



# CHINGARI

# BAZOOKA

BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI. No. II MAY-JUNE 2013

## CONVERSATIONS WITH SHYAM BABU

Shyam Babu (our Chief Reporter) suffers from cerebral palsy, poor balance and coordination and weakness in his lower limbs. He is almost twelve years old with a thin physique and a face from which shine two mischievous eyes.

Shyam has a great deal to say for himself - with speech difficulties it is often a big effort for him to shape words, but talking to him is always enlightening.

I was sitting in my room when Shyam Babu with his shaky hands opened the door and came in. We had a conversation as follows

**SHYAM BABU** Tabish Sir You have promised to teach me to ride your motorbike. Please also teach me how to drive your laptop.

**ME** When you're a little older I'll teach you how to drive both.

**SHYAM BABU** Sir, Aslam the newspaper-wallah has already taught me how to ride a bike. The thing is Sir, that you drive quite slowly.

I prefer to drive in a *hup-hup-grr-farratK-phat-a-phat* sort of style. (meaning fast.)

**ME** What you would like to be when you grow up?

**SHYAM BABU** Police sir.

**ME** Why police?

**SHYAM BABU** Sir, I would arrest all the moonshine drinkers.

**ME** Why?

**SHYAM BABU** Sir, they create a lot of chilla chot (hullabaloo).

**ME** Does your papa drink?

**SHYAM BABU** Sometimes.

**ME** And you don't like it.

**SHYAM BABU** No, I don't because he uses gali galoch (bad language) with my mother.

**ME** How many members are there in your family?

**SHYAM BABU** Loads. And in yours, sir?

**ME** Fourteen or fifteen.

**SHYAM BABU** Sir, I will come to your house.

**ME** Sure. You are welcome.

At this point the caretaker, Rani Didi, came to find Shyam Babu to

tell him that he needed to go for his therapy.

He went off, leaving me with many questions unanswered in my heart. How difficult life is for that poor kid, who is physically disabled, lives in acute poverty (in a crude shack with no proper flooring and roofing and no toilets or bathroom).

Yet there's always a mischievous smile on his face as if, his eyes are saying to me 'Jeena isi Ka Naam Hai' (Oh yes, this is how to live life).

INTERVIEWED BY TABISH



# CHINGARI BAZOOKA

BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI

## MAY 1A, IATW

### SHYAM BABU , ANISHES, BELIE, ED ONE TO BANK

Today's fresh news is that Chief Reporter Shyam Babu did not come to Chingari. When I asked him this morning, why is he not coming to Chingari he told me that he is going to collect money. I think he has gone to the bank with his mum.

-MINAKSHI

### MY FIRST SOLO BATH

Yesterday I was playing with my cousin and he pushed me. I fell down and scraped my knee.

Today I saw pictures of Alisha's family. Her mum showed me the photos on her mobile.

My mother is very pleased with me because today I managed to have a bath all by myself for the first time.

-KASHEESH

### YET ANOTHER AUTO RICKSHAW CRASH

Yesterday I was busy selling cucumbers by the roadside near where I live, when I saw an auto rickshaw hit my friend and his mother.

My friend's leg was badly hurt, it was cut so deep that you could see the bone.

People caught hold of the auto driver but they didn't beat him. Instead, they made him pay money for my friend's medical treatment.

-SACHIN



### ALISHA CAUGHT IN HOMEWORK SCANDAL

I used to get my younger sister to do my homework, but my mum found out and told Irfan Sir (the Special Educator at Chingari).

-ALISHA

### SHIFON RUES LACK OF NON-, ED TREATS

Today I am going to a marriage in my neighbourhood. However, I am not going to eat anything there because there is going to be a vegetarian buffet with things like roast peas which I don't like.

I wish they'd serve kebabs or chicken biryani instead.

But never mind, I will have the chance to wear some nice clothes and enjoy being with my friends.

-SHIFON

## MAY 11, IATW

### MINAKSHI , ISITS BANK WITH HER MUM

Today Minakshi did not come to Chingari, as she had gone to take money from the bank.

Yesterday, I went with my mum to withdraw Rs. 1,000 from my account from a bank at Karondh. We plan to use the money to buy things for my sister's wedding.

-C.R.SHYAM BABU

### CALL FOR BAZOOKA HINDI EDITION

I asked Tabish Sir, 'Sir, where will we be selling our newspaper?'

He replied 'In England'.

So I asked 'Sir, why can't we sell it here?' So he explained that the paper is in English.

'Sir, why can't we make it in Hindi and sell it here?' Tabish Sir said that he'd think about it.

-CHIEF REPORTER SHYAM BABU

### KASHEESH SWEEPS HOUSE. MOTHER AMAOED

Yesterday while my mother was washing the pots and pans outside our house I took a broom and cleaned the whole place. Kalpana Madam (the physiotherapist) said it was a very great achievement considering my disability.

-KASHEESH



## □ UDDI WEDS □ UDDA

Yesterday we celebrated the happy wedding of my girl doll □ uddi to boy doll □ udda.

□ udda was wearing sherwani looking very smart and □ uddi wore a frock with a lovely necklace, earrings and a teeka.

We had a big party in and ate some chips, Dumdum pastries and samosas.

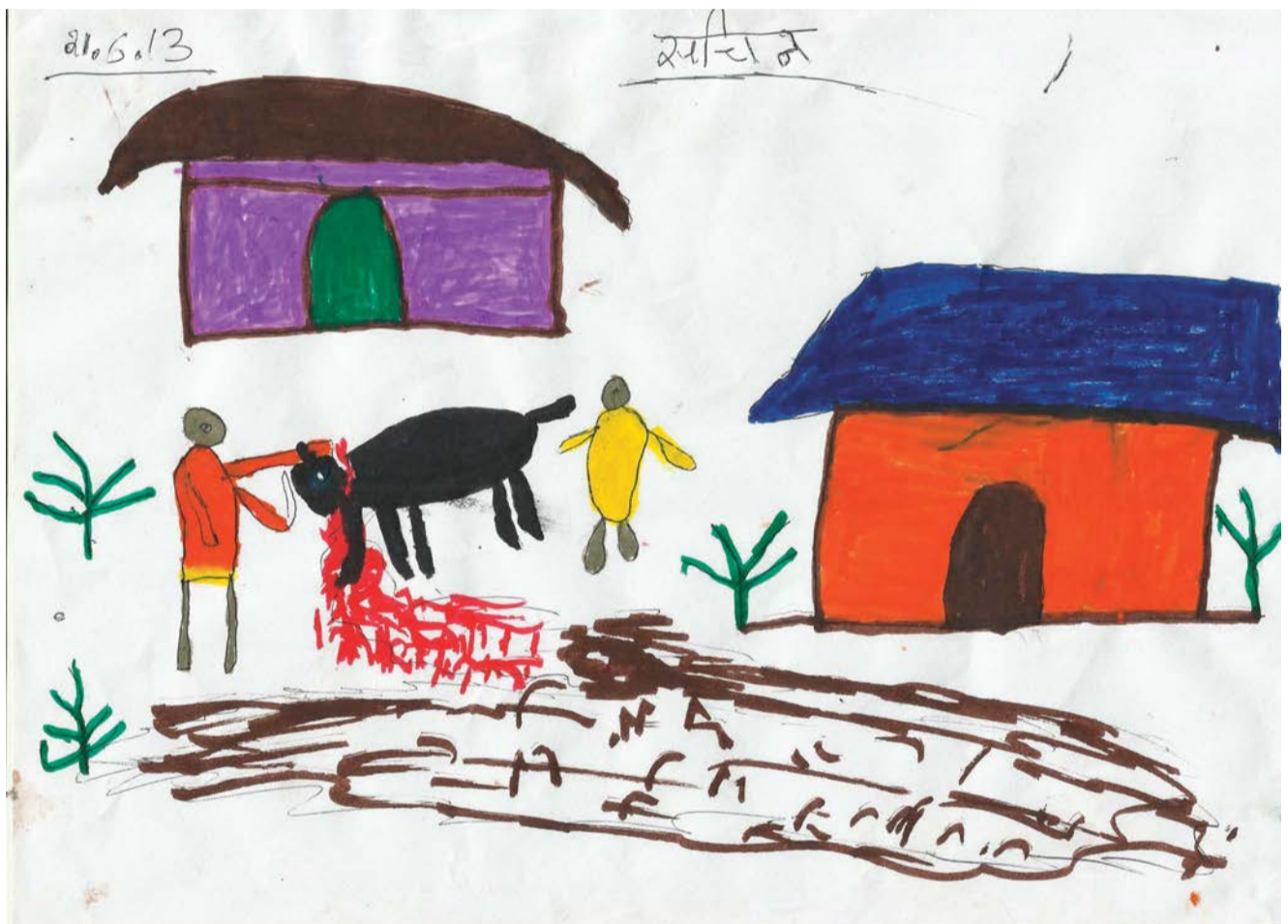
-ALISHA



## SAD DEATH OF A □ OAT AT ORIYA BASTI

Yesterday in Oriya Basti people were feeding a black goat from a basket full of chapattis. Later on the goat was killed for a big feast. I will make a picture to show you.

-SACHIN



## CHIEF REPORTER WITNESSES KNIFE FIGHT

While telling my reporting to Tabish Sir, who writes it all down, I told him that a few days ago, there was a fight at a wedding ceremony.

Some stranger from outside misbehaved and there was a fight. A boy was attacked by a knife and the ambulance came to take him to hospital.

'Did this happen at your sister's marriage,' asked Tabish Sir.

'No Sir,' I said, 'I was in the DJB vehicle.'

'What were you doing there?'

'Sir, I was with my brother, he does that work and this is his card.'

So I will give him the yellow colour card of my brother so it can be shown in the BaJooka.

-CHIEF REPORTER SHYAM BABU

## WE PLAY CHILAK CHAI ON THE ROOF

I played Chilak Chai on my roof with my friends. (A game like tag, see right.)

-KAUSAR



# CHINGARI BAZOOKA

BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI

## TABISH SIR'S ROUND UP

Because of the hot weather, many children are at home. Our chief reporter Shyam Babu is away as reported by Minakshi.

## MAY 10 IATW

### MINAKSHI MISSES OUT ON JEWELLERY

Shyam Babu has gone away to his Ji:a:i's sister's wedding and so he will not be coming to Chingari for a few days.

I went with my mum and we took Rs. 1,000 (LII) from my bank account and I wanted to buy a lovely necklace, earrings and a nose pin but my mum would not let me. She said we needed the money for important things. I have made a picture of the things I liked -----a

-MINAKSHI



### OUR HOUSES GET WATER PIPES AT LAST

New water connections were made in the houses of Oriya Basti. Many marriages were celebrated at Dusshera Maidan and Shivra: Singh Chauhan (the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh) gave the couples sofa-sets, beds, bedding, chairs etc.

-CHIEF REPORTER SHYAM BABU



### OAID'S CRICKET PITCH

I was really disappointed when Royal Challengers Bangalore did not Aualify for the Premier League playoffs. (Don't listen to my mother when she says I cried N she makes up stuff.)

I did get cross when Tabish Sir said that A. B. Devilliers is the best batsman in the RCB team. So I replied that he does get good runs in the last overs and plays outrageous strokes but I prefer ayle because he hits big sihes.

Huma Madam was listening to my discussion with Tabish Sir, and she said to me 'When you are grown up your girlfriend will be really bored if you are interested only in cricket.'

I replied that when I grow up I won't have time for a girl-friend because I will be busy playing in big matches for Royal Challengers Bangalore. -OAID

## JUNE 7 IATW

### EARLY RAIN HITS BHOPAL, LEAKS THROUGH MINAKSHI'S ROOF

Yesterday, it rained in Bhopal, and because of that water filled up in front of my house.

With the help of a drinking water glass, I cleared the water from the front of my house and poured it into the nearby drain.

Then drops of water started pouring in through the roof. We placed buckets and other utensils to collect the water and then we threw it out.

While I was clearing the water from front of my house, my sister was cooking food, and my mother was at the shop. My father is away for a few days on a visit to his native village. -MINAKSHI



JUNE TA, IATW

### WATER ANKLE-DEEP IN ORIYA BASTI

Because of rain, water has filled both inside and outside (she call it aagan) our house. Inside our

house water has filled till the ankle of the legs. Yesterday we had got a new water connection and today they are going to put a tap over it. Water was also deep outside Shyam Babu's house.

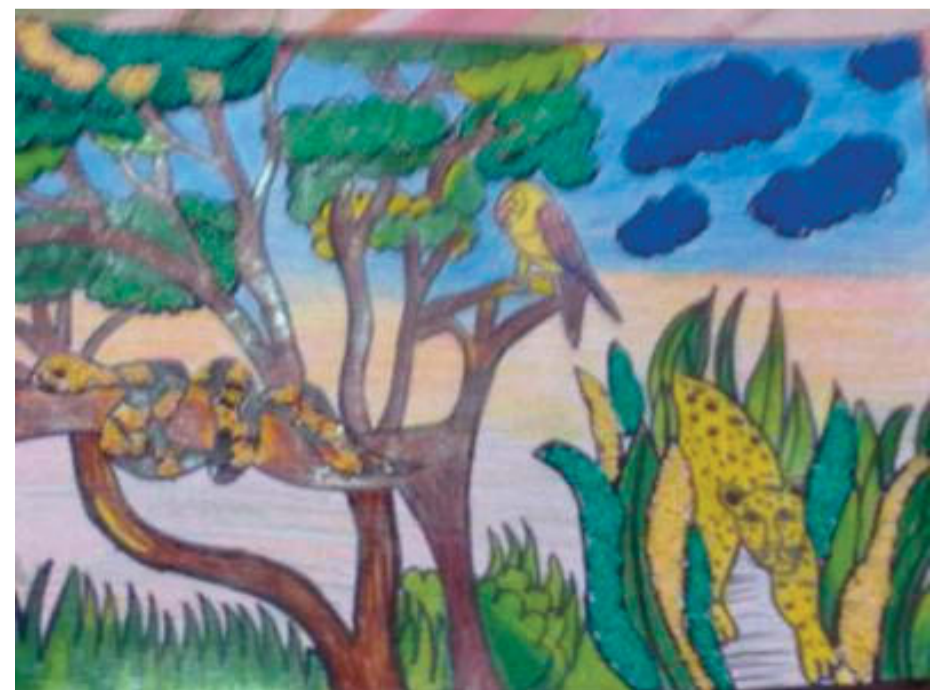
-MINAKSHI

### BOY BORN WITH ABNORMAL HEAD

Yesterday I saw on the news that a boy with an abnormal shaped head has been born in Delhi.

-SACHIN





JUNE TT, IATW

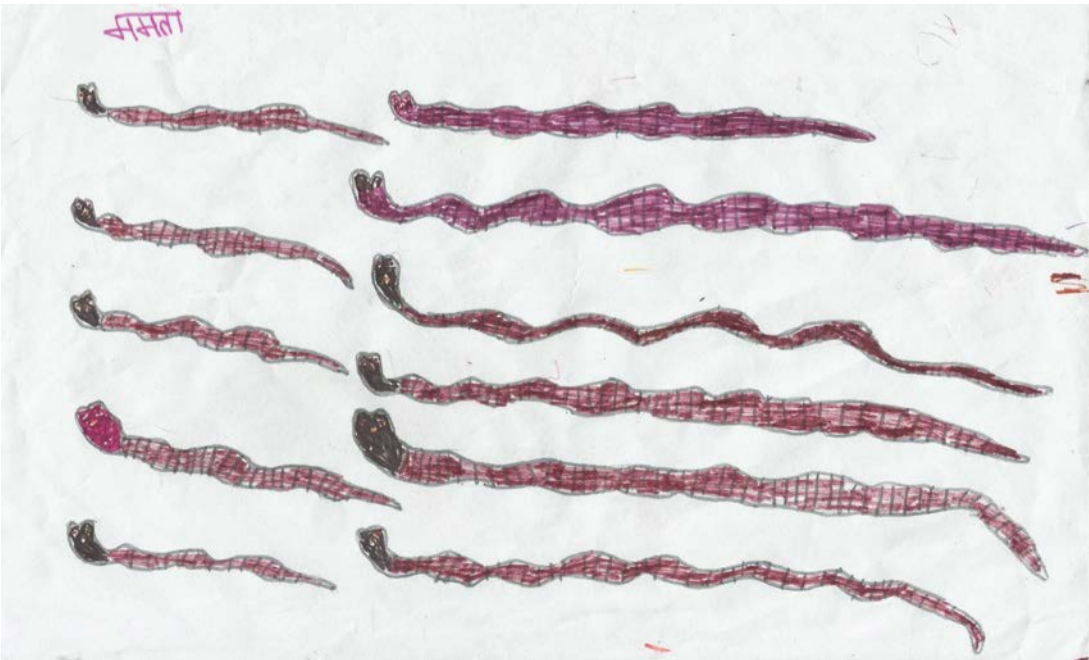
SHYAM BABU ATTENDS  
A WEDDIN□ SOMEWHERE IN THE  
JUN□ LE

My hair is coloured because I have :ust attended a wedding. It was my Ji:a:i's sister's marriage at Alvasa, somewhere in the :ungle with big-big hills.

My legs were hurting because of walking so much. It is about 1km away from here. I danced at the marriage. And when Baraat arrived, I served water, snacks and mango :uice along with the other boys.

I was crying at the time of , idaai (ceremony in which Bride leaves her father's home), as I was not feeling well. -SHYAM BABU

-SHYAM BABU



ALISHA'S AUNT GETS  
MARRIED

Last week was my aunty's (mum's younger sister) marriage at Bag Farhat AfJa. My Uncle is from Abbas Nagar, which is far away. Baraat (arrival of the groom's procession) was on Thursday and Walima on Friday.

I wore my best shalwaar kurtaa and also put turmeric on my Aunty.

-ALISHA

## BUS RUNS O, ER CYCLIST

It's all muddy in Oriya Basti at present because of the rain. There's an accident near the bridge between a cycle and a bus. The bus driver had given the horn, but the cyclist did not listen to him and the bus ran over him. Also two boys on bikes collided at BA feet road.

-CHIEF REPORTER SHYAM BABU

## CON, ERSATION WITH ALISHA

ALISHA Sir, yesterday we cooked food using toys.

TABISH SIRh What did you cook?

ALISHA Nothing. I have your phone number and called you yesterday, but you did not come.

TABISH SIRh I am afraid your call didn't reach me.

ALISHA Can I tell you a story?

TABISH SIRh Yes.

ALISHA While drinking tea a hair came into my mouth. I looked behind and a new year had come.

TABISH SIRh Who taught you this?

ALISHA Sanya Phuppi. (Her aunt)

Meh How many aunts have you?

ALISHA Sih.

TABISH SIRh So many. And thus you trouble your aunts?

ALISHA No, but Salman one of my cousins, he is small and troubles us a lot, his mind is slightly different, and he beats and pinches others.

TABISH SIRh So he troubles you too.

ALISHA Yes.

## JUNE TT, IATW

## KASHEESH MAKES HER MOTHER CROSS

Yesterday I got dressed, ate my breakfast and went back to sleep.

My mother told me to get up and go to Jehangirabad with her to attend my uncle's marriage.

I said no because I don't like attending weddings. -KASHEESH

## NEI HOURS FI HT O, ER WATER

Yesterday two people fought each

other over filling their pots with water. We have got the new water pipes now (see May IM) but they have not put taps on them.

It was raining heavily and water filled up both inside and outside my house. I swept the water out my house with a broom. We can't sleep on the floor when it's all watery, so we sleep on two beds off the ground N my father, M mother, me, my sister, younger brother and elder brother Ar:un - all sleep on two beds.

My father isn't here right now - he has gone to his village.

I like eating toffees and red toffee is my favourite.

-MINAKSHI

## JUNE TI, IATW

## ALISHA'S AUNT OES HOME, E, ERYONE SAD

Yesterday, I was sad as my Aunty has gone back to Shobhapur. I have tried to stop them, but NaaJ appi i.e. my Aunt's daughter told me that her School would be getting started. So, she needs to go. NaaJ appi told me that she would be coming back neHt year. My Aunt gave me Rs. A when she left. When I go to market to buy clothes for eid, I'll use her gift to buy them. Sir, the plastering of my house has started. My father has getting the house made at Bagh Farhat AfJa.

-ALISHA



## DEATH OF A COW

I live at Tille.

Yesterday while returning from Indranagar, I saw a dead cow by the side of the road.

She died because an electric wire had fallen onto her and everything was wet so she died from the electric current.

Her whole body was blown up like a balloon.

-SHIRAO

## O AID COMMENTARY ON THE INDIA-SRI LANKA TEST MATCH

Yesterday, I saw the test match and played snake and ladders with my Papa and I won. I know that West Indies have lost the match, but feel that they would be able to reach the semi final, if they win one more match. I support West Indies because of ayle. Yesterday ayle scored IT run and he was caught out.

West Indies scored 147 runs and India scored 147 runs in 100 overs. Shikhar Dhawan performed best. He scored 51 runs and I feel that his performance was better than Ravindra Jadeja who took five wickets, because he had hit two back to back centuries. From West Indies Dwayne Bravo's brother Darren Bravo performed best. Tabish Sir asked me whether I had seen Lara playing. I said no. He told me that Darren Bravo looks very similar to legendary batsman Brian Lara and he told me about Lara's record of hitting 444 runs in one inning.

-O AID

## MORE RAIN, SHYAM GETS A NEW CAP, MINAKSHI UNWELL

Sir, it's all muddy in Oriya Basti because of rain. As roads have been made in my area, Chingari, an is able to come. During rain water droplets also fall inside my house and we use utensils to collect them (so that they do not make the floor wet). Water leaks from the roof from around ten places. In the night we sleep by



putting a plastic cover over the bed. At 10 am when the bus came to my house, I sat in it and came to Chingari. First I went to school, then therapy and after that class. After that I played Cricket. My mother bought this cap for me for Rs. 10, which I

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BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI



am wearing. Today, Minakshi has not come to Chingari because of fever. Today she would be taken to doctor.

-CHIEF REPORTER SHYAM BABU

## ROOFS BLOW OFF HOUSES IN ORIYA BASTI

Today after taking a bath and completing my puja (prayer), when I came out of my house, I saw two brothers fighting with each other and one of them has gone to police station. I don't know the reason why they were fighting with each other. Sir, at Oriya Basti because of wind, iron sheets, which form the roofs of the houses, have blown up off them and a few of them have fallen on my house. Water also leaks from a few places at my house during rain, but it does not cause much trouble.

-SACHIN

## JUNE 2ND, 10 PM

## FAMILY SHELTER UNDER BED TO ESCAPE RAIN

Last night the wind was blowing hard and iron sheets off other people's houses blew away and the polythene sheet on our roof also flew off. It had rained heavily because of which ditches were

## SNAKE LOITERING NEAR ASHOK'S HOUSE

Yesterday a snake appeared near my house. It sat for a while and then moved away.

-ASHOK

filled with water. It has become muddy everywhere. Me, mummy, papa and bhaiya (brother) slept under the bed because of rain. We covered the bed with a polythene sheet to avoid water and slept under it. Other people have pukka houses (of brick) but mine is kachcha (mud). Minakshi also lives in a kachcha house, which is better than mine. Yesterday, I played cricket at Chingari and did batting. I like batting in cricket and don't know how to do bowling. Tabish Sir asked why I don't learn bowling from Narendra Sir, Sports Coach at Chingari so I told him that I played Bocce.

-SHYAM BABU

## OAID'S BIRTHDAY PLANS AND MORE CRICKET

Yesterday my younger brother HamJa had gone to Yard Club (a tourist spot) and I will go there on my birthday to have a good time. My birthday is on 17th June. I would ask everyone on my birthday. Yesterday the test cricket was abandoned because of rain. Before rain Australia had scored 147 runs, New Zealand made maximum 147 runs from Australia in 4 balls, New Zealand has scored 147 runs for the fall of wickets, after which the rain came. I was supporting New Zealand because Warner was not playing for Australia, if Warner had been playing for Australia then I'd have supported



Australia. David Warner won't play any more matches in the series because he had beaten Root (an English cricketer). These days HafiJ Sahab does not come as he is studying doctor's studies. He will start coming after he is free. These days I watch match, have my supper and then sleep.

-OAID

## ALISHA PROMISES TO DO HER HOMEWORK

I helped my father to clean the garlic. He sells onion and garlic. Yesterday, a vehicle ran over the leg of a caretaker in a nearby building. She received injuries to her knee and leg. The doctor has said that she would be alright in 1-2 days. I don't know her name. Today, I forgot to do my homework, but will do it regularly

from tomorrow onwards. I was asked to write four in my homework.

-ALISHA

## JUNE 17TH, IATW

## MINAKSHI STILL UNWELL. MORE ROAD ACCIDENTS

Sir it rained heavily last night. Minakshi's mother made her drink the medicine (Maybe a syrup), but did not make her take the tablets. Today, one boy had met with an accident at Oriya Basti, in front of a shop. A bike rider hit the boy in front of the shop and did not stop. The boy's hands were scratched. Afterwards, when I was coming to Chingari, I saw a boy and girl on a bike fall down. The boy had suddenly applied his brakes. Sura: Bhaiya (the DJ) has gone to Udaipur to provide DJ in a baraat. Sura: Bhaiya is not my real brother, he is a friend of my elder brother and I also call him Bhaiya. Yesterday, I played table tennis with Aay Sir at Chingari. Someone asked if his hand can reach the table, because I am short, but it can, of course, yes.

-SHYAM BABU

## INJECTIONS AND A TEDDY BEAR

Yesterday, doctor gave me an injection and some medicine. In

the night I ate a chapati with milk then took my medicine. Yesterday Shankar Sir, , idya Didi and Waseem Sir (Community health workers of Chingari) took me to Chingari, as I was not well because of fever and boils. Now I am alright. Waseem Sir has bought a soap for me and then I took a bath and went to see the doctor. I saw the doctor today again. I cried when I had the in:ection. At Chingari I coloured in the drawing of a teddy bear. It is called □ udda.

-MINAKSHI

### FIGHTING FOR DON'T KNOW WHAT REASON

Yesterday there was a fight near my Bade Papa's (Father's elder brother) shop. Today, I coloured at Chingari. I have coloured an elephant white a purse a sort of red colour.

-NIKHIL

### ALISHA DOES HER HOMEWORK

Yesterday, I and my younger sister Alina played with toys along with my younger sister Alina. Yesterday I had watched a Baraat procession (part of a marriage), it was good. Today, I have done my home work on my own. I was asked to write P O ' . and I did it. Today, I did lots of colouring at Chingari. I made a brown clay water pot and a black fish of paper to keep in it.

-ALISHA

### ALISHA'S ROOM IS PAINTED PINK

Today the plaster of the small room in my house is completed. Now the plaster of the bigger room will be done and then the whole house will be painted pink. I chose the colours pink and purple.

-ALISHA

### GAID ON ENGLAND-SRI LANKA MATCH

Yesterday, a student studying in my father's college came to meet us. She is from Nagda and had come to Bhopal to collect her

# CHINGARI BAZOOKA

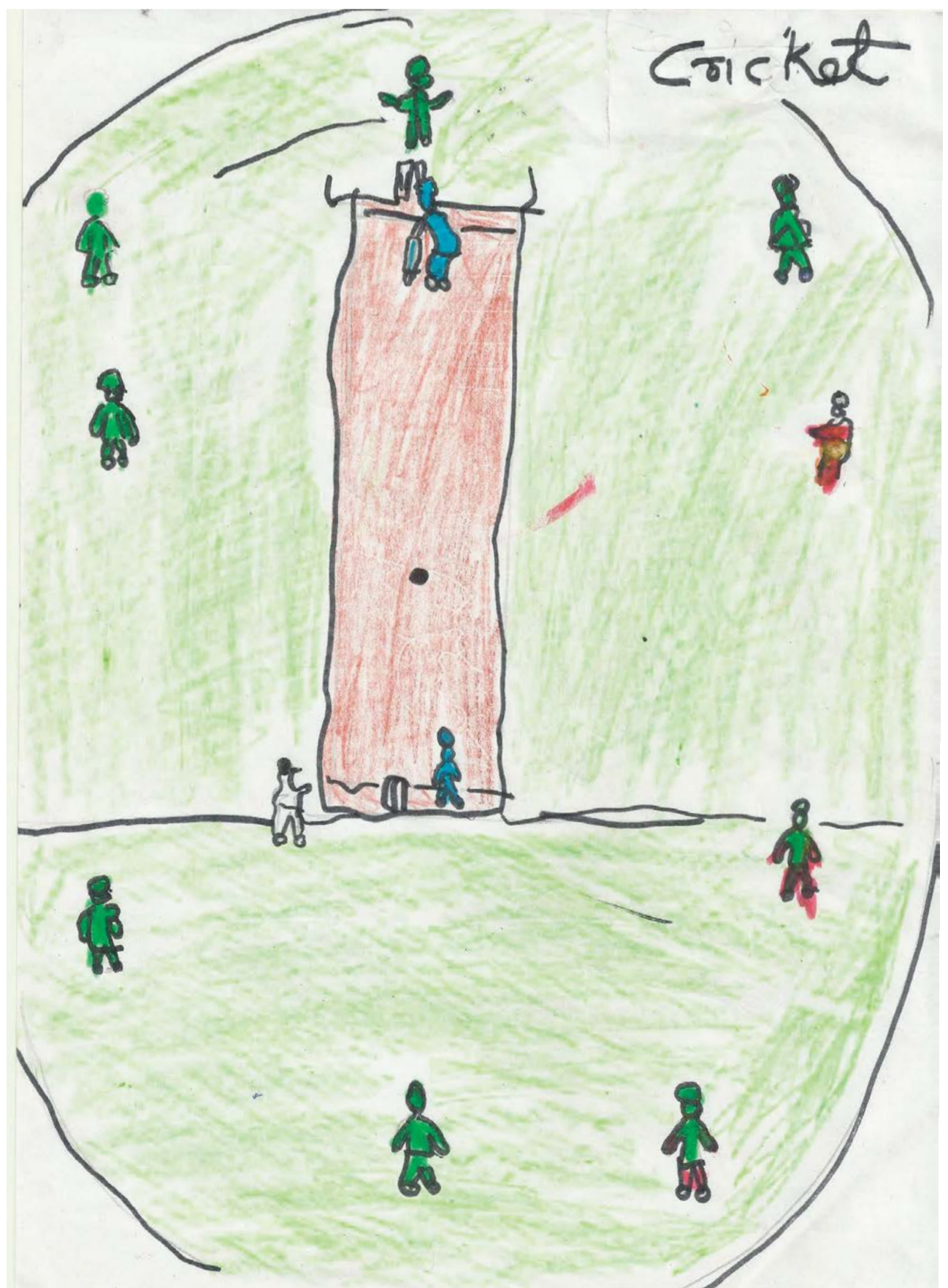
BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI

Sanitation result. Yesterday at last the drainage lines were cleaned up in my area.

Anyway, the important thing was that Lanka won the match. I didn't watch the whole thing as it went on till TWA in the night and I have to go to sleep at midnight at the latest. I heard about the result of the match from my grandfather next day.

Sangakkara played well, he made 70 runs, Kulasekara had also played well and scored 3 runs. They beat England by seven wickets. England's captain i.e. Alastair Cook played well and also Root. Root scored 70 runs and Cook scored 0 runs. Yesterday, I was supporting Sri Lanka

-GAID



JUNE TM IATW

### □ AMBLERS AND BYSTANDERS ARRESTED, FORCED TO PAY BRIBE

Sir, yesterday near my Uncle's shop, few people were caught by police. They were gambling at SATTA, hiding behind a bus and playing. Policeman came and grabbed their collars and took them away. There was one boy who was not playing but standing near the bus. The police took him also to the police station and he also unfortunately was forced to give the police money even though he was not playing, just standing there. My uncle's shop is at Basod Mohalla. I asked my uncle what is Satta. He replied that it is gambling and that we should not talk about it, because it is not a good thing.

-SHIRAO

### ' UARREL BREAKS OUT NEAR ALISHA'S HOUSE

I was playing with my toys. My badi mummy (wife of father's elder brother) was visiting our house. I have a younger brother and I was playing with him when a fight started between some people living in the area behind my house. I heard them shouting at each other.

Later I heard the sound of drums and other instruments when a procession went past the back of my house on Saturday

and Sunday. There were people with clothes, shoes and flowers. On Friday Ahmed (a special child at Chingari) was jumping about, when Sir has played the same song. Ahmed is the twin brother of AAuib.

-ALISHA

### FI□ HT O, ER WATER NEAR MANOHAR DAIRY

Yesterday there was a fight between Kera:i Ba:i and Reeshan over filling water pots. Kera:i Ba:i slapped Reeshan. I live near Manohar Dairy. Later I watched Anandi's serial on T, . There too, I saw fighting. Yesterday I went out to play with my younger brother AlfaraJ in the rain. I was scolded by papa for playing in the rain. There are cracks in the skin on my leg. I am applying ointment. Shadab Sir (Community health worker) took me to the doctor.

-AFREEN

### FI□ HT O, ER CLEAN WATER IN ORIYA BASTI

Today two women fought with each other near the water tank in Oriya Basti for water. They were pulling each other's hair and slapping. Sir, I like getting wet in rain and dancing while it rains. I sing the taki taki song and dance during rain. However, my mother does not like me getting wet in the rain and she tries to stop me.

-SHYAM BABU

### NO MORE INJECTIONS FOR MINAKSHI

Today, I was not given any more injections by the doctor. But he did give one yesterday and the day before yesterday. Because of rain water has filled both inside and outside my house (she called it angana, meaning compound) and the water comes in everyday, but I wrote ABCD at Chingari and ate Kheer (rice pudding).

-MINAKSHI

JUNE TB, IATW

### SACHIN'S HOPES FOR HIS, E□ ETABLE BUSINESS

Sir, yesterday I have gone to bank to collect the pension, I receive Rs. T A per month as a pension for my handicap. I had not collected it for two months. When I got there, they told me that no one had received any money yet and we'd be getting it after 15th June. From there I went to the wholesale vegetable market. I thought of buying corn to sell but there wasn't any. I didn't buy cucumber because of the rain. I collected cauliflower leaves for the goat and returned home getting wet in the rain. It's no use trying to sell cucumber in rainy weather because it is a cold vegetable and people don't buy it much on rainy days. Whatever we can get cheap in the market we buy for selling. I would really like a cycle so that I can sell corn on my own. I want to save money for my younger sister's marriage, she will be getting married next year. Her name is Aarti and she is TB. Last Sunday, the boy and his family came to see us to arrange the marriage. His mother has passed on so his father came. He lives in Chandbad and does light fitting work. He earns Rs. B,AAA per month and has a wheatish complexion. I liked the boy and they all liked my sister. We have suggested next year for the marriage. I don't remember the name of the boy.

-SACHIN



## WATER UP TO WAIST NEAR LAKHAN'S HOUSE

Outside Lakhan's house (another special child coming to Chingari, living at Oriya Basti) the water was up to his knees and my waist. His legs were all wet when he got to his house. He had to change his clothes. I took my medicine today so the boils on my body will get healed up. I had studied at Chingari and also made a drawing of a house with water all round it. There was another fight in Oriya Basti over water. They were shouting and swearing at each other. One of them hit the one with a stick on stomach and made blood come. They took him to hospital. I don't know the names of the people fighting. Tomorrow we will be provided with a tap (she called it totti) for our new water connection. **-MINAKSHI**

## ARMAN BRA, ES RAIN TO HA, E HIS THERAPY

Yesterday, it rained heavily because of which my mother had not allowed me to come to Chingari. Even today it's raining, but I thought that I should get the therapy done. So, I have come today wearing this raincoat Papa bought for me ages ago.

**-ARMAAN PAR, EO**

## IATH JUNE IATW

## LEA PROBLEM STOPS SHIFON ATTENDING FAMILY WEDDING

Yesterday our neighbours came back to their house at WAM after attending a marriage. When they opened their door, we all woke up. They had gone to Mahu (a small town near Indore) for the marriage. My mother's brother got married on 3 June and on 7th June my mother went to attend his JUMA (small ceremony with reception after marriage on Friday). I didn't go because of rain, as I have problems walking when it gets muddy. **-SHIFON**

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BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI



## KASHEESH TO , ISIT SAI BABA TEMPLE

This evening I am going to be visiting a big temple of Sai Babi with my Papa. We will be going in a vehicle. I don't know where the temple is but we visit it every thursday. My father break the

coconut in the temple and I distribute the Prasaad (some small items of food used during prayers and distributed after it, which are thought of as a holy food)

**-KASHEESH**

# CHINGARI BAZOOKA

BY THE CHILDREN OF CHINGARI. No. III JULY IATW

## ALISHA DRAWS BRIDE AND ROOM PICTURE

Yesterday you did not come to Chingari. I saw in the news that a flood drowned somewhere, I don't know the name of the place. Yesterday, we made a drawing of Dulha Dulhan (bride and bride groom) and TariAue Sir (special educator at Chingari) says that tomorrow we will be filling in colours.

-ALISHA

## MINAKSHI'S DAD CRIES AS HER ELDER SISTER LEA, ES HOME

Yesterday, the father in law of my sister arrived. And today when he and my sister sat in the autorickshaw and were going away, My father was crying. Her engagement will be celebrated in her native village. It's raining daily. I cried, because they have not taken me.

-MINAKSHI

## STILL NO TAP FOR MINAKSHI'S FAMILY

Water has filled up outside our houses and it has also come inside. We sleep on two beds i.e. both of my brothers, mummy, papa and me. I sleep with mummy. As water has not come, there is one neighbour she has water connection, but she does not allow us to fill our pots and speaks badly. We have the water pipe but not the tap. We will buy a tap of our own and then won't allow others to fill their pots from it. Me and my mother had gone to the hospital to get an injection. While coming back we bought a banana and a black school bag. I ate the banana. The bag cost Rs. A. My mother got it for me as I was crying for it after my red bag was lost. my sister in law's son, whose name is Sachin had mislaid it somewhere. He is small like me. My mother has also bought two hair clips for me, one of them got broken.

-MINAKSHI

## A CRUEL STORY OF RAPE AND CORRUPTION

My mum works at a government hospital where her job is to make chappatis. There a doctor looted the honour of a woman who had come for her medicine and an injection. Later on the police came with sticks and beat the doctor. Somebody took the woman's daughter in a van and left her in the jungle. Later on police asked the two of them to get married.

-ISHRAT



## MINAKSHI'S ELDER SISTER GETS ENGAGED

Sir, Minakshi's elder sister got engaged and they have killed a cockerel (in preparation for a feast) in the morning.

-SHYAM BABU

JUNE 17, IATW

## RAIN CAUSES MORE PROBLEMS

It rained again last night. I saw on a T, that in one village houses and bridges were broken. A bus fell into a trench.

-SHYAM BABU

JUNE 19, IATW

## CATCHING UP WITH TABISH SIR

Yesterday a heavy rain fell and in front of my house the water was up to my waist and it was flowing over the road. Yesterday I saw on the T, that a truck was submerged in the flood. It was on the news.

You (Tabish Sir) didn't come to Chingari for two days so we were asking Thomas Sir where you were. He said you weren't well and would come the next day. I had the yellow DJ card for you but now it is at home. I played football with Sufiyan, Lakhan and ArbaJ.

Today I came in the bus and said 'Good Morning' to everyone, then I went to speech therapy and physiotherapy then I went to class. Yesterday we had daal and rice, it was magic. I like the fruit meal best of all.

Today I wrote my times tables. I copied them, but one day I will learn them. -SHYAM BABU

## LIGHTNING DOESN'T FRIGHTEN MEHALISHA

Last night it rained a lot. Lightning was flashing. I wasn't afraid of the lightning. I went to my Nana's house and played with toys.

-ALISHA

## FAMILY PROBLEMS FOR SACHIN AND SIBLINGS

Saturday was a day off, so in the morning I had tea and breakfast and bathed then went to the bank and waited. Filled in a form. They

said WAA rupees had come. (LW A, being two months worth of his disability pension) So I withdrew it. I went to the vegetable market and roamed around there a while. On the way home I saw Sathya and Rachna they were with a rally about the gas disaster. I watched the rally. There were lots of people there. They were saying, Until you give us proper compensation we are certainly not going to vote for you. Lots of people from Kainchi Chhola were there.

After this I went home and when my mum came home in the evening I gave her the money. And then, Sir, well you see the thing is that every morning my father quarrels with me - if mum sticks up for me she gets an earful as well. He says things like you two go away out of this house. If I read in front of him and make a mistake he starts shouting and hits me. That's why I don't read in front of him. You see, my Hindi spelling isn't so good. My little brother, if he goes off roaming with his friends and comes back a little late then he too gets shouted at and my father hits him too.

I came here to Chingari yesterday

which was Tuesday. When I went home he hadn't been to work. He hasn't gone for eight days. Mum went, but he didn't, so she refuses to give him money for moonshine.

We have a goat at my home, which my mother bought for Rs. 1,100. When we don't give him money to drink alcohol, he starts selling the things from our house. He had recently mortgaged the patta (deeds of the house) of our house for Rs. 1,000 (LII), but we did not say anything. He has done it before and we could only get the papers back by paying the money. Last time when I have received the cheque from school, I bought back the vegetable trolley which he had sold. When he announced that he was going to sell the goat all four of us siblings quarrelled with him and would not allow him to take the goat. He is always behaving like this.

-SACHIN

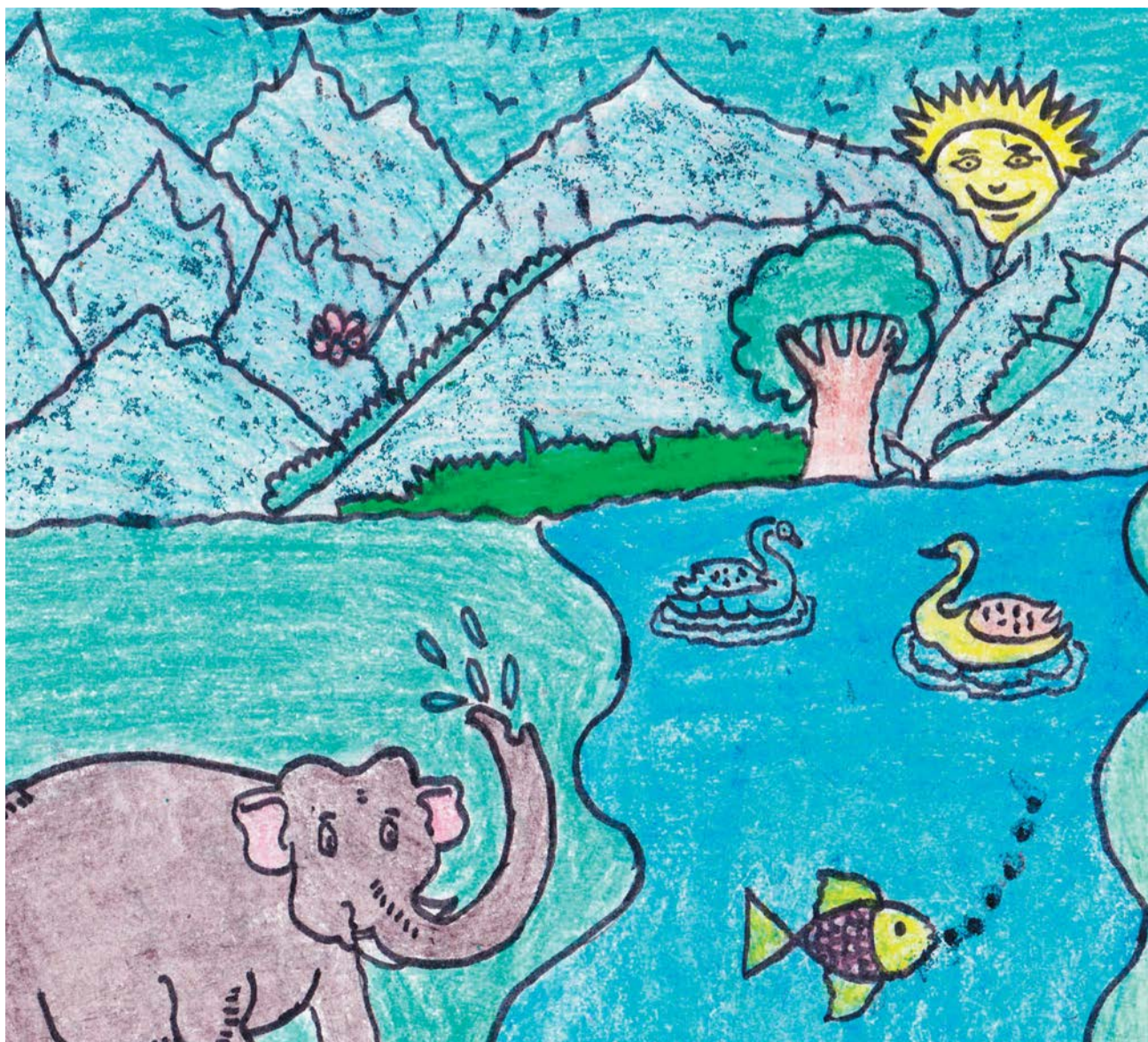
## JULY 1, 1997

## MY VISIT TO PACHORE BY SHYAM BABU

I went to my village, which is Pachore, to attend the Mundan (ceremony of getting child's head shaved) of my cousin. There two brothers Jitendra and Rakesh got drunk and fought with each other. My father is their Jee'a Ji (sister's husband).

While returning from Pachore, there was a river on the way, in which water was flowing up to my knees. My sister's husband picked me up and helped me to cross the river. After walking for 10 km, at last we reached the road, where we boarded an auto and everyone got inside. I sat with my Papa on the back seat of the auto. In this way we reached the bus stand and went on to the railway station. We bought our rail tickets and boarded the train. In the train I ate samosa and bhel. It was delicious. I like going on the trains. When we got to Bhopal station, we hired an auto and went home. Today, it had rained heavily in Oriya Basti.

-SHYAM BABU



## ALISHA'S MUM INJURED BY SOUP

Sir, a few days ago hot soup fell over my mother and burned her hand and leg. I would have told you before, Sir, but last week you did not collect news from me on Thursday and Friday.

The plastering of our house has been finished and we even have a toilet and bathroom. They must need to put a seat in the toilet. A while back my grandfather had fallen over while he was reading Tasbih (his rosary). He was not able to eat or pick up a spoon with his right hand. We took him to the hospital at Nariyal Kheda, to get him treated by the best doctor available there.

-ALISHA

## SACHIN STANDS IN FOR SHYAM BABU

Shyam Babu, Rachna and Lakhan did not come to Chingari today. Shyam has gone to his village. Rachna is hurt, and I don't know the reason why Lakhan has not come. The van went to Lakhan's house and they waited for a while, but he did not come out.

-SACHIN

## HOW MANY SI.ES MAKE SHIFONTY-SI.?

Usually I am not able to score runs but yesterday I hit siH siHes in ten balls. No one could believe it and all asked to check again, but it was true. I was playing in a ground close to the

temple in our neighbourhood. My Aunt's brother suddenly fell ill at around 1am last night.

-SHIFON

## JULY W, IATW

### ALISHA IN THE PINK

ALISHA My mother bought a new pencil box for me last Saturday

MEH What is the cost of the box?

ALISHA Sir, everything combined cost Rs. 10.

MEH From where did you buy it?

ALISHA From Jehangirabad.

MEH It is pink, do you like the colour pink.

ALISHA Yes.

MEH And what else did you buy?

ALISHA Sir, we bought an orange pencil box, lunch box and water bottle for my sister. And a lunch box for me.

MEH Pink?

ALISHA Pink.

-ALISHA

### SHYAM BABU IS AN EXPERT CAR THIEF

SHYAM BABU Sir yesterday, I went to play at Shivnagar and there was water everywhere.

MEH What did you play?

SHYAM BABU Sir it's called Car Chor (Car thief)

MEH How do you play it?

SHYAM BABU Sir, we need to steal the car and drive it using remote control. Sir, I am an expert at stealing and driving the cars.

MEH And what else happened yesterday

SHYAM BABU Sir, nothing much.

-SHYAM BABU

### ALISHA SCOLDED FOR NOT DOING THERAPY EXERCISES

I have been scolded for not doing my therapy exercises. I like doing the exercises, but some of them are quite painful.

-ALISHA



## SARA LEARNS HOW TO MAKE A RAKHI

Today I learned to make rakhis for the Rakshabandhan festival. Kanchan Madam taught me to how to do it.

-SARA

## O AID MISSES INDIAN INNINGS

Sir for the last two days, it has been Auite muddy in our area, water is deep everywhere.

Yesterday, I watched the match, Sri Lanka scored WHB runs, but I missed the Indian innings since it started around midnight which is the time I go to sleep.

-O AID

## SHYAM BABU PLANS TO , ISIT THE STARS AND SEE THE OCEAN

SHYAM BABU Sir, Yesterday I saw on T, that it has rained heavily in Delhi, houses were broken. Sir , ehicles were drowning in water.

TABISHH You saw this on T, ?

SHYAM BABU Yes. It had rained heavily in Bambai (Bombay) also.

TABISHH Do you Like Bambai?

SHYAM BABU I have not seen it.

TABISHH I was born in Bombay. My mother is from Bombay but my father is from Bhopal. The one who will be receiving this news was also born in Bombay. Would you like to say something to him? He will publish it.

SHYAM BABU Sir, ask him to take me to Bambai.

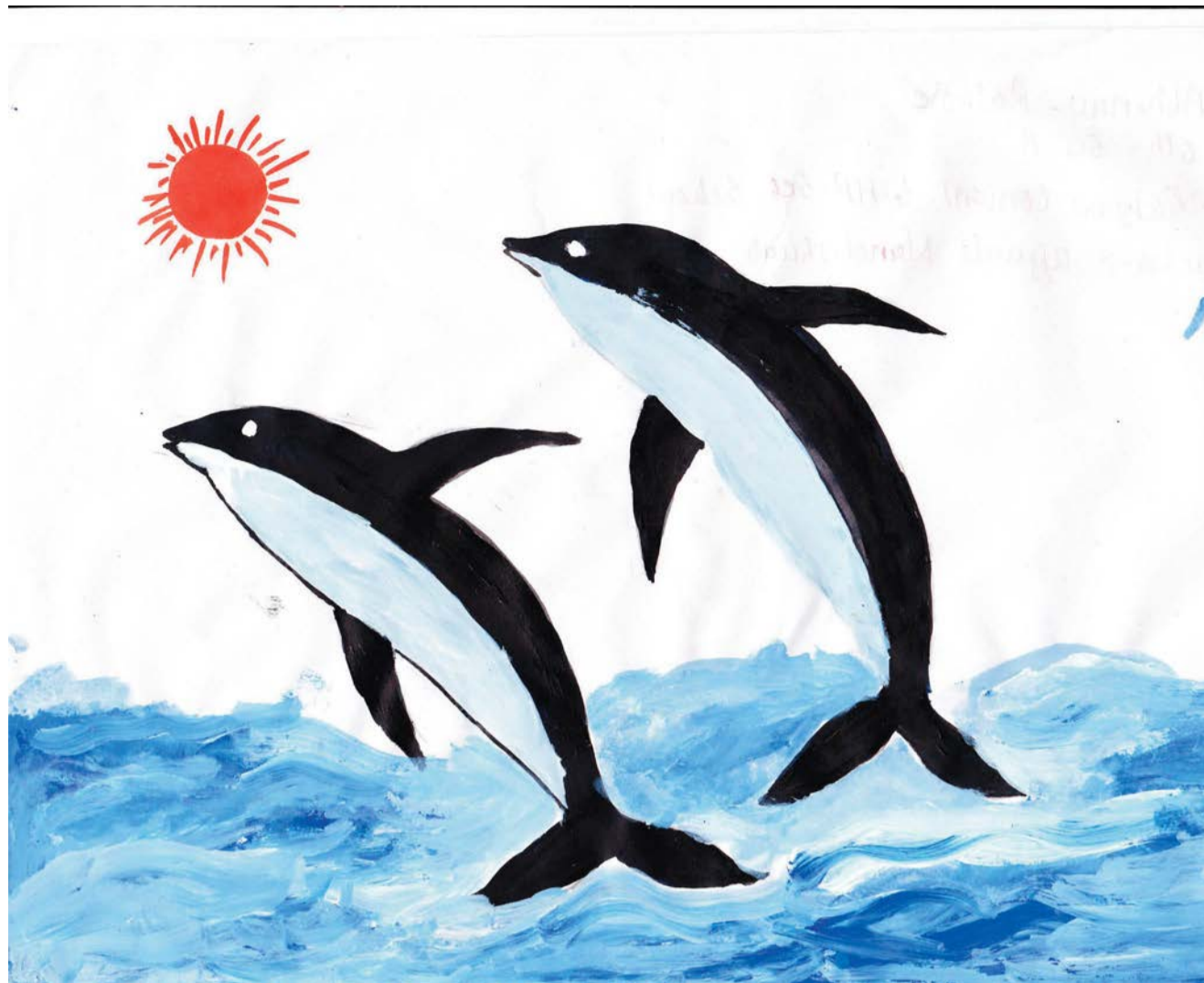
TABISHH What will you do there?

SHYAM BABU Sir, I want to meet Shahrukh Khan (a film star.)

TABISHH You like Shahrukh? Which movie of his have you watched?

SHYAM BABU Chennai EHpress.

TABISHH Chennai EHpress is not yet released you might have seen the trailer. Who else would you



Like to meet there.

SHYAM BABU Salman Khan and Amitabh Bachchan (film stars).

TABISHH Amitabh is Auite old

SHYAM BABU He might be old, but he brings out good movies.

TABISHH Who else?

SHYAM BABU These three only.

TABISHH Where would you like to visit in Bombay. Do you know the ocean is there.

SHYAM BABU Swimming pools too.

TABISHH There are swimming pools in Bhopal.

SHYAM BABU I have not seen them. I would also watch a movie in a big Talkies.

TABISHH You have not watched a movie in a talkies at Bhopal?

SHYAM BABU I have.

TABISHH Which one?

SHYAM BABU ABCD.

TABISHH The one which we showed to all the children of Chingari. Was it the first time you had seen talkies?

SHYAM BABU Yes

TABISHH What else will you do in

Bombay?

SHYAM BABU et the autograph of Amitabh Bachchan.

TABISHH Wouldn't you like to meet any heroines?

SHYAM BABU Sir, heroines are bad.

TABISHH row up a little and you'll start liking heroines more.

SHYAM BABU Sir, I would like to meet Sonakshi Sinha (actress).

TABISHH Which movies of hers have you have watched?

SHYAM BABU Rani tu main Ra:a i.e. Son of Sardar and Rowdy Rathore. You're ' ueen I'm King.

TABISHH Would you go to the beach?

SHYAM BABU Yes. I would play in the water. You take a photograph, I would en:oy myself.

TABISHH Why must I take pictures, I should also en:oy myself.

SHYAM BABU You also en:oy, Sir, we will hire a photographer.

TABISHH Do you know there is a house in Bombay shaped like a shoe?

SHYAM BABU I would like to visit that.

**TABISHH** Ok, you said you like Sonakshi Sinha, what do you like about her?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, I like her smile.

**TABISHH** And what do you like in Shahrukh Khan?

**SHYAM BABUH** He acts well and his movies are good.

**TABISHH** Which movie of his have you seen, as Chennai EHpress is not yet released?

**SHYAM BABUH** Jab tak hai Jaan. I like the songs i.e. Challa ki Labda phire and IshA Shawa.

**TABISHH** Katrina Kaif was also in that movie, don't you like her?

**SHYAM BABUH** No.

**TABISHH** Why.

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir I don't like her.

**TABISHH** What do you like in Amitabh Bachchan?

**SHYAM BABUH** His style and his way of speaking.

**TABISHH** Do you watch Kaun Banega Crorepati? (Who Wants To Be A Millionaire in its Indian form, that inspired Slumdog Millionaire.)

**SHYAM BABUH** Yes

**TABISHH** What happens in it?

**SHYAM BABUH** They've stopped showing it.

**TABISHH** If you win a crore of rupees (LTAA,AAA), what would you do with it?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, first I would make my house.

**TABISHH** Where.

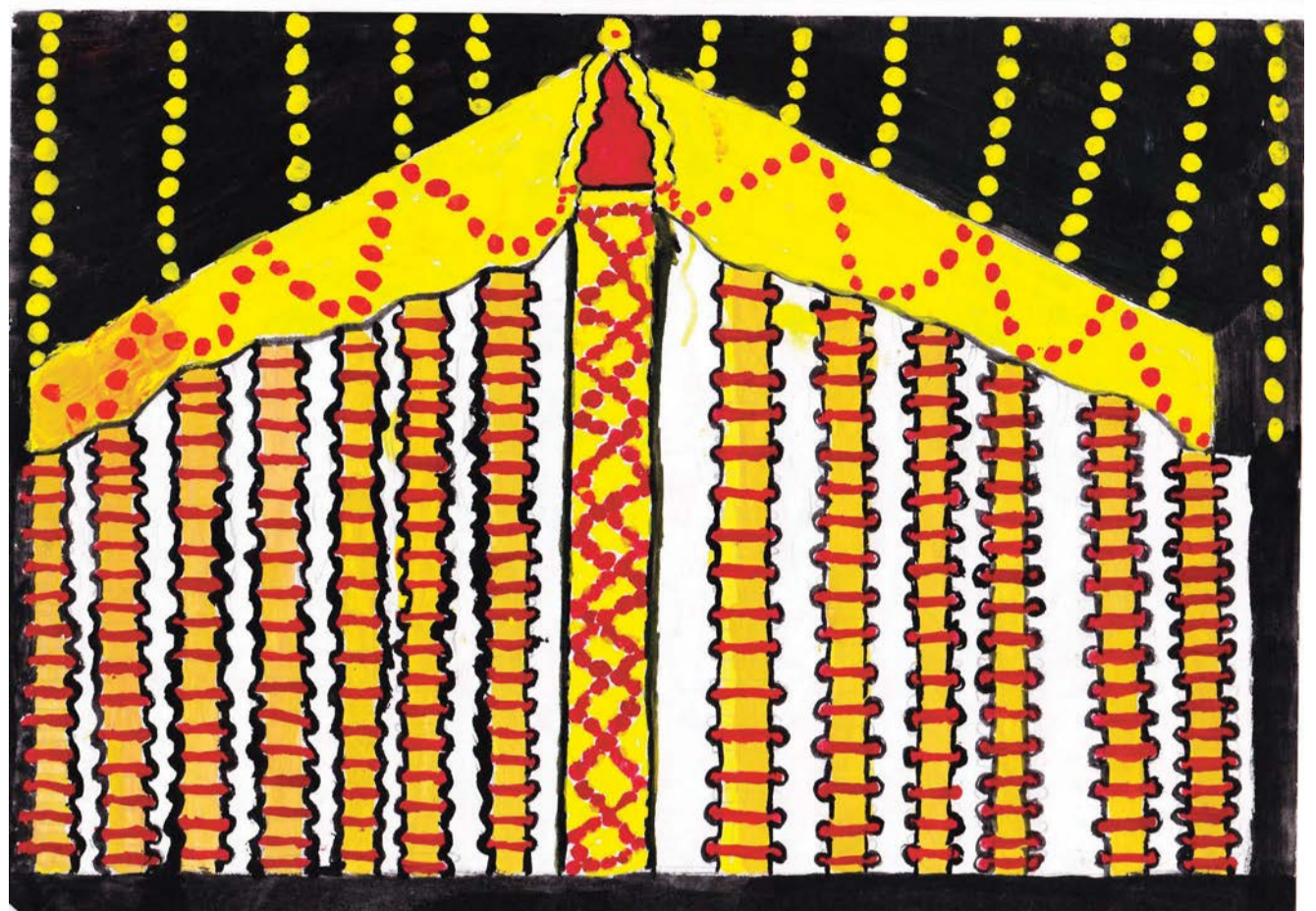
**SHYAM BABUH** Sir :ust where I live at present, but a house of cement, and bricks.

**TABISHH** So, that you don't have problems in the rain. What else?

**SHYAM BABUH** I'd get a water pipe.

**TABISHH** Why, is the government not providing a water pipe?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, they have given water to many nearby houses but



not to my house.

**TABISHH** What else?

**SHYAM BABUH** I'd give everyone at Chingari with a toy vehicle.

**TABISHH**, ery good. And?

**SHYAM BABUH** And clothes and dolls for the girls.

**TABISHH** Ok, so toy car for boys and dolls for girls, what about giving them something to eat?

**SHYAM BABUH** Yes sir, I will make a feast of samosas, :alebis, poha and mithai (sweets).

**TABISHH** There'd still be a lot of money left.

**SHYAM BABUH** I would distribute it to Chingari.

**TABISHH** Won't you buy anything for yourself?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, I would buy a laptop for myself. Sir, I will download songs from internet and would play it as a DJ.

**TABISHH** You have not brought Sura: Bhaiya's DJ card? (see p.W)

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, water is filled near Sura: bhai's house.

**MINAKSHIH** You could have worn slippers and gone there.

**SHYAM BABUH** It is Auite muddy also.

**MINAKSHIH** So, I would have gone.

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, her house is near to Sura: Bhaiya's house.

**TABISHH** You are both neHt door neighbours. Sura: Bhaiya's house would almost be eAuidistant from your houses. Do bring his card. We need to send it to England to show them.

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, I would make a DJ vehicle and would also buy horses and lights (he call it batti, basically they are portable lights used in marriage processions).

**TABISHH** What will you do with it?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, I would use it during marriage season and hire boys to assist in this work.

**TABISHH** You have a full business plan.

**SHYAM BABUH** Yes

**MINAKSHIH** You should hire both boys and girls.

**SHYAM BABUH** No, girls won't be hired.

**TABISHH** Why?

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, boys tease them.

**TABISHH** So, what. Don't you know it's a crime to tease a girl? If you find someone teasing a girl, you can give him to the police.

**SHYAM BABUH** Sir, when I start the DJ, I will call you first and foremost to download the songs.

TABISHh Would you pay me?

SHYAM BABUh Yes.

TABISHh How much?

SHYAM BABUh Thousand rupees N  
no, however much you ask.

TABISHh You were saying you'd  
give me a thousand rupees.

SHYAM BABUh No, sir two lakhs  
(two hundred thousand) rupees.  
No, two thousand rupees.

TABISHh You have taken my pay  
to two lakhs and directly low-  
ered it to two thousand rupees.

SHYAM BABUh Sir, I would give  
you two thousand rupees.

TABISHh What else will you do?

SHYAM BABUh I would play the  
speakers at such a volume that  
the whole vehicle would start  
shaking. I would also put in a  
machine and a generator.

TABISHh What for?

SHYAM BABUh Sir, don't you know,  
a DJ runs on a generator.

TABISHh What else is needed?

SHYAM BABUh A machine is used  
along with a big electric board  
with a pointer in it. And we need  
to press the button and start the

laptop. They play half-half songs.

TABISHh Which song do you like  
most?

SHYAM BABUh Isha Shawa.

TABISHh What do you like most in  
that song?

SHYAM BABUh Katrina has danced  
well in that song.

TABISHh Just now you were saying  
that you don't like Katrina and  
now you are saying that you like  
her dance. I have a recording of  
your voice saying this. These two  
statements are contradictory.

SHYAM BABUh Sir, I like her dance  
but not her personality.

TABISHh You :ust like the smile  
of Sonakshi?

SHYAM BABUh She also dances  
well.

TABISHh You have seen her song.  
Chintata chita chita, what are  
your views on that

SHYAM BABUh I like that also.

TABISHh Which other heroine, do  
you like eHcept Sonakshi

SHYAM BABUh Karishma

TABISHh Karishma? Is it Karishma  
or Kareena?

SHYAM BABUh Sir, Kareena.

TABISHh Karishma Kapoor is the  
elder sister of Kareena Kapoor.  
She used to do movies during  
our time. Ok, even after making  
a house, distributing the toy car  
in Chingari and doing other  
things, still money would be left.  
What would you do with that  
money?

SHYAM BABUh Sir, we would buy a  
loading vehicle. We will load  
material in it and will do that  
business. And also buy two bikes  
and a car for me.

TABISHh For whom would you buy  
the two bikes?

SHYAM BABUh For my two  
brothers.

TABISHh So, your brothers would  
be riding bikes and you alone  
would be moving around in a  
car?

SHYAM BABUh No, Mummy and  
Papa would accompany me.

TABISHh I feel this investment  
would spend all the money.

SHYAM BABUh Yes.

TABISHh Ok, now I feel you  
should go to class for your  
studies.

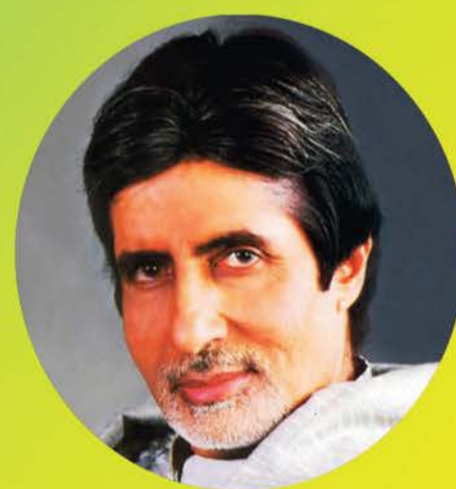
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SHAH RUKH KHAN



SHYAM BABU



AMITABH BACHCHAN

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