

Nepali transcript:

सनिता: अनि तपाईंहरूले¹, अब, आफैले पनि, यो विद्यालयलाई निशुल्क सामान त दिनुहुन्छ होइन, र छात्रवृत्ति व्यवस्था छ कि अहिलेसम्म

विद्यालय संचालक: छात्रवृत्ति चाहिँ कस्तो छ भने...यो...शिक्षा कार्यालयबाट छात्रा छात्रवृत्ति भनेर महिलाहरूलाई मात्रै, त्यो पनि पचास percent... मतलब जति विद्यार्थी संख्या छ, त्यसको आधीलाई मात्र आउँछ। अनि अर्को एउटा के आउछ भने दलित² छात्रवृत्ति भनेर आउँछ। दलित भनेको नेपालको दलित जातमा पर्ने छात्राहरूलाई छात्रवृत्ति भनेर आउँछ। अनि हामीले चाहिँ के गरेका छौं भने ...यो, अब, हाम्रो समाज नै अलिकता गरिब र पिछ्छाएको समाज भएको कारणले गर्दाखेरि...यहाँ भएका विद्यार्थीहरूमध्ये अब पचास percent छात्रा, र चाहिँ, अब, दलित भनेर...यसरी...छुट्टै उनीहरूलाई...त्यो तोकिएको संख्यालाई मात्रै दिँदाखेरि चाहिँ, अलिकति विवाधान भयो। हामीले चाहिँ के गरेका छौं भने, त्यो विवाद किन आउने भने, अब, कसलाई छाँड्ने, सबै उस्तै छन्, आर्थिक स्थरमा हेर्दाखेरि। अनि अब, पढाईको हिसाबले मात्र हेर्न भएन, आर्थिक स्थर पनि हेर्नुपर्यो। अभिभावकको श्रोतको ...आयश्रोत पनि हेर्नुपर्यो। त्यसले गर्दाखेरि, अप्ठ्यारो हुने कारणले गर्दाखेरि, हामीले चाहिँ जिल्ला शिक्षा कार्यलायाबाट जतिसुकै...त्यो छात्रवृत्ति भनेर आउने रकमहरू छ, त्यो रकमहरू सबै चाहिँ एकै मुष्ट राखेर, त्यो चाहिँ, अब, प्रत्येक विद्यार्थीलाई जति पुग्छ, छात्र, छात्रा, सबैलाई, जति पुग्छ, त्यसको चाहिँ हामीले...दुई वर्ष अगाडि पनि...shirt, पाइन्ट, जुत्ता, मोजा, bag दिएका थियौं। गत साल पनि हामीले bag दियौं। अनि त्यसपछि, यसपाली पनि हामीले shirt, पाइन्टको कपडा, त्यो दिएका छौं। त्यसरी बाँध्ने गरेका छौं हामीले छात्रवृत्ति चाहिँ।

सनिता: हामीले यो छात्रवृत्ति बढाउ ...बढाउन सक्यो भने चाहिँ, गाउँ-घरबाट

¹ Formal 'you'

² One of the castes in Nepal. Considered to be "untouchables."

विद्यालय संचालक: त्यो छात्रवृत्ति बढाउन सक्यो भने देखि चाहिँ ...जस्तै अब, हाम्रो यहाँ कस्तो भने देखि ... त्यो ...हामीले पोशाक नदिएको भए देखि अभिभावकले चाहिँ school dress³ लगाएर पठाउँदैनन्। त्यस्तो अवस्था छ। घरमा जे लुगा लगायो, त्यही लुगा लगाएर आउने अवस्था हुन्छ। त्यसो भएको हुनाले एकरूपता होस् भन्ने उदेश्यले हामीले चाहिँ त्यो लुगा दिएको हो। अब, यदि चाहिँ छात्रवृत्ति बढ्यो अथवा पोशाकै कहींबाट आयो भने देखि चाहिँ त्यसले चाहिँ एकरूपतामा सहयोग पुराउँछ।

English translation:

Sanita: And you, now, by your own too, give things to this school for free, *hoina*⁴, and is there a scholarship arrangement? Or till now....

School principal: The scholarship is like... this... from the Education Ministry, something called a female student scholarship which is only for girls, and that too fifty percent... I mean, out of how many [female] students we have, it only comes for half of them. And one, another thing that comes is called a *dalit*⁵ scholarship. *Dalit* means the female students who fall under Nepal's *dalit* caste, that scholarship comes to them. And, like, what we have done is....this, now, our society is... because it is a bit poor and backward... among the students here, now fifty percent female students, now, by saying that they are *dalit*... this way... separately, to them... only by giving to that specified population, it's a bit discriminating. We like, what we have done is, why that debate is coming is, now, who are we to pick, everyone is the same, according to their economic level. And now, it is not feasible to only judge in terms of academics, economic level must also be considered. The income of the guardians... their income should also be considered. Because of that, since it would be difficult, we, like, from the District Education Ministry, how much... that money that comes as scholarship, all that money, like, by putting it all together, that, like, now, how much is available for each student—female students, male students, everyone—the amount available, of that, we... even two years ago... gave them shirt, pants, shoes and socks. Last year too, we gave them bags. And after that, this time too, we gave them cloth to make shirt and pants. In that way, we have distributed the scholarship.

³ Uniform

⁴ The direct translation of *hoina* is no; in this context, it is to make sure that the person is following the story and to confirm something. For example, in English, the word 'Right?' is used to confirm something.

⁵ One of the castes in Nepal. Considered to be "untouchables."

Sanita: If we could incr...increase scholarship, like, from village, houses...

School Principal: If the scholarship could be increased, like... for example, now, how it is now here is... that... if we hadn't given them school uniforms, their guardians wouldn't send them in uniforms. That's the situation. What they were wearing at home, they would come wearing the same thing, which would be the situation. Because of that, wishing that there would be uniformity, we gave them their uniforms. Now, if the scholarship increases or we get uniforms from somewhere, it would help in uniformity.

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