

Case study

Student's name: Asha Bairwa

Class: 10th

Location: Agucha

Family's Monthly income: 9,000-10,000

Parents' Main source of Income: Agriculture

Father's Occupation: Farmer

Mother's Occupation: Farmer and Household work

Father and Mother are illiterate.

Number of siblings: One Brother, and Two Sisters.

The student, Asha is a young girl, studying in 10th standard. She belongs to a Farmer family, and has three siblings. Her parents are illiterate, and also as observed by the field persons, not very keen on her education.

Asha's case came into light when her continuous irregularity was observed by the Field Personnel (FP) of SSP, especially keeping in mind the upcoming board examinations. When inquired, it was found that the absence was caused due to increasing household work, and demands by parents to take care of her younger sibling and ailing grandmother. The distressed student broke down in front of the teachers and herself talked to the teachers about the increasing demands from her family, and the coercion by family members to quit school.

The concerned FP immediately approached the family and held a dialogue with them about the importance of the girl's presence in school and education. The family members agreed in the presence, but soon it was found out by the student's neighbours and classmates that she was scolded and even beaten.

As soon as the FPs were informed about this, they approached the principal who again held a dialogue with the family members. The student became regular to school afterwards with the examination approaching.

However, with her examinations approached, she suddenly became absent in schools. When inquired, it was found that her grandmother had passed away and now, she was forced to help out in the family's work. Her 'Gona' had also been done and she would not be allowed to attend school anymore. When the FP went to her house again, they received the reply from her parents that "Her education is now up to her in-laws and they may do as they please."

With more determination and resolve, the father-in-law was also approached, and asked for permission to let her study and give board exams.

Until now (18/3/19), with active requests and consistent efforts made by the Field Person trying to convince her Father and Father-in-Law, the student has given 3 board exams. Hopefully, she will be allowed to go further with her studies.