

## SURVIVORS' EDUCATIONAL TRANSITION REPORT

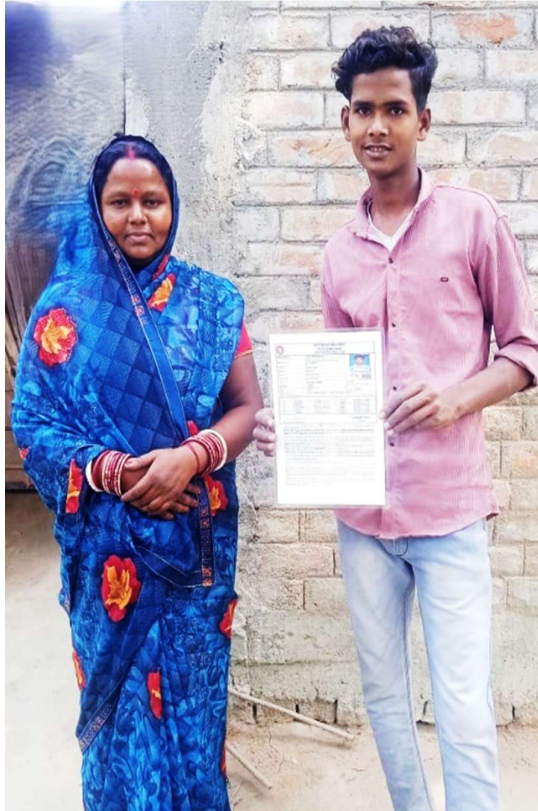
### Leadership Next Programme (LNP)

#### Lighting the Way — Child Labour Survivors Transforming 46 Villages in Bihar

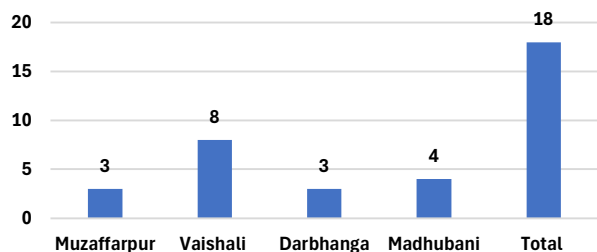
In the heart of Bihar, across 46 villages in Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Darbhanga, and Madhubani, a quiet revolution is underway. It is not led by politicians or industrialists, but by young survivors of child labour—once silenced by hardship, now empowered through education and leadership. These children, once denied their right to a childhood, are now passing their 10th and 12th standard examinations and emerging as courageous leaders creating visible change across their communities. Their journeys are marked by resilience. Forced into work at a young age—in bangles factories, agriculture fields, brick kilns, roadside dhabas, or domestic labour—they grew up burdened by adult responsibilities. But through interventions by SSEVS, many of these children were rehabilitated, and given a second chance at life through education. Passing Class 10 and 12 may be a routine milestone for some, but for these survivors, it represents a profound act of defiance against a past marred by exploitation. It is a declaration of hope, a symbol of freedom, and a gateway to leadership. With education as their tool, they have begun to reshape not only their own futures but also the futures of entire villages.

In Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Darbhanga & Madhubani districts survivor collectives have mobilized communities to identify and report ongoing cases of child labour. In these districts, they have launched awareness campaigns, educating parents about the value of education and the illegality of child exploitation. They have also worked with Panchayats and schools to ensure children are enrolled and retain in school. This leadership has already created a ripple effect. In several villages, child labour cases have dropped, school attendance has risen, and attitudes are slowly shifting. They are role models and trusted voices in their communities. Their impact cannot be overstated. They are not just changing narratives—they are changing realities. These survivors are living proof that when children are given the chance to heal, learn, and lead, they can transform even the most entrenched injustices.

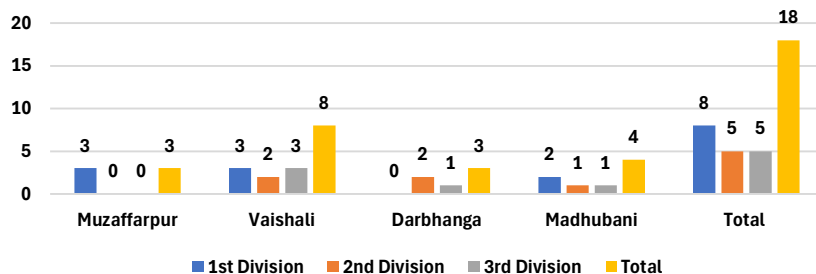
As a society, we must recognize and invest in this change. These young leaders deserve platforms, mentorship, and systemic support to continue their work. More importantly, their stories must compel us to ensure that no child in Bihar—or anywhere else—is ever forced to choose labour over learning. 46 villages of Bihar are bearing witness to a powerful truth: survivors of child labour, when empowered through education and leadership, are not only survivors—they are changemakers. Let us honour their courage by standing with them, learning from them, and walking alongside them on the road to justice and equality.



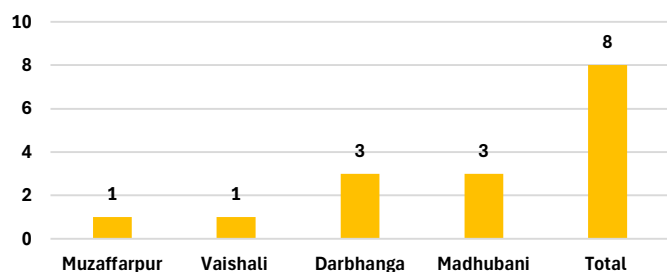
Details of 10th Passed Survivors and Their Siblings



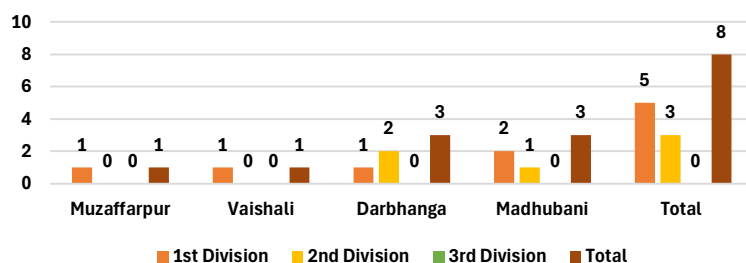
Survivors & siblings secured divisions in 10th Standard



Details of 12th Passed Survivors & Their Siblings



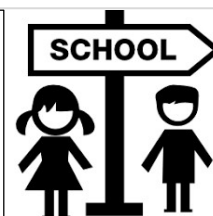
Survivors & Siblings Secured Divisions in 12th Standard



One of the landmark achievements of Leadership Next Program (LNP) is the educational transition of survivors and their siblings from 8<sup>th</sup> standard to 10<sup>th</sup> standard and from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> standard which not only give them a reason to smile but also a ray of hope for other vulnerable children and youth. Leadership Next Program (LNP) in its 20 months intervention, 18 survivors and their siblings have successfully passed 10<sup>th</sup> standard while 08 survivors and their siblings passed 12<sup>th</sup> standard. Out of 18 survivors & siblings, 03 in Muzaffarpur, 08 in Vaishali, 03 Darbhanga & 04 in Madhubani passed 10<sup>th</sup> standard. 08 survivors & siblings secured 1<sup>st</sup> division, 05 secured 2<sup>nd</sup> while 05 secured 3<sup>rd</sup> division.

Out of 08 survivors & siblings, 01 in Muzaffarpur, 01 in Vaishali, 03 in Darbhanga & 03 in Madhubani passed 12<sup>th</sup> standard successfully. 05 survivors & siblings secured 1<sup>st</sup> division & 03 secured 2<sup>nd</sup> division in 12<sup>th</sup> standard. Over this milestone success, survivors and siblings are rejoicing for what they have achieved and have become the change ambassador. Survivors have created and promoted the conducive environment of education in child labour prone villages. Leadership developed among the survivors through LNP has indeed accelerated the education not only among the survivors but also among the children and vulnerable youth.

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**SCHOOL ENROLLMENT  
OF SURVIVORS,  
CHILDREN &  
VULNERABLE YOUTH**

## From Trash to Classroom: Success Story of Nitesh Kumar



**Background** - Sadatpur village, located in Kanti block of Muzaffarpur district, Bihar, lies right next to National Highway 27 (NH-27). This area is known for large-scale waste collection and scrap work, where earning a livelihood often takes precedence over education. In this environment, where survival mattered more than schooling, 14-year-old Nitesh Kumar, belonging to a Scheduled Caste community, was battling a tough life.

**A Childhood Trapped in Child Labour** - Nitesh was the second of three brothers in his family. Due to extreme poverty, he had accepted that working at a young age to meet his family's needs was his fate. Without questioning, he got involved in waste and scrap collection, unaware that his age was meant for schooling and dreaming of a better future. The idea of an alternative path never crossed his mind.

**The First Step Towards Education**- Nitesh's condition came to the attention of *Ekta Survivor Collective Network*, a program under the *Leadership Next* initiative of *Samagra Shikshan Evam Vikas Sansthan (SSEVS)*. Children from this network visited his worksite and his home, making efforts to educate him and his family about the harms of child labour and the importance of education. Their continuous efforts bore fruit, and Nitesh was finally freed from child labour and enrolled in *Hari Singh High School, Chapra, Kanti* in the 8th grade. To ease his transition into education, the organization provided him with study materials such as notebooks, books, pens, and exam guides. He was also enrolled in regular tuition classes under the guidance of teacher Rakesh Kumar, who motivated him to take an interest in studies and build self-confidence.

**A Journey of Struggles, Hard Work, and Determination** - In the beginning, adapting to school life was not easy for Nitesh. After spending years doing physical labour, suddenly adjusting to books, a school routine, and exam pressure was challenging. Many times, he felt like giving up. However, with the support of SSEVS and his tuition teacher Rakesh Kumar, he persevered and continued his studies. Gradually, Nitesh's hard work began to pay off. He started taking an interest in his education and began envisioning a future beyond child labour.

**Board Exams and a Moment of Triumph** - In the 2024-2025 session, Nitesh appeared for his *Matriculation (10th-grade) board exams* and successfully passed with a **third division (3rd class)**. This was not just about passing an exam but breaking stereotypes that assumed a child engaged in waste picking could never achieve anything academically. Today, as Nitesh holds his *Matriculation* certificate in his hands, his eyes shine with confidence, and his face radiates pride.

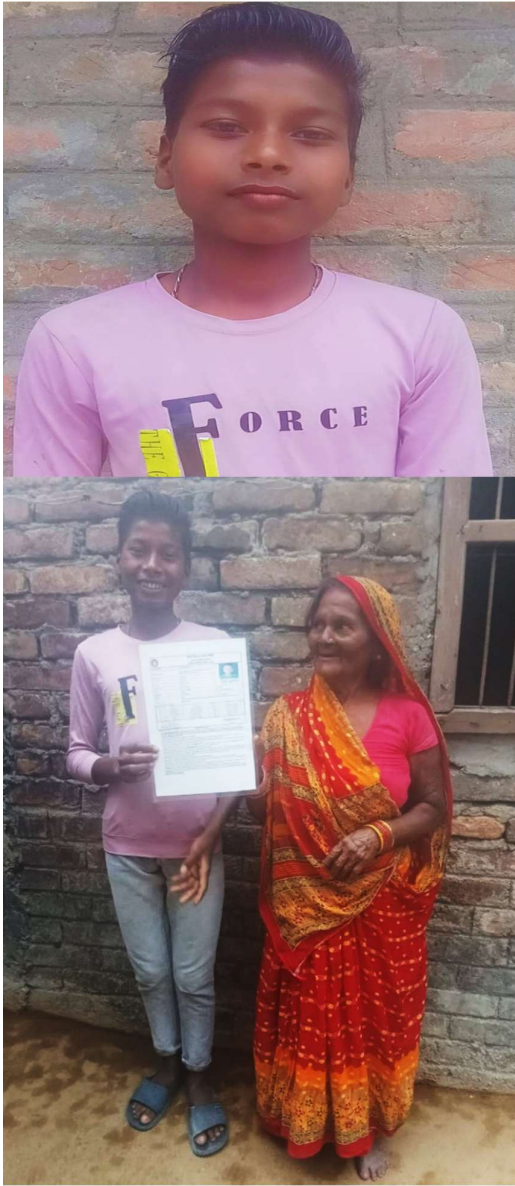
### Nitesh's Response

**"I thought I would never pass the board exams. I was scared, but the motivation from my tuition teacher Rakesh Kumar and the support from SSEVS helped me reach this point. This is a huge moment for me. Thank you so much!"**

**A Wave of Happiness in Family and Community** - Nitesh's success has brought immense joy to his family and community. The very people who once doubted his abilities now appreciate his hard work and determination. His family and villagers are grateful to SSEVS for guiding Nitesh towards a brighter future. Today, Nitesh is not just a student but an inspiration to society. His story proves that **education is the most powerful tool to break the chains of child labour and lead children towards a promising future.**



## From Child Labour to Education: The Inspirational Success Story of Uday Kumar



**Background** - Located about 15 km from the Muzaffarpur district office and 8 km from the block office, Manika Harikesh village is surrounded by rivers on all sides. Most of the residents of this village belong to the Scheduled Caste community, and their primary occupations include labour work, fishing, and agricultural activities. One such child from this village, Uday Kumar, has a story that is not just about struggle but also proves that with the right direction and support, any child can reach new heights in life.

**Early Hardships and the Shackles of Child Labour** - Life was never easy for Uday Kumar. Three years ago, he was trapped in child labour, forced into it by poverty and life's harsh realities that kept him away from education. He had no parents—only an elderly grandmother who worked hard to provide two meals a day. The family's financial condition was so dire that Uday had to start working at a very young age to help make ends meet.

**Uday's Rescue and a New Path** - With the intervention of Samagra Sikchhan Evam Vikas Sansthan (SSEVS) and the help of ward member Mamta Devi, Uday Kumar was rescued from child labour. The organization not only freed him from labour but also provided counselling, which revealed the extent of his struggles and deprivation. With the organization's support, Uday was enrolled in the local school in the seventh grade. He was provided with essential educational materials such as notebooks, textbooks, shoes, socks, and a school uniform. Additionally, through the LNP project, he was connected with a tuition teacher, Anil Kumar, who helped him continue his studies regularly.

**The Journey from Struggle to Success** - For Uday, adapting to school life and focusing on studies was a new experience. At times, the challenges were so overwhelming that he felt like giving up on education once again. However, with the continuous guidance of SSEVS and the support of Anil Kumar, he persevered. His dedication and hard work gradually strengthened his interest in learning and motivated him to strive for a better future.

**Matriculation Examination and New Hopes** - In the academic session of 2024-2025, Uday Kumar appeared for his matriculation examination and passed with a 3rd division. This achievement was not just about passing an exam—it was proof that with even a little help and the right guidance, an underprivileged child can create an identity for himself in society. His success is a stepping stone toward a brighter future.

**Stepping into the Future** - Today, Uday Kumar is filled with pride and confidence. He has integrated well with his peers and is eager to continue his education further. He is now preparing for enrolment in the intermediate level, determined to shape a better future for himself.

**Uday's Story – A Symbol of Inspiration** - Uday Kumar's success story is not just his own; it serves as a message for thousands of children who are deprived of education due to poverty and compulsion. His journey highlights that with the right direction, encouragement, and support, any child can shape their destiny. The relentless efforts of SSEVS, combined with Uday's dedication, have proven that education is the key to breaking the chains of child labour and building a promising future.

## Chandan Kumar's Return to Education



**Background** - Patepur block of Vaishali district in Bihar is one of those regions where development is yet to fully reach many villages. Ward number 14 of Kwahi Panchayat in this block is an area where most families still struggle to arrange two meals a day. Born into a modest family in this very village, Chandan Kumar has emerged as an inspiring example of someone who escaped the darkness of child labour and embraced the light of education.

Chandan's family was extremely poor. His parents worked as daily-wage labourers to somehow feed their children. The financial condition of the household was so dire that even at a school-going age, Chandan had to consider working to support his parents. Though his eyes were filled with dreams of reading and writing, hunger and his family's helplessness forced him down the dark path of child labour. Eventually, he was pushed into the harsh world of child labour.

**Rescue from Child Labour and a New Struggle** - About three years ago, Chandan was rescued from child labour with the help of **SSEVS (Samagra Sikshhan Evam Vikas Sansthan)**, and he returned to his village. At that time, his confidence was completely shattered. He was mentally disturbed, didn't talk to anyone, stayed isolated, and was consumed with guilt.

This became the turning point where SSEVS's LNP Project and the **Aarambh Survivor Collective Network** began giving his life a new direction.

**The Beginning of Hope** - When Chandan was connected with the network, he could neither read nor write properly, nor could he speak confidently. The SSEVS team first provided him with counselling, love, and respect — things he had never experienced before. Gradually, Chandan began to speak, learned to express himself, and was then reintegrated into the mainstream education system.

He was provided with notebooks, books, pens, and tuition support by the organization. These were not just educational supplies for him — they were the steps that helped him rise again.

**Success in the 10th Board Exams** - Once Chandan understood the value of education, he resolved never to look back. Every day, he studied diligently and with dedication. The SSEVS team and teachers supported him in every possible way. Eventually, the day arrived when Chandan passed his **10th board exams with 161 marks**, securing a **3rd Division**. This was no ordinary achievement — it was the victory of a child who once believed he had lost everything.

### Family's Reaction and Social Change

**"Before joining the Aarambh Survivor Collective Network, our son couldn't even speak properly. He had no confidence in himself. But now he studies, speaks, and takes his future seriously. We are deeply thankful to SSEVS and their team for the support they've given."** Chandan now not only thinks about himself, but also encourages other children to understand the importance of education. He has learned about the harms of child labour and child marriage and has been inspired to raise his voice against them.

**Conclusion** - Chandan Kumar's story is not just one of a child's success — **it is a revolution of thought**. It marks the beginning of a transformation where people, instead of accepting helplessness as fate, search for alternatives and move forward.

The way Chandan chose the path of education after escaping the horrors of child labour serves as an inspiration for thousands of children. The initiative taken by SSEVS and the Aarambh Survivor Collective Network has not only given children like Chandan a fresh start but has also set them on the path to becoming self-reliant and conscious citizens.

## A Dream Rising Through Struggles – The Flight of Mohammad Rizwan



**Background** - The name *Mahisham Panchayat* in *Madhepur block of Madhubani district, Bihar* immediately brings to mind images of floods, poverty, and relentless struggle. Most people in this area depend on daily wage labour and small-scale work to survive. Amidst such a backdrop, a remarkable dream was born in an ordinary family – **Mo. Rizwan** – who today stands as an inspiration for many children.

**Early Life: A Childhood Marked by Poverty and Compulsion** - 17-year-old Mo. Rizwan comes from a family of six – two sisters (Neelima Khatoon and Sazia Parveen), one brother (Mohammad Azad), and his parents. Due to severe financial hardship, Rizwan was pushed into labour at a young age. Despite having a strong interest in studies, circumstances forced him to migrate to *Delhi* for work to help support his family. However, fate had other plans. During a raid by an anti-child labour rescue team, Rizwan was rescued and brought back

to his village. This moment turned out to be the first ray of hope in his darkened life.

**A New Path: Returning to Education** - Though Rizwan still had the desire to study, the weight of poverty and social pressure had crushed that dream. It was at this crucial moment that the **Leadership Next Program (LNP)** run by **Samagra Shiksha Evam Vikas Sansthan** and the **Azad Survivor Collective Network** rekindled that spark. In 2023, Rizwan became a part of this network. The teachers and activists from the organization not only helped him regain his self-confidence but also guided him back onto the path of education. Through their efforts, he was re-enrolled in school, and all necessary educational materials such as notebooks, pens, textbooks, and tuition support were provided free of cost.

**Steps Toward Success** - Rizwan seized this opportunity with dedication and hard work. He studied tirelessly, showing deep interest in every subject. As a result, he passed the 10th-grade board examination with **292 marks**, securing a **second division**. This achievement was not only a proud moment for Rizwan but also for the Azad Network and the entire supporting team. A boy who once worked as a child labourer was now crafting his dreams through books.

**The Dream – Wearing the Khaki Uniform** - Now, Rizwan has made a firm decision – he will continue his education and become a police officer one day. He believes that challenges will come, but with hard work and the right guidance, no goal is out of reach. Mo. Rizwan's story teaches us that even the toughest circumstances can be defeated when a person believes in themselves and receives the right support and direction. Today, Mo. Rizwan stands as a shining example – from a child labourer to a second-division student, and tomorrow, perhaps a police officer. His story is a ray of hope for countless children still grappling with life's challenges.



## Wings to Dreams: The Story of Sabra Khatun

**Background** - Sabra Khatun, a simple yet courageous 15-year-old girl, has today become an inspiration for other girls in her village (Bhapura village in Singhwara block of Darbhanga district). Her story of struggle not only fills one with hope but also proves that with timely support and encouragement, life can take a new direction. Sabra belongs to a large family — five sisters, four brothers, her parents — a total of 11 members. Her father, Md. Subhan Nadaf, worked as a labourer and barely managed to provide for the family. Sometimes he got work, sometimes not. Struggles for food, clothing, and education were a daily reality. In such tough circumstances, education seemed like an unattainable dream. These hardships affected the children in the family as well. One of Sabra's elder brothers was taken to Jaipur by a contractor under the pretence of getting him work in a bangle factory, where he ended up trapped in child labour. Another brother worked as a labourer at a local garage. The entire family was battling the harsh reality of child labour.



**The Beginning of Change** - Fate took a turn when an organization intervened. With their help, Sabra's elder brother was rescued from Jaipur and brought back home. Later, her brother Noor Islam was also freed from the garage and liberated from child labour. Under SSEVS's *LNP (Learning Never Pauses)* project, these children were connected to the "Survivor Collective Network," where the organization's team not only counselled the children but also worked to reintegrate them into mainstream education. The focus was on nurturing their education, leadership skills, and self-confidence.

**Sabra's Educational Journey** - Sabra herself had been cut off from education. She was preparing for her 10th-grade board exams, but her family couldn't afford the coaching fees. She was deeply worried about her studies, and the stress was silently eating away at her from within. When the organization learned about her situation, they immediately stepped in to help. They assessed her academic level and arranged for coaching fees, essential study materials, notebooks, books, and a school bag. That moment brought new life and hope into Sabra.

### Sabra says:

**"When I got help with coaching, it felt like light had returned to my life. Now I can study without fear and work toward my future."**

**A Story of Success** - Sabra studied with full dedication and effort, and in the 2024–25 matriculation exams, she passed with **269 marks**, securing **Second Division**. Tears welled up in her parents' eyes — tears of pride and happiness. For the family, this wasn't just about passing an exam; it was a triumph of dignity, hope, and self-respect.

**Dreams for the Future** - Sabra doesn't want to stop at just her own education. **She wants to continue studying and become a source of inspiration for other girls like her.** She dreams of a village where girls not only dare to dream but also find the courage to chase and fulfill them.

**Conclusion** - Sabra Khatun's story proves that education is not just about books — it's a path to self-respect, independence, and social transformation. With the efforts of organizations like SSEVS, children trapped in child labour are finding a new lease on life.

**This is not just the success story of one girl — it is the hope of an entire community.**

## A Success Story Realized Through Hope and Support



**Background** Arae Birdipur is a modest panchayat in Singhwara block of Darbhanga district, and nestled within it is a small village — Birdipur. Like many rural areas in Bihar, this village faces challenges such as poverty, unemployment, and lack of education. But amidst these struggles, a ray of hope has emerged in the form of SSEVS (Samagra Shikshan Evam Vikas Sansthan), an organization that has been making remarkable efforts not only in education but also towards social transformation. Connected with this organization is the *Shakti Survivor Collective Network*, which is preparing adolescent boys and girls with leadership skills, collective thinking, and a sense of social responsibility. Members of this network — Ravi Kumar, Neetu Raj, and Krishna Kumar — not only empowered themselves but also paved the way for other youth like them, especially their sisters.

**The Beginning of the Struggle-** Ravi Kumar's sister Sobha Kumari, Neetu Raj's sister Anjali Kumari, and Krishna Kumar's sister Neha Kumari were pursuing their intermediate (Class 12) studies. Sobha and Anjali were in the science stream, while Neha was in the arts stream. All three were bright students and determined to score good marks, but financial hardship stood in their way. Their families were unable to afford coaching fees. In a society where there are already limited views about educating girls, financial struggles began to shatter their dreams. However, these girls were not ones to give up easily.

**Leadership and Support from SSEVS** - The three sisters shared their concerns with their brothers. Ravi, Neetu, and Krishna raised the issue during a monthly meeting of the Shakti Survivor Network and submitted a report to SSEVS. The organization immediately took the situation seriously and arranged for the coaching fees of these girls. With this support, the girls fully dedicated themselves to their studies. They appeared for their intermediate exams in February, and when the results were declared, the entire village celebrated like a festival.

### Flying Towards Success

- **Sobha Kumari (ISC) 249 – Passed with Second Division**
- **Anjali Kumari (ISC) 235 – Passed with Second Division**
- **Neha Kumari (IA) 300 – Passed with First Division**

**Social Impact and Inspiration** - The success of these three daughters inspired not only their families but the entire village. Their parents openly shared: “If SSEVS had not helped us, our daughters’ education would have remained incomplete. Perhaps we would have married them off by now, but today they are studying and will continue to study. We are proud that our daughters now believe in themselves.”

This support was not just limited to coaching — it was a step towards a new mindset, self-confidence, and sensitizing society about girls’ education.

**The Role of SSEVS** - SSEVS has proven that when work is done at the grassroots level, change is inevitable. By promoting education, leadership development, and a spirit of collectively, the organization has shown that “a small help can be the beginning of a big revolution.”

Youth like Ravi, Neetu, and Krishna from the Shakti Survivor Collective Network are carrying forward SSEVS's vision. They not only helped their sisters succeed but also set a new example in society.

**Conclusion** - This story is not just about three daughters, but about every girl who dreams yet remains silent due to a lack of resources. SSEVS and the Shakti Survivor Network have shown that with struggle, support, and determination, any goal can be achieved.

## Shivani and Nandini: An Inspirational Story of Two Sisters from the Same Family



**Background** - In Ward No. 14 of Kawahi Panchayat in Patepur block, Vaishali district, lies a settlement inhabited by the Bhungur community and Scheduled Tribes. In this village, education was long considered a "waste of time." Children didn't go to school but were taken along to work in the fields or brick kilns, seeing labour as the beginning of life. It was in this very environment that two sisters—Shivani Kumari and Nandini Kumari—grew up. Shivani is the sister of Pawan Kumar, while Nandini is his cousin, the daughter of his uncle. The dreams of these girls were filled with books, but their circumstances handed them brooms, shovels, and a life of labour instead.

**Pawan Kumar and the Intervention of SSEVS**- The first ray of change in Shivani and Nandini's lives came when Pawan Kumar, himself a survivor of child labour, joined the LNP (Leadership Next Program) project under SSEVS and became an active member of the Aarambh Survivor Collective Network.

Having realized the importance of education, Pawan resolved to guide his sisters towards a path of knowledge instead of labour. He not only persuaded his parents but also started talking to people in the community about how child labour and child marriage could ruin lives, while education could lay the foundation for a better future. Shivani and Nandini came from a very poor background. Many times, it seemed they might have to give up on their education. But within them burned a spark—a desire to learn and move forward. SSEVS recognized this spirit.

Under the Leadership Next Program (LNP) run by SSEVS, the girls received essential educational materials—books, notebooks, pens, and tuition fees. Their regular participation in Aarambh group meetings not only supported their studies but also boosted their confidence.

**The Flight Toward Success** - With support from SSEVS and motivation from their brother Pawan, Shivani and Nandini continued to work hard: **Shivani Kumari passed her matriculation with 192 marks, securing a third division.**

**Nandini Kumari scored 316 marks and passed with first division.**

Now, both girls wish to continue their education and inspire others in

their community.

These weren't just numbers—they were proof of a journey that overcame poverty, discrimination, and obstacles.

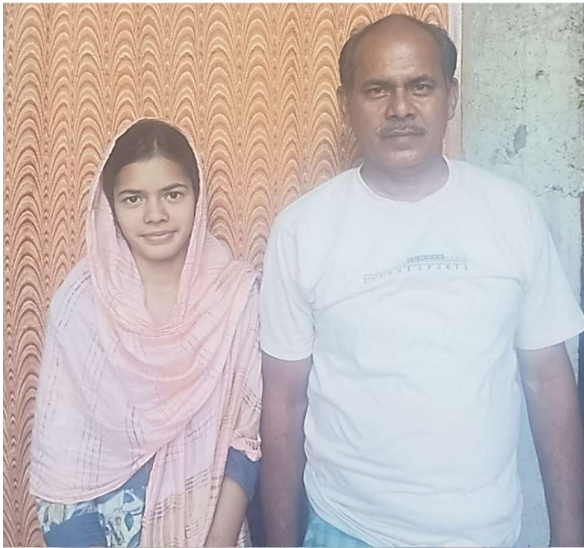
**Family's Reaction** - When the results were declared, Shivani and Nandini's parents were overwhelmed with pride and tears. Their daughters, once on the verge of dropping out due to poverty, were now on the path to becoming independent. The parents expressed heartfelt gratitude towards SSEVS and its field staff, saying: **"If SSEVS hadn't come at the right time, our daughters might still be labouring. The support from the organization has truly changed their lives."**

**Conclusion** - The success of Shivani and Nandini is living proof that with proper guidance, resources, and encouragement, any child can overcome adversity. Pawan Kumar's awareness, SSEVS's commitment, and the hard work of the two sisters have together transformed the mindset of the Bhungur community. This is not just the story of two girls—it's a shining example of hope and change for an entire community. **Where once the roads to education were closed, now paths to success have opened.**





## Sambul Rahman: The new identity of success



**Introduction** - Sometimes life's challenges try to hold us back, but those who are determined to fulfill their dreams cannot be stopped by any obstacle. The story of 16-year-old Sambul Rehman, from the small village of Mahisham in Madhubani district's Madhepur block, is a testament to courage and hope. Her journey shows how proper guidance, support, and self-belief can transform anyone's life.

**A Simple Family's Daughter Holding onto Big Dreams** - Sambul Rehman comes from a middle-class family. Her father runs a small business. Due to limited financial resources, Sambul had to halt her education after Class 10. She had a strong desire to study, but circumstances were against her. Her father clearly stated, "We can't afford to educate our daughter any further."

**When Hope Became Her Support** - At this crucial point, Mo Fakhri Uddin, a member of the Azad Survivor Collective Network and Sambul's brother, stepped forward. He reached out to SSEVS, an organization working for the holistic development of children freed from child labour and their families. Under the LNP Project of the organization, **Sambul received free tuition support, books, notebooks, and other educational materials.** This support wasn't just a means for education—it was the beginning of giving her dreams new wings.

**When Hard Work Paid Off** - With help from SSEVS and her tuition teacher, Rahim Sir, Sambul resumed her studies. In 2024, she appeared for the matriculation examination from Jawahar High School, Madhepur, Madhubani, and **scored 453 marks, becoming the school topper.** Her success wasn't just about marks—it was a triumph of determination, hard work, and timely support.

**The Flight of Dreams Has Just Begun** - Sambul didn't stop there. **She expressed her desire to continue studying and one day become a teacher.** She hopes to support future generations in the same way she was supported. She says, **"If SSEVS and my family**

**hadn't stood by me, I might have dropped out of school."** They credit her achievement to SSEVS, saying that **"without the organization's support, Sambul would not have been able to reach such heights. SSEVS has brought a ray of hope into their lives"**. There is also a joyful atmosphere throughout the community, as Sambul has made the entire community proud. As a result, the village head, Javed Alam, honored Sambul in recognition of her achievement.

**The Role of SSEVS: Not Just Education, But Building Futures** - SSEVS's LNP Project goes beyond just providing education. It aims to reintegrate children freed from child labour into mainstream education and also works to uplift their entire families. It's a holistic development model where education is linked with self-reliance.

**An Inspiration That Touches Every Heart** - Sambul Rehman's story is not just about one student—it represents thousands of children who refuse to give up despite hardships. It's a message to all that even when the path seems blocked, the right direction and support can create new opportunities. This success is not just Sambul's. It's also the result of SSEVS's vision, the support of Mohammad Fakhri Uddin, and the dedication of Rahim Sir. Her story teaches us that when a society comes together to uplift someone, the impact can last for generations.



## Arzoo Khatoon: A Story of Courage, Education, and Success



**Background - Arzoo Khatoon**, a 19-year-old girl from the small village of Madhepur Purvi in Madhepur block of Madhubani district, has today become a symbol of pride for her family through her hard work and determination. More importantly, she stands as an inspiration for many rural girls like herself. Arzoo's journey hasn't been easy, but her story is a testimony to the fact that if dreams are sincere and the right guidance is received, no difficulty can block the path to success.

Arzoo belongs to a middle-class Muslim family. Her father is a self-reliant farmer who grows vegetables to sustain the family. The family's livelihood entirely depended on agriculture, making financial resources scarce.

From a young age, Arzoo was passionate about studying. She always performed well in school. However, after completing class 10, her family's financial situation became a major hurdle. Her father, being the sole breadwinner, could not afford her further education. Though she enrolled in school after class 10, attending regularly became impossible. Expenses for books, notebooks, pens, and tuition were

too burdensome for the family. Gradually, her dream of continuing her education began to fade. But then, a new turn came in her life.

**A Brother's Support and Institutional Intervention** - Arzoo's elder brother, Mohammad Rehan, a member of the **Azad Survivor Collective Network under SSEVS**, had already realized the importance of education. Having witnessed how the organization had changed his own life, he was determined to help his sister study again. Rehan explained to their parents how Arzoo's future would improve through education and assured them that the organization would provide full support. Other members of the *Azad Survivor Collective Network* also helped convince the family that Arzoo's educational needs—**tuition, books, notebooks, pens—would be provided free of cost by the organization.**

Rehan's efforts bore fruit. In 2024, Arzoo became associated with SSEVS. She began receiving regular tuition support and study materials, which reignited her confidence and allowed her to resume her studies with full dedication.

**First Major Achievement** - Arzoo appeared for her intermediate (12<sup>th</sup>) exams from *Mahatma Gandhi Smarak H/S, Araria* and **scored 372 marks**, securing a **First Division**. This is the same Arzoo who once thought her dream of continuing education beyond class 10 would remain unfulfilled. She has proven that with timely support, no dream is too big to realize.

**Future Plans** - Arzoo is now determined to pursue higher education. She dreams of getting a good job and improving her family's financial condition. **She aspires to become a role model for the girls in her community, showing them that daughters too can achieve great heights.**

**A Ray of Hope for the Community** - Her success has brought immense joy to her family, especially her parents, who once hesitated due to financial constraints. Now they proudly say that their daughter has earned a name for herself. The village and community are also filled with joy. Other girls in the village are now more enthusiastic about their education and say, **"If Arzoo Didi can do it, so can we."**

**Conclusion** - Arzoo's story is not just about one girl—it's a story of collective support and belief. It reflects the power of community and conviction in the idea that **"Daughters are not a burden; they are the future."** It is the collective success of SSEVS, the Azad Survivor Collective Network, and every individual who helped give wings to Arzoo's dreams. **"Where there is a will, there is a way"**—Arzoo Khatoon is a living example of this saying. Her story will continue to inspire many girls to study, progress, and fulfil their dreams.

## Determined to Touch the Sky – The Story of Raisa Khatoon



**Background** - Even amidst poverty, limited resources, and rigid societal mindsets, if someone has a burning desire to soar, they carve their own path — such is the story of **Raisa Khatoon**, who today stands as an inspiration for countless girls.

Raisa Khatoon's life has been filled with hardships. Born in the small village of Pipra in Madhepura West Panchayat of Madhepur block, Madhubani district, Bihar, Raisa comes from a family where even arranging two meals a day was a challenge. Her father works as a laborer at a brick kiln and her mother is a homemaker. Besides Raisa, the family includes two younger brothers – Mo. Salamat (10 years) and Mo. Tajuddin (6 years).

Raisa dreamed of becoming a doctor one day and serving the poor. But as she grew older, responsibilities mounted, and harsh realities took over her dreams. Financial difficulties forced her to drop out of school in ninth grade, and to support her family, she began working alongside her father at the brick kiln. The girl who once dreamt of flying in the open skies now found herself buried in dust and smoke, leaving her education behind. Gradually, the sparkle of hope faded from her eyes, and she began to break from within.

**A Ray of New Light** - But as the saying goes, *when someone truly desires something, the universe conspires to help them achieve it*. That light in Raisa's life came in the form of **Mo. Rihan**, her neighbour and a member of the **Azad Survivor Collective Network**, supported by **SSEVS (Samagra Sikchhan Evam Vikas Sansthan)** under the **Leadership Next Program (LNP)**. Rihan himself was once trapped in the swamp of child labour but had managed to continue his education with SSEVS's help and had become a role model for others. When he saw Raisa working at the brick kiln, his own past struggles flashed before his eyes – the pain, the lost dreams, the helplessness. He stopped Raisa and spoke to her about the importance of education and how programs like LNP were helping children return to school.

He also approached Raisa's father and explained how the organization could help with **school re-enrolment, provide notebooks, pens, books, and tuition support**. Initially hesitant, Raisa's father eventually agreed with joy upon hearing that his daughter would be supported to study again.

**A Second Chance, A New Beginning** - With the support of SSEVS and Azad Network, Raisa was re-enrolled in school and provided with tuition assistance. She grabbed the opportunity with both hands. Through hard work and perseverance, Raisa passed her **Matriculation (10th grade) exam** with **219 marks**, securing **3rd Division**. These weren't just marks – they were symbols of her struggle, determination, and resilience.

Raisa says: *"I am thankful to SSEVS for giving me a second chance to study. I want to continue my education, work hard, become a doctor, and treat people from my community for free. I don't want any other girl to leave her dreams incomplete like I almost did."*

**The Impact of Raisa's Success** - Raisa's success has had a deep impact on her family, society, and the larger community. Her family now feels proud, and hope shines once again in the eyes of her parents. Others in the village and community are inspired by Raisa's achievement. Parents who once hesitated to educate their daughters are now reconsidering and showing willingness to send them to school.

Raisa Khatoon's story is not just about personal victory — it is a movement, a message, and a milestone in the journey of many girls seeking to chase their dreams.



## A Ray of Hope Emerging from the Quiet Lanes of Rampur



**Background** - In the small village of Rampur, nestled in the Madhepur block of Bihar's Madhubani district, tales of struggle are common. But among these stories, what shines the brightest is the determination of daughters like **Saniya Parveen** – the resolve to become something, to achieve something in life. Saniya Parveen was born into a middle-class Muslim family. Her father works as a laborer, and the family survives on limited income. Her brother, Mohammad Riham, an active member of the Azad Survivor Collective Network, had himself returned to the path of education after escaping child labour.

In such an environment, it wasn't easy for Saniya's dreams to take flight – but it wasn't impossible either.

**Challenges** - Saniya was a bright student since childhood, with a strong desire to pursue higher education. Despite the odds, she managed to complete her 10th grade. However, when it came time to enrol in the 12th grade, financial constraints became a major obstacle. The family couldn't afford tuition fees or study materials like books,

notebooks, pens, and pencils – all of which had become burdensome expenses.

Eventually, Saniya had to drop out of school. Her spirit was broken. She became quiet, withdrawn, and seemed to have lost all hope.

**Support from Her Brother and the Organization** - Mohammad Riham couldn't bear to see his sister in such distress. He explained to their parents that a daughter's education is just as important as a son's. Riham informed them that with the help of the Azad Network and the Leadership Next Program (LNP) run under Samagra Sikshhan Evam Vikas Sansthan (SSEVS), Saniya could continue her studies without any financial burden. The organization's staff reconnected Saniya with her education. She was provided with free tuition support, books, notebooks, pens, and pencils. Her tuition teacher, Rahim Sir, not only taught her subjects but also helped rebuild her confidence.

**Torn Pages Rebound Again** - Saniya resumed her education, this time with more dedication and commitment. Her dream became clearer – she wanted to study hard and become a police officer. And the result was not surprising but truly inspiring — Saniya Parveen passed her 12th-grade examination from Mahatma Gandhi Smarak H/S Araria, Madhepur, Madhubani, with 337 marks, securing a First Division.

**Saniya's Response** Saniya says, "If it weren't for the support of the organization and my brother Riham, I might never have picked up my books again. SSEVS and the Azad Network have given me back my identity. The guidance I received from Rahim Sir in tuition was like a lifeline for me. Now, I will continue my education and become a police officer to make my village and society proud."

**Conclusion** - Saniya Parveen's story teaches us that no matter how great the struggle, if the efforts are sincere and someone shows you the way, no destination is too far. This success is not just Saniya's – it is a collective victory of society, the organization, the family, and a caring brother. Her journey is an inspiration to countless daughters who are forced to abandon their dreams due to lack of resources. Today, Saniya is not just a student – she is a symbol of inspiration, laying the foundation for a society where every daughter has the right to education and every dream has the chance to come true.