

Sneha's Journey: Holding On Through Hope and Help

Sneha was just six months old when her father left. Her mother had no choice but to return to her maternal home, where Sneha's grandmother, *Nani*, lived. Since then, they have lived in a small, single-room house, leaning on one another through each day.

Today, Sneha is pursuing her graduation in Zoology (Honors). Back then, for her, even finishing school felt out of reach. Sneha's journey is more about strength and survival, supported by people who believed in her future.

When Sneha got sponsored through CFCA/Unbound in 2013, those were the hardest days; they had no income, and her mother couldn't get out of bed, unable to work or take care of things. With no income at home, her grandfather's small pension was the only source of support.

Sneha's grandmother became her pillar. Despite her age, *Nani* attended monthly CFCA/Unbound meetings, took part in discussions, and made sure Sneha's basic needs were met, like buying books and stationery for her education. But it was never enough.

"Without CFCA," Sneha says, "I would never have been able to continue my studies."

She used to walk long distances to school because they couldn't afford transport. CFCA/Unbound helps with transportation costs, allowing her to attend school regularly and safely. She still fondly remembers the first time she ever cut a birthday cake, in Class 7, during a celebration organized by CFCA.

"Cutting cake for the first time in CFCA/Unbound celebration made me feel seen and loved," she recalls with a smile.

From school supplies to birthday celebrations, these extracurricular activities and support from CFCA/Unbound became a constant part of her life. Health camps organized by the foundation helped Sneha stay healthy and reminded her of the importance of regular checkups.

But the support didn't stop with her. When asked, Sneha, how CFCA/Unbound helped her? She replied.

“If I had to name the two most important ways CFCA/Unbound helped us,” Sneha says, “it would be my education and my mother’s medical care. They stood by us when we had no one else.”