

CRT NEWSLETTER **August 1997, Volume 6.**

- **With the support from Mr. Maarten Olthof, a Promoter of Solar Cooking Technology from the Netherlands, CRT joins Rural Community Development Society (RUCODES) to initiate a demonstration project to promote Solar Cooking Technology in Kavre district. To initiate the project, CRT organized 2 orientation/ demonstration on solar cooking, 1 on 27 April, 1996 at Panchkhal, Kavre and other on 1 June, 1996 at Panauti, Kavre. Similarly, to mark the World Environment Day on 5th June, CRT has conducted a 4 day training on "Fabrication and Operation of Solar Box Cooker in Banepa, Kavre" from 2-5 June 1996 with an aim to provide and transfer the knowledge on construction and use of solar cookers to the participants. There were in total 21 participants, 17 female and 4 male, from 12 different organizations in the Kavre district. During the training, apart from theoretical lectures and discussion sessions, the participants were helped to actively take part in various practical exercises to fabricate and operate the Solar Box Cookers. On the 5th June, the closing day, the Chief Guest, Mr. Prithvi Raj Ligal, the Honourable Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission, distributed certificates to the participants and stressed the role of solar energy in the present context and also pointed out about the strong relationship that existed between solar energy technologies, environment and energy conservation. Ms. Brinda Adhikari, on behalf of the participants, stressed the importance of solar energy in the present context of fuelwood scarcity. Mr. Ram Bhakta Kokh Shrestka, Mayor of Banepa Municipality expressed his happiness to have such an activity in Kavre. Mr. Hari Bhakta Khonju, RUCODES President, also expressed his commitment to translate the training into action in RUCODES supported areas in Kavre district. At the beginning, CRT Executive Director, Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha, highlighted CRT's current and future activities focussed on promotion and dissemination of solar energy. He also stressed on the need for massive campaign to promote "Renewable Energy for Better Life".**