

CASE STUDY

Name: Shivlal Shalivi

Location: Chittorgarh

Mother's name: Paaras Devi

Father's name: Late Bhavani Shankar.

Siblings: One sister – Snehlata

Caretaker – Durga Bai, Paternal Aunt (Bua)

Shivlal lost his father at a very early age of 2, and 2 months after his death, the mother also left him. Since then his Aunt has been taking care of him in Rajpura. His Aunt's husband also passed away a few years later.

She works as a manual labourer in the MNREGA and earns a living for the family which consists of him, his sister, and his Bua's 4 children, three of who have been married. In 6th standard he suffered from pneumonia, and had to go through surgery. He's grateful for all the care that he received and still receives from his aunt.

The student now lives with his Aunt's youngest son, who also works as a labourer. He got 49% in his 9th standard examination, and is currently studying in 10th standard.

He says, "Due to my Bua's financial difficulties, we could not afford tuition. Science, Math, and English were the main subjects of difficulty for me, and the SSP intervention has provided me with immense support in all these subjects. I even received a lot of worksheets and books regarding these subjects through the program."

The student participated in both the summer and winter camps, and talks about his good experience there, as well the learning he received from the camps. "The teaching in all the subjects helped me a lot in preparation for 10th board exams, and I even got the chance to participate in the extra-curricular activities such as dance, sports, yoga, singing, library reading etc. The teachers were really supportive and caring, I really liked the camp."

The student learned a lot during the science-fair, which was held in his school, and even created a water-pump, and observed a lot of other models. The winter camp was really helpful for him, and all the travel expenses were covered by the SSP program.

He talks about his personal struggles and comes out as incredibly resilient "I still feel the absence of my parents; I had to face a lot of difficulties due to their absence. However, my Bua tries her best to take care of me and lessen the feeling of their absence. I've seen the hardships that she goes through; I therefore ask her only for what is absolutely essential for me. My friends go to different tutors, but due to her financial situation, I couldn't ask her for help. The SSP has really helped me with all of these subjects and the materials such as worksheets and deskwork provide immense support to me."