## **Keeping Hopes High**

Shikha is a 21 years old girl from Raipur, Chattisgarh. Her father works in a private job and mother is a homemaker. At the time of birth, she was only 1.6 kgs and this has led to her disability.

At the age of two, Shikha's parents discovered that she was born with hearing problems and visual difficulties. Due to her optical device, she can see to a limited extent.

Shikha studied in the regular school for her primary education but was unable to adjust after the seventh grade, as a child with special needs and



without special educators, in her school. Therefore, she was forced to remain at home. In May 2017, Shikha was enrolled at one of our deafblind programmes in Chhattisgarh. She was trained after registration as per her needs and the teachers were made aware and trained to educate her as per her needs and capacity.

Shikha is a very hardworking and proud girl. She refused to take a scribe for her class 10<sup>th</sup> exam. Though her efforts were commendable, yet she was unable to pass the exam and she became demotivated because of the results. The project team motivated her by giving pre-vocational training to help her develop the skills required to run her own small business. Post training, she was given a seed money by Sense India to start her own general store.

In 2021, with the support of the project team, she filled for 10<sup>th</sup> exam in the Chattisgarh open school. With the support of her special educator, she focused on her studies and finally passed the exams. The parents are positive about her developments. Her mother said, "I can't be more grateful Sense India for their contribution in our daughter's life."

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 Aman 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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