

Renovation and remodeling of Jamyang Ling Model School/ Raru, Zanskar

We are pleased to report that the renovation and expansion of Jamyang Ling Model School which started late April 2026 is progressing well.

1. **April 22, 2026:** First call to Nepali workers. As weather conditions had still been unfavorable their arrival had to be postponed by several days. Yet the „mistri“/ lead worker already arrived ahead.
2. **April 25, 2026:** 11 Nepal workers arrived at Raru. Accomodation had been arranged in the Government Guesthouse instead of (poor) tent housing 3 years back. We wanted to improve their working conditions.



As there are fixed daily wages administered by local Zanskar Administration for Nepali workers we found a solution by providing them accomodation, food, gasstove and kerosine for free.

3. **April 29, 2026:** Before construction began, local monks from Mune Gompa conducted a traditional blessing ceremony (puja) requesting protection and success for the project and all people involved.



After prayers and blessings of Mune Gompa Lamas the work finally started. The first „cut with a spade“ was done.

4. Followed by a few days of collecting stones, getting cement and steel from Padum and preparing the foundation of two additional rooms on the west side of the present building.



5. **May 11, 2026:** the foundation trench was excavated. Not manually as done before but by hiring an excavator from Padum for the very first time.



6. **May 20, 2026:** at the same time the demolition of six school rooms facing south started.



7. **May 24, 2026:** It took full four days to take these rooms down. A big heap of rubble was left where students had been sitting and studying for decades.



8. **May 27, 2026:** Progress of construction of two new rooms on the eastside of the present building.



Beams have been fitted, requiring ongoing watering for five days.
In the meanwhile the rented bagger cleaned up the construction site.
Bar benders at work.



9. **June 3, 2026:** excavation for foundation work of concrete pillars for new 6 classrooms.





10. June 6, 2026: Nepali workers cutting „ballis“ (wooden beams) in Ichar village nearby.



11. June 8, 2026: a truck load of „willows“ (cleaned wooden branches) arrived.





Laid closely to each other on wooden beams they will be covered with a thick layer of clay.

During the coming weeks the project team will complete the foundations for the new classrooms, erect reinforced concrete pillars and continue masonry work.



Thank You very much for Your support!
We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all donors and supporters.
Your generosity is making a lasting difference in the education and future opportunities
for all children in Zanskar Valley.

Raru, June 10, 2026

Lungnag Youth Association
General Secretary
Lobzang Tashi

Shambhala Charitable Trust
President
Bernd Balaschus