



Lipsa Pradhan, class 10, Govt. High School, Kamgaon, Odisha

Lipsa secures excellent grades in all her exams and wants to become a doctor to help people living in villages. She looks up to her school headmaster for inspiration. “She is very inspiring in whatever she says and does,” says Lipsa, who likes to sing and paint. Her favourite pastime is to observe the surroundings in her village, its trees and ponds.

A device to collect Mahua flower from ground

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Lipsa used to observe that the women had to stay bent down for a long time to collect a decent amount of flowers



Lipsa lives in a remote village of western Odisha with her parents, a brother and a sister. There are many Mahua (*Madhuca longifolia* (J.Konig) (J.F Macbr)) trees in her village and she used to watch her mother and other women in the village pick up fallen Mahua flowers on the ground under the trees. Mahua flowers have many medicinal properties and these delicious flowers are also used to make pickles, jams, ice creams and desserts.

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This made her think of a device that could eliminate the time-consuming and tiring process. The device, which looks like a lawn mower, has a handle to help pick up the flowers.

