

Name: Chandni Prajapat, Class: X, School: Govt Sec School Lohagal, Ajmer

Chandni Prajapat, student of class X is from a family of seven members. She has 4 sisters and 1 brother. Her father is a vegetable vendor and makes a small amount of money, working hard all day. The earnings are not sufficient; they are also highly irregular. He has to bear losses often and cannot provide for the



family. Chandni's mother works as a domestic help to support the family.

Chandni came in contact with our Field Personnel (FP) through the academic support being provided under SSP while she was studying in class IX. Her performance was average but she took interest in studies and had a curious and positive aptitude. She had aspiration to pursue higher education but in class X she gradually started being absent from the school on account of bad health.

The SSP FP decided to visit Chandni's home. Through our FP's visit we became aware of the financial conditions of the family and found that whenever her mother falls sick she has to go to work in place of her mother. She also takes care of the cattle at home. And she also helps her father in selling vegetables. The financial conditions of the family and the persistently increasing workload were having negative impact on her health and studies. We also discovered that Chandni was married last year when she was studying in class IX. There was pressures from her in-laws to take her out of the school and send her to her husband's home. During the summer vacations, after final exams of class IX, Chandni's parents arranged for the *Gona* ceremony (A ceremony after which a married girl can stay at her husband's house). Thus Chandni could not attend the Summer Camp organised under SSP. Her irregularity in school was also due to this as she had to visit her husband's house occasionally. Chandni's parents were thinking about withdrawing her from the school.

The SSP FP discussed with the parents that they should focus on Chandni's studies and health instead of sending her to her in-law's house. FP talked about the improvement in Chandni's academic performance and requested them not to take her out of the school. The parents assured us that they will let Chandni take the Class X board examination and will also take her to a doctor.