

# Five years on, Vajra going strong

Himalayan News Service

Kathmandu, February 4

Vajra Foundation Nepal (VFN) — a non governmental organisation working for promotion of development activities — observed its fifth anniversary today.

VFN has launched various health training and awareness programme for the prevention of disease. Besides this, school health education, leadership training, community awareness about personal and environmental hygiene are some of the works of VFN.

"More than 12,000 patients of Sindhu-palchowk have benefitted from the Primary Health Care Centre at Barhabise," said Maarten Olthof, Chairman of Vajra Foundation Holland.

"VFN is different from other NGOs since there is no politics involved in it and it cooperates with all sharing the wish of reducing poverty and bringing in development," said Olthof. "Hundreds of Nepali teachers, students and their parents, nurses, doctors and specialists have volunteered to work in VFN. Besides this, a total of 50 Dutch citizens so far have also volunteered for several projects."

"Women have been involved in kitchen gardening and improved livestock programme at Ramche Village Development Committee (VDC)," said



**R K Poudel, chairman of the Vajra Foundation Nepal, speaking to the journalists at a function organised to mark its fifth anniversary. Himalayan Photo**

Ram Kaji Poudel, chairman of Vajra Foundation Nepal.

Thousands of people have benefited from the clean drinking water supplies and latrines that were being built by VFN. Some villages have also been intro-

duced by smokeless fire places on large scale. Besides, 54 students have also been provided with scholarship programme. With the introduction of parabolic cookers, about 600 people have benefited from the programme.