

**May 18, 2015 Monday NAsEA Meeting (27<sup>th</sup>) Emergency meeting Minutes**

**Online Conference:** Telephone number: **1-605-562-0020**; **Code: 122-152-689#**

**Participants:** Dr. Ram Chandra Baral, President; Bimal Nepal, EVP; Shailendra Bajracharya, VP; Dr. Tilak Shrestha, GS; Ambika Sharma, Joint Secretary \ Acting treasurer

**Members:** Bidya Gurung, Bishu Sapkota, Choodamani Khanal, Dr. Dilip Panthee, Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung, Prawin Paudel, Dr. Shankar Prasad Parajuli  
Chairman of the meeting: Dr. Ram C. Baral, President

Minute taker: Dr. Tilak Shrestha

Time Keeper: Ambika Lohani

1. Hari Dhungana conferred Ph.D. degree:

Dr. Ram Baral: Namaste and welcome to all. Let me begin the meeting with the good news that our Former President Hari Dhungana is being conferred 'Ph.D.' degree recently. Now onward he is to be addressed as 'Dr. Hari Dai.'

Let me propose that NAsEA family 'Congratulate' Dr. Hari Dhungana Dr. Tilak Shrestha seconded the motion. **The proposal passed unanimously. Congratulations to Dr. Hari Dhungana.**

2. Authorization to Ambika Lohani:

As you know we have our Joint Secretary Ambika Lohani Jee has been working as the 'Acting treasurer' after the resignation of the Treasurer Bala Ghimire Jee. As the rule stands President and Treasurer are authorized to sign the checks. As the acting treasurer Ambika Jee needs be authorized to sign the checks.

Let me propose to authorize her to sign the checks on behalf of NAsEA. Bimal Nepal seconded the motion. **The proposal passed unanimously.**

3. Donation for Earthquake relief:

Thanks to all for joining in this emergency meeting regarding the earthquake disaster in Nepal. I am happy to inform that we have collected more than \$ 21,000. I hope and am confident that we will be collecting more.

Bimal Nepal: Namaste to all. Let me briefly mention two issues.

First, let us invite proposals for 'Logo' for the Joint NAsEA \ ANMA Convention.

Second, I am happy to inform that Dr. Bishwa Acharya have collected and forwarded \$ 5,000 for the earthquake relief program with specific request to send to the Prime Minister Relief Fund. Let me also remind you the request by our Ambassador HE Karki Jee to donate to the PM Fund.

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Namaste to all. The transparency of appropriate use of fund is an issue. As per the Ambassador's statement, government is keeping the 'PM fund' transparent. In my opinion, \$ 21,000 is not a big money, and we should give all the 'PM Fund.'

Shailendra Bajracharya: Namaste! To avoid controversy, NRN or PM Fund may be good options. However, we should not give all to the PM Fund. We should also give funds to small organizations working in the relief programs.

Ambika Lohani: Namaste. We have so far collected \$ 20,541. We have to support our national government. NRN does not seems to have direction. We may give all to our HE Ambassador in DC.

Dr. Dilip Panthee: Namaste. As I have opined before, we should give all to PM Fund. Our army and police is doing good job in relief works. We should not criticize only. The VP of Planning Commission is the Chair of the PM fund.

Dr. Tilak Shrestha: Namaste. We should try to get maximum benefit to the victims with our limited resources. Yes, we also honor and like to support our PM Fund. But let us also be cognizant to the field report of Dr. Alka Gurung. She has reported from the disaster area that there is no relief coming from government. On the other hand, there are many small local organizations who are working with their own resources. It will be more cost effective to support them than to give to PM Fund. Thus, let us give a part to PM fund, and rest to local organizations.

Bidya Gurung: Namaste to all. I support Dr. Nar Gurung Jee's view. Perhaps we can invite our HE Ambassador here and give the donation.

Bimal Nepal: In my opinion, let us give \$ 5,000 to PM Fund. And let us form a 'Task Team' to develop criteria and distribute rest of the collected donation.

Shailendra Bajracharya: Let us not give all to PM fund. We have to consider the wishes of donors also. Perhaps we can recognize a few reputable organizations and give them.

Dr. Ram Baral: We have to make a way to consider all opinions. Dr. Prakash Malla also have reported that there are doctors, like Dr. Sanjeev Shrestha, working in the field and could use some support.

Let me propose \$ 7,000 to the PM fund. Let us also make a Task Team to look after the distribution of the rest of the collected donation. If the proposal passes, then I will go myself to the Embassy and hand over the fund to the HE Ambassador. Tilak Shrestha, Shailendra Bajracharya and Bimal Nepal supported the motion. No body objected. **The proposal passed unanimously.**

Dr. Nar Kaji Gurung: Please note my dissent.

4. Adjournment:

Dr. Ram Baral: Thanks to all. Let me adjourn the meeting.