

★ Story 6: "Runway to Republic" – The Journey of Aishwarya Sheoran (AIR 93, 2019)

Under the flashing lights of a Delhi fashion runway, she walked with elegance, grace, and confidence. Cameras clicked. Heads turned. The media whispered, "Aishwarya Sheoran, Femina Miss India Finalist 2016."

But behind the glamor, she carried a silent, burning desire — to serve.

Aishwarya was born in Churu, Rajasthan, to a military family. Her father, a colonel in the army, instilled discipline from day one. Her mother taught her dignity. Growing up, she was a topper, a voracious reader, a debater. But at 17, she was discovered by a modeling agency. Her height, poise, and expression brought her to the ramp.

The world saw a model. She saw a mask.

After participating in Miss India and walking for major designers, she realized that superficial fame never filled her soul. Her heart didn't beat for applause — it longed for impact. Every time she visited a village with her father, she felt a calling: to uplift lives, to create policy, not posters.

She made the decision quietly — no media, no farewell walk, no grand announcement.

She deactivated social media, said goodbye to the world of lights and makeup, and locked herself in her Delhi room with NCERTs and standard books.

No coaching. No guidance. No publicity.

From 6 a.m. to midnight, she studied. She solved thousands of test papers, revised GS over and over, and built her own discipline plan — just like a military routine.

People mocked her when they found out. "Miss India? UPSC? Joke?" Some thought it was a PR stunt.

But the list arrived. And she stood at AIR 93.

Now, Aishwarya Sheoran is an officer under training. She's using her platform to promote rural literacy, menstrual health education, and women's empowerment.

She still carries her confidence. But now, it's not for flashing bulbs — it's for field visits, Gram Sabha meetings, and policy reforms.

She proved that beauty isn't about face symmetry — it's about the courage to change your identity for the greater good.