



Little Jisha in good hands

Jisha is three and a half years old, the first born of Chellappan and Ragini. Back home in Tirupur (350 km from Vellore) her little brother Gopal anxiously awaits news.



Chellappan earns Rs. 8,300 a month, working in a welding company in Coimbatore. He visits home only on the weekends, because of the two-hour commute, and irregular work hours. Ragini manages the housework and the care of the toddlers, helped by his parents.

Jisha had a small swelling on her lower back at birth. As she grew the swelling became more obvious, along with mild deformity of both feet. She started walking, though standing was a little difficult. She had difficulty passing urine and frequently developed urinary infection. Their family doctor suggested bringing her to CMC Vellore for investigation of the swelling. Jisha was seen by a neurosurgeon who realised that her spinal cord was protruding and needed surgical correction. The family scraped together what they could, offering Rs. 50,000 for the delicate operation. A grant of Rs. 70,000 from the Emergency Fund ensured the operation could go ahead in November, and she is now on the road to recovery.

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