

ANJALI'S SUCCESS STORY

New Shyam Nagar is a slum providing shelters to thousands of people coming from different parts of the country in search of making a livelihood. Poverty and forced migration is rampant part of people's lives here. Anjali's family is living example of such experiences. Her grandparents moved to New Delhi in 1984 from an interior village of Jalali, Uttar Pradesh. Since then, they have been living in New Shyam Nagar to make a living for their family. Forty decades have passed since, yet conditions within the family have remained static. New Shyam Nagar is a slum providing shelters to thousands of people coming from different parts of the country in search of making a livelihood. Poverty and forced migration is rampant part of people's lives here. Anjali's family is living example of such experiences. Her grandparents moved to New Delhi in 1984 from an interior village of Jalali, Uttar Pradesh. Since then, they have been living in New Shyam Nagar to make a living for their family. Forty decades have passed since, yet conditions within the family have remained static. The only hope in Anjali's family is Anjali herself. She is hope for her family because of her exceptional performance in studies. She stood at 2nd position in class 5. She is currently in class 6 at Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya No.1, at Chand Nagar, Delhi - 110018. She has been taking remedial class at CSSAR since class 1. She gives credit for her improvement in studies to her teacher, Sardeep Kaur at CSSAR. She has received medals in Mathematics Olympiad and painting competition. Her talent outshined the adversities not only because of her supportive teacher and free remedial classes at CSSAR but also because of her supportive family. Her father is a vegetable vendor but understands the value of education. He studied till 12th and could not continue his studies further due to financial problems of the family. He says, he missed the chance due to monetary issues and does not want to repeat the same mistake in his daughter's life. It is this spirit of her father that keeps Anjali grounded towards her studies. He also says, 'I can live hungry for a day but cannot keep her away from the opportunities which I missed in my life'. Anjali's family is one such example of standing out in support of education above all odds in life. This has become an advantage for her exceptional interest in studies. Her parents are thankful to CSSAR initiative as it has built up her strong base in studies since childhood. On asking today what is her source of inspiration, she says with a smiling face, Mahatma Gandhi as she believes 'If people like him will be there, then our country will become a better place'. Her future like the future of this country is dependent on people who support such cause and provide hope to others in life. Her story of struggle is a living example of the phrase, "Every struggle is like mud-there are always some louts' seeds waiting to sprout".