

## **Background of Story:**

“If we have strong desire to achieve in the life then it’s possible unless we fail to attempt”. Miss. Manini Rath age 15 years an adolescent girl from Gotma village of Amsena Panchayat. Manini is the student of class 10<sup>th</sup> in their village school. Mr. Debkant Rath is a Contractor and mother is Mrs. Meenakshi Rath house wife. She is coming from very poor family background who always sacrifices their needs and rights. Since Nuapada district is the boarder of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh many daily workers go to out of district as a migrant contractor or labour. The parent of Manini has single penny to effort her higher study. The financial crises kill the needs and rights of the family. People do not realize the importance of education rather became the obstacle for girl education. In the culture of Chhattisgarhi never allowed a girl to higher education rather prefer for marriage. An adolescent girl always snatched the need and rights, dream and ruins their aspiration to become in the future. Manini was not allowed for continue her study in collage and she let her choices and interest. She even not able to convince her parents for higher education, she gave up her interest and simply obeying her parents what they say to do and support in house hold work like uneducated girl.

## **How Project Contributed:**

Thousands of young people are hopeless in the future, they are not able decide what to do and what not to do. In 2018 Manini was introduced by project ANANYA during the course of adolescent meeting in the village. She was very afraid of meeting and giving her introduction. In the beginning her parents refused to attend the meeting. They always say that, we have lots of work in the house. But Manini was convinced to attend the meeting after lots of effort to convince her parents. She used to share the discussion points to her parents when she comes back from meeting. The days past she started approaching for community based meetings, programs to be held for convincing other parents and adolescent. Her approach, smartness selected as a discussion leader to lead the adolescent group in Gotma village.

She was trained on 5 days of Life Skill Education and followed by SRHR. She also initiated LSE sessions among the adolescent groups, she was not confident enough to facilitate the session in the beginning, but has lots of interest for such work. The mentoring process helped her to be confident and independently facilitating session without the support of cluster coordinator. The village level awareness rally, campaigns and programs are led in Gotma village. She herself created an identity as a frontline leader being a matriculate adolescent girl. Manini always support the cluster coordinator, female health workers and VCPC member for counseling the child marriage cases.

As she said, I never give up my desire just depressed due to family condition and understanding on the girl education I want not allowed for any work except tuition, but now I have proofed that girl also can do anything they want in the life. Now am free bird and independent girl for continue my collage study and support my family members in house hold activities along with social work. It’s

all possible because of ASHA ODISHA and Save the Children support, guidance and aspiration gave in my life to stand against to the injustice and social evils of the society.