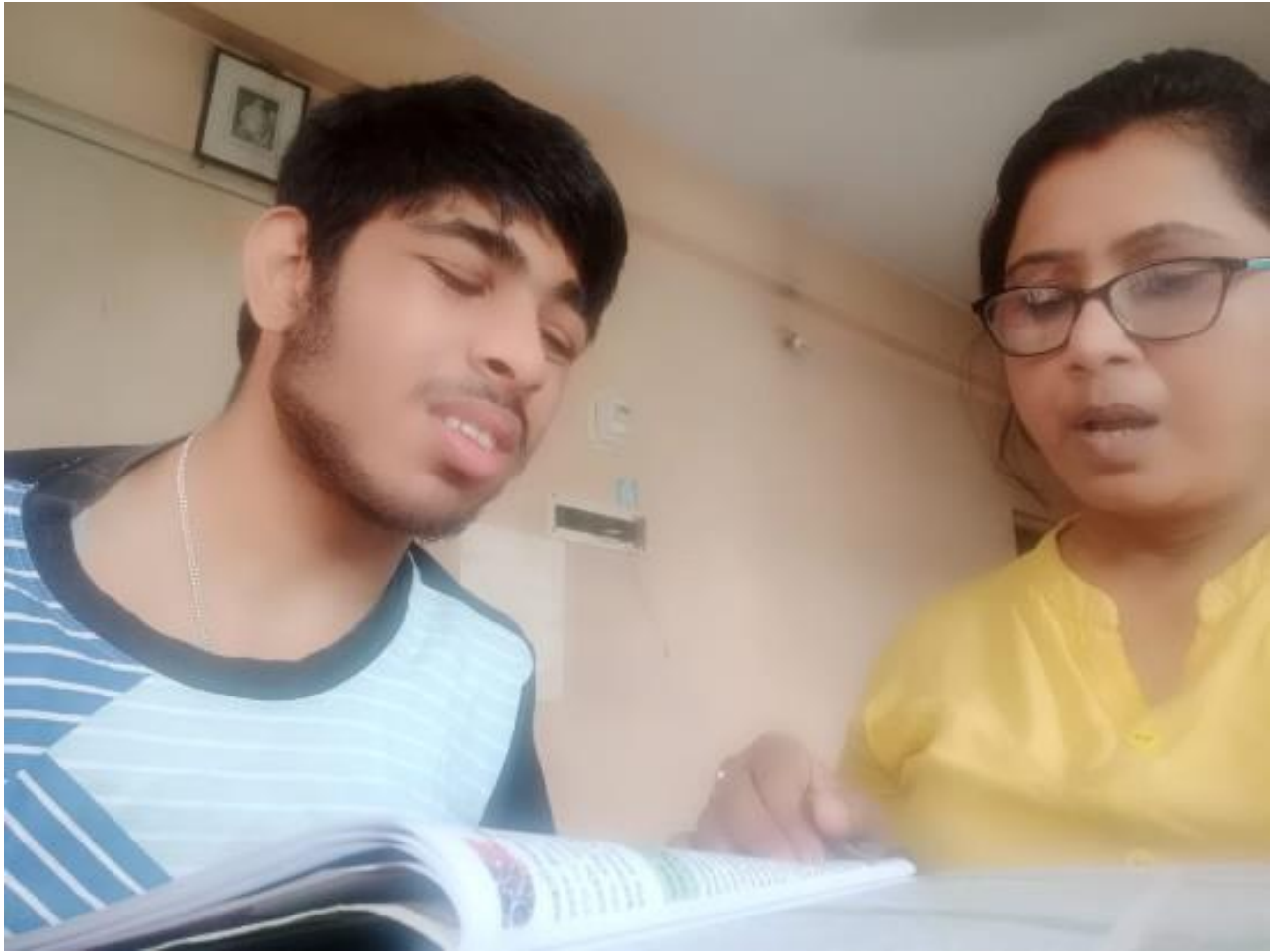


## REACHING FOR THE STARS!



Sirsha, a 16 year old boy from Kolkata, is the only child of his parents. He has total blindness and multisensory impairment with motor issues. Currently, he is studying in class tenth at the Louis Braille School for the Sightless.

Sirsha was enrolled in the Sense India centre in 2014. Initially, Sirsha was an audio learner as he was not able to learn braille as he was not able to hold the stylus due to his motor issues. Despite these adversities, he hasn't lost hope. He is very hardworking and sharp minded and is therefore able to follow whatever he is listening. He is even able to recite Bengali poems. He needs regular medication for his neurological conditions.

After joining the Sparsh Programme, his mother has been getting regular counselling to support him in a more effective way. With the help of the occupational therapy sessions, his mother learnt to modify the tools as per his needs. Now he is able to get better grip of the spoon by wrapping thicker cloth over its handle. This has reduced dependency on his mother.

Sirsha's educator believes that with his commitment and support from his mentors and family, he will be able to pass 10th exam and go for higher studies. In the coming months, he will give mock tests with the help of a scribe and will be able to walk properly with the help of cane.

Sirsha's mother is positive about his progress and diligently follows the instructions given by therapist. She is also a member of the parent's network group.

His mother said, ***"I had never thought Sirsha can reach class 10th but now I believe he can even pass it with flying colours. I am so thankful to each person of the team who has helped my son to reach here."***

The support received from donors through Global Giving has helped Sense India to provide the required resources and training to so many children with deafblindness and multiple disabilities like Sirsha to enable them to access education and bringing them closer to their dreams.

We thank Global Giving providing such a platform to fulfil the mission of the Non-Profit Organisations like Sense India.



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