**Starting to Study Again**

Ramdulari Rana lives in the Kanchanpur area, in South West of Nepal, and she is 15 years old. Nowadays she is extremely happy because she has started to go to school once more, just like her smaller sisters. Five years ago, she was studying at class 5 (5th class equivalent) in the nearby school when her parents stopped her education because of the expense and because she has basic reading and writing skills. They also wanted her to help out at home.

Ramdulari said that she was particularly upset whenever she saw her friends still going to school. After a few years, her desire to study receded because by now her friends were studying at class 9/10 (equivalent to 2nd/3rd year). However earlier this year, she had a big surprise when her mother told her that she would do all of the household chores herself and that Ramdulari could go back to school.

Radulari explained that when the Laligurans community group was set up, with the support of Sahakarmi Samaj, her mother decided to join and started to participate in the discussions on practical community issues. According to Ramdulari, her mother said that one day they discussed the issue of excluding their daughters from school. She was impressed by the explanations of other participants as to why they thought this was wrong. She then started to feel that she had been extremely unfair to her daughter, just because of the small cost and household chores that needed to be done. On that day, she went home and started to try to convince Ramdulari’s father about the importance of their daughter returning to school. It took time, but eventually she won him over and Ramdulari was given the good news.

When she returned to school, it was difficult in the beginning, because her previous classmates were all studying in higher classes, while she was studying with her smaller sisters. But now she has got used to it, she is going to school regularly and doing well in her studies. She is committed to studying hard because her goal is to be successful in the future.