

Palungtar Municipality

Palungtar Municipality is one of the historical and naturally beauty municipality located at Gorkha district which is connected historically with the creation of the modern Nepal and the name of the legendary Gurkha soldiers. It is made up of the seven former Village Development Committees Aampipal, Chyangli, Dhuwakot, Gaikhur, Khoplang, Mirkot and Palungtar. It covers an area of 158.62 km² and has a population of 38,244. It is very close from Capital city and other popular tourist destinations such as Pokhara and Chitwan, linked with national highway. Tourism, Agriculture and Remittance are the main economic sector of Palungtar Municipality. The three major rivers Chepe, Daraudi and Marsyangdi flowing in the territory has laid the foundation of the agro-economy in the area. The Government of Nepal plans to make Palungtar the country's first Smart City.

Palungtar is famous for its place called "Ligligkot" which has its historical significance associated with the expansion of the ancient Kingdom of Nepal. Liglig Kot is one of the historical, religious, cultural, archeological, potential tourist destinations with diverse touristic attraction which lies in Palungtar Municipality of Gorkha district of Nepal. It is located at the height of 1437 meters mean sea level and located at a distance of 140 kilometers due west of Kathmandu by road. Kot in Nepali means fort or citadel, usually situated on a hilltop. Liglig is a word used in Magar language which means clear, pristine and beautiful view. Liglig Kot has a glorious history. In LigLig Kot, it was decided that whoever won the race from Chepeghat to the Liglig Kot top will be the king for next year . The race would be organized every Dashain Tika day i.e greatest festival of Nepal . The race was started in 1604 BS. The races were always won by the local Ghales (cast). In 1616 BS (1558 AD), the race was won by the Drabya Shah. Since then, the Shah dynasty was established in the Liglig Kot kingdom and his descendant's established the Gorkha kingdom and one of the Shah descendent Prithvi Narayan Shah established Nepal winning small kingdoms scattered around the Nepal. However, presently Liglig Kot is being backward in development and prosperity due to the insufficient and ineffective planning and budgeting from the concern authority. Liglig Kot can be the tourism hotspot of Palungtar Municipality. Palungtar municipality has initiated the concept of economic development and tourism possibility of the Liglig Kot area.

Drabya Shah, the youngest son of Yashobrahma Shah, king of Lamjung, became the king after capturing Liglig fort with much tactfulness on VijayaDashami 1616 B.S. (1559 A.D.) having marched from Lamjung. His descendants expanded the

tiny kingdom to Gorkha and one of his great grandson Prithvi Narayan Shah unified the Nepal as present Nepal. Drabya Shah, then brother of King Narahari Shah of neighboring Lamjung District established the small kingdom winning in the race organized to appoint a king at around 1616 BS / (1559 AD). Still the remaining stones of the ancient palace could be seen in the hill top at Ligligkot.

Kotgadi is a another destination for tourism development at Palungtar Municipality. It is located at Palungtar Municipality Ward no. 10, Mirkot. It is the royal temple of king of Ligligkot situated in between Thulo Gadi and main palace. It is worshipped everyday by the royal Magar priests.

Tatopani is located at Palungtar Municipality, Ward No. 1, Khoplang. It carries a unique importance. It is believed that has been medicine for many disease. While drinking, it feels that it is warm water, which itself is very unique. The taste of water feels like salt used to cure the wounds inside the lungs. Moreover, the water is of high significance for curing skin disease. The place has such an importance however needs protection, preservation and promotion. Though located in the range of less than 500 meters from main road leading to Gorkha. It has been underestimated by state and now municipality is planning to promote and make full utilization of the place.

In a Agriculture Sector, Fruits and vegetables (Litchi, pears, banana, tomatoes, ginger, potatoes) are the main crops of Palungtar Municipality. The land used in Agriculture sector is 6.75% of total land of Palungtar Municipality. Chyangli, Pauwatar and Sera are the special area for Litchi and Banana.

The 2015 Nepal earthquake (also known as the Gorkha earthquake) occurred at 11:56 Nepal Standard Time on 25th April and 12th May, 2015 with a magnitude of 7.8M_w or 8.1M_s, epicenter was east of Gorkha District at Barpak killed nearly people and injured nearly at Palungtar Municipality. More than houses are destroyed, people are directly affected from earthquake.