

## Press Release

The Government of Denmark has agreed to provide grant assistance of DKK 125 million (equivalent to NRs 175 million) to the Government of Nepal for the continuation of School Sector Reform Program (SSRP). At the time of commencement of SSRP it had provided the grant assistance of 220 million DKK (equivalent to NRs. 3253.8 million) in 2009 to support the same program.

The SSRP of the Government of Nepal is a seven year (2009-2015) strategic program. It is funded jointly by the Government and nine pooling development partners (DPs) and other non-pooling partners. Denmark is one of the pooling DPs. The SSRP aims at enabling all children to complete a high quality school education up to grade 12 by focusing on strategic interventions and new reform initiatives to improve access, efficiency, effectiveness and institutional strengthening of the educational system.

The development objective of SSRP is to increase access to school education especially for the girls and children from marginalized groups, improve quality of school education and strengthen the institutional capacity at central and local level. Besides this, the immediate objectives of the programme are : (i) to improve quality and relevance of public primary and secondary education, (ii) to improve access and equity in education, with a particular emphasis on girls, students with disabilities and students from poor and disadvantaged groups and districts, (iii) to develop the institutional capacity and management of central and district education institutions and public schools based upon a decentralized system of planning and management.

The Ministry of Education is the executing agency of this programme and the support will cover the duration of two years (2012-2013).

The Grant Agreement to this effect was signed and exchanged between Mr. Krishna Hari Baskota, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Morten Jespersen, Ambassador of Denmark to Nepal on behalf of their respective governments.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of Denmark for the assistance and also for its continued support in the overall socioeconomic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance  
Singh Durbar  
Kathmandu, Nepal  
17 February 2012  
(फाल्गुण ५ गते २०६८)