The Great Pedal Escape

How half a cycle saved a whole colony

# Part 1: The Great Debate

It was one of those hot summer evenings when even the crows wanted AC. Our gang — me, Raju, Pinky, and Imran — sat under the neem tree, sipping watered-down lemon soda and fighting over the most important topic of our generation:  
  
“Frooti is king.” – Me  
“Appy Fizz is asli swag.” – Raju  
“Arrey, Thumbs Up rocks, idiots.” – Pinky  
“Shut up, Pepsi zindabad.” – Imran

Illustration idea: A fun cartoon of 4 friends sitting under a neem tree, each holding a different drink bottle, arguing with exaggerated expressions. The crow on the tree wiping sweat with a handkerchief for comic effect.

# Part 2: The Colony Crisis

Before our debate turned into WWE, tragedy struck.  
  
“Arrey water motor kharab ho gaya!” shouted Watchman Shyamlal, running like he had seen a ghost.  
  
Within minutes, aunties stormed out with buckets, uncles panicked like IPL was cancelled, and kids cried, “No water means no Maggi!”  
  
Pinky groaned, “My mom already said — no water, no WiFi. End of life.”  
Imran folded his hands dramatically, “Bas… our samosa-chai love story is finished.”  
Raju sighed, “Bro, this colony will collapse before sunrise.”

Illustration idea: People running in chaos — aunties with buckets, kids crying over empty Maggi packets, uncles waving hands dramatically. The watchman in the middle shouting with wide eyes.

# Part 3: Enter… The Broken Cycle

Our eyes fell on it. Rusted. Forgotten. One pedal missing. Seat duct-taped. Chain looser than my cousin’s excuses.  
  
The Broken Cycle.  
  
“Are you serious?” – Raju  
“Physics failed us, don’t try this at home.” – Imran  
“Forget 9th, you failed in 5th standard drawing also.” – Pinky  
“Shut up! Jugaad is stronger than any degree.” – Me

Illustration idea: A dramatic spotlight on the broken cycle, with our gang staring at it like it’s a superhero. One kid scratching head, another laughing, one praying, one looking inspired.

# Part 4: The Crazy Plan

We tied the motor belt to the cycle’s wheel using Raju’s stinky shoelace. I sat on the seat, Raju pushed, Pinky screamed instructions, and Imran prayed louder than the temple speakers.  
  
“Bas, don’t die!” – Pinky  
“If you die, can I take your cricket bat?” – Raju  
“Arrey start pedalling, Jackie Chan!” – Imran  
  
At first, nothing. People laughed. “Arrey bachche, kya nautanki hai?”  
  
But then — SSHHHHHHHHH! 💦 Water gushed like Holi fountains! Aunties clapped, kids danced, and uncles cheered like India won the World Cup.

Illustration idea: Cycle connected to the motor with kids pushing and pedalling hard, sweat flying. In the next panel, water bursting out of a pipe like a fountain, kids dancing under it, aunties cheering, uncle with hands up like cricket victory.

# Part 5: The Punchline Ending

Pinky whispered, “Guys… we actually did it.”  
Raju grinned, “From today, don’t call it broken cycle. Call it Colony Hero 2000.”  
Imran, with full Bollywood drama: “This cycle is not just iron… it is family.”  
  
Everyone laughed, but we felt it too. Sometimes, the smallest things save the biggest moments.  
  
And now, whenever someone calls us useless, we just smile and say:  
  
“Useless? Bro, we saved the colony with half a cycle. What’s your superpower?”

Illustration idea: The gang posing proudly next to the cycle like superheroes. The cycle glowing with a funny “halo” around it. Colony kids and aunties in the background clapping.