

## SHARMILA DHAKAL

Ms Sharmila Dhakal, single parent abandoned by husband at present used to stay in her maternal home with a son in Yaku VDC, Bhojpur. She worked for 318 days in road construction and earned a sum of NRs 70,000. She supplemented this income to purchase 13 ropani of land and started goat rearing and poultry farming at small scale. Ms Dhakal plans to start grocery at appropriate location near road besides cultivating her newly acquired land. She also has goal to pass SLC one day and is preparing for it. Ms Dhakal is very much excited with the progress she made in a very short period and seems confident to keep going with continuous efforts in coming days.



## BALKUMARI NEPALI

Ms Bal Kumari is an orphan Dalit girl from Oyakjung VDC of Terhathum District. There are four members in the family. Production from her land was sufficient to feed her family for three months and rest of the period the family had to rely with landlords/moneylenders. Her mother joined Road Building Group in Myanglung-Ishibu district road earned NRs 11,922. Income from road construction supported to continue Bal Kumari's education. Ms Nepali received scholarship to pursue 15 months long JTA course on livestock. After completing her course, she was selected as a local resource person by RAP and enhanced her capability to provide services to RBG members. Now she is providing training to RBG members on livestock development. She has provided more than 30 days of services to 350 households. She does not only trained people but also treats sick animals in the village. She also castrates bucks and ox which is exceptional for women. Ms Bal Kumari is challenging social taboos and proving that female are equally capable as male counterpart. Bal Kumari has taken NRs 4,500 loan from saving and credit cooperative, earned NRs 7,500 from services provided to RBG members and started veterinary shop in the village. She is earning more than NRs1,500/months by selling medicine and additional income from her quality services. Her service is well recognised by the community and District Livestock Service Office. Therefore, DLSO has provided NRs 18,000 interest free loan to increase her veterinary shop and put her in their roaster as technical resource person. Bal Kumari is supporting for her brother's schooling, household expenses, and saving some for her further study. She was neglected person in the community and now became dignified member of the same community with her skills and knowledge she acquired from the project.



She says, "After distributing the medicines provided by RAP and delivering services to the local people, they came to know about my knowledge and skills, as a result people started to call me everywhere". She mentioned that it is difficult to treat an animal than a human being, as a person can mention the area of pain and what has happened but the treatment of an animal can only be done by their symptoms of the diseases and through experiences.

Dinesh Khanal from the Deurali society is pleased with her success and said that they had supported to get JTA training to uplift the life standard of this orphan girl. He also stressed that at a place where controlling animals from liver fluke is considered a big achievement, her contributions has been a model for others. At present people in the surrounding use to call her "A Little Doctor in the Hill", which makes her big satisfaction.