**Summary**

In Bihar 75% of girls are married before the age of 18, the majority of whom are usually married by the age of 15. Female illiteracy is very high at 60%, alongside the rampant poverty and poor quality of education, restricts the potential to live a good and fulfilling life as well as preventing the equality and social mobility of women in the state. AJEH creates a formal agreement with the parents of each girl that they must not be married before the age of 21. This enables the girls to pursue their studies with no distraction or obligations other than to their course and to themselves, allowing freedom for personal and professional development.

In 2016-17 it has been agreed to support and sponsor two girls from local community and who belong to economically challenging families for doing their optometry course. For this, each year Savitri Foundation would donate INR 1.5 Lacs (total INR 6 Lacs for four years) for their education expenses to cover all their costs of exams, books, stipend etc. These two girls are (the photos are documented;

1. Simran Parween
2. Rakhi Kumari

Studies

* Simran and Rakhi both had appeared for the entrance test which includes oral and written test and were selected for the course on merit basis
* First year exams were cleared with the 1st class by both. The copies of the results are collected from AJEH
* Both are appeared for the second-year exams. Results are awaited
* Both girls belong to the poor socio-economic backgrounds and their families are struggling for basic livelihoods, so the expectations from their families are very high

Football

* Rakhi is playing football (AJEH team) for seven years and is performing excellent as a goal keeper for the team.

Story of Simran Parween

She is 20-year-old young lady and belong to Chhapra district in Bihar. She completed her higher secondary schooling in 2013 and then decided to join this optometry course.