



PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
RESEARCH CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT  
**2017**



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017



**Professional Development and Research Center**

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# Acknowledgement

This report is the collective effort of different individuals and organizations inside and outside of the PDRC. First of all, we are thankful to all who were involved in this work. This report wouldn't have been possible without them.

This report has documented all the activities PDRC undertook in the year 2017. We owe a sincere gratitude to PDRC board and the team for their valuable inputs and support while preparing this report.

We would also like to thank concerned government agencies, funding partners, fellow NGOs, business community and other individuals who believed in PDRC and supported generously. Our efforts would not have been impact yielding had there not been helping hands like yours.

There are other hundreds of individuals who have supported us through solidarity and word-of-mouth marketing. We take this opportunity to thank all of them.

At last but not the least, our sincere gratitude goes to the students whose performance and the achievement aptly defines PDRC. Once again, we would like to thank all our well-wishers who have supported us directly and indirectly to complete this report.

# Abbreviation and Acronyms

AGM:	Annual General Meeting
CTEVT:	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training
DEED:	Dalit Employability Enhancement Database
DTJFS:	Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund Scholarship
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization
GC:	General Convention
MBBS:	Bachelor of medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
MoE:	Ministry of Education
NCE:	National Campaign for Education
NEB:	National Examination Board
PSC:	Public Service Commission
SEE:	Secondary Education Examination
SWC:	Social Welfare Council
UGRAD:	Global Undergraduate Exchange Program
UN:	United Nations
UNCDF:	UN Capital Development Fund
UNICEF:	UN Children's Fund
VDC:	Village Development Committee
VNR:	Voluntary National Reviews
WHO:	World Health Organization
YEST:	Youth Empowerment in Science and Technology



Nepal is portrayed as one of the least developed countries in the world and it is true. Several reports published by various agencies have proved this fact. Nepal is poor; it is not because it lacks natural resources. In terms of availability of natural resources, it is one of the richest countries in the world. In this country verities of natural resources are available. Adequate water, productive land, forest and fauna, herbs, natural beauty are the priceless assets of this country.

The reason behind being impoverished nation is its social fabrics and structure. Hindu caste based social structure is the major impediment of development and prosperity. Caste based structure of the society has hitherto treated the Dalits in particular as untouchable despite of declaration from the state as illegal. Mindsets of the cast Hindu have not changed completely. Caste based structure is still in existence and discrimination is in practice. It reflects explicitly in the every hook and corner of society even in the state mechanism. Meager representation in legislation, judiciary and executive bodies of state is the manifestation of discrimination. Despite the decades long practice of democracy, due to the under representation of Dalits in decision making level, very few pro- Dalit polices have been

formulated while the implementing part is even worse. It is mainly because of anti -Dalit sentiment of non - Dalit who monopolies state mechanism and under representation of Dalits. This scenario depicts that until and unless meaningful representation of Dalit is not ensured; pro Dalit policies and programs cannot be formulated and implemented.

Due to the caste based discrimination, Dalits had systematically been denied of acquiring education and wealth for centuries. The impact of the legacy of the past is huge in the present life of Dalits. We know that without educating Dalits professionally and academically it is not possible for us to bring them into the decision making level of state mechanism and mainstream of the nation.

Taking the issue of under representation of Dalits in state mechanism into consideration, PDRC has been striving to fill up the gap for over 13 years. Creating environment for quality, valuable and employable higher education for students from Dalit and underprivileged communities and preparing them for professional career is the ultimate goal of the organization.

Despite lots of challenges being faced by organization, we can proudly say that we have been able to produce number of professionals and send them to government and non- government entities with the support of our well-wishers, donors and several agencies along with PDRC executive and staff team.

I would like to express my gratefulness to all for your generous and unselfish cooperation. Still the numbers of professional that we have produced is not adequate in terms of fulfilling the gap of under representation thus we have put lots of effort in making our dream come into reality.

With best regards

**Kamala Hemchuri**  
President

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S

# PAGE



I am pleased to write this message from my desk. The year 2017 was significantly remarkable for two reasons. First, we held PDRC's 12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and made some important strategic choices. Secondly, PDRC's international expansion took place by registering a non-profit 501[C] status organization named PDRC International (PDRCi) in Maryland, USA. The main purpose of this organization is to support disadvantaged youth's education back in Nepal.

PDRC's prime donor Dr. Tom Jacobsen visited PDRC this year and interacted with some of the students he has been supporting. He also had a brief meeting with PDRC team and tried to understand how PDRC has been impacting in the lives of the students. His suggestions towards further maximizing the impact were commendable. Likewise, social welfare council, a government body responsible to look after I/NGOs work in Nepal, evaluated the work that PDRC carried out throughout the year and concluded that PDRC is one of the most transparent and impactful organizations.

Some PDRC students are performing exceptionally well in their education. Sujit Darnal topped 1000+

medical students and became the gold medalist in Tribhuvan University. This has once again proved that, given the opportunity, disadvantaged youth can also outshine all other students. Likewise, two other students Ramesh Nepali and Rajendra Sunar were awarded with the government scholarship to study master's degree in structure engineering (China) and MBA (India) respectively. Likewise, 8 PDRC students were awarded with full scholarship by the Pokhara University to study undergraduate courses in management. PDRC supports such students in the application submission process which includes but not limited to information dissemination, documentation; and conduct model exams and mock interview.

Further, our employment unit at PDRC always stands by to support the job seekers to help them get a job as well as support them to reach their potential through job ready trainings. As a result, 5 Dalit youth were succeeded to be government officers. Altogether more than 30 Dalit youth have become a government officer so far. Another important aspect of this achievement is that we have formed a consortium of different NGOs, corporate houses and the generous individuals to provide preparatory support to the aspirant



government job seekers. Similarly, PDRC's 5 medical doctors have become the government medical officers through highly competitive exams and 4 landed job at different UN agencies.

Currently, 59 students have been receiving scholarship from PDRC. Among them, 46% students are female. This is quite encouraging trend given the place of women in the Nepalese society. By doing this, PDRC is committed to promote gender equality through its programs and services. This is further strengthened by adopting a gender equality and social inclusion policy.

Despite remarkable results, there are some challenges which decelerate our pace. There are many talented students out there who are on the verge to drop out of school due to financial problem and lack of proper guidance. Therefore, we look forward to reaching the unreached by making our presence in all seven provinces. This will enable them to improved access to information and opportunities. Further, we are planning to expand mentorship program across

all provinces and help students to unlock their potential through mentorship.

I take this opportunity to thank every individual and the organizations that extended their helping hand to PDRC since the inception. Special thanks and appreciation goes to Dr. Tom Jacobsen for his continuous support, which have a major impact on the lives of disadvantaged youth in Nepal. We would also like to thank individual donors for their kind support. Students, both past and present, equally deserve appreciation for their hard work and achievements. Thank you all parents and guardians for placing your trust and confidence in shaping the future of your children.

Finally, we are always thankful to our advisory team for their valuable advice and support. My words fail to appreciate our executive board for their collective leadership and directional choices. This led us to be a reliable organization in higher education and inclusion. At last not the least, I would like to thank my management team for their tireless endeavor to achieve the milestones. I greatly value their hard work and dedication.

Sincerely,



**Birendra Biswakarma**  
Executive Director

# MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

*Here are some of the highlights of the main activities undertaken and our achievements from January to November, 2017.*



- 337 students got academic and career counseling in PDRC out of which, 193 were female 144 and were male
- 59 students got financial support (27 female, 32 male) including 6 new scholarships out of which 3 were distributed in Law
- 35 Dalit candidates were provided with Public Service Commission (PSC) Preparatory Support
- 5 PSC Preparatory Support Program candidates got recruited in government sector in officer level
- 200 + secondary level students from 3 schools in Kathmandu valley got benefited from the School Mentorship program
- One of the participants of our information seminar was awarded with the Australia Awards scholarship. His name is Pradip Pariyar and currently works for ministry of general administration, and has been awarded to study master degree in Public Policy at Australian National University.
- 4 Dalit youth got recruited in UN as trainee as the result of PDRC preparatory session
- 12 students supported by PDRC got Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship to study plus two level
- 22 students supported by PDRC got National Examination Board Scholarship to study plus two level
- 8 students out of 11 supported by PDRC got Pokhara University Scholarship to study Bachelor level in management stream
- PDRC's main donor Dr. Tom Jacobsen visited PDRC in January and had interaction with 45 of his beneficiaries
- PDRC student Sujan Rokka topped the Dalit category of Kathmandu University medical entrance exam
- PDRC student Ashok Nepali got Pokhara University Scholarship to study civil engineering
- 5 PDRC supported MBBS graduates got recruited as government medical officer through PSC exam
- PDRC student Aeronautic Engineer Prabin Shreepaili got recruited at Safran Engineering Service as a Design and Analysis Engineer at French company based in Bangalore.
- PDRC student Ramesh Nepali received a full scholarship to study master's degree in structure engineering at the School of Naval Architecture, Ocean and Civil Engineering in China
- PDRC student Rajendra Sunar received Indian Government's full scholarship to study MBA at the Anna University in Chennai

**In 2017,**  
PDRC provided its services to

**1098**  
DIRECT AND INDIRECT  
BENEFICIARIES

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Education has been enshrined as the fundamental rights in the new constitution. The directive principle of the state has also defined it as the basic necessity of an individual, followed by acknowledging the need of knowledge-based-research-oriented higher education in the 14<sup>th</sup> periodic plan. This indicates that education is the prerequisite for the socio-economic transformation. Our all efforts are directed to bring Dalit in the mainstream through education and this report is the tangible proof to that end.

This report highlights another annual effort towards creating a discrimination free society through education. There is an understanding among the people that education can bring change in the lives of the people and each of us can be the part of that change.

PDRC, despite its limited resources, believes in empowering individuals at a time and that can change the situation of the family and community; and the nation in the long run. In 2017, some of our students produced unprecedented results and established themselves as the role model. 5 youth got recruited in the officer level of the government job, 2 of them clicked their name in the open competition. The charm towards government job is growing and hence we are preparing another group of 35 youth for government job this year. So was the case with 5 PDRC medical graduates, who got recruited as a medical government officer in 2017. Likewise, 4 candidates from Dalit community succeeded to land a job at different UN agencies in Nepal.

PDRC students continue to shine in education and professional field. An aeronautic engineer Prabin Shreepaili started working for the famous Safran Engineering Service, a French company based in Bangalore, India. Similarly, a civil and rural engineer Ramesh Nepali was awarded a government scholarship to study master's degree structure engineering in China. The government of India awarded Mr. Rajendra Sunar with the prestigious silver jubilee scholarship to study MBA at Anna University, India. We are proud to

mention that all these students were scholarship recipients from Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund. This also proves that a small support could lead a person towards a great leap forward.

Access to information plays an important role to ensure upward mobility in education and career. Therefore, PDRC continues to guide and mentor students through exchange of information and knowledge. In 2017, we counseled 337 students from different geographical areas and social spectrum throughout the country. It is important to note that 57% of them were female students. This shows the changing patterns of the society towards female education and their empowerment. Through our counseling support, 34 students got full government scholarship to study 10+2 in Kathmandu. Another student named Sujan Rokka stood first among Dalit candidates in the highly competitive medical entrance examination. Likewise, another student Ashok Nepali bagged scholarship to study engineering in Pokhara University. This year, PDRC introduced an additional preparatory support class for the management students; as a result 8 out of 11 students were awarded full scholarship by the Pokhara University to study undergraduate management courses at different colleges in Kathmandu.

Altogether PDRC provided 59 scholarships to the students in different streams ranging from medical to social science including the law. Among them, 45 scholarships were provided through Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund and 6 were established by individual donors from home and abroad. This support was further supplemented by the regular guidance and mentorship to help them stay focused in their larger goal.

In the mid of this year, our social media was in its peak- and the reason was one of our students named Sujit Darnal. He dominantly scored highest marks throughout the program among the 1000+ medical students and became a gold medalist. This news was published in Nagarik daily, one of the leading newspapers in the country. This story

was shared 45.5K times in social media. Similarly, another former student Sunil Pariyar and his team built an electric wheelchair immediately after the massive earthquake. This also hit the headline of Kantipur daily, the premier daily newspaper. These are some of the indications of how PDRC students are making difference in the nation.

Regarding the organizational undertakings, in the year 2017, PDRC took a huge stride towards international expansion. PDRC vice president Bhim BK left for USA to help lay the foundation of PDRC International in Maryland. PDRCi is a US based non-profit organization with 501 [C] status; registered to provide educational support

to underprivileged students back in Nepal. PDRC also held its 6th General Convention this year and made some important strategic choices in order to address the needs of changed context.

There have been changes in the funding priorities, social dynamics and day to day issues of the students. The Issue of sustainability is equally important for the existence of the organization. However, the changes we have seen in the lives of students looms large in the face of adversity. Therefore, we look forward to serving the educational needs of disadvantaged youth and help them to get the education they truly deserve.

# Introduction

# ONE

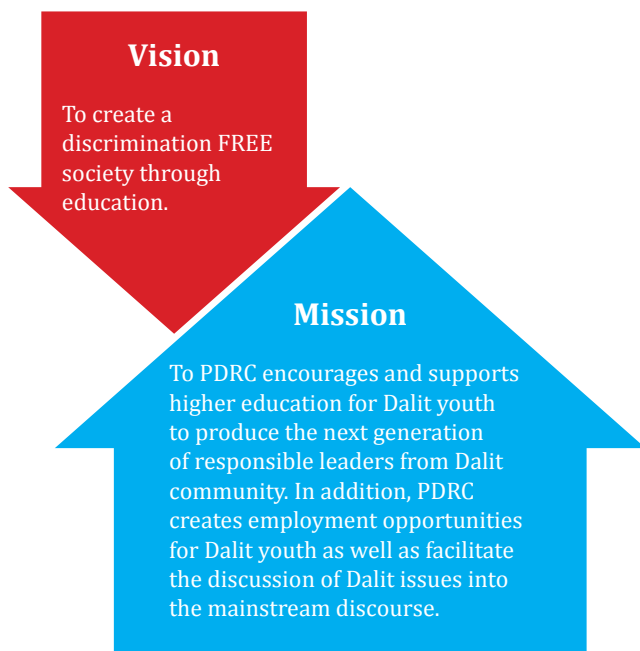
## 1.1 Background

The Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC) is a non-profit organization and team of dedicated people working to increase marginalized Nepalese Dalit youth's access to quality, higher education. Through our programs and services we equip students with the academic competencies, professional skills and financial support they need to pursue their academic and professional careers confidently and successfully. We actively engage the next generation of Dalit leaders in social and academic research and inclusive democracy and create positive social change as a result. We have been delivering our programs and services since 2005, inspiring and engaging marginalized and Dalit youth from all areas of Nepal to pursue their dreams.

Education is recognized as a fundamental right and basic need of all individuals. Without access to education, the sustainable empowerment of an individual becomes impossible. In order to ensure the right to education for the Dalit community, the value based initiatives and efforts of various agencies are essential. As an organization established by the people, PDRC has been working voluntarily to promote the access and right to

## 1.2 Rationale

Although the caste system is officially abolished in Nepal, Dalit, who constitute about 13.8% of the population, suffer from the most abhorrent discrimination and exploitation, especially in rural areas, where their mistreatment is pervasive. In Nepali, the word "Dalit" denotes the "untouchable" caste, the lowest in the hierarchy. These are among the most oppressed people anywhere. The statistics are appalling: The literacy rate of Dalits (6 years and above) stands at a mere 52.4% compared to the national average of 65.9% and it is 34.5% for Tarai/Madhese Dalits. Only 24.7% of Hill Dalits and 11.8% of Tarai/Madhese Dalits complete 8th grade which is far behind the national average of 41.7% (Policy



formal education for Dalit that can and has led to improved, dignified and productive lives within society.

review of Higher Education in Nepal and Social Inclusion, with special focus on Dalit). Dalits also comprise only 1.6% of those with SLC degrees and above, and only 0.8% of those with a Bachelors' Degree (National Social Inclusion Survey'12 and International Dalit Solidarity Network). Similarly, the literacy rate of Dalit women is at only 45.5%. Women from the Musahar and Dom communities are at the bottom with a literacy rate of 17.4% and 17.9% (National Census, 2011). This is not just within the education sector; the trend permeates throughout other social institutions. In civil service exams, most of the seats allocated for Dalit often go unused due to the lack of information or competent candidates.

Access to information plays an important role in the development of a person and her/his career. There are plenty of opportunities available for marginalized groups but they often go unused or misused due to lack of knowledge. Therefore, it's very important to disseminate the information far and wide across the country so that students can take advantage of the opportunities. Most of our programs and services are designed to address the

unmet needs of Dalit youth. In addition to that, we need to capacitate our youth with the knowledge and skills required to meet the demands of the job market. It is with this objective in mind that PDCR has been informing, empowering and engaging Dalit youth through various means to contribute to their professional development youth, and in return the success of their communities.

### 1.3 Objective

Since its inception, PDCR has developed programs and activities with the purpose of meeting four strategic goals. Below is the list of strategic objectives aligned with the four strategic goals.



#### Strategic goal 1:

*Encourage and support Dalit youth to pursue higher education*

#### Strategic objective:

- 1.1 Assist Dalit youth in making informed career decisions
- 1.2 Support and encourage Dalit students to pursue careers in science and technology
- 1.3 Provide financial support for needy and deserving Dalit students to pursue higher education
- 1.4 Facilitate national and international scholarships or resources in favor of Dalit youth

#### Strategic Goal 2:

*Create employment opportunities for Dalit youth*

#### Strategic objectives:

- 1.1 Identify Dalit youth who are qualified for employment opportunities in the government, private sector and development agencies
- 1.2 Encourage and support Dalit youth in entering public service to influence positive policy change for the Dalit community

#### Strategic Goal 3:

*Facilitate discussion of Dalit issues in the mainstream discourse*

- 3.1 Strengthen Dalit movement by encouraging scholarly discussions, research and publications
- 3.2 Expand PDCR's network among concerned government agencies and INGOs working in the education sector
- 3.3 Leverage the participation of PDCR's student alumni in pursuing the long term goals of PDCR

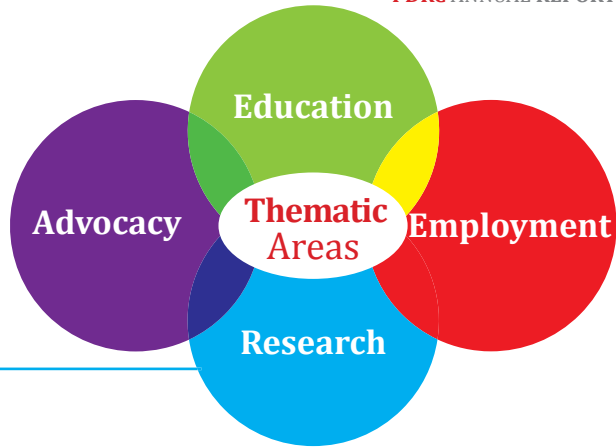
#### Strategic Goal 4:

*Improve the infrastructure and human resource capability of PDCR*

- 4.1 Create an efficient physical and technical environment
- 4.2 Enhance the capability and capacity of human resource
- 4.3 Make efficient use of external resources

## 1.4 Thematic areas

PDRC's thematic areas focus on education, employment, research and advocacy. These are the core competencies and the pillars of our work.



## 1.5 Target beneficiaries

The main target beneficiaries of PDRC are disadvantaged youth, from poor economic backgrounds and remote areas. Dalit women are also the focal point, and are the center of many programs offered through PDRC.

## 1.6 Our value proposition

PDRC is committed to striving towards eliminating the discrimination that currently exists in Nepal. This will be achieved with the continued and concerted effort of providing Dalit youth the investment of support and assistance for access to education.

At the same time, our focus extends beyond just supporting our students in striving to increase their impact but also the influence that can be provided in increasing Dalit representation within the government and thereby influencing governmental policies and decisions. As an organization, **we**

### Create value by providing:

- Trusted and credible advice to ensure long-term relationships
- Innovative and competitive solutions
- Beneficiary choice for reliable and transparent support to access to higher education

### Enhance value by providing:

- Service features and benefits that highlight our organization's differences and experience within the sector
- Leadership as a catalyst for a sustainable society, that strives to ensure Dalit representation is present within the higher education sector as well as government decision making bodies
- A voice of leadership through community involvement, participation and investment that is made towards Dalit youth, the community and the country.

# Partnership and Collaboration

We fully understand the value of partnership and collaboration as we know that these are keys to long term success. We strongly believe that our hand-to-hand approach will amplify our effort and we can

reach more and more youth from underprivileged communities. This year too, as the continuation of the culture of partnership and collaboration, we partnered with the following institutions

S.N.	Partnership/ collaboration	Profile	Type of association	Key result
1	JARLA AS Company, Norway	Technology	MoU	Provided scholarships to 45 students, run key programs and organizational operation cost
2	Chance for Change (C4C)	INGO, UK	MoU	Provided financial support to launch school mentorship program in three community schools of Kathmandu valley.
3	Partnership with 4 different civil society organizations and 3 Business entities	Consortium	MoU	Conducted preparatory class for 35 Dalit candidates for government jobs

## Program Implementation Support

Students from underprivileged communities cannot take informed decision regarding their academic career due to lack of proper information. Even if they get information, they need to be prepared for the tests and examinations. Realizing

this fact, as a part of partnership and collaboration, PRDC has been working to implement the programs offered by different institutions. In 2017, PDRC supported the following scholarships and opportunities

S.N.	Institution	Profile	Key result
1	National Examination Board	Government agency	22 Dalit students received full scholarship to study in 10+2
2	Embassy of India, Kathmandu	Indian government	12 Dalit students were awarded the Mahatma Gandhi scholarship/ 7 students awarded with Silver Jubilee scholarship
3	Pokhara University	Education	8 Dalit students received full scholarships to study undergraduate course in management
4	Australia Awards	Australian government	One participant of the seminar got the scholarship



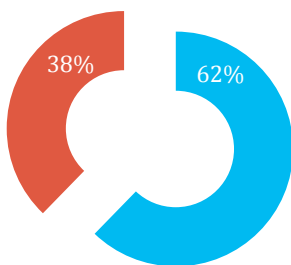
# THREE General Overview of Programs Against Achievements

## 3.1. Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund

To make sure underprivileged students have proper environment for accessing quality education in Nepal, a generous human being and an engineer by profession Dr. Tom Jacobsen established a fund after his name. At the present, 45 students are getting benefited from the scholarship out of which 17 (38%) are female while 28 (62%) are male. The support is further utilized to run other key programs and operational cost

### Gender Inclusion in DTJFS

- Male Student
- Female Student



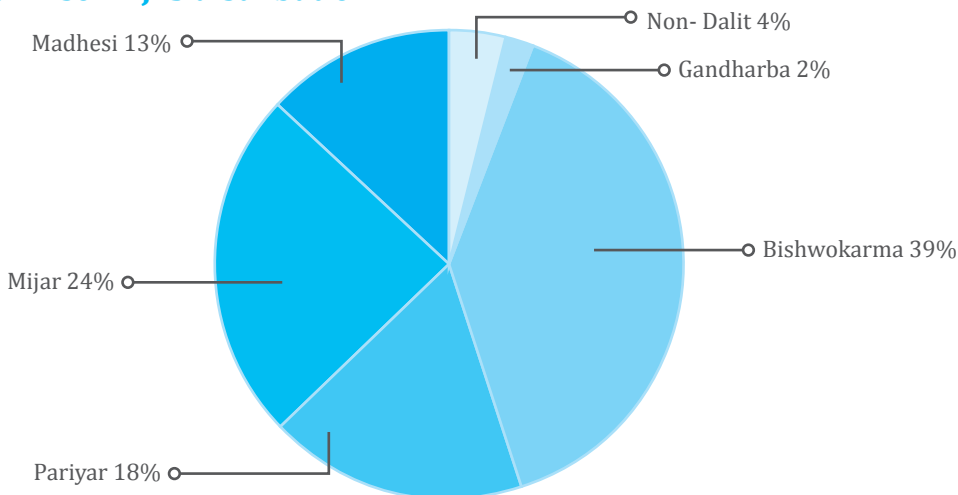
We believe in producing diverse human resource in the market for the future. So we have been supporting students from different sectors through this scholarship fund. Regarding the inclusion of non-Dalit communities and maintaining the ratio of sub castes within Dalit; we have always been

scientific and distributed the benefits on the basis of proportion, need and the genuineness of the students. The fields of study against the number of students along with the caste-wise distribution of scholarship are represented in the info-graphs below.

### No. of students against the field of study



## Caste- wise DTJFS distribution



A proper system and provisions have been established to make sure that the fund achieves the set objectives.

### What they have to say:

*Dear sir, when I'm almost broken down due to my financial problem at the end of each month, a new hope and strength comes in and that makes me more strong to be a qualified doctor that I am supposed to be. And sir, that hope and strength comes from you which keeps me work hard all day and night so that I could give my best. In my life I have learned a great lesson- "Each one can teach one". Thank you so much Dr. Tom for supporting me and family; this support goes far beyond mere financial support.*

**- Ramji Ram, MBBS (1st year), a DTJF scholarship recipient**



### What they have to say:

*Ever since my husband passed away 7 years back I, somehow managed to educate my son till secondary level but due to worst financial condition, I was worried about his further education. Luckily, he got the support of PDRC. Now, I also feel much more secured financially which has helped us to balance our economic condition. My son has got new energy and I have got new hope from him due to Dr. Tom. Thank you Dr. Tom!*

**- Patali BK, Mother of Bom Bhadur BK (BEIT, III semester)**



## 3.2. Youth Empowerment in Science and Technology

As one of the premier programs from the incubation period of PDRC, YEST has been inspiring youth from Dalit and underprivileged communities to go for science and technology, a field which was stereotyped as tough and challenging. We provide academic counseling

service along with financial and technical support to make sure that the students get admission in reputed colleges with full or partial scholarship. It has also paved way to fill up the quotas in government sector allocated for underprivileged candidates which go unused in most cases.

### *A year of achievements for YEST*

- This year, Sujan Rokka from PDRC topped the Dalit category of KU medical entrance exam and is all set to study MBBS at Kathmandu Medical College while Ashok Nepali got Pokhara University scholarship in engineering who got admitted at National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). Both students are beneficiaries of Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund Scholarship. The result of entrance exam held by Tribhuvan University is scheduled to get published soon.
- This year, 5 PDRC medical graduates entered government sector as medical officers and have started serving in their respective regions.
- One of our beneficiaries of Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund (DTJF) Ramesh Nepali succeeded to get full International scholarship and has been pursuing master's degree in structure engineering at the School of Naval Architecture, Ocean and Civil Engineering in China.
- Another DTJFS beneficiary Mr. Prabin Shreepaili recently got recruited at Safran Engineering Service as a Design and Analysis Engineer. He is a recent graduate in Aeronautic Engineering from Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology under full scholarship provided by the government of India.



### What they have to say:

*I found PDRC as my guardian whose financial and moral support along with the continuous encouragement has brought me here. It fills me with an intense desire to serve my nation as a good doctor in the future*

*- Sujan Rokka (topper, KU medical entrance exam-2074)*



# Impact story

## A PDRC student revolutionizes the engineering sector

The youth occupy 40.3 percent of total population in Nepal. Out of total youth who join university, only 5% get into science stream. And out of total number of youth who study higher education, only 0.6 % is from Dalit community. In this backdrop, one of the students of PDRC has become part of engineering revolution this year. Sunil Pariyar, an engineering student supported by PDRC and his team has completed making an



electronic wheel chair with state -of -art features. The devastating earthquake of 2015 resulted into the increased number of handicapped people in Nepal which brought a huge challenge to ease their life with the help of technology.

Feeling the need of Nepal's multifaceted geographical structure- friendly wheel chair, Sunil and the team underwent two years of scrupulous research to give the wheel chair a material form. Sunil claims that the chair has tracking device to let the family member know about the chair-user along with eye, nose or tongue based sensor for the hand related differently able people.

The wheel chair is truly one of its own kind and entirely novel for the country. It will, to some extent, positively support the economy of the nation as we will no more have to depend on other nation for the electronic wheel chair. This effort is sure to make life of millions of handicapped people much easier and will give them new hope for living. To be a part of this historic achievement is a matter of pride for Sunil. And for PDRC – it is matter of privilege to have been able to present underprivileged society with the role models like Sunil.

**Sunil Pariyar is one the beneficiaries of Tom Jacobsen Fund Scholarship ( 2009-2014)**

### 3.3. PSC Preparatory Support Program

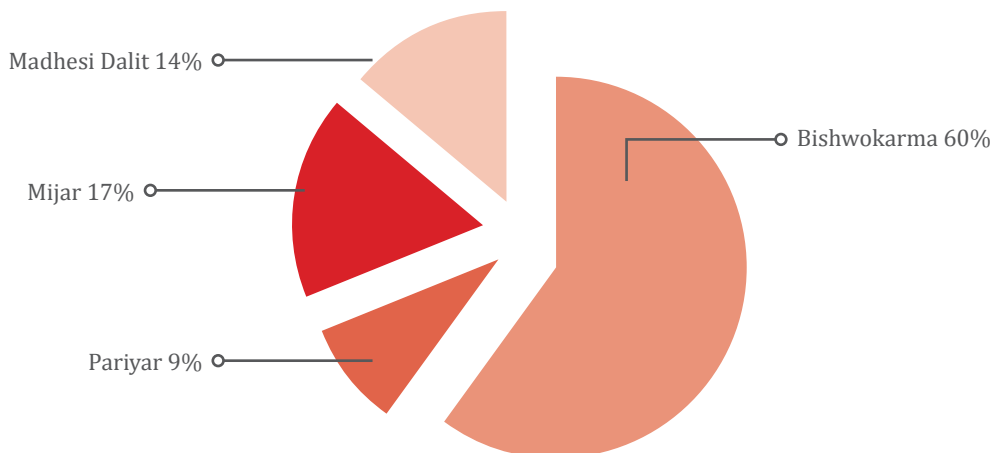
To ensure advancement of any society, the representation of that society in decision making level is must. Keeping this truth in account, PDRC has been working on consortium approach for last 7 years to strengthen the claim of Dalit youth in the government bureaucracy so that the reservation allocated by the government can be used to the fullest. This program provides Dalit PSC candidates with the guidance, motivation and financial support in order to make sure that they get an ideal environment to prepare themselves for the exam conducted by Public

Service Commission. Till date, more than 400 Dalit candidates have been benefitted from the preparation classes where as 30 candidates got recruited in the government sector in officer level.

This year, 8 organizations along with 4 individuals have come together to support 35 Dalit youth from 23 different districts. The notable aspect of this year's effort is that the interest of corporate houses and entrepreneurs also seems to be increasing for the cause like PSC Preparatory Support Program.



#### Inclusion in PSC Preparatory Support



## Consortium of PSC Preparatory Support Program

S.N.	Name of the contributor	Status/profession	Role/ Contribution
1	Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)	Dalit NGO	Secretariat
2	National Dalit Personnel Society-Nepal	Union of a Dalit staffs in government service	Responsible for technical advice and service to the consortium
3	Nepal Center for Development and Policy Studies Pvt. Ltd	A leading institution in providing preparation classes for govt jobs	Responsible for conducting PSC preparation classes
4	Kripa Foundation	An organization that uses music for prosperity	Financial support and service to the consortium
5	Samata foundation, Nepal	Dalit NGO (Policy think tank on Dalit)	Financial support and service to the consortium
6	Mr. Anil B Gajmer	Businessman (Chairman, My Investment Group)	Financial support and service to the consortium
7	Kamala Hemchuri	PDRC president	Financial support and also lead the consortium
8	Dalit Welfare Organization, Nepal	One of the leading Dalit NGOs in Nepal	Financial support and service to the consortium
9	Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization (NNSDWO)	First registered Dalit NGO in Nepal	Financial support and service to the consortium
10	Nepal Gold and Silver Handicraft Business Association	Business Association	Financial support and service to the consortium
11	Dr. Man Bahadur BK	Joint Secretary, Govt. of Nepal	Financial support and service to the consortium
12	Damber Bishwakarma	Superintendent of Police	Financial support and service to the consortium



Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)



National Dalit Personnel Society



Nepal Center for Development and Policy Studies



Kripa Foundation



Samata Foundation



Dalit Welfare Organization



Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization



Nepal Gold and Silver Handicraft Business Association



Kamala Hemchuri



Anil B. Gajmer



Dr. Man B. BK



SP  
Damber Bishwakarma

## Another remarkable year of PSC Preparatory Support Program

Altogether PDRC supported 27 candidates for PSC preparation class out of which, 5 candidates succeeded to become a government officer. The interesting fact is that 2 candidates among 5 were able to click their name in an open competition. This is quite encouraging despite the fact that certain seats are reserved for Dalits in civil service.

### Successful candidates:



**Lok Bahadur BK**  
Administration



**Rodip Sunam**  
Judiciary



**Naresh BK**  
Administration



**Laxmi Owd**  
Administration



**Ranjhana Bishwokarma**  
Judiciary

### What they have to say:

#### ***"My dream came true"***

***- Rodip Sunam - Judiciary***

*"Making your dream into Reality" is what my life has experienced as PDRC empowered me through PSC preparation classes which drastically changed my life and I turned from a normal student to a Government Officer.*

*While I was preparing for PSC exam on my own, fortunately I came across with a notice through official Face book page of PDRC regarding PSC preparation class. I filled the form, appeared the exam and got selected for preparation classes. Those classes helped to build up my knowledge and sharpened learning techniques. Finally it helped me to get into government sector and fulfill my dream. Above all, I got recruited through open competition which I believe, will help to blow away misconception of people that Dalits can only advance through reservation.*

*If I had not known about the PDRC, I wouldn't have reached my goal. I believed in PDRC and PDRC believed in me. So I would prefer to call PDRC a "REAL CHANGE MAKER."*

*I would be more than happy to join hands with PDRC in this campaign by facilitating the PSC appearing students who have their dream to serve the nation as a Civil Servant.*



### 3.4. Dalit Employability Enhancement Database (DEED)



The state of unemployment among educated youth in Nepal is one of the burning issues in the recent times. The data shows that only 57% of people are economically active. While talking about Dalit, 0.6% Dalit have bachelor's and above degree. Considering very little the background of the Dalit candidates, the job market today looks for genuine professional attributes which they (Dalit candidates) can hardly possess. Thus, in order to fulfill this gap, PDRC established a national level database to enhance the employability possibility of the candidate from Dalit community. With more than 1000 profiles of educated Dalit youth in its system, this program equips educated Dalit youth with the skills and competencies required in the battlefield of job market so that they can compete in much proficient manner.

#### 4 Dalit youth got selected in UN through traineeship programme

UN Traineeship program is a joint traineeship programme for the University graduates belonging from Socially Excluded Groups to provide opportunities to develop their professional competencies and enhance their employability prospects. It has been helping the youth to convert their dream of getting into development sector into reality for last 6 years. Every year through this program, around 25 youth from socially excluded groups are selected and placed in the various UN agencies.

PDRC, since the first cohort, has been helping youth from Dalit and underprivileged communities to strengthen their candidacy for this program. Preparatory support program conducted by PDRC for the UN Traineeship Program Cohort VI comprised of written exam test, computer based test and the mock interview. The main purpose of this practice was to make the candidates familiar with the format as well as to improve their self-confidence. As a result, 4 Dalit candidates from PDRC have been recruited to work for different UN agencies across the country.



Sujan Bishankhe (WHO)



Sabin Bishankhe (UNCDF)



Sunita Rasaily (UNICEF)

The successful candidates are



Pushpa BK (FAO).



## What they have to say:

***“PDRC came as ray of hope in my life”***

*- Sabin Bishankhe, currently working at UNCDF  
(Financial Inclusion Program unit)*

*Frustration was looming large as I was unable to get a decent job even after several months of graduation. Suddenly I could sense the rays of hope as soon as I heard about PDRC. Through PDRC I got to know about the UN Traineeship Program. Proper counseling, guidance and preparatory programs from PDRC helped me a lot to develop myself as a competitive candidate for the program. Mock test conducted in PDRC helped me to do better in real traineeship exam. Similarly, mock interview and interview tips were of great confidence booster for me to appear in real interview. I had a notion for social welfare and PDRC helped me to build network with likeminded people who want to bring changes for the socially deprived people.*



### 3.5. Advocacy

Most probably, the greatest service PDRC has rendered to the underprivileged communities is its advocacy for their access to quality education. The result may not be depicted in numbers as in other programs, but it has high impact on the policy making level of state and there is advancement

in the awareness regarding the importance of education in the targeted communities. PDRC has been playing roles from different standings for advocacy and here are some of the activities from 2017 which PDRC was part of.

As a part of advocacy, PDRC had meaningful and active participation **in....**

... SDG Youth Alliance and Nepal SDG Forum consultation meeting in the capacity of its member organization held during the second week of July to provide feedbacks to the VNR report prepared by the government to submit High Level Political Forum.



... National Planning Commission meeting held in the month of March to seek the constructive feedbacks from civil society organizations to its Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) report to be submitted to the UN assembly.

... National Campaign for Education (NCE) Nepal led conference held on the second week of March entitled “Public Education Refinement of Nepal: Annual conference 2073” as a member organization organized to hold a discourse on challenges raised as result of allocation of inadequate budget in public education and use of local resources and role of civil society for the assurance of quality education



... National Youth Assembly held in the third week of April which saw the active participation of 500+ youth from different corners of Nepal in capacity of SDG Youth Alliance member where PDRC contributed as an active participant in all the events organized during the whole day.



### 3.6 School Mentorship Program Research

After working exclusively in the field of higher education for more than a decade, we realized that strengthening school level education is equally important so that students can do better in their higher studies. Therefore PDRC in financial support of an UK based INGO Chance For Change (C4C) conducted a pilot research with primary objective of exploring the effectiveness of School Mentorship (SM) that is Mentor/Student (Mentee) Programme for underprivileged (at risk) students at 10<sup>th</sup> standard in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and





Bhaktapur districts of Nepal. Under this program, 30 students were mentored for 3 months in English, Mathematics and Science by the well trained mentors of PDRC who accessed academic and behavioral aspects of mentees.

The mentees told us and the research confirms that School Mentorship Program/ mentoring relationship matters. It is found that those students in teen, who got mentored, are more likely to engage, volunteer and lead. This pilot research might not have been a huge approach, but it has come up with some significant positive aspects which have ensured the good future of this program in the days to come. A notable prospect of this task is that the children have started to see

their future themselves beyond SSE. In addition to it, it has given way to mentoring culture. As way forward, the School Mentorship Program can be utilized to address national challenges in relation to education, community school in particular.

As the result of this research, manuals for the three subjects (English, Mathematics and Science) have been developed which can be used as material for the future mentorship programs. Similarly, a research entitled "School Mentorship Program (SMP) for Underprivileged Youth" has been published in electronic version. The mentorship program along with the research was undertaken under the leadership of Dr. Gangaram Bishwokarma and functioned by the PDRC team.

## Impact story

### Adrift finds future path

*A poem in primary level Nepali book says "Aimless person resembles monkey". The same could be said about Manoj Ghatraj when he wrote "HAVE NO AIM" in mentee profile at the time he was nominated as one of the mentees.*

*Manoj belongs to Dalit community and originally comes from Sindhupalchok. He lives nearby the school in Lagankhel and his father works on metal sculpture. His attitude towards his future became more astonishing when the mentor Muna came to know that he was good in his studies. The mentor had to say that it was the first time she had met someone with no aim at all. When asked why he attended school, he had to say that he was just obeying his parents and made clear that he has no educational plan after Secondary level. A single so called "aimless" student as he was in the class, the mentor tried to dig out the reason and came to know that he was in mental distress due to his family problem. The real test of mentorship came then and the mentor counseled him for more than two months. Eventually, when M&E team visited the school and asked him about his future plan, he had to say like this- "I want to complete my plus two level in Nepal and will pursue my college level education abroad because I have realized the value of education and its scope".*



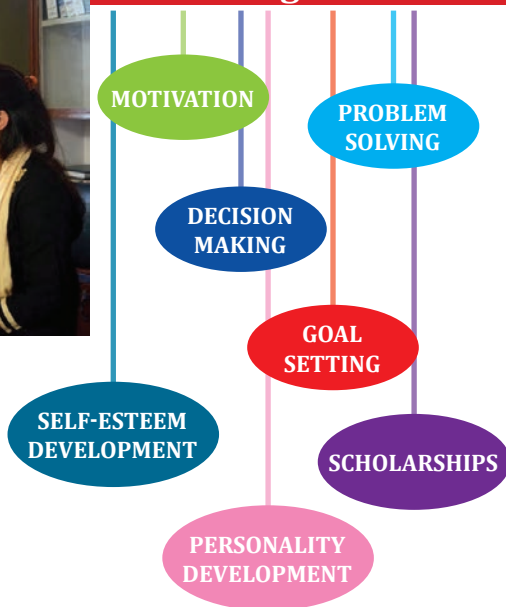
# Services offered

## 4.1. Academic and Career Counseling



For PDRC, academic and career counselling is its core competency as it has wide support coverage and experience in the history. Counselling has a huge impact on students and aspirant professionals in terms of choosing their future path. Moreover the students representing underprivileged groups in Nepal have much more problems to face as soon as they get out of secondary level education. In order to guide them in “best suited” manner, PDRC conducts academic and career counselling sessions both in group and individual basis. This also includes the information session regarding opportunities in academic sector.

### Counseling consists of



In the year 2017, PDRC in total counselled 337 students out of which 144 were male while 193 were female. This indicates that in recent times, there is an increment in the number of girl students who want to pursue their higher education.

### What they have to say:

*“ Along with its financial support, the words of encouragement and the consistent direction that I got here in PDRC kept me strong in spite of misery in my family ”*

*- Sunita Shreemali, PDRC student*

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## 4.2. Facilitation of national and international scholarships

To ensure Dalit youth's rightful access to quality higher education and professional opportunities, PDRC has been facilitating underprivileged youth with information dissemination, documentation and other services so that they can make best use of the available opportunities. We have been providing the youth with information regarding scholarships like that of Secondary

Education Examination, Pokhara University and Indian Embassy through various means of communications; social media, print media and the like. In the same way, PDRC lobbies with educational institutions for no fee or reduction in the fee of students from underprivileged community.

### 1.2.1. Information Seminar on Australia Awards



Australia Awards in partnership with PDRC held an information seminar in March at Kathmandu which saw the participation of around 40 prospective Dalit candidates from diverse sectors. The representatives from Australia Awards made presentations regarding the requirement and procedure to apply for Australia Awards 2017/18 intake.

Australia Awards are the prestigious international scholarship and fellowship funded by the Australian government offering the next generation of global leaders an opportunity to undertake study, research and professional development. 1 participant of this information seminar a government official Mr. Pradeep Pariyar has been awarded by this scholarship for master's degree course in Australia.

### 4.2.2. Global UGRAD program

PDRC conducted preparation sessions for 2017-18 GLOBAL UGRAD program in the month of January and February 2017. The preparatory package comprised of orientation session, facilitation in documentation, essay composition and online application process and mock interview session. Altogether PDRC provided preparatory support for 16 potential candidates. However, none of our students got selected this year.



The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (also known as the Global UGRAD Program) provides one semester scholarships to outstanding undergraduate students from around the world

for non-degree full-time study combined with community service, professional development, and cultural enrichment in the United States of America.

## “PDCR taught me to think differently” Umesh Nepali, Global UGRAD Scholarship awardee of 2016

*I am Umesh Nepali from Kalikot (a remote district) located in Karnali zone. I was brought up in scarcities. After I completed my SLC, I came to Kathmandu to pursue my high studies. While preparing for medical entrance exam, one day, I came to PDCR for documentation of my brother. It was when I came to know about the global UGRAD program. That moment changed my thoughts as I liked the program, applied for it and got it eventually.*



*PDCR has been so helpful and co-operative towards my achievement. It helped me in the processing of application and provided different preparation classes. Besides that, mock interview was one of the vital supports provided by PDCR which enhanced my confidence in the final interview. Being one of the members of PDCR, it has helped me in different aspects such as confidence building, public speaking and mass communication. Apart from that, PDCR has turned me broad minded. I was stuck on MBBS entrance exam for more than 4 years. But as I came to PDCR, I found that there are other fields as well where we can get success.*

*For me, PDCR was my turning point which got me to this golden opportunity. I have had good experience of the cultural and academic aspects in USA which I am trying to implement in my country. Being from Dalit community, I want to bring changes in educational and technological fields in my community.*



### 4.2.3. National Examination Board (NEB) Scholarship

The government of Nepal provides substantial numbers of scholarship to the students of community schools to study grade 11 and 12 each year under student scholarship bank program. Under this provision, the colleges must provide 3% scholarship of their total intake to the students who have passed Secondary Education Examination (SEE) through community school.

However, the students must go through a tough written examination.

In order to help Dalit youth to get this scholarship, PDCR disseminated information across the country through different networks and helped them to submit application. In addition, PDCR also conducted model test to make prospective

Dalit students familiar with the examination format and increase their possibility of getting scholarship.

Around 70 students appeared for the model test conducted by PDRC. Among them, 45 were male and 25 were female students. The NEB examination was held in July in which 22 students got scholarship. Out of 22, 17 were Dalit students while 5 were non- Dalits.



#### 4.2.4. Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship

The embassy of India, Kathmandu provides 2000 scholarships to the outstanding Nepalese students enrolled in class 11. The selected students receive a financial aid of 2000 Nepali rupee per month for the first year. The scholarship is continued for the second year too provided the student successfully

complete the grade 11.

For this, PDRC held orientation program regarding the program and helped them to submit application form electronically. As a result, 12 PDRC students received this scholarship in 2017.

#### 1.2.5. Pokhara University Scholarship for management students

Every year, Pokhara University awards scholarships for different levels and streams. This year only 541 scholarships for bachelor level management stream were distributed in 5 different courses. PDRC as its first attempt in the field of management introduced a program called Preparatory Support for Management Students.

A comprehensive orientation session was conducted and altogether 11 students applied for the opportunity and were provided with 2 model tests accompanied by feedback sessions. As a result, out of 9 students who appeared the exam, 8 got scholarships and have commenced their studies in respective management colleges.



## Key achievements of PDRC facilitation in the year 2017

S.N.	Name of the scholarship	Institution	PDRC's support/intervention	Result/Output
1	Student Scholarship Bank	National Examination Board	Counseling, Information dissemination, supported in documentation, conducted mock test	22 students got scholarship
2	Scholarship for management stream at bachelor level	Pokhara University	Counseling, Information dissemination, supported in documentation process, mock test and feedback sessions	8 Dalit students received full scholarships in management streams
3	Australia Award	Australian Government	Information dissemination	1 participant of the seminar got the scholarship
4	Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship	Embassy of India, Kathmndu	Counseling, Information dissemination, supported in documentation process	12 Dalit students got the scholarship

### What they have to say:

*The orientation, preparation and the feedback sessions were truly helpful as they made us familiar with the patterns in the real exam. It also filled us with the confidence for the exam*

*- Krishna Kaliraj, currently studying BBA in Excel Business College at Kathmandu under Pokhara University Scholarship (Krishna appeared third in the scheduled list of 40+ successful candidates)*





# Organizational Activities

## 5.1. Dr. Tom's visit to Nepal



PDRC's main donor Dr. Tom Jacobsen visited PDRC during the second week of January. An interaction program was organized with approximately 45 beneficiaries of his support. Dr. Tom said that

he was very delighted to see the impact of his support. During the program, PDRC president Kamala Hemchuri also presented a souvenir to Dr. Tom.

## 5.2. 6 new individual scholarships established

PDRC distributed three law scholarships to the students studying bachelor's degree in law (BALLB) at various colleges in Kathmandu. These scholarships were set with the financial support from Dr. Ramesh Kumar Sunar (USA) and Mr. Raj Senchuri (USA). Out of three, Sarita Pariyar and Roshan Sunar got Dr. Ramesh Kumar Sunar Law Scholarship. Similarly, Pooja Pariyar received

the only Chandra Lal Senchuri Law scholarship established by his son Raj Senchuri. Each awardee will receive NRP. 3500 per month until their designated course gets completed. The rest three scholarships were distributed to the science and management students of intermediate level. PDRC board member Gangaram Biswokarma established these 3 scholarships in his daughter's name.



### 5.3. PDRC International marked its first Annual General Meeting

A dream which was conceived 6 years back has been finally come to really in full frame. PDRC International USA which got registered in 2016 had its first annual meeting in August this year. President of PDRC Nepal Kamala Hemchuri made a presentation regarding works of PDRC. During the program, the website of PDRC International USA was also launched. The PDRC Nepal president had a strategic framework regarding building network with different organizations and had multiple meetings which included meeting with Executive Director of Jerusalem Centre for Blind

Children with Multiple Disabilities, research scholars of Brandais University and Department of Social Inclusion, and the members of Ambedkar International Mission.

The major objective of PDRC International is to promote works carried out by PDRC-Nepal in the USA so that underprivileged youth would get more benefits in the pursuit of higher education. A board comprised of NRN Dalit personalities and chaired by Rajendra Senchury is currently functioning in PDRC International USA.



## 5.4. PDRC Nepal held its 6<sup>th</sup> General Convention

PDRC Nepal held its 6<sup>th</sup> General Convention on the month of October this year which re-elected Kamala Hemchuri as the President, whereas Bhim BK was elected as the vice president. Similarly Ram Charmakar, Yaduni Das and Jaggu Bisukhe got elected as the General Secretary, Secretary and the Treasurer respectively. Among the other new elected executive board members were Leela Rasaily, Pompa Sunar, Hem Lamsal, Raj Kumar Gandharba, Dr. Ganga Ram Bishwakarma, Dr. Rabina G Rasaily and Sabitra Pariyar. Altogether, there are 13 members in PDRC board among which, the president of the PDRC Students Association (PSA), which is to be elected, will

represent in the board as a student representative..

In the convention, the progress report of the board was presented and some important decisions regarding the organizational development and strategies were sanctioned. Apart from the above illustrious activities, PDRC worked on the number of proposals which needed dozen of brainstorming sessions and meetings with the experts. These exercise have in one way other, helped the whole PDRC team members to empower themselves through the learnings, tools and techniques. This eventually leads to organizational development.



# Monitoring and evaluation



PDRC believes in an effective monitoring and evaluations (M&E) system and takes in account all the indicators, tools and process in order to

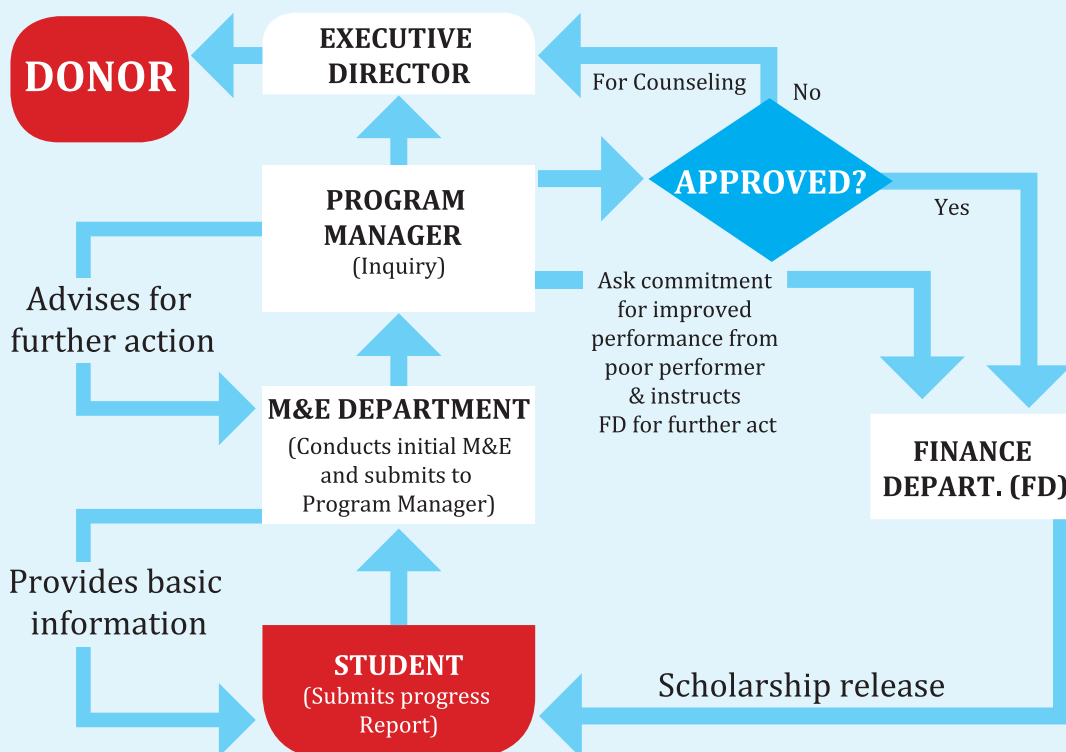
make sure that our programs are implemented according to the annual plan and is having the desired result.

## Students monitoring –working mechanism

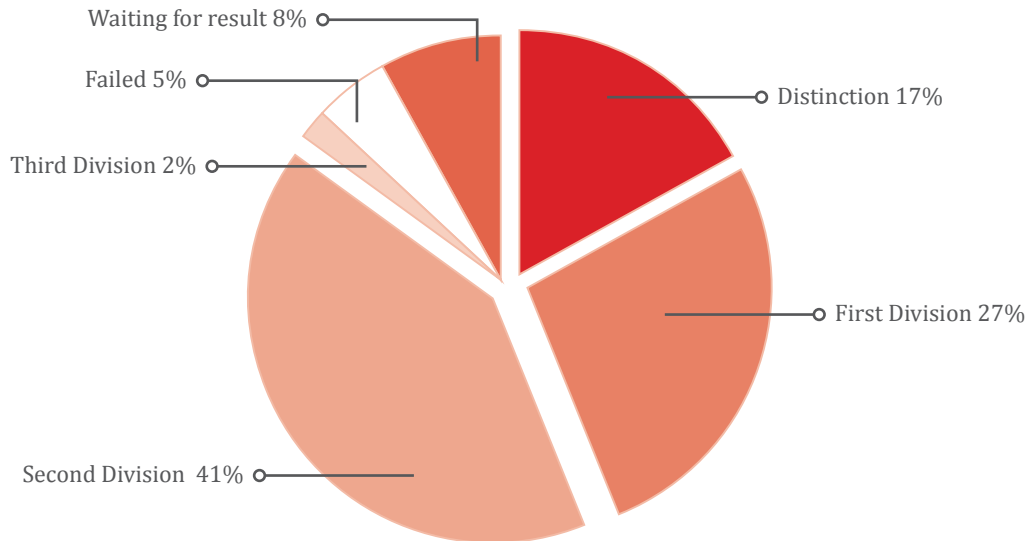
M&E plan and framework which have been formulated and updated in timely basis are taken as the key for the monitoring and evaluation of students in PDRC. The students have to make a monthly visit to PDRC and have to report their monthly progress status so that they can get the monthly financial support. It is seen if the students have been performing as per the contract which they had signed at the time of receiving the support. For the students outside the valley,

they have to visit PDRC on quarterly basis. Every student is required to submit her/his academic progress report along with non-academic report (if any) on quarterly basis. Regarding the M&E in cooperation with the students' colleges, M&E team from PDRC makes bi- annual visit to the respective colleges and collect the reports. For the purpose of M&E, PDRC brings into use the tools and techniques developed by the M&E department.

Flow chart of in-organization M&E of students in PDRC



## Performance in recent exam



In 2017, altogether 59 students were provided with financial support out of which 45 were sponsored by Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund Scholarship while other 14 were sponsored by individual donors. Out of 59 students, 17% (10 students) scored distinctions, 27% (16 students) scored first division and 41% (24 students) scored second division while 2% (1 student) scored third division. Similarly, 5% (3 students) failed the exam and 8% (5 students) are waiting for their result.

Along with the progress report, we also take into consideration the attendance of the students since it has been found that the performance of the student highly depends on their attendance. We also try to find out the talent of the student and advise them to take part in extra-curricular activities as they help holistic development of the student. We also keep the track of student's family condition and consult with the family/guardian in relation to the performance/behavior of the student.

## Program monitoring and evaluation:

For the monitoring and evaluation of programs carried out by PDRC, different M&E activities were implemented and the mandatory proceedings were completed in the year 2017. PDRC attended Kathmandu District Development Committee's review and plan meeting for fiscal year 2073/74. As a result, PDRC's programs and budget are also documented in the Annual District Development Plan book. This plan is approved by the 9th district council meeting held on 28th Falgun, 2073. The process of M&E to be carried out by Social Welfare Council has been successfully concluded and once again we were proven as one of the most transparent organizations in development sector. In the same way, every year PDRC conducts a

research among its beneficiaries to find out the relevancy and the effectiveness of the programs we offer. In addition, the president of PDRC Students Association who holds a place in PDRC board also provides PDRC with the feedback and insights of students.

Regarding the organizational M&E, PDRC conducts a performance appraisal of its staffs every six months so that efficiency and the effectiveness of the work can be accessed and strategies can be formulated for the following year. There is involvement of the strategic level, including board in order to ensure that the works are done in the best way possible to yield best results.

# Beneficiaries- In their own words

## “ Had life changing experiences with PDRC ”

**Rajendra Sunar, Currently pursuing MBA degree at Anna University, India**

*My name is Rajendra Sunar and I'm currently pursuing MBA degree from Anna University, India. I did my SLC from government school and have had an opportunity to enjoy scholarships throughout my hitherto academic journey. PDRC has been such share of my life which has helped me in multi-dimensional ways as I had opportunities to experience various its programs and initiatives. The motivational and leadership programs really helped me to get refreshing perspective in life. Networking opportunities with fellow students developed my confidence tremendously. Similarly, constant support and guidance helped me to stay motivated all the time. I wouldn't be able to scale such a privileged academic journey without the support of PDRC. I am very much indebted to PDRC that I have a life changing experience through this organization. It is actually dream come true for me.*



## “ I got the right people at right time with right decision for me ”

**MunaKoirala, Currently pursuing Bachelor in Science at Tri- Chandra College**

*I am Muna Koirala (Sarki) originally from Bhaktapur. I was brought up in a single-parent family as I lost my father at the age of seven. Because my mother had to look after two children me being the elder one, my childhood was full of struggle and difficulties. There was almost no chance of getting education; even basic one but due to my laborious nature; I got Scholarship from my school up to secondary level. As I completed my secondary education I was in bewilderment regarding my future. No resource, no way out at all! And that very, time I came to know about PDRC and got engaged ever since. It has been a long journey with PDRC which has played anchor role in my life to achieve my higher education. I have, till date, been motivated psychologically and provided with economic support which has helped to secure my education. Apart from that, I always have chances to participate in most of the motivational sessions and youth oriented programs in PDRC that adds more confidence toward my future goals. PDRC occupies a prior position in my life; a family in another word. My dream for higher studies had almost got scattered but due to PDRC currently I am pursuing my last year of bachelor degree. Finally, to all students with miseries, I want to say that be hopeful and positive toward your life and right people at right time with right decision will make a difference in your life.*



# Supporting for impact



There are people who are in need of support to fulfill their dreams and on other side, there are such people as well who believe in giving. PDRC, knowing this fact, has been working as the bridge between these two groups. Moreover, in the recent years, it has been harder and harder to raise fund from government, corporations and the foundations. And for keeping the work of social service alive, individual contributions have been proved vital.

PDRC confronts with hundreds of students who need the financial support to complete their desired studies. And we cannot provide all of them with support because of our limited resources. As alternate way out, we approach people who believe in giving and put the stories of the students forward. Thus, another needy and genuine student can see his dream coming true. Currently, 9 individual donors are supporting 14 students to pursue their studies. The table below shows the details of sponsored scholarships.



S.N.	Name of the scholarship	Scholarship provider	No. of students	Field of studies	Remarks
1	Dr. Ramesh K Sunar scholarship	Dr. Ramesh Sunar, USA	3	One +2 and Two Law Students	
2	Anwasha Kalikote Scholarship	Dr. Gangaram Biswokarma, Nepal	3	10+2 studies	PDRC board member
3	Reemaya Nepali Scholarship	Reemaya Nepali, USA	1	For 10+2 studies	PDRC previous board member
4	Samita Sen Scholarship	Samita Sen, Honkong	1	Bachelor in film studies	
5	Joy and Duane Poppe Scholarship	Joy and Duane Poppe, UK	2	One BEd(English) and One MA(Sociology)	
6	Chandra Lal Senchuri Law scholarship	Raj Century, USA	1	Bachelor's in law	
7	Hakkon Kyrkjeide Scholarship	Hakkon Kyrkjeide	1	Medical science	
8	Dipika Poudel Scholarship	Dipika Poudel, Nepal	1	Secondary level	Banking professional
9	Dr. Anjali Rasaili Scholarship	Dr. Anjali Rasaili	1	For 10+2 studies	PDRC beneficiary

### What they have to say:

*My parents think that the time when I visited PDRC was the best time in my life because due to multiple obstacles, they were about make me quit my studies. Who knows, if that had happened, I could have got married and my dream would not have been fulfilled.*

**-Pooja Pariyar, doing graduation in Law under individual scholarship of Raj Senchuri from the USA**





# Financials

Transparency, accountability and efficiency are the core financial values of PDRC. Our work is possible just because of the generosity of the organizations and individuals who believe in us that we can bring change in the lives of the needy and deserving students of underprivileged communities. Keeping this account, we are

committed to leveraging the inflowing financial support and at the same time also sharing how these supports have been used. PDRC follows government calendar for accounting purpose and preparing financial statements but carries out work according to English calendar. Therefore, the surplus will be adjusted in the next fiscal year.



**NBSM & Associates**  
Chartered Accountants  
(Independent Member of GIG-Genève Group International)

6th Floor, Block A, Four Square Complex  
Narayan Chaur, Naxal, Kathmandu, Nepal.  
P.O.B : 8357, Phone: 977-1-4433069, 4415242  
Email: info@nbsm.com.np, URL: www.nbsm.com.np

## **Auditors Report To the Members of M/s Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)**

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of **M/s Professional Development and Research Center(PDRC), Kathmandu, Nepal** as on Ashadh 31, 2074 [July 15, 2017] together with Income and Expenditure Account and Cash Flow Statement attached thereto, for the year ended on that date and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

### **Management's responsibility for the financial statements**

The preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements, in accordance with Nepal Accounting standards, are responsibility of the management.

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal standards on auditing, as per standards we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that whether the financial statements are free of material statements,

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements,

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our audit opinion,

### **Report on Requirement under Relevant Legislations**

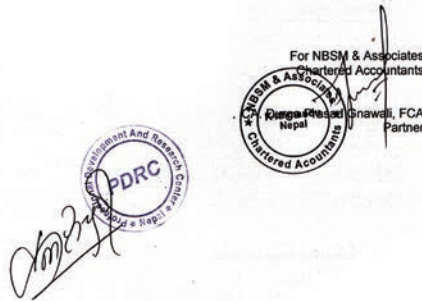
1. We have obtained all information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief are necessary for the purpose of our audit.
2. In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Program in so far as it appear from our examination of those books of account.
3. In our opinion, the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account and Cash Flow Statement with explanatory notes dealt with by this report are in compliance with the provisions of prevailing legislation and are in agreement with books of account of the Program.
4. In our opinion , so far as appeared from our examination of the books, the business of the Program has been conducted satisfactorily, and
5. In our opinion and to the best of information and according to the explanation given to us and from the examination of the books of accounts of the Program, we have not come across any case where the executive committee or any employee of the Program have acted contrary to legal provisions relating to accounts, or committed any misappropriation or caused any loss or damage to the Program.



**Auditor's opinion**

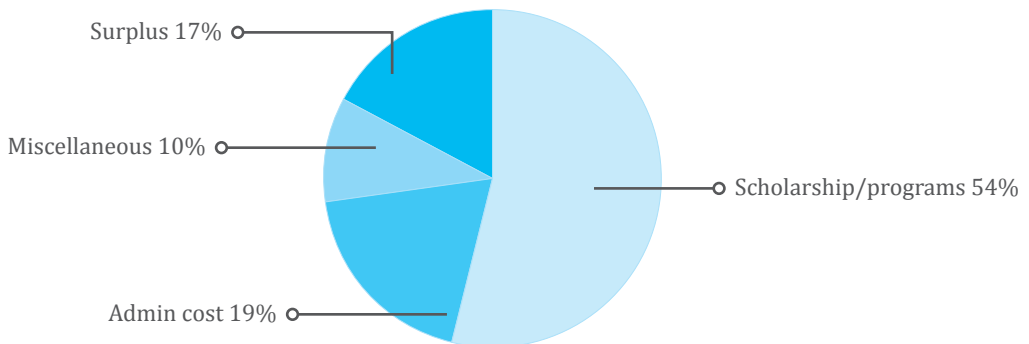
In our opinion, the financial statements, read together with notes of accounts forming part of the accounts give true and fair view of the financial position of the Program as on Ashadh 31, 2074 (July 15, 2017) and the financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended are in accordance with Nepal Accounting standards and comply with provisions of relevant legislations.

Date : Kartik 07, 2074  
Place : Kathmandu, Nepal



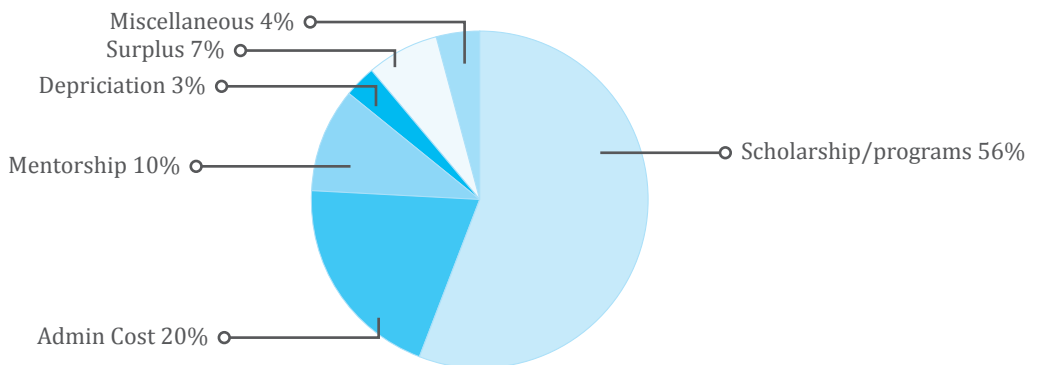
For the fiscal year 2073/74, PDRC received **Rs. 46, 79,565.23** from Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund, the expenses of which are displayed in pie-chart below:

**Expenses of DTJF for 2073/74 as per Nepali calendar**



In FY 2073/74, PDRC received total fund of **Rs. 61, 10,941.43** and the expenses of which is demonstrated in the pie-chart below. Total fund includes Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund, individual donors, membership fee etc.

**Expenses of the total fund received by PDRC for FY 2073/74**



# Media Coverage and Face book analytics

# TEN

## Facebook insight

f followers

Page followers:  
**5,004**

(As of 18 December, 2017)



Country coverage  
**45**



**28%**



**72%**



People of age group between 18-34 are the highest in number regarding the likes with 89% in women's group and 82% in men's group



Total page likes  
**5,028**

## हार्दिक बधाई!



सोहन बहादुर विक  
प्रभारतन / साध, खुशुन



रोहित सुनाम  
न्याय, खुशुन



रंजना विश्वकर्मा  
न्याय, महेन्द्रा



सश्री शोच  
प्रभारतन / केन्द्रा, कश्मि



नरेश विक.  
प्रभारतन / केन्द्रा, कश्मि

## Top Face book posts in 2017

### Hearty Congratulations to successful candidates of PSC

Total number of people reached: 26,243  
Total reactions, comments and share: 1,963  
Total likes: 1,621  
Total comments: 168



## Congratulations Dr. Sujit Darnal

MBBS gold medalist

Total number of people reached: 20,564  
 Total reactions, comments and share: 1,581  
 Total likes: 1,269  
 Total comments: 80

### PDRC's work is continue to generate news and reports in the national newspaper throughout the year. Here are some samplings.

Immediately after the 2015 massive earthquake, PDRC student Sunil Pariyar and his team planned to design a unique wheel chair for differently abled people. They did a research and came up with a product after 2 years, which hit the headline of the Kantipur daily, nation's most trusted and widely circulated media outlet, on 21 August, 2017.

PDRC student Sujit Darnal scored the highest marks among the 1000+ medical students from 7 different medical colleges affiliated to Tribhuvan University and crowned with the gold medal. This news was published in the Nagarik, another leading daily newspaper in the country. According to the editor of the paper, this news was one of the most shared content in the history of their publication, was shared more than 45.5K times.

One of the online portals, Nepaltalk, published the news of the preparatory support class of the Public Service Commission exam. PDRC supported 35 candidates this year.



# Challenges and lesson learned

The less priority of investment in higher education and the penetration of privatization continue to possess challenges in our work. To mitigate these challenges, PDRC will continue to work

in partnership with the government and other stakeholders, and make government accountable towards Dalit's right to education. Here are some of the challenges and ways forward.



## Challenges in the education sector

1. The new constitution has mandated a local body to manage the school level education. Therefore, any steps taken by the newly elected local body is likely to create both positive and negative effects
2. Higher education doesn't fall under the priority of the government or the funding agencies. Therefore, the process of privatization has further mushroomed and it is contributing to cause discrimination in the society by providing two different kinds of education.
3. The constitution and other supplementing laws/acts promise to provide adequate support to bring excluded groups in the education mainstream. However, such provisions are poorly implemented
4. Due to the effect of globalization and the emergence of technology, the changes are taking place rapidly in the society. However, the curriculum and the teaching styles are not changed. Therefore, university graduates seriously lack the knowledge and skill the job market required.



## Institutional challenges:

1. After the promulgation of new constitution in 2015, the country has adopted federal system. There is a need to restructure our organizational system to provide services effectively in the changed context
2. The expansion of the programs and services also requires a huge funding. So, there is a challenge to maximize our resource mobilization skill to explore adequate resources nationally and internationally.
3. Network is very important for exchanging information and knowledge, also empowering people and influencing policies. Our limited network at home and abroad continue to possess a big challenge.
4. By the help of PDRC, Thousands of students benefited and became successful in their profession over the year. They can also play a large role in determining the future and continued development of the institution. Therefore, there is a challenge to establish alumni as a strong unit of the organization
5. The changed political and educational landscape has also widened the scope of the organization. However, we have a small number of human resources. Therefore, it is equally challenging to equip staff members with the knowledge and skill to meet the desired outcome of the organization.



# Future course of action

The by-gone years have always provided us guide and the base so that we can better plan for the future. We truly believe that the looking ahead and planning for the future actually should be continuous. At the meantime, both doing right

things and doing things right should be part of planning. So in order to make our effort more efficient and our impact more effective, the following themes of planning for 2017 have been set.



1. To coordinate with the local body to establish Dalit's education as their top most priority



2. Advocate for strengthening public education in order to provide quality education for all



3. To work as a watchdog to monitor the status of the implementation of the policies, use of resources allocated for Dalit community in the education sector



4. Without a solid network of support and knowledge, PDRC can't build relations and help the organization succeed. Therefore, we will establish relationship with the national and international organizations and network groups in the education sector.



5. PDRC will further strengthen its student unit to support organizational goal, improve ties between alumni, the community and the organization



6. Provide board and staff members with the frequent learning opportunities so that they can contribute squarely to the organization to the best of their knowledge and abilities. Providing other social security benefits to the staff member is a priority this year.



7. PDRC will adopt new technology and tools to increase the visibility of the organization, also ensure compliances given PDRC's international expansion.

# Looking for a way to get involved?

Over the years, PDRC's supporters and those who believe in bringing positive change have engaged in various activities in order to change the lives of Dalit and underprivileged students. To keep this

momentum going, we are expecting individuals, families and the potential partners get inspired and help us in bring our effort of supporting the needy students.

## For inspiration, take a look on how others got involved:



9 individual donors came with their hands stretched and supported 14 students. PDRC strongly believes that their effort though may seem mediocre in monetary value, will be a fortune changing impact on life of those who have been supported.

4 individuals, 3 corporations and 4 civil society organizations have come together to support in the mission of taking Dalits and underprivileged educated youth to decision making level of the nation through PSC Exam preparation program.



Nepali nationals and non-Nepalese friends of PDRC have provided their support and expertise through seminar, workshop or motivational session which has helped a lot to scale the competencies of Dalit and underprivileged youth.

Our people living in the different corners of the world have been constantly helping us in our mission through financial and non- financial means.



Like minded friend in the development sector with wider reach and resources have been supporting us through providing funds and international experts which has helped us to amplify our effort in ensuring quality education.

Our alumni who have been working in their respective fields have been on their will, providing support to another past version of them so that they too can bring their dream into reality.



*We believe, you will choose a way that's meaningful to you, and will put another brick in the wall of discrimination free society envisioned by us collectively!*

**This is what one of those individual donors have to say:**

*We feel very strongly that Nepal cannot fully develop as a prosperous country unless all of her citizens are free from discriminatory systems and able to achieve their full potential. Every effort to counter discrimination on the basis of caste or ethnic origin must be supported. We believe that PDRC is an effective organization for countering discrimination by increasing the participation of Dalit people in key professions and positions in society through mentoring and higher education scholarships. We have been supporting the PDRC scholarship program for 2 years and have been impressed with the personal commitment and professionalism of PDRC staff. Duane and Joy Poppe, United Kingdom*



*(The duo has been supporting 2 students for their higher studies.)*



# PDRC LEADERSHIP

## Advisory Board



**Dr. Bidyanath Koirala**



**Dr. Madan Pariyar**



**Dr. Krishna Bhattachan**



**Dr. Meg B. Biswakarma**



**Dr. Lekhnath Poudel**

## Executive Board (2017- 2020)



**Kamala Hemchuri**  
President



**Bhim BK**  
Vice President



**Ram Charnakar**  
General Secretary



**Yaduni Das**  
Secretary



**Jagu Bisunke**  
Treasurer



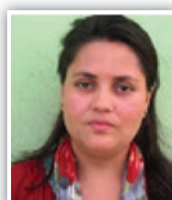
**Lila Rasaili**  
Member



**Hem Lamsal**  
Member



**Dr. Gangaram Bishwakarma**  
Member



**Sabitra Pariyar**  
Member



**Pompa Sonar**  
Member



**Raj K. Gandary**  
Member



**Dr. Rabina G Rasaily**  
Member



**PSA Representative**  
Member

## Management Team



**Birendra Biswakarma**  
Founder/Executive Director



**Rup Sunar**  
Program Manager



**D. B. Bishwakarma**  
Research & Advocacy Officer



**Riban Mangrati**  
HR Development Officer



**Pabita Poudel**  
Asst. Admin and Finance Officer



**Sunita Ghimire**  
Intern



**Purna Maya Bishwakarma**  
Office Helper





**PDRC**  
*Making your dream into reality*

**Professional Development and Research Center  
(PDRC)**

Kalanki-14, Kathmandu, Nepal

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