

## “WILL IS THE POWER”

Balabhadra Munda, aged about 28 years is a unmarried brother of the 17 year girl child Sibani Munda living at village Mahadeijoda Mundasahi under sadar Block of Keonjhar District of Odisha . A sibling headed family having three sisters and Balabhadra is the only brother. Both of their parents died in malaria in 2008(father Ramachandra Munda and Mother Lemba Munda died in 2017). This family have three acres of cultivable land but Balabhadra the only Brother is differently able, he is not able to walk. Affected with polio Balabhadra was only 16 years old at the time of his father’s death. In spite of his disabilities Balabhadra was bound to go agricultural field and plugging the lands in a very risky situation and tried his best to give food in the mouth of the younger sisters, who all are below 18 years of age like 11 years- Mashoori, Golapa-7 years, Sibani -5 years.

Balabhadra was in 9<sup>th</sup> school standard and all the younger sisters have not gone to school. The young two sisters started their income by join in labour work. The elder sister Mashoori came in contact of a person in workplace and married him in 16 years of age an unauthorized marriage. She has been isolated from her family members and not come in contact with them till date.

Balabhadra could not walk & he could not cultivate the land. Therefore, the family has been facing financial problems like they do not get two times meal a day & basic need. So, the family has been facing problems .His sister Golapa worked as labour & managed the family. Balabhadra got Physical Handicapped pension from Govt.His lands are occupied by other persons. They are cultivating the land & gave few paddy to Balabhadra, which was not sufficient to manage his family



**Balabhadra Munda**



**Balabhadra with his two sisters**

There was no any option to manage their life. This issue was discussed in VCPC meeting and the problem Raised by the ICDS worker of that village and the VCPC went to their house for a discussion. After a discussion at VCPC level they decided to write IDA to provide sponsorship support to the sibling headed family under the alternative child and vulnerable family support program.



### **Counseling to Sibani & other members in the family by IDA Staff**

The IDA has been given the sponsorship support since 2018 to the family of Rs 2000 /PM. The houseless sibling headed family got support of a house after making linkage with Gram Panchyat with the effort of the Sarpanch facilitated by IDA staffs under Pradhanmantri Awash Yojana (PMAY) in the financial period 2018-19. This family also tagged with other Social Security Schemes as follows

- Ration Card
- BPL Electric Line connection
- Indian house hold latrine(IHHL)
- Biju Krushaka Kalyana Yojana
- Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana
- Person with Disability.
- Cycle through Sarbasikhya Abhijan
- Pradhanmantri Ujjala Yojna (New Gas connection)
- Tri wheeler cycle proposal under process.

Balabhadra is one active member of Nua Jiban Care Giver Association. The Association selected him as Secretary since last year .And he has been going to attend the meeting, training & bank. One person is taking him by Bi Cycle on paid basis.

Balabhadra proved himself a responsible foster care giver by sending an irregular school dropout child Sibani Munda aged about 17 years at present studied in 10<sup>th</sup> standard to nearest government high school. Like other two siblings who are not attend the school due to their situation , Balabhadra realized the importance of education and decided to educate the little Sister. He is able to guide the family and live with maintaining the sanitation, education, only family using toilet and practicing health and sanitation regularly.



**Sibani at School**



**Sibani is reading in home**

He has tried to raise his income by keeping goat and construct a goat shed in his house by keeping three goats. Now he wants to start a vegetable selling in his own own village market.



**Sibani is going to School by Cycle**



**Purchase of Goats**

As a secretary of the care givers association Balabhadra able to work sincerely and dedicatedly which proves the intention of his activeness.

Balabhadra says” the small support and encouragement of the IDA and villagers make my life beautiful. All these happen due to the strong will power of Balabhadra.