

Episode-36
It's time to be careful and act

Graphics and Research- Dr. Anurag Sharma
Transcript – Ms. Neha Tripathi

Characters

Maternal Grandfather (Nana ji) - Age 72 years, former political journalist and now reviewer of policies
Maternal Grandmother (Nani ji) - Age 71 years, Doctor and Author
Raldu - Talkative servant
Sumana - Age 19 years, Granddaughter
Sumit - Age - 15 years, Grandson

(The sound of raindrops...)

Sumana - Nana ji, again it is raining heavily... Earlier it used to be hot and humid during holidays... But this time, we have to enjoy holidays with you at home only...

Sumit - Yes Sumana Didi, it is raining for last two days now... and today is has broken last day record... It is raining really heavy... It seems that even today, we would not be able to visit Nana ji's dairy farm...

Nani ji - Sumit, it's a rainy season, It spoils our health and it is also bad for the crops... But don't worry, your nana ji would entertain us with his journalistic stories...

Raldu - Ohhh... the kids would get bored by listening to these stories... they would start cursing their holidays... It is better to enjoy the rain, get drenched and see the farm...

Nana ji - What rubbish !!! You are good for nothing... you don't have any work... and you re suggesting them to move out in rain so that they get sick... You should cook some pakodas or make besan halwa for us...

Raldu - Madam ji, Sir is again talking to me like this...

Nani ji (laughing) - It's ok Raldu... no problem, He is just trying to bully you...

Sumit - Well, but idea about having pakoda is not bad... We can have pakodas...

Nana ji - Yes Sumit... absolutely right...

Nani ji - No...No... Having pakoda in monsoon is a good idea but not all rains are meant for having pakodas... We should have food according to season... It is not always good to have pakodas in rainy and juice in summers...

Sumana - Nani ji, but this is what I have seen always...

Nana ji - Sumana, your grandmother is a doctor so keeps on teaching doctor tactics always... She keeps showing off... This is the yearly monsoon... which means we can have pakodas...

(Laughter)

Sumit- But Nana Ji, Nani Ji is absolutely right... My teacher says that due to global warming... there is drastic climate change... due to which there is untimely rain, flood, typhoon, new diseases etc...

Nani ji - Very good sumit. You know a lot about all this...

Nana ji - Sumit, you too are following these people who keep nagging about global warming, climate change, etc... All this is the brainchild of well- read people like your grandmother...

Sumana - Well, Even I don't believe all this... But, people say due to global warming cold has broken all records this time... The people of America are now seeking prayers for global warming...

Nani ji - They try to justify Global warming because these big nations are actually responsible for most of the global warming in the world... especially America...

Raldu - But how ?

Nana ji - Let me tell you how... Where are the pakodas... you are just listening to our talks and not making pakodas...

Nani ji - Hey Raldu, this discussion is very important... listen carefully...

Sumit - Why Nani ji ?

Nani ji - Because If we can prove by this discussion that global warming is a fact... then Raldu will get usna bowl of salad... otherwise we will have Pakodas...

Nana ji - Approved...

Sumana - Okay Nana ji, I am on your side...

Sumit- And I am on the nani ji's side...

Nani ji (laughing)- and Raldu is the judge...

(Laughter)

Nana ji - Let's make some rules... Whenever it comes to global warming, everyone starts blaming Antarctica i.e. the South Pole and Arctic i.e. the North Pole... What do we do with America, Canada, Russia etc... We would discuss only Global Warming in India... and if Raldu has some good suggestions, he can also participate in the discussion... But if we don't like his ideas, we would punish him...

(Laughing)

Raldu - Why you would punish me... I am the judge...

Nani ji (laughing) - No punishment but off course he can participate in the discussion...

Sumana - Okay, Let's begin our discussion... Nana ji will start the discussion...

Nana ji - Thank you Sumana... I just want to say that global warming is not a new thing... Summer, Winter, Ice age... keep rotating on earth... And if there is some oddity in the weather it has always been... So, it is completely normal... There is nothing in the effect of global warming in India...

Sumana - Very good Nana ji... What a start...

Nani ji - What is good in this ? It's good that no one is listening to these good words... otherwise the person would have understood your nana ji's foolishness...

Sumit - Very good Nani ji...

Raldu - That's fine, don't fight... Just tell me if global warming is affecting India or not ?

Nani ji - Off course Raldu... Global warming is affecting us badly...

Nana ji - How ?

Sumana - Yes grandma... how ?

Raldu - Yes madam ji... how?

Nani ji - The first thing is the increasingly hot summer... If you look at the average temperature in the last twenty years in India, then the temperature is increasing and due to this the yield of crops is getting affected, the incidence of pests is rising, Apple production is declining in Himachal Pradesh... And due to early summer the yield of wheat is declining...

Nana ji - Hold... Everyone says this... give us proofs...

Nani ji - Journalist Nana ji... Due to the increase in temperature... mosquitoes are now reaching hills and high areas... which are carriers of many diseases... like malaria and dengue heads... Don't you remember, you kept managing mosquitoes whole winter... Earlier there were no mosquitoes after Diwali... Similarly, other carriers of the diseases are also able to sustain themselves longer now... due to which cases of vector-borne diseases accelerate...

Raldu - You are right madam ji... mosquitoes are now teasing all year round... Well, now I know the reason is global warming...

Sumit - My teacher had said that if the average temperature increase in India, it would have the worst effect on India's food security and water resources... There is a change in the rain-cycle due to summers, which also affects the crop circle...

- Sumana -** Hey Sumit, Your teacher even said that most of the farming in the world is based on the weather conditions... About 60 percent of farming in India is dependent on rainfall... This is what all of us know...
- Nana ji -** Look Sumit, Sumana... all these things are right... let's believe that the mosquito outbreak has increased, cases of dengue and swine flu are increasing every year... but are they increasing because of global warming ?
- Nani ji -** Why not... and how can you forget year 2009... when the lack of monsoon had reduced food production by about 20%... Then there was huge inflation of essential food like pulses... And at that time one of the reasons for inflation was that in 2009, a widespread drought and fierce floods kept drying and submerging our crops...
- Sumit -** True Nani ji... Crops like oil, sugar, onion and potatoes are not being grown as per the need...
- Raldu -** You are right Sumit... Ask us what is the condition of food ?... However, with government efforts, there is some relief... but I think farmers are the worst sufferers of this global warming...
- Nani ji -** Raldu, that's the point, but some people are spreading illusions... These people are engaged in this only... but we have to understand the gravity of global warming...
- Raldu -** Gravity ???
- Nani ji -** Yes, Raldu... and there is no need to go somewhere to understand this gravity... There is a big example in India itself...
- Sumana-** In India? What is that nani ji ?
- Nani ji -** Sumana, recently a team of doctors from my institute went on a tour of Leh-Ladakh...
- Sumit -** Nani ji is so active even after her retirement...
- Raldu -** Doctor never retires Sumit... Madam ji, what were you saying...
- Nani ji -** Yes, I was just telling that when our team arrived in Leh... they were shocked to see the changes there in last five years... They visited the place after five years or so...
- Sumit -** Oh, It was all ruined ???
- Sumana -** People were unhappy ? All because of global warming...
- Nani ji -** No Sumana, No Sumit... there were a lot of people, especially women, looking very happy...
- Raldu -** They were happy??? Due to the global warming ?

- Nani ji** - Yes Raldu, What happened in fact, due to the long lasting heat, the fodder became available for the year as a whole... and the crops which they could manage only once a year, can now manage two to three times...
- Nana ji** - If this is global warming... then, it should continue to remain like this... Go, Raldu... make some pakodas for us...
- Nani ji** - First listen carefully... When the heat grows, the glaciers melt, so the water is available in abundance... this also leads to floods in lower areas... but all this happens until the glaciers exist... When the glaciers will melt completely... then we will see the dry period... And at that time, it will be difficult to harvest... It is impossible to even imagine such a situation...
- Sumana** - Oh... So, the water available in Leh-Ladakh and the farmers are able to reap crops... are because of the global warming... that means it is just for some time or we can say, In some decades all these resources would get drained... then what would happen ? migration, starvation... ???
- Nani ji** - Yes, in fact, in the colder areas more acute ecosystems are seen as a result of global warming... Some changes in these sensitive areas also tell the story of the times ahead...
- Sumit** - So Nani ji, The condition in Leh, is somewhat similar to what is happening here... like it is raining heavily and that too in this season...
- Nani ji** - I understand Sumit, actually, people think that only the temperature will increase due to global warming it is necessary to understand that due to changes in the weather, all seasonal incidents will be affected... and get intense...
- Raldu** - All this will get intense... what does that mean ?
- Sumana** - Hey, it means rain like this... Now it all rains in a few days and then no water is available for the crops...
- Sumit** - And off course winters are for short duration and deadly... I must say... and summer season is growing longer...
- Nani ji** - Yes, but this is not like a pattern, that means every time there will be a similar rain... it is not so... Therefore, it is difficult to predict the changes in the weather accurately...
- Raldu** - Madam ji, Sir has been quiet for a long time... What say Sir... you want pakodas or you give up...
- (Laughter)**
- Nana ji** - Look, We all are listening, but so far what I could make out is that Global warming is happening and it is harmful for us... Agreed... But I am still not completely satisfied...
- Raldu** - So Madam ji, should I start making pakodas... Sir is not convinced yet...

Sumana - Oh wow... convinced...

(Laughter)

Nani - Wait Raldu... This journalist is not ready to accept anything... Well, you tell me how is the mango plantation in your garden this year ?

Nana ji - It is not good...

Nani ji - Why ?

Nana ji - Hey, there was so much blossom ahead of time... and now most of the fruits have dropped because of heavy rain... Do from where the fruit will come...

Nani ji - And why the mango trees blossomed before time ?

Nana ji - It was too hot too early this year... So, the trees felt that the time of blossom has arrived... and they started blossoming...

Nani ji - So now you. understood... Even if it is the month of February... But trees, plants and animals don't understand the month... They decide everything on the basis of the weather like when to flower, when to reproduce, when the fruits should come, etc... All this is decided by hot and cold weather...

Sumana - And this balance has worsened with time... Am I right nani ji...

Sumit - Sumana is right Nani ji... I think she has changed her team... now she is in our team...

(Laughter)

Sumana - I am always with Nana ji, but now I realise that nani ji is also right...

Nana ji - Sumana... Cheater... No problem... Good Dr. Nani ji... Let's talk about the impact of global warming in India, but are there certain ways to fight this ?

Raldu - So, Sir has accepted his defeat... So Madam ji, should I go and cut fruits...

Nana ji - Hey wait... The discussion is still going on... If the government is not taking any steps, then it means that there is no global warming...

Nani ji - In fact, the whole Indian government is taking the highest step in the whole world...

Raldu - I should go and cut the fruit...

Nana ji - Hey, stop... First listen to the complete conversation and then go...

(Laughter)

- Nani ji** - India is part of the Global Solar Alliance and India has a major role to play behind this concept... That is why India is moving fastest in solar energy and in addition, by 2030 all private vehicles in India will be battery operated... The work in this direction is going on very fast...
- Nana ji** - And what steps are being taken in agriculture...
- Nani ji** - Focus area is only agriculture... The biggest thing is that the government has started use of neem-coated urea...
- Sumit** - What are its advantages ?
- Sumana**- Ohh Sumit, With the help of Neem-coated urea, the plants get continuous and long term urea nitrogen supply... and because of this, plants require less urea and there is no waste of urea as well...
- Raldu** - I also know a big advantage of neem coated urea...
- All together** - what?
- Raldu** - Now no urea adulteration in milk... This is big advantage...
- Nana ji** - Great Raldu... This is a new information that you have given us... Such a big benefit of neem coated urea... Now, let's make pakodas...
- Raldu** - Ok Sir...
- Sumana** - Raldu Bhaiya... Are you accepting your defeat by making pakodas...
- Raldu** - Yes dear... So, Madam ji, you tell me...
- Sumit** - Nani ji, Government has taken many steps for environmental protection, but will it make any difference ?
- Nani ji** - Dear, It is everyone's responsibility... India is taking steps and suggests and adheres to international agreements... but these big developed countries like America, Canada, Australia etc... they have to play a meaningful role, they have to follow these international issues and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases...
- Raldu**- So what do these countries do not follow?
- Sumana**- No Raldu Bhaiya, they are responsible for the pollution and keep denying global warming...
- Raldu** - Hey, let them fool themselves and others... But we know that Global warming is a fact and we are suffering because of the same... Why don't we try to stop Global Warming...
- Nana ji** - Hey Raldu, it's the biggest problem... The poisonous winds don't know the border lines, whether it is spreading pollution to America or China... They just flow and small nations are at losses...

Sumit - Great Nana ji... So, What is the right thing...

Sumana (laughs) - It sounds like Nana Ji, You have finally understood the concept of global warming...

Nana ji - Why I will not understand... I have also suffered the losses in my mango orchard... All fruits got spoiled... I have also been bitten by mosquitoes... and birds have also stopped making noise... Go Raldu, get fruits for all of us...

Nani ji - Fruits and that too in this season... We all will fall sick... Go and cook hot pakodas and tea for everyone...

Sumit and Sumana (together) - Wow... Good idea...

Raldu - I will cook it right now... half of the preparations are already done by me... I had already cut potatoes and onions... I will get pakodas fast...

Nana ji - Hey raldu, sometimes you must cook cabbage and chilli pakodas as well...

Raldu - I will cook all these pakodas... don't worry sir... Thanks to our farmers for fighting against global warming... It is because of them that we are eating these pakodas... And being the judge for the discussion, I declare Madam ji, the winner...

(Laughter)

Nana ji - Don't make too many pakodas, be efficient in your cooking... Don't waste anything... I am saying this because every year about 1.3 billion tons of food is wasted all over the world... Maybe today we are among those fortunate people who can eat whatever they want to eat...

Sumana - Yes Nana ji, but if we all decide to fight against Global warming, then this life will continue... and would last longer...

Nani ji - Absolutely... but global warming can't be reduced only by government efforts... but all the people off the country will have to come together... and everyone will have to work at their own level to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases...

Nana ji - Many people like me think that they will not suffer from global warming, but they are all wrong... This land will take the revenge of the misbehaviour done with it... Now it's time to be alert... It's time to celebrate this land...

Sumana and Sumit (together) - Great Nana ji...

(Both of them clap)

Nani ji - Let me raid the kitchen... I will go and see what Raldu is doing...

Nana ji - Hey, Dr. Nani ji, where are you going... Wait... Today I have lost the discussion, so I would go and make pakodas in the kitchen... you sit with the kids...

Nana ji screaming - Raldu, Did you start making pakodas...

Raldu - Yes Sir...

(Laughter)

- The End -