95,000**. With this payment, the facility has been availed by **131** members amounting to **NPR 655,000** as of mid-April 2022 during this fiscal year.

CSR/CP Activities	as of 14 Mar 022		Progress during 15 Mar - 13 Apr 022		as of 13 Apr 022	
	No.	NPR	No.	NPR	No.	NPR
Maternity Allowance	1,945	3,110,500	256	408,600	2,201	3,519,100
Critical Illness Relief	112	560,000	19	95,000	131	655,000
Disaster Relief	911	2,335,000	69	274,000	980	2,609,000
Insurance Claim	1,772	129,732,250	155	14,398,130	1,927	144,130,380

*Note: Cumulative figures are for the current Fiscal Year (2078-79 BS) only*

### Disaster Relief

This relief is made available to the members affected by natural calamities such as flood, landslide, earthquake, tornado, fire etc. The relief amount is dependent on the severity of the damage caused to the members and their household.

Nirdhan provided disaster relief to **69** members during the month amounting to a total of **NPR 274,000** through different branches. With this payment, the facility has been availed by a total of **980** members amounting to **NPR 2,609,000** as of mid-April 2022 during this fiscal year.

### Insurance Claim

Nirdhan distributes compensation amount in the event of death or accident of its member clients as well as to their family members who are covered under the micro-insurance service facilitated by Nirdhan.

Nirdhan facilitated settlement of **155** claims during the month amounting to a total of **NPR 14,398,130** through different branches. With this payment, the insurance claim has been availed by **1,927** members amounting to **NPR 144,130,380** as of mid-April 2022 during this fiscal year.



## BOOK RELEASE Financial Literacy and Business Projects

Dr. Ram Sharan Kharel, Provincial Head of Nepal Rastra Bank, Gandaki Provincial Office, Pokhara, Kaski - the Chief Guest at Nirdhan Gandaki Provincial Level Workshop for Centre In-charges - launched the book "Financial Literacy and Business Projects" on 29 April 2022.

The book includes 9 topics under financial literacy and 21 agricultural/farming business projects including horticulture, cash crop, apiary, aquaculture, and animal husbandry, which were earlier transmitted - one at a month - to about 400 thousand Nirdhan client members.

Launching the book, the Chief Guest Dr. Kharel opined that sustainable development is possible with increased number of small and micro-enterprises (SMEs) and promotion of SMEs is possible only with microfinance institutions and cooperatives.



Dr. Kharel also shared that Dr. Harihar Dev Pant initiated Nirdhan with the conviction that through provision of microfinance services, SMEs could be promoted and thus contribute towards sustainable development of the country.

## CAPACITY BUILDING Training on Income Generating Activities

A series of 3-day training events were organized for the client members on various income generating activities. In total, 9 events were organized during the first-half of April 2022 - 1 each on pig farming and sheep farming, 3 on goat farming, and 4 on vegetable farming.

In terms of regional office coordination for the capacity building activities, Birendranagar handled 3 events followed by 2 events each by Birgunj and Bardibas, and 1 event each by Attaria and Bharatpur.

Client Capacity Building - April 2022		
Training on Income Generating Activities		
Location	Regional Office	Dates
<b>Goat Farming</b>		
Narayan, Dailekh	Birendranagar	02-04 Apr 2022
Khalanga, Jajarkot	Birendranagar	05-07 Apr 2022
Tikapur, Kailali	Attaria	07-09 Apr 2022
<b>Pig Farming</b>		
Daldale, Nawalparasi	Bharatpur	06-08 Apr 2022
<b>Sheep Farming</b>		
Sinja, Jumla	Birendranagar	06-08 Apr 2022
<b>Vegetable Farming</b>		
Chandranigahpur, Rautahat	Birgunj	31 Mar-02 Apr 2022
Loharpatti, Mahottari	Bardibas	05-07 Apr 2022
Parwanipur, Bara	Birgunj	06-08 Apr 2022
Nawalpur, Sarlahi	Bardibas	07-09 Apr 2022
<b>Total</b>	<b>9 events</b>	



In all of these training events, the officials/professionals from the government livestock offices in the district/locality served as the resource persons.

Nirdhan CEO with participants in vegetable farming training, Galchhi, Dhading

## PROGRESS INDICATORS Financial Progress and Coverage/Outreach

The highlights on Financial Progress and Coverage/Outreach for the month of Chaitra 2078 (corresponding mid-March to mid-April 2022) are presented in this section.

Progress Indicators	as of 14 Mar 022	Progress during 15 Mar - 13 Apr 022	as of 13 Apr 022
<b>Financial Progress (in Billion NPR)</b>			
Loan Disbursed	185.42	2.34	187.76
Loan Outstanding	27.52	0.23	27.75
Savings & Deposits	17.26	0.32	17.58
<b>Coverage/Outreach (in No.)</b>			
Districts Covered	77 of 77	—	77 of 77
Local Bodies Reached	546 of 753	2	548 of 753
Branch Offices	181	—	181
Centers/SRGs	21,828	100	21,928
Staff Strength	1,201	(7)	1,194
Active Clients	392,803	1,337	394,140
Loan Clients	233,613	1,522	235,135

The selected financial indicators that of loan disbursement, loan outstanding and savings & deposits mobilization suggest a slight increase in the reporting month. The loan disbursement reached a volume of **NPR 187.76 Billion** with an increase of **NPR 2.34 Billion** during the month. Likewise, the loan outstanding at the close of the month stood at **NPR 27.75 Billion**. The savings and deposits reached **NPR 17.58 Billion** suggesting a marginal increment during the month.

The coverage and outreach in terms of the number of Centres/SRGs as well as active and loan clients increased slightly during the month. The number of Centres/ SRGs increased by **100** reaching to a total of **21,928**. Likewise, the number of active clients increased by **1,337** reaching to a total of **394,140** and the loan clients also increased by **1,522** reaching to a total of **235,135**.



Mehrun Khatun at her cosmetics shop in open air market, Bodebarsain, Saptari