

POSITIVE ATTITUDE HELP ONE'S WAY TO SUCCEED!

Jyoti Maharana is an 11-year-old girl who lives in Rangeilunda Block, Ganjam. She is the daughter of Siba Maharana and Kuni Maharana, both of whom work as daily wage laborers. Jyoti has a younger brother named Siba, who is currently in the 4th grade.

Before the pandemic, Jyoti was an eager student with dreams of a brighter future through education. Her regular attendance at school demonstrated her commitment to learning. However, the arrival of the pandemic introduced a series of challenges that disrupted the lives of Jyoti and her family.

With the closure of schools and limited access to online education resources, Jyoti was compelled to discontinue her studies during the third grade. This decision was further influenced by the fact that her parents, Siba and Kuni Maharana, were struggling with alcohol addiction, making it difficult to provide the necessary support for her remote learning.



In an effort to alleviate the family's financial difficulties, Jyoti's younger brother, just 10 years old, began working at a local chicken shop. Tragically, over time, the environment in which he worked and lived led him to fall into drug addiction, further compounding the family's woes. As the pandemic persisted, Jyoti found herself in the position of the primary breadwinner for her family. She secured employment as a domestic helper in a nearby household, working diligently to meet their basic needs. However, the prolonged absence from formal education caused her to develop a sense of fear and apprehension about returning to school when the educational institutions eventually reopened.

Our intervention at 132 KV Line U.P School had a positive impact on Jyoti Maharana's education. After visiting her home and discussing the importance of education with her parents, we counselled Jyoti and her family, emphasizing "Teaching at the Right Level." After 5-6 days of counselling, Jyoti agreed to return to school and attend the learning camp.

Initially hesitant, Jyoti gradually became more comfortable, thanks to warm-up activities led by volunteer Sruti. She now attends school regularly, actively participates in the learning camp, and is filling in the learning gaps from the pandemic.

This success story demonstrates the power of intervention, counselling, and community support in rekindling a child's motivation for education. We express our gratitude to the team for their dedication and commitment to Jyoti's education.



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