

I'm Raheem but my boss calls me Jerry! I'm 8 and I live in Hyderabad in India. I live with my family, we have a room in an overcrowded block. Mum says I'm mischievous because sometimes I pull the chair out from under my brothers. It's true, but I do what I'm told as well!

When I was six I had to drop out of school and work in a clothes shop instead, to help pay for the family's food. I felt like I was missing out when I saw all the other kids going to school.

Then Mum heard about a local project that helps working children like me get back to school. You get books and uniform, and you go to classes to help you catch up with what you've missed. Now I'm back at school in the mornings! Now I'm not working all day I get to play cricket – I'm a bowler. I'd like to be a policeman when I'm older, and you need to do well at school for that. I like the uniform, and riding a motorbike would be brilliant!

It's hard working all afternoon and I often get tired, but I earn 5-10 rupees [about 10p] a day which helps my family. Sometimes when I have a few rupees to spare I play video games in the arcade.

Over a billion people live in India. That's one in six people in the world! Globally, nearly 250 million children have to work to help their families. They miss out on things like school, playing sport and friends.

As many as 100 million children in India have to work. Nearly 4 per cent of India's workforce is made up of children.

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Raheem, from India

72 million children are missing out on school