

## Thiksey Monastery Project Profiles

**570**-year-old Thiksey Monastery is largely self-funded and it endures to be self-sufficient through the establishment of several projects, apart from the small amount of regular income, in order to support the more than 120 lamas and students who live and study here, as well as helping to pay for the operational and maintenance costs of the monastery itself.

Following are the Projects initiated and executed by the Cultural & Welfare Society of the monastery in order to support and reduce the exceeding expenditure over the yearly income :-

1. **Thiksey Monastery Kitchen Garden:** This was established to subsidize the supply of vegetables required for the running of the Common Kitchen which provides 3 daily meals for 125 resident monks, the regular visitors and various lay staff working within the monastery.
2. **Greenhouse:** Separate from the Kitchen Garden, but equally supplying the Common Kitchen with vegetables, the monastery has a Greenhouse to make available the basic nutritional needs during the harsh winter months.
3. **Animal Farm:** It is aimed to meet the daily milk consumption at the Common Kitchen and to cut costs in purchasing milk products, except during the running and conduction of major ceremonies and festivals which serve a great number of devotees and visitors.
4. **Two Tippers:** The income generated by these vehicles on engaging them to contractors and the Transport Union ensures good cash benefit, but the monastery is not yet able to clear the loan incurred from the bank in purchasing the vehicles.

*Regular Income:*

- a) The monastery owns about 1800/- carnals of cultivable land, but most of it is given on lease to individual families, as the monks cannot tend the fields round the year for they have to attend more important commitments at the monastery and serve the general public through their service and performance of Pujas and ritual services.
- b) One of the major sources of income for the monastery comes by way of donations offered by devotees and visitors.

An approximate annual income of Rs.17,28,000/- (Rupees seventeen Lakh, twenty eight thousand) has been acquired from the above 2 sources over the last 3 years.

#### ***Non-Regular Sources:***

Grants-In-Aid are being given by the Government and NGOs from time to time in response to our applications for any 'need-based' maintenance and development for the benefit of preserving ancient monuments and for the convenience of all tourists and visitors. The monastery always has to bear much cost from its general account in order to support the successful establishment of construction-based projects like the Hostel building, footpath, hand pump, public conveniences, etc., although the particular project may be known to be supported and funded by other bodies.

Following are the on-going projects and departments where most of the monastery funds are utilized and it has felt the urgent need of additional