

From: Sunil Pant <pantsunil@gmail.com>
To: ipanel@worldbank.org
Cc: [REDACTED]
Date: 09/25/2013 08:42 AM
Subject: Attention to Inspection Panel, Serious matter of systemic exclusion of LGBTI community by World Bank funded support program in Nepal.

To,

Executive Secretary,

The inspection Panel

1818 H Street. NW, Washington, DC 20433, USA

World Bank Country office

1. We Blue Diamond Society is a community based organization and represent LGBTI community who live in the area known as Nepal. Our Address:

BLUE DIAMOND SOCIETY

Shivabhakti Marg no. 344 Khursanitar,

Lazimpat-2, Kathmandu, Nepal

Phone: 4443350/4000147

Fax: 4438600 GPO Box 8975 EPC 5119

2. We, the LGBTI community, have suffered or like to suffer, as a result of the world bank's failures or omissions in the world bank funded 'Nepal government- ministry of education' implemented vocational training program for unemployed Nepali Youth in 2013 in Nepal.

3. The program has shown discrimination and no inclusion for the LGBTI community. LGBTI youth could not participate nor even apply, in such program hindering their empowerment opportunity and questioning the accountability at the World Bank funding such exclusive programs in Nepal and marginalizing the most in need, the LGBTI, population.

4. The vocational program is excluding LGBTI and this trends fuels further marginalization and discrimination of LGBTI population by Nepal government, other donors and civil society at large.

5. We have notified to World Bank staff in Washington, Mr. Fabric, by and were told that he has forwarded our complain to World Bank's Nepal staff. But we have not heard from World Bank Nepal office yet.

6. We request the Inspection Panel recommend to the World Bank's Executive Director and country offices and development aid department of world bank to investigate not only this case but a pattern of possible systemic exclusion of LGBTI in the world bank system and its aid program.

Sunil Babu Pant (Founder President)

Date : September 25, 2013

Contact address:

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more information about this matter:

<http://pahichan.com/archives/1698>

Here is a rough translation of the article FYI:

Non-inclusion of LGBTI in free training objectionable

Kathmandu (*Pahichan*), 22 September.

The Blue Diamond Society has objected that the government has deprived the LGBTI from becoming involved in a free skill-oriented training to be conducted with financial support from the World Bank. Society, which is a common organization of the LGBTI, expressed objection because the government notice, which says only men and women may participate in the training, has deprived the LGBTI of the right to participation.

It is stated [in the notice] that men aged 16-40 and women aged 16-45 will participate in this the free training, which will be conducted in 44 of the country's districts. The LGBTI found it objectionable that the notice does not mention anything about the LGBTI, who have a different sexual orientation than men and women. The notice, which appeared in *Kantipur* National Daily of 22 September, has been issued by Government of Nepal, Ministry of Education, Vocational

Education and Training Building Project, Subidhanagar, Kathmandu and states that only men and women may participate in the free skill-oriented training.

The Supreme Court has issued an order in the name of the government to grant an 'other' identity to persons with a different sexual orientation than men and women. Against such backdrop, founder of the Blue Diamond Society and former CA Member, Sunil Babu Pant, expressed objection that the government has deprived the LGBTI of the right to participate in the free training. It is stated [in the notice] that in the three-month training, which starts in September in 44 districts, priority will be given to the poor, women, Dalit, persons with disability and persons residing in backward areas where *janajatis*, who are on the verge of extinction and marginalized, live.

It is mentioned [in the notice] that after the training, the training providing organization will facilitate employment, that the National Skill Examination Center will hold a free skills examination and that those who pass will be awarded certificates. Together with this, it is only stated that men aged 16-40 and women aged 16-45 may participate.

Pant, who is also a campaigner of LGBTI rights attainment, expressed his objection to this discriminatory notice. "It is sad that this situation has arisen, whereby the State itself does not address [the inclusion of LGBTI]," said Pant. "Only men and women may participate in the training? Hundreds of thousands of LGBTI, who live in this country, should be excluded from an opportunity provided by the State?" Pant has demanded that the State provide a response to this. Efforts to establish contact, by calling the toll free number, 16600167777, provided in the notice for training-related queries, have failed.

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*May I be the doctor and the medicine,
And may I be the nurse,
For all sick beings in the world,
Until everyone is healed.
Shantideva, a famous Buddhist scholar in the 8th century.*

Sunil B Pant
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