

SUCCESS STORY

Forty-Six year old female receives Ear surgery at the 183rd Lifeline Express project held from 2nd to 21st August 2017 at Daltonganj in Palamu District of Jharkhand

Mrs. Maheshwari Devi, 46 years old, is a resident of Muzzafarpur in the State of Bihar. She lives with her husband, Mr. Baleshwar Ram, and their 5 children. The monthly income of the family is around Rupees Two Thousand only as her husband works as a labourer and is the only bread winner of the family.

Maheshwari was suffering from discharge from her left ear since childhood because of which she could not hear properly. She has consulted doctors many times who gave medicines, informing her that her condition could not be healed but only be given temporary relief. The Doctors recommended that a surgery would be the only permanent solution and would cost around Rupees Sixty Thousand. Considering the dismal financial condition at home, she chose not to get operated but remain on medication. Because of the infection prevailing for such a long time the mastoid bone was badly damaged and had become brittle requiring a major surgery.

Maheshwari said as she was hard of hearing, people avoided talking to her as she could not understand them. Any conversation had to be repeated a couple of times for her to comprehend. She experienced social isolation compounded by difficulty in communication at home. Recurring pain and continuous discharge was hard for her to bear. Looking at her condition, Mr. Ram Kumar, Operation Theatre staff on the Lifeline Express, informed her husband that it was possible for her to get treated on the Lifeline Express which was scheduled to come to Daltonganj, situated approximately 300 kms from their village.

Encouraged to learn that the Hearing surgery would be conducted by a renowned surgeon on the Lifeline Express and that Maheshwari Devi and her husband's food and stay at the project location would be borne they decided to register for treatment.

Maheshwari came to the OPD along with her husband on the 12th of August, 2017 and was examined by Dr. Aswini Kumar Verma, who posted her for surgery on the 13th of August, 2017. The doctors were amazed at the state of the mastoid bone that had become powdery and which, if not operated, would have led to severe infection affecting her brain.



Left to Right: Maheshwari, 46 years, Pre-Operative picture and Post Operation with her husband.

Thanks to the successful surgery conducted on the Lifeline Express, Maheshwari's life was saved and she is able to lead a normal life without any pain or discharge from the ear. The Lifeline Express team followed up with her husband Mr. Ram who was very happy and told us that she was recovering well. The family is grateful to the team of surgeons that operated and made her feel good for the first time in her life.