

# A Mentor's Guidance, A Foundation's Support:

## The Making of a Future Leader



"My mother taught me hard work, JEF showed me the path, and now I'll create paths for others."

**Shital Sarate**

JEF Scholar 2020-2023

Talathi (Ambad) and preparing for UPSC.

When financial crisis struck Shital's family with her father's job loss, her mother took up tailoring work from home to keep the family afloat. Determined to contribute, Shital began working various jobs after completing her 10th grade, juggling work with her studies. She earned first rank in the Arts stream in her 12th standard examination across Jalna district.



Recognizing Shital's drive and capabilities, Professor Lahoti became more than a mentor – he became her guardian. Through the Jalna Education Foundation (JEF), Professor Lahoti ensured that Shital received comprehensive support, from securing accommodation in Pune to providing emotional guidance and financial assistance over the past four years.

**Professor Lahoti's wisdom – "become a good person before securing a good job" – deeply influenced my approach to life and career. I am driven by the goal: to become an IAS officer who can create opportunities for others facing similar challenges.**

To watch a video of the scholar scan below

Shital's journey from financial hardship to public service exemplifies how determination, coupled with the right support, can transform not just one life but potentially many others through the ripple effect of success and service.

