## 3. Kondiba – A Hero

Differently abled यानी एक दिव्यांग व्यक्ति. वह कुएं में छलांग लगा कर बच्चे को बचाता है।

## Lesson summary

Kondiba Gaikwad was a blind man. He came to Mumbai from Aurangabad to look for work. He lived in a large slum in Ghatkopar. In the slum, there was an open and wide well. It was unsafe as it had no walls. The soil and rocks from the sides had fallen into the well. This had made the water muddy. One day, Kondiba returned home and was about to have his meal. He heard a woman scream. Someone had fallen into the well.

Kondiba jumped in the well to save the boy. Kondiba was a good swimmer. But now he was weak due to poverty. He could not stay under water for long. He had to come to the surface to breathe. People were disappointed every time Kondiba came out without Arvind. Kondiba dived again with full strength. He did not give up. He wished he was not blind. One time, he felt the clothes against his hands. He caught Arvind's belt and brought him out. Arvind was taken to the hospital. People heard this brave act and rewarded Kondiba. He went back to his village. He got married and started a small business. Bravery and strong determination changed his life.