

**To:** All  
**From:** Rita/Meera  
**Date:** 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2016  
**Subject:** Aanandi 3 Update - 4

### **Building Work As It Moves:**

Pre monsoon rains, and several aftershocks this month, which came in simultaneously this month, partially damaged the retaining wall that was the original western front boundary of Tewa and now the eastern boundary of Aanandi 3. This means it will take in more time and costs, before we manage to reinforce and strengthen the wall. Calling on Nepal's outstanding structural engineer expert, Manohar Lal Rajbhandary, we are reassured. At his advise, work is now ongoing on a "war-footing". It is recently unfolding here that there is an acute shortage of iron rods – we had to use Meera's networks and power to get what we needed for now. Fearing many more such shortages here



we will have to stock up on bricks, sand, and other building raw materials. We may need to do more of this and buy upfront, cash down. As can also be shared here the, messy foundation work has begun with speed amidst ongoing rain! So much more work regarding the technical aspects, as well as the day-to-day building work is ongoing!

### **Funding for Aanandi 3:**

Michael Cooke, our friend in Canada, in response to our previous update, expressed how he is working to see if some funding is possible for Aanandi 3.

On 10<sup>th</sup> May, Susanne reiterated by writing and clarifying "*When Rita sent out her announcement that she and Meera were committed, yet again, to fundraising for Aanandi 3, I thought to myself – goodness if they have the energy to lead another campaign, then the least I can do is to continue on the Tewa Tea path. So I, too, recommitted to selling the Dhaka Weaves. I want to be VERY clear that all (Tewa Tea) proceeds from this year 2016 will specifically support the Aanandi 3 project!*" So we miraculously managed to connect with Susanne's friend Sarah Davison-Parker of **Seeds of Exchange** as she motored in from Far West Nepal into the airport, to carry a parcel of weaving and mail it to Susanne, as did Sadhana during her recent USA visit – all of which are already at Winter Park CO! Visitor Barbara Ras, gifted us US \$100!

### **Local Fundraising:**

We have exciting news on this front! The A3-FRC<sup>1</sup> committee met, expanded to be a full committee of the following people: From the Tewa Board, Nirmala: Chair, Rama: Treasurer, Lamu: VP, Riva: SG, Janaki: Member, Sheetal: Member, Kamala: Member, and from the staff, Srijana: Admin Officer, Aruna: Executive Housekeeper, Alisha: Finance Officer. The Committee agreed on the following:

- Raise 1 crore Nepali rupees approximately equivalent to US \$ 100,000
- Lead gifts of 10 Lak<sup>2</sup> rupees (US \$ 10,000) will be solicited ☺!
- Gifts of 3 Lak (US \$ 3000) will also be appreciated! &
- Raise funds at both these above mentioned levels, for maximum participation.

We have never earlier initiated a local fundraising campaign without participating ourselves, so I plunged in by surprising myself to pledge a lead gift of Rs. 10,00,000 (to be given within March 2017) and in doing so happily broke my personal philanthropic records! My colleague Deepak Dewan, out did himself equally, by pledging Rs. 300,000! Our introductions and conversations with possible donors are ongoing and we do see lights at the end of the tunnel ☺. After all fundraising requires time and energy, trust and confidence!

On the 19<sup>th</sup> May we shared on the need, concept, and the update on the progress of the A3-FRC to all the Tewa/TC programme staff Team. This proved to be very timely and useful, to get all of us on the same page in moving the A3-FRCampaign.

### **Conclusions:**

The word will keep spreading and we hope Aanandi 3 will be a reality within the time frame of March 2017! This month we were very happy to have Barbara Ras, poet and Associate Director for Editorial at the Trinity University Press, USA, and Dr. Marek Wosinski of Arizona State University, USA visit

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<sup>1</sup> AR-FRC (Aanandi 3 – Fundraising Campaign or committee)

<sup>2</sup> Rs.100,000 or roughly 10,000 US dollars

the TC during their recent Nepal visit. It can be noted that the Tewa Center will have more international visitors this coming month and more, all of which will help us in getting the word out!