

Reach the top recruiters instantly

">

Publication: Times Of India Pune; Date:2008 Feb 28; Section:Times Nation; Page Number 13

THE TIMES OF INDIA  
epaper

## MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

# Foetus survives plunge from train

Radha Sharma | TNN

Ahmedabad: Call it fortune or just the will of God. A seven-month-old foetus, which fell through the toilet bowl of a running train when the mother went to ease herself, still lives on!

This tiny bundle, weighing just 1.4 kg, which slipped from the womb into the toilet tube and crashed on rocks between two steel tracks, is sure to be among the top survival tales of the world.

The girl is now recuperating in the neo-natal intensive care Unit (NICU) of Rajasthan Hospitals where she lies without a scratch after the providential escape just before midnight on Tuesday.

"She is a fighter. In just 12 hours after the unthinkable accident, she was coming out of the accident quite well," said paediatrician Dr Raj Kumar. "She is a gift from God. How else can all this be explained," the girl's mother, Bhuri Kalbi (33) said.

Bhuri, a resident of Swaroopganj, a village between Sirohi and Abu Road in Rajasthan, was headed for Ahmedabad with her relatives for a medical check-up. She felt weak on the toilet seat and passed out. The next thing she remembers is people knocking on the toilet door. When she managed to get up to opened the latched door, she realised an emptiness in her stomach.

"I realised my stomach was flat. My child was gone," said Bhuri whose husband works in a packaging unit in Ahmedabad. Bhuri's brother-in-law, Arjun, said when Bhuri opened the door, she was semiconscious. He realised with complete shock what had happened. "We immediately pulled the chain at Kalol, two stations away from where the child had slipped off and alerted the train guard," he said.

On a day when the Railway Budget was presented by Lalu Yadav, who promised 'green toilets' in trains, the girl can thank railway personnel for snatching her from sure death. As she lay on the track, fortunately located close to the Amblisayan railway station, some members of the Gram Rakshak Dal alerted station master KK Rai that a new-born child was lying on the track.

While rushing to the spot on foot, Rai said he could hear the cries of the baby from a distance. On coming closer, he could not believe what he saw. "The baby was lying dangerously close to the left track with the umbilical cord hanging by the side," Rai said. She had turned blue due to the midnight chill.

The railwaymen wrapped the baby in a cloth and called a local doctor. While the child was being examined, a call came that the parents had been traced. The mother could not believe her eyes when she was reunited with the baby two hours later at the Kalol Civil Hospital. And she hasn't taken her eyes off the baby ever since.

