

**THEME 2****SUSTAINABLE AND HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY IF THE MARGINALISED SECTIONS OF THE SOCIETY ARE ABLE TO PARTAKE AND BENEFIT FROM THE GROWTH**

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- C** Zaima Ayyub , an 18 year old young girl was studying in a private school in Batla House when the school abruptly shut down in the middle of the session, leaving hundreds of students clueless about what to do next. Living in a family of five members, she had lost her father at a very young age and was financially dependent on her mother who is a domestic worker and earns a meager daily wage. Due to adverse financial situation, her mother did not want her to continue studying and instead wanted to get her married off. CEQUIN encountered Zaima during a community mobilizing session for enrolment of drop out girls for NIOS. She was regularly counselled to appear for her 10th class board exam through open school. After a lot of convincing, she started coming to CEQUIN’s office for preparatory classes for her boards. Today, she is hopeful that she will score above 80%, take admission in a good school in Okhla for further education and become a teacher in the future.
  
- D** Shabnam regularly attended CEQUIN’s legal awareness sessions taking place in her neighbourhood, learning about legal rights and discrimination against women. When her differently abled brother was once wrongfully arrested by the police and accused of having kidnapped a child, she immediately went to the police station and demanded for evidence or an explanation on legal basis on which this arrest was made. Initially, the police officials did not pay attention to her presence, but when she started debating and held her ground, as she had enough legal knowledge to understand that they had no basis for her brother’s arrest, the police had to release him. Shabnam has been actively participating in community affairs and supporting women who need help in her neighbourhood.