



# SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN (SOCH)

*“Their Stories in our words”*

Case Studies



**[www.sochforchildren.org](http://www.sochforchildren.org)**

### Case-1

**Bablu** (*not real name*), 13 years old boy from Chaibasa, Jharkhand. He belongs to a poor tribal family. SOCH staff found him when he was sitting at platform no 1 at Bhubaneswar railway station dated on **15/3/2013**. In that time he was talking with a passenger. After the passenger walked away, staff felt some doubt & interacted with child, then got to know that he came to Bhubaneswar with his villagers. Child was very dirty and feeling hungry. Then SOCH staff told him about SOCH work and assured to him for surely helps. Then the child became agreed to come to shelter.



In the shelter staff provides him food and cloth. After some time counsellor again talked with the child, then got to know that he went to a fair in his village with his villagers after that they planned to visit Bhubaneswar for work & they boarded a train from Sonua railway station and came to Bhubaneswar. When they reached at Bhubaneswar that was the night time, his villagers stolen his mobile phone and walked away. When he getup in the morning he didn't found them and child became blank where to go. In platform he spends 2 days in wandering and begging to sustain his life but could not reach to his home. Child was neither knows any contact number nor his proper address, he shared only his village and railway station name from where he got the train.

As per child's village name staff searched in internet, then find out the information that he belongs to Jharkhand. Then staff contacted to Sonua police station and gave all information about child. The inspector was very co-operative and assured to us that he will find his parents. Next day the police succeed to trace child's address and informed to his parents. After getting the information about the child his mother became very happy.

After one day his mother came to SOCH shelter with valid documents. When his mother saw her child, she started crying and hugged him. Bablu is out of home from 12 days and she was searching him everywhere. She told that he is single son in their family; the child's father was dead when he was not born. So, she loves him very much. Bablu was reunion to his family on **15<sup>th</sup> March 2013** and happily send him with his mother.

Counsellor had counselled the child's mother for sending him to school for his bright future and make him remember the proper address of his house, which may help him in future.

### Case-2

#### **"Sometime difficult situation force a child to run away from his house"**

**Manas** (*not real name*) a 13 years old boy studying in 5th standard run away from his home, Kolunga village of Sundargarh District, Odisha. He was found by SOCH staff at Bhubaneswar Railway station on platform No- 1 on 7th March 2013 at evening 5.30 PM. He was standing silently at the platform as an unknown child, Everything became new for him and he can't know what to do and where he will go? At that time the staff interacted with him but he didn't tell anything only told a sentence that he is an orphan child. SOCH staff told him everything about our work and also shows him the identity card and also promised him for sure help and brought him to shelter.



As he was hungry, at shelter the staff provided him foods and place to have rest. Then he spends some time in shelter and staff made him comfortable to open up and shared everything about himself and his family. Firstly the child told that he is an orphan child, and he was living with his maternal brother, but his maternal brother taught him some anti-social activity, so for that he left his home but his dress up

and way of taking cannot convince the counsellor to believe on his words, so staff tactfully changed the counselling procedure and make him understand, regarding the bad impact of runaway and hazardous of platform life.

After listening to all these consequences, he realizing the things and told that he and his friends had gone to the river for bathing purpose but in between the way his friend throw him a stone and he got angry upon his friend and suddenly he also throw a stone to his friend but it gave a serious injury. After that his friend's family gave threaten to Manas. So in fear of being scolded by his father he run away from his home without his parents concerned. After hearing all these, staff provided him an application where he shared his father's contact number..

As per the phone No. the staff contacted to his father and gave the information about him but his father doubted to this matter and also informed to the Local police station. His father reached at shelter on the date of 9 March 2013. He became very happy to saw his son. And told that Manas is the younger son of his parents, everybody loves him because of his good behaviour and studies. After he got missing his father logged a missing case in his local police station. Then staff had the parents counselling session with his father, where make him understand that scolding to the child is not the solution rather understanding the child is the solution. Then the child was reunion to his family on 9th March 2013. So in happiness his father gave cold drinks treat to his son as well as to all staffs

### Case-3

Rahul a 14 years old boy studying in 5th standard ranaway from his home which is in Mahuda village of Dhanbad district of Jharkhand. He was found by SOCH staff at Bhubaneswar Railway station on platform no 1 on 13th Feb. 2013 during evening 5:30 PM .Rahul was standing silently at the platform while the staff interacting with him, Rahul started shouting loudly and refused to come with the staff. Many passengers gathered around and started inquiring about the matter. Then staff showed his identity card and assured them about his identity and work with runaway children. Then they became sure that the child will be safe. But the child became so nervous during that period and in that situation the SOCH staff rescued to the child and brought him to shelter.



As he was nervous in shelter the staff provided him comfort zone by sitting beside him and make him clam down. The child was not in proper dress and was having a mobile phone and rupees 100 in his pocket. Then the child became opened up and shared why he ran away from his home? One day he was not interest to go to his school so his mother scolded and beat him & restrict him for playing with his friends and forced him to study so he ran away from home. But when he was running away from his home at that time he had stolen rupees 500 his uncle's mobile phone. Although he had a mobile phone but that mobile was on switch off mode. At shelter the staff put the phone for charged and got a call from that phone and communicates all the matter to other end. After staying one day at shelter his uncle came to shelter along with his neighbour. His uncle was very happy to see his nephew. His family members are very caring and also lost hope to find him as he was missing more than four days for that they lodged a FIR at local police station. After that we advised to his uncle that to take care of him and spent some time with him and also allowed him some time for playing so that his mind will be changed & relaxed. Then on 15th Feb 2013 at 10 AM the staff handover the child to his uncle. In happiness his uncle gave sweets to other shelter kids and staffs.

#### Case-4

Rintu Patra (not real name) a 14 years old boy child was spotted at plat form no1 at Bhubaneswar railway station on 1st March 2013 during 12.15 PM .The child was dressed well and having a lodge bag in his hand, looking here and there and bit confused where to go? When SOCH staff tried to interacted with him the child was very nervous and he can't express anything to the staff. hence Rintu showed a valid ticket from Bhubaneswar to Mumbai and also convinced to the staff for go to Mumbai with his friend and told that he came here with his brother & his brother had gone to outside for other work. Then staff waited there with him at station but nobody came in that period. When the SOCH staff tried to know about his problem, but in that cased he refused to have a talk with the staff, and then staff tried to build a good rapport with him by showing his identity card and make him understand the bad impact of runaway. Later the child agreed with the proposal of staff and the staff cancelled his ticket and brought him to shelter.



At shelter Rintu was very silent; he didn't talk to anyone in the beginning. Then staff talked him at shelter and made him comfortable and gave him food because the child was hungry .Then the child told that he is belong to Jamboo village which comes under Mahakalpada police station of Kendrapara district. His father Amiya Patra is a contractor and his mother Janaki Patra is a housewife and he is having an elder sister. Rintu had an interest for visiting to Mumbai City where his maternal brother is working. He doesn't remember any phone number of his friend who came with him gave his father's number. As per the contact number the staff contacted to his parent and gave all information about our organization and work.

After getting the information his father came here along with his uncle. He became very happy to saw his child in safe condition. His father had lost his hope that how he will get his son and also spend one day in search his son. He told that he sold his cycle to a shopkeeper at rupees 800, when he was returning from tuition, then he had come to here with his friend without informing anybody. He doesn't have interest for study and always spent his time with his friends. The staff makes him understands regarding the importance of education and the value of parents in his life and handover the child to his father on 1st March 2013 during evening hour at 6 PM.

#### Case-5

SK.Zayid a 13 years old boy From Andhra Pradesh had left home with the fear of being beaten up by his father on 3rd March 2013. His father Abutalem is an auto driver and his mother owned a fast- food stall. Zayid had stolen Rs-500/- from that fast-food stall. Zayid was regularly continuing his study, but after returning from school he always spent his time with his friends .He did not helped to his parents for their works. By seeing that activity his father scolded to Zayid. The child felt guilty and left his home and landed at Bhubaneswar station on 8 March 2013.After reaching at station he was loitering on the platform no-1, when outreach the staff identified and brought him to shelter on 8th March 2013.



At first the child did not told anything, after reaching at shelter. The staff taken some time to pacifying him and makes him understand the danger of platform life. Then the child was engaged at shelter in some games and in between the game Zayid became opened up and shared everything about himself and his family and he also gave his father's mobile No. then as per the phone No. the staff contacted to his father and gave all information about him and our work.

Zayid is the single son of his parents. After his runaway his parents searched him everywhere, even if his father had also come to Odisha for searching to him but he didn't found to Zayid. They spent more money for searching him. When his father got the information at that time, He became irritate and directly refused the staff to take his son then staff motivated to his father and convinced him to come to the shelter.

After staying 3 days at shelter his mother came to shelter. His mother was extremely happy, when she saw her son as she had lost in finding her son, though he was missing from 5 days. At shelter the child was counselled regarding the value of education and the importance of parent's value in life. Then he was returned to his family on 11th march 2013.

#### Case-6

"I stole money from my house for gambling."

A 16 years old bold boy named D. Balia (not real name) was travelling along in the train. He was well dressed and looking smart by his look, but suddenly somebody found that child and interacted with him and found that he was bit confused. Some body was no one; she was SOCH staff who identified that child from the distance and talk to him. After continuous interaction she found that, he had stolen four thousand rupees from his house and the fear of get scolded from his mother bring him to khurda station. After finding the reason of run away from the house and knowing the vulnerable condition SOCH staff brought that child to the shelter.



Later in the shelter the child got freshen up and have some food. Meanwhile the SCOH staff contact his family and call his mother to the shelter. When she reached the shelter, then SCOH staff counsel his mother and share the facts related to Balia which was totally unknown to his mother. After listening to all these conversation she realized the fault in her end and promise in front of SCOH staff that she will take proper care of Balia and will show him the proper way in his life. Finally after filling the formalities, she took Balia with her and it seems that both were happy.

"I don't want to study; I want to play with my friends"

Education has often been linked to the development in a society. It makes some one self- reliant; develop skills, knowledge and confidence to survive in this society. It is the dream of every parent to see their children doing best in studies. However, this is the one side of a coin, in the other side a child may not have interest in education, and might be excellent in some other activities. But sometimes parents were unable to recognize the hidden qualities of the child a pressurize them to concentrate on studies and do excel in that, due to which children feel they were pressurized and unable to build an healthy relationship with their parents.

### Case-7

Here was a true story of a child named Dinesh Reddy (not real name) of 11 years old and belongs to Vishakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. He was in class 6th. He was very conscious about his studies. But in the other hand Dinesh want to go outside to play with his friends. But his parents were thinking playing outside will ruin his career and his will not have good marks in his exams. In coming months he found that Dinesh grades were not reached his expectations, due to which show his anger to Dinesh and scolded him badly. After got badly scolded by his father Dinesh decided to leave his house and will go away somewhere, where nobody will tell him to study and then he took a train and reached to Bhubaneswar Station. After he reached Bhubaneswar station, he was spotted by our SOCH staff. SOCH staff found that, the child was alone and bit confused where to go. When our staff interacted with him, he was unable to understand due to language barrier. Then SOCH staff brought that child to the shelter, where the child feel comfortable and have his food. After that the SOCH staff makes a call to SATHI (another organization in Bangalore working with children) and then the SATHI staff interacted with the child over phone. They asked him the reasons of leaving the house and along with that explain him the negative impacts of stations and how this can be harmful for a children. After continuous interaction, the child shared his father number with the SOCH staff. Then SOCH staff called his father and informs him that his child is now safe. Next day his father came to the SOCH office after seeing his son in safe condition he was so happy, which we can saw in his father's face.



Later the SOCH staff counsel his father and made him understand that some time excessive discipline and pressurization for academic performance will create negative circumstances and which is not good for the health and overall development of the child. It was important to understand the child's interests & inclinations and build a positive space to express him. His father understands his fault and promise in front of the SOCH staff that in future he will not pressure his child.

After filling the formalities he took Dinesh with him. Both father and son were very happy. After few months when SOCH staff called his father to know about the Dinesh, he told that, Dinesh is now doing good in studies and not only that he is very happy and feeling comfortable to express himself in front of his parents.

### Case-8

“I ran away from the home to visit Puri”

Gautam Nutan (not real name) a 14 year old boy belongs to a middle class family background lives with his parents at BJP Nagar, Bhubaneswar. His father Mr. Nabaghana Swain is a driver while his mother is a tailor. He has one brother and sister. In spite of focusing on his education and spending some productive time with his family, Gautam loves to wander here and there. Earlier he had attempted many times to run away from his house. This time he took this attempt ran away from home due to the attraction of city style. Hence, as per his plan, he reached at his destination point i.e. Puri with an amazing state of mind. However, he spent the day with his friend and also stayed at his friend's home. In the next day while he was returning from Puri, the SOCH staff contacted the child at Khurda Road Railway Station on



19th March 2015. But during that time he was not ready to disclose his matter rather he showed some unusual behavior and again boarded in a train.

Without wasting time, the staff also boarded in that same train and convinced him there itself. The staff assured him for sure help and supports him in reaching his home. Finally, the child reached at Bhubaneswar Railway Station with staff. Yet he had not revealed his sufferings with anyone of the staff. At Bhubaneswar Railway Station the child feel comfortable and started the conversation with the SOCH staff, that without his parent's knowledge he had run away from home to visit Puri. Therefore, the staff made him understood regarding the negative consequences of platform life and in the mean while he realized his mistakes and shared his parents contact no. and his home address. After finishing all the formalities, the staff contacted to his parents.

After getting information, his mother came to Govt. Railway Police station immediately and became happy after seeing his son. As per the statement of his mother it was cleared that; due to some problem in his mind sometimes he shows this type of unnatural behaviour. But it was the first time for him where he did not return back to home on the same day. Thus, we gave our best effort to search him in our surroundings but unable to found him. His mother also expressed her heartily gratitude towards the SOCH staff for their cooperation and support to trace his son. Lastly the staff handover the child to his mother with the knowledge of GRP on the same day i.e. 19th March 2015. In the first follow up on 15th April 2015, his father told that the child is continuing his study whereas during the second follow up was on 4th July 2015, his father told that the child is working at home with the knowledge of parents.

#### Case-9

“He said lie to the SOCH staff”

Once SOCH staff was in Bhubaneswar railway station and meet a child named Nabeen Das (not real name). He was a 12 years old boy from Balesore of Mayurbhanj District of Odisha. He was sitting alone. Meanwhile SOCH staff pointed out him from the distance and came to him and started formal conversation. During the conversation he found to know that, the child was waiting for his uncle, who is staying near to Bhubaneswar railway station. But after long waiting in the station no one came to meet that child and SOCH staff analysis that, this child might be saying lie. Then SOCH staff took that child to the shelter, where the child get freshen up and had some food. After few hours the counselor again counsels him to know about him and it was strange to know that, the boy tells another story about his family. He told that his is an ice-cream seller and mother is a domestic worker. Nabeen is having a small sister and all the concerns and love was given to his sister only and he feels that he was neglected by his parents. Then the counselor understands that he is very smart boy and telling lie to the SOCH staff. Then the SOCH staff contacted his father and informs him regarding his son. After two days his father came to SOCH office, Bhubaneswar. When the counselor started interacting with his found, he was shocked to know that, Nabeen is the only son of the parent and both father and mother and love and care from him lot, but in the other hand Nabeen was very mischievous and disobedient in home. Nabeen used to steal the soap from his house and was selling them outside and this thing was caught by his grandmother and many times he had taken money from the house. After listening to all these matter, then the counselor, counsel his father and Nabeen.

After long term counseling, his father filled up all the formalities and took Nabeen with him. In the next month when SOCH staff was doing the follow up over, it was found that, Nabeen was again run away from his house and in the next follow up SOCH staff came to know that Nabeen was at home.

### Case-10

**“SOCH was a ray of hope for me”**

Liza Padhi (name changed) was a teenager girl of 13 years. She belongs to Haldipara Village of Ganjam District of Odisha. She belongs to a vulnerable family. Due to bad financial condition her parent stops her education after standard 4th and after that she started working in household works to add some portion in her family income. Liza was leading an unhappy and miserable life. Her both father and mother was beggar and his father was a drunkard and spends all his income in alcoholic consumption. Liza was not at all happy with this life style. Her parents were unable to give her that love, security and healthy environment which is needed for a child. Lastly Liza was fed-up with these entire continuous family problems and always being beaten by her father. So decided to leave her house and go somewhere else to start her life.



Then she ran away from her house and started staying on the railway platform. She spends her one and half years in staying alone on railway platform. For her survival she involved herself in some unwanted jobs like, rag picking, sweeping in the trains & platforms and begging. Side by side in this tender age she was addicted other harmful substances. Earlier she was rescued by the Child Line staff, and child line staff sends her home, but after few days again she ran away from her home.



This time she was staying with a lady who was a beggar and she involves Liza in begging and other unethical activities. All these activities were not accepted by Liza. She was feeling very distressed due to her bad living conditioners. After so many struggles Liza came to the SOCH staff at Bhubaneswar railway station. She was familiar about SOCH and its activities. She thought SOCH staff will show her the right way to live a good life. Then SOCH staff rescued and brought her to shelter home. In shelter home she was again counseled by the SOCH staff, it was found that she was not interested to go back to her home, rather she wanted to somewhere else and to restart her education.

After proper counseling of the child and filling all the formalities, same day SOCH staff referred her to the Child Line center for further proceedings.

### Case-11

**“Education is punishment for me”**

Saukat Imran (not real name) a 12-year-old boy was studying in a residential Madrasa at Kendrapara district of Odisha. His family was staying at Cuttack. One day, Imran ran away from Madrasa after being beaten by his teacher. While leaving the Madrasa campus, he had decided to go back to his village but on his way he changed his mood and started roaming around from one station to another for six days and fortunately reached Bhubaneswar railway station. While wandering at the station, he was spotted by a SOCH staff.



Imran was escorted to the SOCH shelter, where he got freshened up and had some food. After which his counseling was started, he claimed that his parents were aware about his visit to Bhubaneswar and one of his uncle is working as a cobbler in this place. It was observed that Imran is actually a very smart kid and very friendly in nature, so the counseling method was changed by the SOCH staff, and then he revealed the truth about his escape from the madrasa and his solitary adventures during the last few days. The Staff then tried to explain Imran about the hazards of platform life and other risks associated with it. Then Imran told that he is not all interested in studies and that's the reason he eloped from the Madrasa. He further informed that while in Cuttack, he was very irregular at school hence his father enrolled him in a residential school Madrasa, where he felt like a prisoner. After much counseling, the child agreed to return home on the condition of not going back to that Madrasa.

The next day Imran's father and elder brother came to the shelter. His father expressed his helplessness and said that even after providing everything within his limits, Imran had become disobedient. He further informed that they had been searching Imran for last six days but failed in that, and by the help of SOCH they got their son and for this, he thanked the SOCH staffs.

Later the child was explained about the importance of education in life and in other hand counselor have some discussion with Imran's father, how to handle Imran in these situation. Then his father filled all formalities and we allow Imran to go with his father.

#### Case-12

#### **“It is a duty of every Human Being to help a child in need”**

A child, cute look and happy accompanying his or her parents is adored and noticed by all, but a child somewhat not at par with the societal norms of good looks, is not only ignored by all but also found verbally or physically abused at many instances. As a part of a responsible and civilized society we human beings must try to bring smiles on faces of such child!!

This is a story about Sindhi (not real name) a 13 years old boy, spotted by a SOCH staff. The boy was sleeping alone on platform No 1 at Bhubaneswar Railway station. His was ill and his condition was not good. When SOCH staff approached Sindhi, he felt nervous and due to which he was unable to communicate his situation.



The staff tried his best to become friendly and have conversation with Sindhi, but the child was unable to provide any information about his parents and residential address. After so many unsuccessful tries, it was very difficult to collect information from Sindhi. Then staff took Sindhi and started searching his parents on the platform and nearby areas. In the absence of any clues about his parents or any other relatives, the SOCH staff decided to bring Sindhi to SOCH shelter.

In the shelter, Sindhi took his bath and had some food. Meanwhile, it was observed that he was not interacting with others and was sitting alone. After a long counseling the child revealed his mother's name i.e. Usha rani, who is a house wife. After continuous counseling it was found that the child had some psychological disorder and needed medical attention. So, SOCH referred the child to child line for further care and protection on the same day.

Just like Sindhi there are many other children who need attention, support and love from the society. As human beings we are morally obliged to help such innocent boys and girls and safeguard the future of our country!!

### Case-13

Babul Pal a 15 years old boy from Chungunighai village of Ganjam district. He dropped his school in 8th class and sitting idle at home. He was always being pressurized by his father to work instead of sitting idle at home. He started working at Cuttack with his brother –in – law as a salesman in a shop and was earning rupees 2000 per month. In a short period of time, he worked quite well and provided financial support to his family. However, one day, instead of working in the shop, he spent time roaming around with his friends. He was beaten by his father for this behaviour and in anger; Bablu ran away from home and landed at Bhubaneswar railway station. Just after getting down at Bhubaneswar railway station, he was rescued and brought to the shelter by SOCH staff on 16th April 2014.



The child was very nervous when he reached the shelter. The staff provided him with space to open up and spent some time with him for building rapport. Before counselling, the staff observed that the child is very well behaved. After staying one day at shelter, he was relaxed and became comfortable and started sharing his problem. Bablu revealed that he belongs to a very poor family. Due to the poor financial conditions, his father was unable to provide proper education and rather pressurized him to work. Hence, he was working in Cuttack with his father's knowledge and was beaten by him if he did not go for work. Bablu did not like his father's behaviour towards him and in a fit of rage, he ran away from home without his parents' knowledge. After listening to his story, the staff explained the importance of parents in child's life as well revealed the status about the present scenario of old children (Those who are staying at the platform for a longer period of time and are already addicted with many substances). The child then realized that running away from home was an inappropriate behaviour and showed his willingness to go back home. He also shared his father's contact number.

His parents were contacted over phone, after receiving information about his child's. After getting the information his father came to shelter along with his brother-in-law. His father felt very happy after seeing his son as he missing from last two days. Despite their best efforts, they were unable to trace him. At the shelter, the father admitted his mistake for hitting the child and promised that he would never commit such mistakes in the future. The staff explained that an adolescent needs understanding and affection during this phase and finally the child was happily reunited with his family on 17th April 2014.

In the first follow-up which was on 20th May 2014, his mother told that the child is working at home with the knowledge of parents whereas during the second follow up the number of his parents was not reachable.

(\*Name has been changed.)

#### Case-14

##### **“The city life motive me to leave my house”**

Bikash Sahoo (not real name), who was 15 year old and studying in Benagaon Vidya Vihar. The glittering and fantasy life of city motivate him to run away from his house. But mean while he reached the Bhubaneswar Railway Station. Same day during the visit to the railway station the SOCH staff found that child on platform. The SOCH staff tried to have interaction with that child, but the child was unable to communicate anything to the SOCH staff and due to which the staff was not clear about his situation. After spending some time with the child the SOCH staff realized that, Bikash was a special child, who is deaf and dumb and that's why all the communication was on sign. However, after that the staff brought that child to the shelter. After reaching the shelter the child was not feeling comfortable and started crying, observing this negative behavior, the SOCH staffs started playing with that child and to develop a friendly relationship with him.



It was observed by the staff that, Bikash was wearing a good dress and he was having a school bag with him. Then in the school bag the SOCH staff found a disability certificate, and from that certificate SOCH got the information about his parents and from where he belongs to. His father's name is Mr. Gobinda Chandra Sahoo from Tankula Village under Jankia Police station of Khurda district of Odisha. Through that information, the SOCH staff contacted Jankia Police station and inform his parent about his son.

After two days Bikash's parent reached SOCH shelter home. Then his parents shared their situation, how they were worried about Bikash and searching him from long time. His father is plumber and he is working at Delhi. After getting this message of his son he came to his house and started searching his son. They told that Bikash is very less acquainted to other places, his daily routine only involves going to school. When Bikash's mother interacted with him, she came to know and inform us that, after leaving house he went to Puri and from Puri he took some unknown train, which brought him to Bhubaneswar.

Thus, the staff gave suggestion to his parent that they should spend time with the child so that the child should not think of going outdoors without the permission of the parent. Finally after clearing all formalities the child was happily reunited with his family.

#### Case-15

##### **“Twins Brother Story”**

Khirod Badset & Kiran Badset (not real name) is twin's brothers of 14years age. They both were studying in class 7th standard of Govt. High School, Unit-2, at BBSR and originally they were from Tumudibandha (Sagadia sahi) village under Tumudibandha police station of Kandhamal district from Odisha.



One day SOCH staff was doing their regular visits and at that movement the staff came across that two twin's children on Bhubaneswar railway station. The staff found that these twin's brothers were looking confused and roaming here and there. After observing them the SOCH staff interacted with them. During the interaction period the SOCH staff came to know that, they both were run away from their residential hostel without informing anyone in hostel. After listening to the whole incident, the SOCH's staff informs them about the hazardous effects of platform life and brought them to the shelter.

After reaching the shelter both the bothers had their food and both the brother were looking relived and this can be seen from their behavior and after few hours they engaged themselves in outdoor games. When both the brothers were comfortable with all and had developed the friendly relationship with the staff, then the second round of counseling was started, to know more about them and their family background.

So after further counseling, the SOCH staff came to know learnt that they belong to a middle class family. Their father is a teacher and her mother was a house wife. They were having two more siblings and they were staying with their parents. For better education their parent sends both of them to this Bhubaneswar residential school. But in hostel both the bothers were not happy because of poor food quality and they were having the difficulties they adjust themselves in hostel. Many times they had complained this thing to their father, but father didn't take any positive step on it. Hence, they ran away from the hostel without informing anyone in hostel & their parents. After the conversation the staff got the contact number of their mother.

After three days, their mother came to shelter along with their cousin sister. After seeing her sons in safe and good place she become so happy and in happiness her eyes fill with tears. Then she describes the condition of his house and these two brothers were very disobedient at house and due which their father sends them to residential school ate Bhubaneswar. After getting the information their run away information from the hostel, we all were panic and searching both of them. After listening to these entire situations, the SOCH staff explained the value and importance of education and how parents only thinks and for their children and this should be accepted by children for better life in future.

After getting her two children in safe condition she was so grateful upon the SOCH staff and their selflessness works towards children and fills all the formalities and took the twin's brother with her. Sometime small effort from our hand can bring happiness to a family.

In the first follow up on 23rd August 2014, his father told that both the brothers is continuing their study at home where as during the second follow up on 7th November 2014, his sister also told that they are continuing properly their study.

(Name has been changed.)

#### Case-16

#### **“I want to go Cuttack to do some wok”**

Rohit Kanhar (not real name), a 10 year old boy studying in the 5th standard is from salia sahi, Bhubaneswar district, Khurda. He and his friend purna (both hailing from the same village) were loitering on the Bhubaneswar Railway station. When outreach staff spotted them, they told them that they came here with the intention of going to Cuttack for getting some work, albeit with the permission of their family members. Yet their mysterious behavior cast a shadow of doubt upon the minds of the staff. So the staff brought them to the



SOCH shelter on 11th August 2014. Rohit was not able to adjust in the shelter and tried to run away many times from shelter. Given this mysterious behaviour of Rohit, it took time for the staff for establish a rapport with the child and make him understand about our work. By the by, the child became silent and involved himself in indoor games.

The child been smart enough become very friendly with everyone in no time. During counseling session, he said that he felt captive to stay in his home and since his parents always forced him to study as well as not allowed him outside for playing with his friends so he was seeking an opportunity to escape the confines of home. Thus he hatched a plan with his friend for getting work outside. According to the plan, he prepared himself and ran away from home without the knowledge of his parents. He wanted to go Cuttack for work purpose as it was already planned by them. But he was totally clueless about his work as well as his working environment. Thus, staff explained to child regarding the ill consequences of wandering at the station as well as the importance of education in his life. Having understood his mistakes, the child shared his contact number.

The child's parents were informed by SOCH staff and both his parents came to shelter to receive their son. They were extremely happy seeing their son in a safe place and started crying at shelter. The staff of SOCH helped the child's mother to console her. His parents revealed that it was upon the saying of his friends that the child did the mistake. They further added that notwithstanding the poor financial condition they try to fulfill his needs. Yet he remains unruly and disobedient as ever. The child upon hearing everything vowed to study hard and maintain distance from such friends. Finally the child was happily reunited to his family on 12th August 2014. Indeed it was a happy moment that again brought smile on his parents face.

In the first follow up on 29th September 2014, his grandmother told that he is idle at home where as during the second follow up on 3rd December 2014, his father also told that he is idle at home only.

(\*Name has been changed)

#### Case-17

#### **“I stole rupees 200 from my father’s packet and ran away from my house”**

A 15 year old child Hari Kumar Singh (not real name) belongs to a middle class family. He ran away from his home due to educational problem and leaving a life on the platform from last forty five days. It was on 16th January 2015 while the SOCH outreaching staff contacted the child in the platform no-1 at Bhubaneswar Railway Station. It was very confusing situation for staff for rescuing the child as he was looking like an old children as he was engaged in sweeping and begging activity in various trains.



However, during the first interaction Hari shared that he was on the platform with his mother and sister. But in the meanwhile, his mother came nearer to him for enquiring what was going on. When the SOCH staff interacted with Hari’s mother, it was strange to know that, she was not her real mother and that girl was not his real sister. Hari was staying with them from last 45 days. Later the SOCH staff informs them about organization work and with the concern brought Hari to the shelter.

After reaching shelter Hari got freshen-up, SOCH organization provides him good and clean clothes to wear. Within short period of time he became very friendly with everyone. When the SOCH staff had second round counseling session he repeated his previous story. But in the next day he was once again

counseled by SOCH staffs. This time he shared that he is the son of Mr. Sanjay Singh who is an employee at Telco Company belongs to Ranchi district of Jharkhand state where as his mother is a house wife. But due to the lack of interest on study he had stolen Rs-200/- from his father's pocket and ran away from home. Hence forth he was staying on platform with some Adivasi group who were from Jharkhad. It was surprised to know that, the child ran away from the SOCH shelter home and involve himself in begging activity.

With this counseling staff shared this case with the CWC member and according to their instruction child was referred to child line on 17th January 2015 for further care and protection and in the other side the staff was on the process of tracing his address through police as the child did not remembered his contact number. Finally somehow this father got information about his child as he had lodged a missing FIR in the police station. Thus the story of Hari ends happily when the SOCH staff reunited Hari with their parents and where Hari hoping to start to live a beautiful life again with his family.

In the first follow up on 10th February 2015, his uncle told that the child is continuing his study at home whereas during the second follow up on 8th May 2015, his uncle told that the child again ran away from home.

#### Case-18

Hemanta Mohanty:

This is a story of Nine year old \*Hemanta, who belongs to a poor family. His father Ranjan Mohanty owns a petty shop near to Bhubaneswar railway station while his mother Kuna Dei is a housewife. But due to some problem, his father was being arrested by police and sent behind the bars since last 6 months. Hence, Presently Hemanta and his siblings are living with his aunt and uncle who are rag pickers and living in Tapabana slum, Bhubaneswar in Khurda district. Despite of poverty, Hemanta and his siblings were provided education with support from his uncle. But on the particular day without informing to his aunt Hemanta landed at Bhubaneswar railway station with a poly bag for involving himself in rag picking activity and getting a pocket full of income.



SOCH team spotted him at the platform no-1 and counseled him. He was brought to SOCH shelter home with the help of one GRP staff. He was provided with cloth and food. Hemanta revealed that he has come for rag picking with the aim to provide financial support to his family. However, the child realized his mistake and took rest at shelter home. In the very next morning he went to Nandankanan, with SOCH staff for an excursion. During visit period he was extremely happy.

After staying one day at shelter his uncle came to SOCH shelter to receive him and became very happy seeing him in a safe place. They were very worried after his runaway and searched him everywhere near to his slum as well as railway station. While searching at station he got information from GRP staff about the child. SOCH staff briefed about the issues of trafficking and bad impact of station life. Finally Hemanta was happily reunited with his family on 6th Nov. 2014.

In the first follow up on 11th December 2014, his sister told that the child is continuing his study at home where as during the second follow up on 4th March 2015, his sister also told that he is properly continuing his study. (\*name has been changed)

**BISWAJEET**

Biswajeet, a twelve year old boy child, came into contact with the GRP and referred by the GRP police station on 17th July 2014 sharp at 10pm. During his interaction at GRP office he said that he was going to Puri with his father for some work and at Vijayawada while he got down for fetching water he missed the train and boarded a wrong train. Fortunately he landed at Bhubaneswar station. After coming across Biswajeet, the GRP officials explained to him the work of SOCH and were successful in bringing the child to the safe havens of SOCH for temporary shelter.



His disheveled appearance and improper dress code along with the Rs-250/- he had with him cast a shadow of doubt in the minds of the staff regarding the child. However, the staffs provided him food and clothing and soon gained the confidence of child, allaying him about any fears that he might have about SOCH. The next morning the child owned up about himself and his whereabouts. During the counseling session he said that he belongs to a poor family- his father has a small saloon while his mother is a house wife. Besides, he has two elder sisters and one elder brother. He belongs to Betauna village under Bharai police station of Bihar state. Compelled by the poor economic condition of his family, Biswajeet had to work to support his father in his profession alongside managing his studies as he was in the sixth standard. One day he did not go to his shop and was being sharply rebuked by his father. Such a sharp reprimand was too much to stomach for the child, and soon Biswajeet decided to work outside to support his family. In the mean while he was offered by someone to work in Puri and accordingly he ran away from home taking some Rs-300/- with him.

Somehow, Biswajeet managed to secure for himself a job at Puri and was paid Rs-2000/- per month. But he was not satisfied with his work and rather wanted to return back to his home. But on his way to his home he again involved himself in work at Howrah. After couple of days he left Howrah also, moving out in search for some other work. Then he was rescued by an organization and stayed at Vijayawada. After staying two month with that organization he again fled, maybe in search of some better opportunities, but luckily this time he was been rescued by GRP staffs at Bhubaneswar. After listening to the whole story the staff assured him of help and contacted the police station for his address as the child himself had no clue about his contact address.

Due to the poor condition his family took time to reach their son. Hence, after staying for about ten days his mother came to receive her son along with her neighbor. His mother expressed how worried and helpless they were ever since Biswajeet left them and ever since they had been scouring the nearby places for him. But constrained by the financial limitations they could not go further in the search for their son, becoming highly despondent. The SOCH staff advised his mother not to scold or beat the child as he is obedient and advised her to put the child back in school so that he can continue with his studies. Finally the child was happily reunited with his family on 26th July 2014.



Most importantly, it made the SOCH people equally happy that they could restore happiness in the minds of those who are kept grounded by poverty and other problems. But when in the first and second follow up time the staff didn't contacted his parents because of some network problem.

(Name has been changed)

### Case-20

#### Krushna charan

16year Krushna Charan was studying in 1st year of Dhenkanal College. He belongs to a middle class family and lives with his parents at Dhenkanal. He left his home, fearing being beaten up by his father, on 9th Sept 2014. His father owns a poultry farm. Sometimes Krushna charan spend some time in the farm, managing the farm very well, given his engagement with the farm from a young age. On the day he left, he was managing the farm in his father's absence. Suddenly one hen was been killed by a dog. Feeling helpless he ran away from home.



It was precisely around 4:30 pm in the afternoon that the outreach staff identified him in the platform no -1 at Bhubaneswar railway station. Initially, during the first interaction child told that he came to station to meet his uncle and that he had informed his parents before leaving home. But his nervousness cast a shadow of doubt in the minds of the staff. However staff convinced him about our work and brought him to our safe shelter.

After reaching at shelter the child took lunch. He was very quiet and disciplined at shelter. As time wore on, the child started sharing his problems with the staffs and after realizing his problem the child felt guilty, expressing his interest to return back to his home. He also shared his contact number. Thus, his parents were been contacted and told that the child was in the safe custody of SOCH.

His father immediately reached at shelter after getting information from SOCH. He was looking rather worried and eager to see his son. His father told that he loves his parents too much and spoke endearingly about his son. They searched for him everywhere after his runaway and wanted to go to the police station for lodging a missing FIR but before that they received the call from SOCH staff. Soon after the child was counseled as regards the importance of studying and respecting parents in one's life. They tried to prevail upon the child the idea that even if the parent's scold it's actually for one's betterment. Thus the child was happily reunited to his family on the same day only.

In the first follow up on 17th October 2014, his elder brother told that the child is continuing his study at home where as during the second follow up on 6th January 2015, his mother also told that the child is continuing his study at home.

\*Name has been changed.

### Case -21

Master Niroj Dash aged about 15 years fled from his home. He ran away from home due to attraction towards the city influenced by his peer group. But fortunately he came in contact with SOCH staff at Bhubaneswar Railway Station on 10th Dec 2014 and was rescue. During the first interaction with the child he was not willing to share his information with the staff. He very smartly responded to our staff that he is staying with his uncle near to the station premises and came here for playing in the escalator. He also gave details of the route to reach his uncle's home. However, after some while with the interaction staff explicit him regarding the ill consequence of platform life. Therefore the child left the place immediately and the staff continued his patrolling as on usual basis.-



On the same day itself while patrolling staff noticed Niroj wandering in the platform instead of returning back to home. He contacted him and tried to find out his problem. In that period he was looking very nervous and confused. This was suspected to staff to doubt upon him. Thus, staff assured him by explaining our work activities and promised him for sure help. However the child got motivated and started sharing his problem on the station premises only. In the meanwhile, he shared that he ran away from home with the influence of his friends for enjoying the train journey as well as to visit many places. But in the train accidentally his friends made a separate plan for moving towards more stations which Niroj does not liked. Hence, he decided to leave his friends on the half way itself. Finally he got down at Bhubaneswar station alone and spent two days at Bhubaneswar and Cuttack railway station respectively with only Rs-20/- in hand.

At shelter he became more open up and shared his parents contact number. Then after, they were contacted regarding their child. Followed by, sharing detail information with CWC (Child Welfare Committee) member. After getting the information his father came to shelter along with his uncle from Puri to receive his son. He was contended after seeing his son as he was missing from last 3days. His parents looked for him in many places near to their village and also informed at police station regarding the same. Having the single son they love him so much but still he did not understand his family situation as his father is working in a bus as a helper and his mother is a house wife. However, his father admired our wok and at the same time advised Niroj to pay attention to study and obey his parents. And finally the child was reunited with his family on the day itself in a very emotional sentiment.

In the first follow up on 3rd January 2015, his uncle told that the child is studying at home whereas during the second follow up on 6th April 2015, his uncle also told that the child is properly studying at home.

(\*name has been changed)

#### Case-22

\*Pintu Nayak.

Master Pintu Nayak a 14 year old boy lost his path with his friend named as Master Nishikant, by the influence of an unknown person. He belongs to Binjha village under Bandh police station of Bhadrak District. His father is a farmer where as his mother is a house wife. He has also one elder and three younger sisters. His friend also belongs to the same village. Both Pintu and his friend got lost one day when they went looking for a cricket tournament. However, they reached in their local railway station which was not very far from their home. Hence, in between the station the unknown person who looks like a cricket player helped them to board a train. Hence, they reached at Bhubaneswar Railway station where they were being helped by a lady. As a result of which the lady contacted them to GRP and later on they were referred to SOCH by GRP staff on 15th Feb 2015.



It was the evening time around 8.30pm, the child reached at SOCH shelter in a very anguish and nervous situation with his friend. Thus, the staff of SOCH made them happy at shelter. During counseling period the child shared that he was being beaten by his father as he stayed more days in his uncle's home despite concentrating on studies. In this painful situation his mother also did not support him. This gave more pain to Pintu. Hence, he made a plan with his friend to fling away from home and accordingly to the plan he did so. But his way of communication and physical appearance was more suspected to staff

so, staff kept them engage in various indoor games same while explaining the dangerous situation of platform life. However, in the very next morning the child shared his exact problem which was really happening with him. Indeed, having faith on an unknown person brought them in such difficult situation and separated them from his family. The child started crying while sharing his sufferings, so staff assured him and Nishikant for sure help. SOCH Staff tried to contact to his family as per the contact number shared by child, as the child had a mobile phone with him.

His father reached at shelter by getting information from GRP and started crying after seeing his son. His father shared that, Pintu is a good enough at school as well as in his family. Having a single son he fulfills all the dream of his parents. But this incident gave him so distress and pain in his life. But by the blessing of God we again got back “my life my son”. He also expresses his gratitude to SOCH Team, for whom he got back his son in good condition. Hereafter, the life of Pintu is being saved. With this both child and his father went to childline.

So join hand with us for saving the beautiful life of children. A small step by you..... A life.....is changing moment for children. Save live.... Building future...

In the first follow up on 10th march 2015, his mother told that the child is continuing his study at home where as in the second follow up on 4th June 2015, his mother also told that her child is properly continuing his study at home.

(\*Name has been changed)

#### Case-23

#### BABLU PAL

\*Babul Pal is a 15 years old boy from Chungunighai village of Ganjam district. He dropped out of school in 8th class and remained idle at home. He was always being pressurized by his father to work instead of sitting idle at home. He started working at Cuttack with his brother –in – law as a salesman in a shop and earned Rs. 2000/- per month. In a short period of time, he worked quite well and provided financial support to his family. However, one day, instead of working in the shop, he spent time roaming around with his friends. He was beaten by his father for this behavior and in a fit of anger, Bablu ran away from home and landed at Bhubaneswar railway station. Just after getting down at Bhubaneswar railway station, he was rescued and brought to the shelter by SOCH staff on 16th April 2014.



The child was very nervous when he reached the shelter. The staff provided him with the space to open up and spent some time with him for building rapport. Before counseling, the staff observed that the child is very well behaved. After staying one day at shelter, he relaxed a little and became comfortable and started sharing his problem. Bablu revealed that he belongs to a very poor family. Due to the poor financial conditions, his father was unable to provide proper education and rather pressurized him to work. Hence, he was working in Cuttack with his father’s knowledge and was beaten by him if he did not go for work. Bablu did not like his father’s behavior towards him and in a fit of rage, ran away from home without his parents’ knowledge. After listening to his side of the story, the staff explained the importance of parents in a child’s life as well revealed the status about the present scenario of old children (Those who are staying at the platform for a longer period of time and are already addicted with many substances). The child then realized that running away from home was an inappropriate

behavior on his part and showed his willingness to go back home. He also shared his father's contact number.

His parents were contacted by the phone number provided by the child and after receiving information about his child's whereabouts; the father came to shelter along with his brother-in-law. His father felt very happy after seeing his son as he missing from last two days. Despite their best efforts, they could not trace him. At the shelter, the father admitted his mistake in hitting the child and promised that he would never commit such an error in the future. The staff explained that an adolescent needs understanding and affection during this phase and finally the child was happily reunited with his family on 17th April 2014.

In the first follow-up on 20th May 2014, his mother told that the child is working at home with the knowledge of parents whereas during the second follow up the number of his parents is not the reachable area.

(\*Name has been changed.)

#### Case-24

Master \*Subasis a 14 year old child from Aruha, Jajpur district left his home many times for petty reasons. He was a very naughty child. He enjoyed running away from home and was found by RPF staff at Bhubaneswar railway station on 25th Nov 2014. At that time he was stealing the bag of a passenger. After a while he was again handover to SOCH staff for his care and protection.



He was a very smart child within the couple of moment he became very friendly with everyone and started sharing about his suffering problems. Firstly, he shared that he was always being scolded by his elder sister regarding studies which Subasis does not like. As a result of which he ran away from home with the hope to work outside instead of studying. Hence he wants to move from station to station but in the mean while he entered into the train and while shifting luggage he was caught by the police. So, staff explained him regarding the importance education as well the ill consequences of platform life. However, the child realized his mistakes and promised for not to do this mistake in future. As he provided his contact number to RPF staff so that his address was traced by them.

After getting information his mother came to the shelter immediately along with her daughter. His mother was very happy by seeing her at shelter. She expressed her feelings by saying that, despite of providing everything to Subasis he behaves very rudely and is disobedient. He does not like to stay in home rather he spent his much of time with his friends instead of studying. He did not follow any instruction of his mother. At shelter staff also explained him the importance of parents and education in his life. After that staff took the child as well parents to CWC (Child welfare Committee) from where the CWC member again did the counseling of child and assured for better study and more discipline. After this the child was happily reunited to his family on 25th Nov. 2014 with a smile on his face.

In the first follow up on 11th December 2014, his mother told that the child is continuing his study at home where as during the second follow up on 4th March 2015, his sister also told that he is properly continuing his study.

(\*Name has been changed)

Sukanta Pradhan, a 13 year old boy fled Julumbahal Ashram School, Sundargarh and spent five days at various stations like Rayagada, Jhasuguda, and Puri and Khurda road. He reached Bhubaneswar Railway station and was noticed pacing platform Number 1 alone inquiring about the trains as he wanted to return back to Raygada. Hence, the staff members of SOCH offered him help while explaining to him the objective of the organization. He was immediately brought to shelter on 23rd September 2014.



At the shelter home, the staff members attended to his needs and provided him various facilities. The aid of indoor games was taken to form rapport, given its non-threatening approach to counseling. Subsequently, he confided in the staff that he, the son of Lt. Rabi Pradhan, was a resident of Bendrichuan village (Himagiri police station in Sundargarh District). Upon his father's death, his mother became the bread winner of his family; while his elder brother managed to aid her earnings and support the family financially. The 'burden' of six siblings was hence discussed. A promise for better educational prospects urged his family members to leave him at Julumbahal Ashram School, Sundargarh. Sukanta managed to study well till the 8th grade. While during vacations he was allowed to return to his home all alone, on this particular day, he ran away from the hostel to visit his uncle in Rayagada. However, before reaching the same, he was lured by the city's appearance. He then became the unknown child in a city full of strangers and chaos. It was here that the staff intervened and educated him about consequences of his decisions. In order to trace his family, the organization contacted the police station, given that he could not remember his contact number.

It was after a day's stay at the shelter, his brother reached the shelter along with his teacher. Seeing Sukanta in a safe place brought them quite a relief given that he had been missing since 5 days. It was anxiety, stress and various other emotions associated with loss that had come into play here. In fact, they had lodged a FIR for the missing child at the police station. However the child was assured better study, discipline and care. It was on 24th September 2014 that this family was united. We hope for a better future and a happier environment for this child in future.

In the first follow up on 17th October 2014, his teacher told that the child is continuing his study at home where as during the second follow up on 6th January 2015, his teacher told that in that time he is idle at home

(Name has been changed)

### Case-26

\*Master Vikrant Barik

A missing child was rescued by Dynamic Group Stakeholders (Bhubaneswar Railway Station) and referred to SOCH Staff. This is due to strong networking!!

Vikrant Barik is a 10 year old child, rescued from Bhubaneswar Railway Station. He was traced at platform no. 3 on date 15.02.2015. Vikrant belongs to Gajaraj Nagar village, comes under Raj nagar Police Station of Kendrapada District. He is the only son of his parents, father Mr. Gajendra Barik and mother Mrs. Sachinda Barik. He is also having one younger sister called Subhadra. He belongs to very small and poor family. But due to definite difficulties in his family he decided to do work and earn some money.



During the time when Vikrant was traced out, he was not in proper dress, was very confused and looking distress. He was confused for where he will go and search for work. After rescuing staff explained him about SOCH and our work activity. Being influenced by our words, he came to SOCH shelter with staff. At shelter he got freshened up and had some food. After which counseling was done with him. In this mean while he became very friendly with all the staffs. During the counseling period Vikrant shared that, his father is a TB Patient and mother is Paralysis. Due to extreme poverty his parents were unable to provide him education; as a consequence of this he left his studies. He started helping his mother in household activities. As it was not all he has to do, so he thought for leaving home for work and earn money. As a result of which he can help his family to run the house. He left home to search work, by taking prior permission from his parents. By taking into consideration his condition, he was referred to Childline for further Care and Protection.

Vikrant reached Bhubaneswar from Kendrapada in search of work. But fortunately he was in safe hands. The child's home address was traced by an NGO and his parents reached SOCH shelter to receive him. During the parents counseling it was understood that Vikrant was a missing child, and his parents had lodged complain in the nearest police station. He had lied his parents and had run away from home. As his mother was hospitalized, so for purchasing foodstuff from shop he fled away from there. By hearing the narration from his parents, staff counseled them regarding ifs' and buts' of the platform life. Also explained them; education is important for a child to build his future. As they were very poor, we helped them by some money to reach the NGO, to receive Vikrant. Soch staff shared them the exact location of the NGO and also guided the route map.

(\*Name has been changed)

### Case-27

#### **"Had a fight with my elder brother and ran away from home"**

**Ayush** (not real name) a 14 years old child from Balasore district was contacted on **26<sup>th</sup> August 2014** at platform of Khurda railway station. SOCH staff noticed him while he was wandering here and there on the platform. This was for the first time staff seen him on Khurda railway station and he appeared to be new to that place. When staff approached the child he said that he had gone to Puri for visiting purpose after being beaten by his elder brother. But by seeing his physical gesture

the staff found that the child has some problem which needs much more attention. Therefore staff convinced him about our work and finally brought him to SOCH temporary shelter.

At shelter the child first freshen up and took food and became friendly with everyone. During counselling session he shared that he is the middle son of Mr. Subhash Chandra Nayak who is a farmer while his mother Mrs. Binati Mani Nayak is a housewife. Ayush has one elder brother and both are studying in class of same school. Ayush had demand for purchasing some books for his study but his elder brother always opposed him whatever Ayush wants. As a result of which he fought with his elder brother and after being beaten by his elder brother he run away from home without the knowledge of anybody. Hence, subsequently he made a plan to visit Puri and as per the plan he visited there. However after spending one day at Puri he decided to go back to his home. Then while returning his home fortunately he landed at Khurda railway station as he was unknown about the station and trains. After the counselling session he shared his father mobile number.

In order to trace his address staff contacted to his father and shared all the information about the child. After knowing about his child his father became extremely happy and immediately left home and reached at shelter on the same day itself. At shelter his father shared that despite of less economic status; he tries to fulfil all the children's requirements as best as he can. But due to their elder son's low performance, both the children create problems among themselves for petty reasons & frequently have sibling fights. After Ayush ran away from home his parents became very worried and searched him everywhere, but could not go further because they have the expectation that he will come back. However staff counselled to child about the harm consequences of platform life as well as the importance of parents and value of education. The child also assured for not creating disturbance with his brother rather than share all his need with his parents. Finally the Child happily reunited with his father on same date i.e. **26<sup>th</sup> August 2014**.

In the first follow up which was on **12<sup>th</sup> October 2014**, his father told that the child is continuing his study at home.

#### Case-28

“Sometime it is individual duty to spot the alone child on the platform and save their life's”

Bibhu Das (not real name) a 15 year old boy who belongs to Kanasuka village under Buguda police station from Ganjam district. His father Bulu das is a farmer and his mother name is Namita Das and she is a house wife. Bibhu is the single child of his family and due to this he gets proper care and attention from his parents. But Bibhu did his studies up to standard 6th and after that he dropped his education and put his hand in helping to his parents. But one day without the concerned of his parents he ran away his home and went to Puri to see the Cart Festival. After spending three days in Puri and Bhubaneswar, he was returning to his home and meanwhile he halted at Khurda Station. One of the outreach worker of SOCH spotted the child on the station. After having initial conversation the SOCH staff brought that child to the shelter on 5th July 2014.

After reaching the shelter the child he got freshen up and had some food. During the counseling process he expressed that he came to station for visiting purpose with the permission of his parents

but as per the child behavior and facial appearance it seems that the child has some psychological problem as he was poor in communication & he shows some unusual behavior like started smiling suddenly, crying without any reason etc. So, staff gave the scope so that the child will feel comfortable and reveal the facts in front of the SOCH staff. After that the SOCH staff contacted to the local police station to stress his address, which was shared by him in earlier interrogation.

By the help of local police station we could able to reach his parents and informed them about his son. After spending four days his father came to shelter. He was very happy to see his son in good in safe and good condition. His father told that, Bibhu was missing from last six days and they were searching him every possible places. His parents were tensed, though Bibhu is not normal in his behavior and he showed his mental certificate in front of SOCH staff. He spoke that he had also attempted taken these steps 2-3 times and once he was rescued by Child line Bhubaneswar. Though he is the single son of his family, he got more attention from his parents and his parents provide everything as per his need. But due to the mental health problem he runs away from home. Finally his father received his son on 8th July 2014 and gave thanks to all staffs.

In the first follow up which was on 12th October 2014, his mother told that the child again ran away from his home.

#### Case-29

Master Chintu Soren (not real name) a 12 years old child was rescued by SOCH staff from platform no-3 at Khurda Railway Station which was dated on 05.03.2015. It was found that he was studying in class 7 from Chinmaya Vidyalaya School. He belongs to Rourkela, which is in Sundergarh District of Odisha. His father name is Mr. Charan Soren, who is an employee in a private company and his mother Mrs. Salma Soren who is a housewife. Other than that, Chintu is having two siblings, one elder and younger sister. It was found that Chintu is the only son in their family, and due to this his parents were very concerned about him. During the interrogation period it was found that the behavior of Chintu was not normal and on the basis of abnormal behavior SOCH staff suspects that, Chintu might be having some psychological problem. The problem was on full moon night (Purnima); he forgets everything and was unable to share what had happened on that night. This problem he is having from his childhood and due to this problem his parents are very concerned about him.



On 05th March, 2015, it was a full moon night (Purnima), though Chintu is having problem, on that day he took his bicycle and went out from his house. Occurred, in which he suffered from the problem. Due to this he came out of his house two days before with his cycle. He kept the cycle in the playground and walked towards the Rourkela Railway Station. He boarded the train from the station and got down at Puri Railway Station. After wandering there for two days. He again he took a train from Puri and got down at Khurda Railway Station.

When SOCH Staff found Chintu on platform of Khurda, SOCH staff saw that he was not mentally healthy. When SOCH staff interacted with him he was confused and bit nervous in giving the

replies. Observing Chintu's abnormal behaviour, SOCH staff brought him to the shelter. In shelter he shared his father's contact number and in later stage his father was communicated by the SOCH staff. On that day Chintu stayed in the SOCH's shelter home, where all the staffs celebrated HOLI with him. This celebration of colour brought ample of happiness in his face and in other side he was missing his parents on this colour occasion. After celebrating the HOLI colours we all had delicious food at our centre. Next day his father reached the shelter and he was very happy and relieved by seeing his son in safe and good condition. Then SOCH staff shared the rescued innervations and psychological problem with his father. His father told us that he had lodged a missing FIR in their nearest Police Station. Further SOCH staff referred Chintu to the CHILDLINE on the same day where he will get care and protection. Then the next day on 6th March 2015 his father came to child line office to receive his son. Finally the child is happily reunited his family and his father expressed his gratefulness to SOCH staffs.

In the first follow up which on 6th April 2015, his father told that the chintu is continuing his study at home and in second follow up which was on 6th July 2015, his father told that he is properly doing his study.

#### Case-30

#### ***"I lost the way, How to go back to my home?"***

**Chirag Jena** (*not real name*), 14 years old boy from Khurda district was living with his parents and four siblings. His father's name is Rabindra Jena and mother's name is Renubala Jena, both of them work as a labour to run their house. Despite the burden of poverty, they tried to proffer proper education to their children. Chirag was studying in 9<sup>th</sup> class at Padmakumuda vidya niketan Nuapada School. One day Chirag, while wandering with his friends came to the station, instead of going to the school. By mistake, he lost track of his friends and started wandering alone. Fortunately he landed at Khurda railway station and came into contact with the SOCH staff on **20<sup>th</sup> August 2014**.



The SOCH staff found the child was rather confused, worried, despondent and in no way willing to share any information regarding his whereabouts. However the staff tried to know about his problem by interacting with him and also provided him food and temporary shelter. Upon subsequent interactions, the child accidentally embosomed himself, recounting how one day he started off for his school but in the middle of the journey he and his friends made a plan for wandering and accordingly to the plan, they ran away before reaching the school. Since he lost track of his friends at the station therefore he was in a dilemma where to go? And approach to whom? After listening to the child the staff assured the child for help and referred the child to **BHAIRABI CLUB** for further care & protection.

While referring the child to Bhairabi club one of his villagers spotted him on the way and through the help of that villager the child's address was traced. On the next day his father came to Bhairabi club to receive his son, saying that the child had fallen into bad company that made him naughty and disobedient. However the child realized his mistake promised to mend his ways and was finally happily reunited to his family on **21<sup>st</sup> August 2014**.

The story of Chirag been brought into the fold of a normal life which will always be the mission of SOCH. So, join hands with SOCH to proffer a safe life for children, a life devoid of difficulties, lives that aspire towards a healthy and happy society.

#### Case-31

It is a very unusual story which happened with a boy named **Lucky Choudhary** (*not real name*), a 7 year old child. He was travelling with his parents from Bhubaneswar Station to Samastipur, Bihar. During the journey he lost his way alone and fortunately landed at Khurda railway station. His parents made his missing complaint at the Bhubaneswar station and an announcement was done. In the same time the child was rescued by Railway Station Supervisor of Khurda, who was on duty and handover him to SOCH staff on **13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2014** at Khurda station.

After that SOCH staff brought him to the temporary shelter home to have initial interaction to about him & his primary details, but the boy was unable to share any information regarding his family as he was a dumb child. Therefore staff interacted with him with some sign languages. In the mean while after listening to the announcement which was going on in the Bhubaneswar railway station, Bhubaneswar's SOCH staff contacted to the Khurda SOCH staff to know whether the child is in Khurda or not. In the other side Khurda staff informed the Bhubaneswar staff that the child was rescued by them and he is now safe in SOCH's temporary shelter home.

Soon after, they brought the child near to their parents at Bhubaneswar Station within 40 mins of time and then we reunited the child with his parents at Bhubaneswar railway station. The child details was shared with CWC member and as per there instruction he was brought to the shelter with his parents. Parent's counseling was done by the counselor and other formalities were filled up. After completion of all the document work, they went to CWC for completing further hand over formalities.

Parents were supposed to leave the station after getting their child. But due to the rules and norms of CWC they faced many problems and due to delay they missed their train.

In the first follow up which was on **10<sup>th</sup> October 2014**, his father told that the child is idle at home and in the second follow up on **7<sup>th</sup> February 2015**, his father told the same thing.

#### Case-32

A child named as **Milan Sahoo** aged about 14 years got contacted by SOCH staff at Khurda railway station. During the rescue process of SOCH, the station manager of Khurda got contacted with the SOCH staffs and helped to staff in the process of child counselling and enquiry about child's primary details. At the time of counselling the child habited to tell lies that his elder brother quarrels with him and beat him for his small mistakes. After listening from the child, staff assured him for faith on us for sure help. However after counselling staff brought the child to SOCH shelter on **9<sup>th</sup> May 2014**.

At shelter the staff provided food and accommodation support to gain his faith for willing to know the problems behind his runaway. At shelter the child was enjoying with the other mates as watching TV, playing indoor games etc. then the child was opened up and started sharing about his problems. As the father of this child was dead and his mother got remarriage with someone else so Milan and his elder brother is being looked after by his paternal grandmother with the help of his uncle. In spite of poor financial condition Milan continuing his study in class 7<sup>th</sup>. But due to the poor financial condition his elder brother withdrew himself from school and engaged him in a work at shop to provided financial support to his family. But his elder brother always scolded and beat him & this was no more tolerated by Milan and he ran away from his home without informing any from his family members. Then staff explained the child about the ill impacts of platform life and situation which is faced the old children

(those who are staying at station in a longer period of time and engaged themselves in many kinds of substances). Then the child realized his mistake showed his willingness to go back to his home.

As the child was counselled by the station manager at Khurda railway station so by the help of station manager the child address was traced by the help of local police. After staying one day at shelter his grandmother came to shelter with his uncle. At shelter during parents counselling his grandmother told that he came to his aunt's home for visiting purpose by the permission of his grandmother but before reaching his aunt's home in between the way he lost his way. Hence he reached at Khurda railway station. And whatever the child told about his elder brother always is a genuine matter and in fear he may tell you some wrong information. After hearing all these things from his grandmother's mouth, the child confessed & promised for better study and discipline. His grandmother became very happy after getting his grandson as he was out of home from last three days. They gave their best effort to trace him but unable to found him then his grandmother gave a good hospitality to staff and finally the child was happily reunited to his family on **10<sup>th</sup> May 2014**.

In the first follow up which was on **12<sup>th</sup> October 2014**, his uncle told that the child is continuing his study at home.

### Case-33

#### Santosh Jena

**Santosh Jena** (*not real name*) 14 yrs old from Balesore pursuing his education in class 8<sup>th</sup>. His father Mr. Srikrishna Jena migrated from Balesore to WB and worked as a driver in the city while his mother is a house wife. Santosh also staying with his family at WB. But he was always pressured by his father for better study instead of spending time with his friends. But he did not obey his father's advice rather spent much more time with his friends. One day he was being scolded by his father so that in the next day he had stolen Rs-5,500/- from his father's pocket and run away from home and thus he landed at Khurdha railway station. Just after getting down at Khurdha he was rescued by SOCH staff on **2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014**. While interacting with the child he started arguing with staff that he informed to his family before leaving his home and came to here to meet with his uncle who is leaving at Khurdha but while staff asked him few more question regarding the Khurdha station then he became confused so staff did not feel that whatever the reason he revealed that all are correct rather staff found that the child have some problems and needed help. So far to help the child the staff brought the child to SOCH shelter, Bhubaneswar.

The child was having a lodge bag, three mobile phones and an iPod (Musical instrument) with him. While counseling to the child he told that he felt captive to stay in his home as his parents always pressured him for study and did not allow him outside for playing with his friends. So he decided to live outside instead of his home. And also told that with the stolen money he was purchase two mobile phone and one iPod and doesn't have money for taking any food. So the child was counseled about the hazards of street life and the value of education. At the same time the child was also understood about the leaving style of old children (Those who are staying in the platform in a long period of life and accept the platform life as his daily life). then the child realized his mistake and expressed the desire to go back to his home and also provide his father's contact no. and spent his time with staffs at shelter by playing many indoor games.

After getting information his uncle came to shelter and became very happy to see his nephew. As he was out of home from last 2 days. They all were gave their best effort to trace him but unable to found him. His uncle told that as he is the elder son of his parents, his parents have a dream that he will keep

their name and fame by studying well but Santosh did not have interest for study so his father scolded him. Then the staff pacified to his uncle that scolding and beating is not the right way to rectify a child because the adolescent period needs affection and understanding. The child also heard everything and assured to study hard and became obedient and changes his behaviour. After that the child was happily reunited to his family on the same day itself.

In the first follow up which was on *12<sup>th</sup> October 2014*, his father told that the child is working at home with the knowledge of his parents.

#### **Case-34**

Sanjit Pal (not real name) a 14 years old boy was brought to shelter from Bhubaneswar railway station on 24th jan.2013. As he was not telling anything Manoj Kumar Swain, Secretary of SOCH, sat beside Sanjit and helped him to brought out his problem but the child was not willing to share his information accidentally he was walked away from the shelter at 12 PM. Again the staff found him on 25th January 2013 at same railway station. The staff took the help of RPF and brought him to the shelter. As he was crying the staff gave him more time and promised him for sure help, then the child have faith on staff. After that the child took bath and food. Then the child was opened up, he gave all the details about his family and the reasons behind his runaway.

Sanjit is the son of Mr.Dillip Pal, who lives in Randia village under Bhadrak police station of Bhadrak District. His father runs a small vegetable shop. But his father always restricted him from his interest of work. The father often scolded him for spending time with his friends so the child fed up with this and left his home and decided to visit Chennai where his elder brother is working. After that the child gave the contact no. of his mother. On that day at 6 pm the Childs parents came to shelter with all prove. The mother was very happy to see her son and told that they had lost hope to find him as he was missing from more than 5 days. She told that Sanjit was a very simple boy. They tried their best to trace his child. They were worried and spent more than rupees 2000. Then by the help of RPF his parents got his child from SOCH on 24th Jan 2013.

**....THE END....**



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