

No better gift than Palomi's happy life



When Palomi was born with the cleft lip and palate, her parents' happiness was buried under agony and stress as they did not know what a cleft was. However, after receiving the cleft surgeries – Palomi is now a happy and healthy child.

Palomi, a 14-months old girl, was born to a poor farmer's family in Purba Medinipur district of West Bengal. Her parents felt desperate as they had no idea about the cleft, availability of its treatment and how much money they have to spend for the cleft treatment. Palomi's father Amiya is a farmer and his income is barely enough to feed the family and had no enough money for their daughter's cleft treatment. So, they were looking for a financial help for the treatment.

Days and months were passed but Palomi's parents were still searching for a ray of hope. Finally, after four months of despair and stress, Palomi's father learned out about our help when our field workers met him during a search and awareness camp in their area. Our field workers could identify that the child has a cleft lip and palate and informed her parents about our free cleft surgery programme in Kolkata. Amiya and his wife could not believe for the first time when they learnt about our help.

With the renewed hope, Amiya and his wife brought their daughter to Shree Jain Hospital and Research centre, our cleft centre in Kolkata on the very next day where

Dr Siddhartha Chatterjee, our cleft surgeon guided them on the treatment and assured that Palomi will be fine after her lip and palate surgeries.

Palomi underwent the first surgery for her lip in May 2018, followed by a cleft palate surgery in November when she turned a year old.

The corrective surgeries not only freed her from the defect but also provided her with the freedom to live her life happily.

'The day we saw our daughter's first ever smile was the gladdest moment of our lives. There can be no better gift for us than the smiles of our daughter. We thank ABMSS for giving Palomi a chance to lead a happy life', says Amiya, Palomi's happy father.



Like Palomi's case, parents of cleft patients face many difficulties due to lack of awareness and lack of financial support for a cleft treatment. With the support of ABB, we render free cleft surgeries to needy cleft patients and spread awareness on the cleft in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal with the cooperation of our partner hospitals, the team of surgeons and field workers.

