

# The Bhutan REVIEW

Monthly

News, Views and Reviews

VOL 1 No. 5

May 1993

Rs. 3/-

## CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO BHUTANESE REFUGEES

According to a Press Release issued by the Canadian Cooperation Office in Kathmandu, the Government of Canada has provided humanitarian assistance amounting to Canadian Dollars 150,000 for Bhutanese refugees in Nepal. In response to the international appeal of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has approved a contribution of \$100,000 for blankets and clothing to be distributed to the refugees, to support local referral hospitals and to provide training in environment and fire protection. Another \$50,000 has been approved by the Canadian Embassy to Nepal to implement post-literacy training for Bhutanese women and to support recreational activities in the refugee camps. The two amounts will be used under two separate projects and will be executed by the Nepal Red Cross and OXFAM/Nepal respectively.

Earlier, CIDA had announced its plans to eliminate bilateral aid programmes to some fourteen countries, seven each in Africa and Asia, including Bhutan, in the fiscal year 1993-94. Given the present dismal human rights record in Bhutan and the plight of over one-sixth of the country's population forced to live in exile, by obviously linking aid to human rights issues and diverting funds from Bhutan to the victims of the regime Canada has set an example of true commitment to the promotion of human values and human rights in 1993-94. Given the present dismal human rights record in Bhutan and the plight of over one-sixth of the country's population forced to live in exile, by obviously linking aid to human rights issues and diverting funds from Bhutan to the victims of the regime Canada has set an example of true commitment to the promotion of human values and human rights.

## BHUTAN ISSUE AT THE MEETING OF FORMER HEADS OF GOVERNMENT

The Interaction Council, a 20-member group of former Heads of Government which met in the Chinese city of Shanghai during 13-16 May 1993, was briefed on the Bhutanese refugee problem by the former Nepalese Prime Minister Mr. Kirti Nidhi Bista. Besides discussing the issue with various leaders, Mr. Bista also raised the issue during his address to the meeting. The meeting which discussed wide ranging issues such as population, poverty, environment and world politics brought together world leaders which included, among others, former Chancellor of Germany Helmut Schmidt, former Secretary of State of the United States of America Henry Kissinger, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Lord Callaghan and former Prime Minister of Canada Pierre Trudeau.



A few among these 'teachers' are lucky recipients of the DAFI scholarships

## ALBERT EINSTEIN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO REFUGEE STUDENTS

"We are pleased to inform you that you have been awarded a scholarship under the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) Educational project in favour of refugees world-wide funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany through UNHCR. The scholarship will allow you to continue your education in the approved field of study." The above letter of award jointly signed by Mr. Martin Schneller, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany and Mr. Tahir Ali, UNHCR Representative for Nepal has been handed over to 55 Bhutanese refugee students who were deprived of opportunities to continue their studies by the Royal Government of Bhutan. Since the schools in the refugee camps cater to students up to the tenth grade, the scholarships are awarded only to post Class X students.

"It is now confirmed that D.P. Adhikari with House No. BC/1 and Thram No. 343 from Burichu, Chirang is actively involved in anti-

national activities. His son Khem Kr. Adhikari is doing 2nd Year MBBS in Hyderabad, India under government scholarship. In view of the foregoing, the scholarship of Master Khem Kr. Adhikari is hereby withdrawn with immediate effect." This is an order signed by the Director General of Education Thinley Gyamtsho.

Prakash Subedi who had only to appear for the Chemistry paper to complete his Class XII Final Examination was asked to leave Sherubtse College, Kanglung, in 1991. A brilliant student, Subedi was forced to discontinue his studies. To avail of the scholarship Subedi, who was teaching at the refugee school in Goldhap, has now completed his last paper and is hoping to study Medicine.

Other students have stories of similar inhuman treatment by the Royal Government. Many have already missed years of valuable time but are now eagerly looking forward to joining courses in medicine, engineer-

ing, agriculture, nursing, teaching and other subjects in various institutes in Nepal and India thanks to the DAFI scholarships. A process of screening and interviews determined the lucky 55 for the first round of scholarships. A greater number of fellowships is expected in the next academic session to cater to the large number of graduates of the Beldangi Refugee Camp High School and a number of students applying for post graduate level studies.

The scholarship programme has been of greatest value to the students who had to otherwise remain idle in the camps or were teaching in the camp schools before even completing their own studies. All Bhutanese in exile and the students in particular greatly appreciate this generous gesture of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. This programme will go a long way not only in the positive utilization of youth but will also greatly contribute towards meeting the much needed qualified manpower requirement in Bhutan.

## DIPLOMATS VISIT REFUGEE CAMPS

British Ambassador to Nepal Mr. Timothy J.B. George visited the Bhutanese refugee camps for the second time recently. Speaking to refugees in the Beldangi camp on May 26, the Ambassador offered words of encouragement and expressed hope and confidence that the problems would be resolved in due course enabling Bhutanese refugees to return home. The UNHCR Representative in Nepal Mr. Tahir Ali also visited the camps along with the Ambassador.

In another development, First Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi, Mr. Fujio Samukawa also visited the refugee camps in eastern Nepal during the second week of May on his way back to Delhi from Bhutan. (The Japanese Ambassador in New Delhi is also accredited to Bhutan). The visit will have enabled

the Japanese Government to receive first hand information about the plight of the people evicted from Bhutan.

Japan has been a major aid donor to Bhutan for the past number of years. However, this trend may not continue any longer considering that "Japanese guidelines for overseas aid mandate taking into account human rights and democratization in recipient countries" according to the formal statement made by Mr. Yakata Yoshisawa, Japanese del-

egate at the Regional Human Rights Conference in Bangkok in April this year.

Such visits will contribute significantly towards developing an understanding of the real cause for the Bhutanese crisis and will subsequently help influence perceptions and decisions within their respective governments. The international opinion generated thus must eventually force the Royal Government to respect and guarantee basic rights and individual freedoms in Bhutan.

## SOUTH ASIAN REFUGEE STATISTICS

Country	Pop (mil)	Host Country	Ref Pop	Refugees as %
Bangladesh	122.3	India	60,000	.049
Myanmar	42.9	Bangladesh	250,000	0.583
Sri Lanka	17.6	India	180,000	1.022
Bhutan	0.6	Nepal/India	105,000	17.500

## TALKS TO RESUME

In a well-timed move Thimphu has offered to reopen the stalled bilateral talks by inviting a Nepalese ministerial delegation to visit Bhutan. On May 25, less than three weeks before the largest meeting on human rights in 25 years to be held in Vienna, Austria, the Royal Government of Bhutan expressed a new-found desire to sit together with Nepal to try and resolve the issue of Bhutanese refugees on Nepalese soil.

... See Editorial...

## SCREENING

### BHUTANESE REFUGEES

The Rising Nepal in its May 12, 1993 issue reported that a screening process was to be implemented at the Nepal-India border check post at Kakarvita in Jhapa. These measures, the news item added, were formulated in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and were intended to control the continuing influx of Bhutanese asylum seekers in Nepal. The news item tended to mislead many readers by implying that the system of verification of refugees was being introduced for the first time.

During the middle of last year when the flow of people from Bhutan was alarmingly high, His Majesty's Government of Nepal had initiated a detailed verification exercise. The August 31, 1992 issue of The Rising Nepal reported thus:

"The Operation Management and Implementation Unit constituted to identify genuine Bhutanese refugees and to issue identity cards has completed its work in Beldangi 'A' refugee camp, according to the Chief District Officer. The unit formed by His Majesty's Government and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has started collecting the statistics of the Bhutanese refugees at the Timai refugee camp. Altogether 14,227 Bhutanese refugees are based in Beldangi 'A' refugee camp. Majority of the Bhutanese refugees at the Beldangi 'A' refugee camp have Bhutanese citizenship certificates." Moreover, in December 1992 the Representative of UNHCR for Nepal, Mr. Tahir Ali was quoted by Sonny Inbaraj in The Nation, a daily Bangkok newspaper, as saying, "We are convinced that these people have physically come from Bhutan and we have recognized them as being of concern to the High Commissioner for Refugees on humanitarian grounds."

It is evident, therefore, that contrary to the impressions provided by the May 12, 1993 story, a programme of verification and registration of refugees has been in place for some time past, and that UNHCR has provided humanitarian assistance based on its conviction that it is dealing with refugees who have been displaced from Bhutan.







## THE LAST EMPEROR?

INSTITUTE OF CURRENT WORLD AFFAIRS, MAY 1993

The 30 page monograph on the Bhutanese crisis is written by Carol Rose, a fellow of the Institute of Current World Affairs (ICWA), Hanover, New Hampshire, USA. The author acknowledges that she had to 'piece together the present-day political situation in Bhutan from a variety of sources' since her request for a visa to visit the country was denied following her earlier (March 1991) political writings about Bhutan. However, she did manage extensive interviews with government spokesperson Sonam Rabgye in New Delhi, besides visiting the Indo-Bhutan border areas and interviewing present and former Bhutanese government officials, dissidents, Nepalese government officials, relief agency representatives and refugees.

**THE INFORMATION GAP:** Rose recognizes that "unravelling the truth" about Bhutan is hindered by excessive government controls, and that even for those fortunate enough to manage visas, the information gap is difficult to bridge because of "Bhutan's obsession with control of information" and because "even retired Bhutanese government officials are afraid to speak to foreigners" since criticism in public of the King, Kingdom and Government is not permitted. The monograph mentions the regime's refusal to let the Amnesty International team into Chirang, denial of permission to the SAARC Jurists Mission to enter Bhutan and the rejection of requests by Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to visit the country, to highlight the restrictions on human rights groups seeking to determine the truth.

**ONE NATION, ONE PEOPLE AND REFUGEES:** The author provides both government and dissident point of view in "the politics of population" in a "nation of migrants" where the former insists that southern Bhutanese constitute only 25% of the total population while the dissidents maintain that it is closer to 50%. But, "whatever the exact ethnic break-down of Bhutan's population, there is no doubt that the government is pursuing a program to make Bhutan culturally homogeneous through a policy it calls: 'one nation, one people'. This cultural purification policy consists of a series of laws passed in recent years, culminating in a national dress code, a national code of conduct, and uniform language requirements."

The census exercise of 1988 which "provided justification to expel people who no longer met government criteria for citizenship" and the above laws under the 'one nation, one people' policy has resulted in the "arrival in neighboring India and Nepal of more than 100,000 refugees." The refugees who maintain that they are Bhutanese citizens continue to face an identity crisis since the government says they are "terrorists or illegal migrants." The author, however, is convinced that most of the refugees "were born in Bhutan and that their families had lived there

for generations. Most carried documents to prove their point: citizenship cards, land tax receipts, medical or marriage certificates." Camp statistics and officials of His Majesty's Government and the UNHCR confirmed her findings but Bhutanese government officials are firm in their insistence that the refugees are imposters.

**GOVERNMENT ALLEGATION:** The monograph quotes extensively from government sources, Kuensel and 'Anti-National Activities in Bhutan: A Terrorist Movement, September 1991' and the August 1992 Update, and the December 1992 Amnesty International report to cover the human rights situation and violence in southern Bhutan. Referring to the AI report, the study summarizes the various forms of torture in Bhutanese prisons including multiple rape of women by Bhutanese soldiers. On the basis of government sources, the author notes the major government allegations against dissident organizations including sabotage, hijacking, looting, wanton destruction, kidnapping, torture and murder. The study notes that according to Amnesty International some of the allegations of violence by government opponents may be true. However, Rose further quotes from the Amnesty International report which went on to conclude with that "while attacks on civilians in southern Bhutan are consistently attributed to 'anti-nationals', it is not always clear that evidence exists to indicate the political motivation behind the acts."

**OPPOSITION MOVEMENT:** The 'one nation, one people' policy, according to Rose, has "spawned a multitude of Bhutanese opposition organizations in exile." Rose observes, however, that "despite the growing number of political organizations, the vast majority of the 75,000 refugees in the camp remain as they were in Bhutan: uneducated villagers who want to live in peace." Nevertheless, a segment of the camp population, the educated, are being politicized by the experience of life in exile, and, according to the author, the longer they remain in camps, the more politicized they will become.

Describing the opposition movement politely as "politically immature"; despite their reported dedication to the same principles and objectives, the essay underscores the rift between the two political parties, the Bhutan National Democratic Party (BNDB) and the Bhutan Peoples Party (BPP), based on interviews with the two leaders. Bhutanese government leaders, naturally, reject any calls for political change.

**GREATER NEPAL:** The monograph observes that "it is not an easy time to be an absolute monarch in South Asia" and recognizes the concerns of the Bhutanese regime which has, during the current monarch's reign, witnessed political changes involving ethnic Nepalese in Sikkim, Darjeeling and Nepal. However, the author confirms that "there have never been any calls for a 'greater

Nepal' by Lhotsampas" and finds no evidence that Bhutanese political parties have links with any of the Nepalese-dominated ethnic groups in West Bengal or Sikkim. The bogey of 'greater Nepal' is also brushed aside by Nepalese government officials and a recently retired Bhutanese government official still loyal to the King interviewed by Rose.

**THE EXTERNAL PLAYERS:** The study admits that the fate of Bhutanese refugees "may not be decided by Nepal or Bhutan, but by the dominant country in South Asia." It quotes an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as saying, "It all comes down to India. If India wants, or is forced to do something, then perhaps the refugees will be allowed to return to Bhutan." Since India remains silent and Nepal is unable to compel Bhutan to address the refugee issue, the author believes that "it may require pressure from the international community to bring the parties together to talk." However, despite documentary evidence of human rights violations provided by Amnesty International and the SAARC Jurists Mission, the study questions the policies of the international community which continues to provide Bhutan with funds.

**SOUND ADVICE:** Under a subtitle "Self-Fulfilling Prophecies" the monograph concludes thus; "The irony of the Bhutanese political crisis is that the policies adopted by King Wangchuck are creating the very dangers he wants to avoid. Prior to the mid-1980s, for example, there was almost no political agitation in Bhutan. Today there are two opposition political parties and widespread calls for multi-party democracy. Prior to the "one nation, one people" policy, Bhutan enjoyed ethnic harmony among its diverse people. Today, there is widespread distrust and animosity between Drukpa and Lhotsampa....

But there are lessons to be learned from Sikkim's experience. One is that oppression does not quell popular democratic movements.... King Wangchuck would do better to follow the path of his own father, King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, who ruled Bhutan from 1932 to 1972. The late King introduced major political reforms, such as creation of the national assembly, abolition of serfdom and beginning of development programs. In return, the former Bhutanese king was revered by his subjects - Drukpa and Lhotsampa alike. Given such loyalty, there was no threat to Bhutan's unique identity or its monarchy.

It's not too late for King Wangchuck to reverse his policy of over-reliance on India and human rights abuses at home. He can embrace instead the idea that Bhutan's future will be best protected by promoting diversity - economic and ethnic. The King still has enormous goodwill among his subjects, including the vast majority of those in exile. He is on good terms with India. He is widely admired in the international community. The only thing stopping him from ac-

knowledging the aspirations of his diverse subjects and negotiating a solution to the refugee crisis, it seems, is what historian Barbara Tuchman describes in her book *The March of Folly* as "wooden-headedness".

The overall responsibility of power is to govern as reasonably as possible in the interest of the state and its citizens. A duty in that process is to keep well-informed, to heed information, to keep mind and judgement open, and to resist the insidious spell of wooden-headedness. If the mind is open enough to perceive that a given policy is harming rather than serving self-interest, and self-confident enough to acknowledge it, and wise enough to reverse it, that is the summit in the art of government. Good advice, it seems, if King Wangchuck is not to become Bhutan's last emperor."

## "IN QUOTES"

"Kuensel readers should be aware that the opinion page was never stopped. The letters stopped coming in." Editor Kuensel, May 22, 1993 resuming Letters to the Editor page.

"The implementation of national and international policies can never justify the violation of human rights." Ed Garcia of Amnesty International, at the Regional Human Rights Conference in Bangkok, April 1993.

"The absolute monarchies in Bhutan and Nepal have become constitutional monarchies in 1969 and 1990 respectively." Far Eastern Economic Review, Hong Kong, April 29, 1993.

## MEDIA SCAN

Bhutan is "ethnic cleansing" the country of the Nepalese minority subjecting them to forced labour, detention, beatings, rape and forced relocation or expulsion in an attempt to drive them out, according to the US Committee for Refugees, reports PFI. The committee, a non-governmental organization, says in its 1993 World Refugees Survey that in 1990, ethnic Nepalese organized a number of pro democracy demonstrations in Bhutan. "The Bhutanese Government reportedly responded harshly, imposing martial law, closing schools, raiding villages, burning houses belonging to ethnic Nepalese, and detaining a number of them," the report says.

According to refugees interviewed by USCR, the Bhutanese authorities have since carried out what amounts to a campaign of "ethnic cleansing". The report says, "Only a minority of the refugees appear to have been directly subjected to these abuses. The Bhutanese military appear to target key individuals in a village or town, and threaten others, telling them that if they do not leave Bhutan, the same thing will happen to them. "Some refugees said that before leaving they were forced to sign papers saying that they were leaving voluntarily and that they relinquished their citizenship rights". ... USCR says conditions for the ethnic Nepalese refugees from Bhutan in Nepal is no better. "Overcrowding and poor sanitation contributed to health problems in the camps, and hundreds of deaths were reported."

The Sunday Statesman, Calcutta, May 23, 1993

It was hoped that the Bhutanese monarch and the Nepalese Prime Minister would make effective use of the opportunity provided by the Dhaka SAARC Summit to find some kind of a solution with regard to the over 100,000 Bhutanese of Nepalese ethnicity who had been living in Bhutan for three generations but are now being evicted as foreigners. Scared by the successful victory of the democratic movement in Nepal the King of Bhutan's only concern, day and night, is to safeguard the institution of hereditary monarchy at any cost. This has confused him so completely that in every Bhutanese of Nepalese ethnicity he sees a supporter of a democratic movement, and somehow or the other he is bent upon evicting them from Bhutan.

Owing to the lack of vision of a monarch compared to that of any President or Prime Minister the Bhutanese king cannot even recognize the message written clearly on the wall. If the policy of ethnic cleansing is continued further then there is every possibility that a situation may come when the southern Bhutanese revolt. This will be troublesome to Bhutan, no doubt, but even for India it will not be any less painful.

Since quite a large segment of people of Nepalese ethnicity are living in the hilly region of West Bengal, and Sikkim too is primarily a Nepali-dominated state, in the event Bhutanese of Nepali ethnicity ever decide to take up arms against the present regime, they will get complete support from the Indian Nepalis, resulting in unrest throughout the whole region. However, what is saddening is that Bhutan being Bhutan, even India is doing nothing concrete to retrieve the situation. It appears that the attention of both India and Bhutan will be drawn only when the entire region is already flooded with blood and tears.

Bhawani Sengupta, Institute of Strategic Studies, New Delhi. Translated from MAYA, Hindi Fortnightly, May 15, 1993.



**TURNING THE "GREEN BELT" BROWN**

**Announcement**

11262.33 cft of mixed hardwood log and pole depoted at Gaylegphug range depot and 12084.65 cft of mixed hardwood logs and pole and 1034.77 cft of teak log depoted at Khalikhola range depot and 4801.63 cft of champ log and pole, 1616.04 cft of teak poles and 3025.21 cft of mixed hardwood log, pole and hakrie depoted at Majhitar (Sarbhong) depot will be offered for sale through negotiation by DFO, Sarbhong Division from 11.00 AM on 20th May 93 at Sarbhong. Interested buyers may contact DFO Sarbhong Division for details of lotwise timber list.

Divisional Forest Officer, Sarbhong

The world will recall the grandiose plans of the Royal Government for a kilometre wide "green belt" running across the southern foothills. That the intentions were far from noble was clear from the beginning, but the gall of the government to suggest that generous donors pay for its evil designs of uprooting a section of its population was an act of supreme self-confidence. However, for once Thimphu appeared to have overreached itself; no one bought the

story of Bhutan's noble self-sacrifice in the interest of global environment. Four years down the road, the same belt is seeing a great deal of activity. As the three sales notices all culled from the May 15, 1993 issue of Kuensel show, whatever little greenery the belt wore is being removed at a rapid pace. The numbers on two of the auction notices also tell a tale; one notice is numbered 3 for the year 1993, while the other is numbered

15 for the fiscal year 1992-93 which began in July. The flurry of activity is an indication that ecology and environment are far from the regime's mind. Rather, every haste is being made to extract as much money as possible, even if it means denuding southern Bhutan, much of it comprising still-young artificial plantations of expensive hardwood species. What happened to the "green belt" and the noble policy of sustainable development?

No.SC/17-9/93/1309

May 12, 1993

**Timber Auction Notice  
No. 15 of 1992-93**

The Samchi Forest Division will offer for sale the under-mentioned forest produce by public auction on 26th May, 1993 at 10.00 AM (BST) in the auction hall of Divisional Office.

1. Teak logs and poles : 7,864.63 cft
2. Sal poles : 17,466.99 cft
3. Champ poles : 500.00 cft
4. B.L. softwood logs : 9,823.35 cft
5. B.L. mixed hardwood logs & poles : 3,565.65 cft
6. Sissoo logs & poles : 178.57 cft
- Total volume : 39,399.18 cft**
7. Offsizes sawn timber : 12,000.00 cft

The intending purchasers are invited to inspect the lots in the depot at Samchi and Tashijon and collect the summary of the measurement list before attending the auction. Divisional Forest Officer, Samchi Division

No.SDG/28-9/93/413

May 5, 1993

**Short sale notice No. III of 1993**

The undersigned will be conducting auction sale of following quantity of purely BLC timber on 25th May, 1993 from 11:00 AM (BST) in the office premise of the undersigned.

Earnest money of Nu. 10,000/- is required to be deposited as entry fee without which none will be allowed to participate. Successful participants are required to pay 20% of the bid value on the same day. For details, the contractors are requested to contact the undersigned on any working day during office hours. They are also requested to inspect the timber lots for their satisfaction before bidding.

**Details of timber offered for sale :**

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Chirpine block in lots :            | 25,000.00 cft        |
| 2. Chirpine logs in lots :             | 4,000.00 cft         |
| 3. Chirpine scantlings in lots         | 3,000.00 cft         |
| 4. Mixed hardwood hakries in lots      | 3,376.00 cft         |
| 5. Mixed hardwood logs in lots :       | 1,164.00 cft         |
| 6. Champ planks (seasoned) in lots :   | 583.00 cft           |
| 7. Mixed hardwood scantlings in lots : | 699.00 cft           |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>37,822.00 cft</b> |

Figures shown above is approximate and may increase as more lots are under formation.

Sub-divisional Forest Officer, Timber Disposal Section, Gaylegphug

**SCHOOLS REOPENED IN SOUTHERN BHUTAN ?**

Just prior to government repression in the south, excluding specialized institutions there were 233 schools in Bhutan with 68,013 students of whom 35,990 (53%) were studying in 99 schools located in the six southern districts. Since then over 23,000 of these students forcibly evicted with their parents are presently studying in seven refugee camps in Jhapa and Morong districts in south-east Nepal. This represents 63.9 % of students previously studying in schools in southern Bhutan.

All the educational institutes in the south were closed indefinitely by the Bhutanese government in 1990 under the pretext that the government would not be able to provide adequate security for teachers and students as a result of unrest created by "anti-national terrorists." In its March 13, 1993 issue Kuensel reported that "60 schools had been reopened in the five southern districts." However, the assertion of the Bhutanese regime does not hold any truth. According to a Review correspondent only the following 24 schools have been reopened :

**CHUKHA DISTRICT :**

1. Phuntsholing Primary School
2. Phuntsholing Junior High School
3. Tala Primary School
4. Bongo Primary School
5. Chinchila Primary School

**DAGANA DISTRICT :**

1. Dagana Junior High School
2. Khebisa Primary School
3. Khagochen Primary School

**SARBHANG DISTRICT :**

1. Gaylegphug Primary School
2. Shershong Primary School
3. Sarbhong Primary School
4. Kalikhola Primary School

**SAMDRUP JONGKHAR DISTRICT**

1. Samdrup Jongkhar Primary School
2. Shingkar Lauri Primary School
3. Nganglam Primary School
4. Deothang Junior High School
5. Martsala Primary School
6. Dechhiling Primary School
7. Bakuli Primary School

Of the above schools currently open, 9 are not in areas with Lhotsampa populations. In the other schools, admission is strictly restricted to children of security forces, government officials, National Assembly Members and other persons of influence. It has been confirmed that the following 45 schools in the southern districts still remained closed as of mid-May 1993 :

**SAMCHI**

1. Samchi High School
2. Sibsoo Junior High School
3. Pinjuli Junior High School
4. Bara Junior High School
5. Chargharey Primary School
6. Ghumaaney Junior High School
7. Kopchey Primary School
8. Buduney Primary School
9. Nun Pani Primary School
10. Jumsa Primary School
11. Pugli Primary School
12. Tading Primary School

**CHUKHA**

1. Pachu Primary School
2. Pana Primary School
3. Tori Bari Primary School

**SARBHANG**

1. Gaylegphug Junior High School
2. Bhur Primary School
3. Lodrai Primary School
4. Leopani Primary School
5. Surey Primary School
6. Guwang Primary School
7. Dovan Primary School
8. Toribari Primary School
9. Thoemba Primary School
10. Lahring Primary School
11. Sarbhongshir Primary School
12. Kalikhola Junior High School
13. Nichula Primary School
14. Taklai Primary School
15. Maogaon Primary School
16. Dolma Primary School

**CHIRANG**

1. Gairigaon Primary School
2. Lamidara Junior High School
3. Betini Primary School
4. Damphu Junior High School
5. Chhokana Primary School
6. Salami Primary School
7. Gopini Primary School
8. Burichhu Primary School
9. Goshi Junior High School
10. Gosheling Primary School
11. Dhanesey Primary School

**SAMDRUP JONGKHAR**

1. Daifam Primary School
2. Samrang Primary School
3. Dalim Primary School
4. Khaurung Primary School

The status of the balance of the schools in the southern districts could not be confirmed.

**U.S. AMBASSADOR COMMENTS**

"On Bhutan, it is a foreign policy issue, which your government has not yet internationalized; so, when your government internationalizes the issue, then governments like mine would then play a role or take a role. And before that, our role on Bhutanese refugees is to try and work through the UNHCR to help alleviate some of the burdens to Nepal placed (on the country) by the refugees in the camps in Jhapa... A brief is one thing but your government has not asked any other government except India to participate in the process of finding a solution. So, we will be looking at your government's actions at the upcoming Human Rights Conference in Vienna, whether in fact your government does internationalize the issue or not. It's totally upto your government."

*Ms Julia Chang Bloch,* U.S. Ambassador to Nepal, in an interview with Nepal Television prior to leaving Nepal after completing her assignment.

**REFUGEE CAMP INFORMATION**

Location	District	Refugees	Students
Timai	Jhapa	8,017	2,674
Goldhap	Jhapa	7,825	2,500
Beldangi I	Jhapa	14,555	4,375
Beldangi II	Jhapa	22,857	5,182
Beldangi II Ext.	Jhapa	9,278	3,100
Pathri	Morang	16,609	4,541
Khujunabari	Jhapa	7,178	1,205
<b>Total</b>		<b>86,319</b>	<b>23,577</b>

Cumulative births: 1,882.  
Cumulative deaths: 2,003

The above figures are as of May 31, 1993.