

Case Study – I



Name of the child: Laxmi Pratima Swain

Age: 14 years.

Diagnosis: Cerebral palsy (Hemiplegic with epilepsy)

Laxmi Pratima Swain, a smart girl of 14, resides with her parents in a slum of Puri town. Her father has a ferry business, petty considering the meager income he gets from it, and mother works as a domestic help in different houses. Laxmi has one sister who is younger than her. When Laxmi was 2 years old her parents identified that she was suffering from epileptic fits. But her hemiplegic condition had not been detected by either her parents or the doctors. She continued to suffer because of her condition. Her parents visited many doctors and faith healers to cure her epilepsy but all their efforts were in vain. Her mother started taking her along to her work places till Laxmi was eight. Laxmi started going to school at the age of eight and studied up to class V. She then had to drop out because her condition worsened and she had moderate mobility problems and her could neither take her along to her work place nor leave her at the school or at home. But Laxmi had interest for study further.

During home visit to Balikuda slum, I (Chitrakala Rath BRT, SSA Puri) came to know the problem and the interest of Laxmi to study. She revealed that her parents had lied to her that she had failed in class V and stopped her schooling. She was re-enrolled in the police line UP School because of her interest. She was given a caliper from SSA Puri and parents were trained and she was taught to walk with it which helped her correct her gait and relieve of her difficulties in walking to some extent. She attended classes regularly with other children. Now she has been admitted to Class VI in the Police Line Upper Primary School. She is now a member of Swadhin Inclusive Children's Club in her community. Her parents are quite happy that after three years their child is going out and getting education with other children independently.

Case study: 2



Name of the child: Umapati Behera

Age: 13+

Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy (Hemiplegic)

Umapati stays with his mother, 2 brothers and 2 sisters in Chakratirtha Nua Sahi slum in Puri town. His father died when he was around 3 years old. His mother works as a domestic help and hence could not give adequate attention to her children when they were growing up. This led to Umapati becoming a vagabond. He dropped out of school after class -III.

While working in Chakratrith slum, I (Chitrakala Rath) came to know of his problem. Through constant interaction and counselling the resource teachers convinced his mother regarding the necessity and benefits of schooling of the child. On 3rd December 2009 he was provided with a pair of special shoes and splint from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Puri. Now he is attending Chakratrith Primary School in class –V regularly, happily and independently. He is also achieving a good academic in school. Besides these he is availing scholarship from SSA, Puri. Mother also trained to maintain his spasticity condition through physiotherapy and positioning.