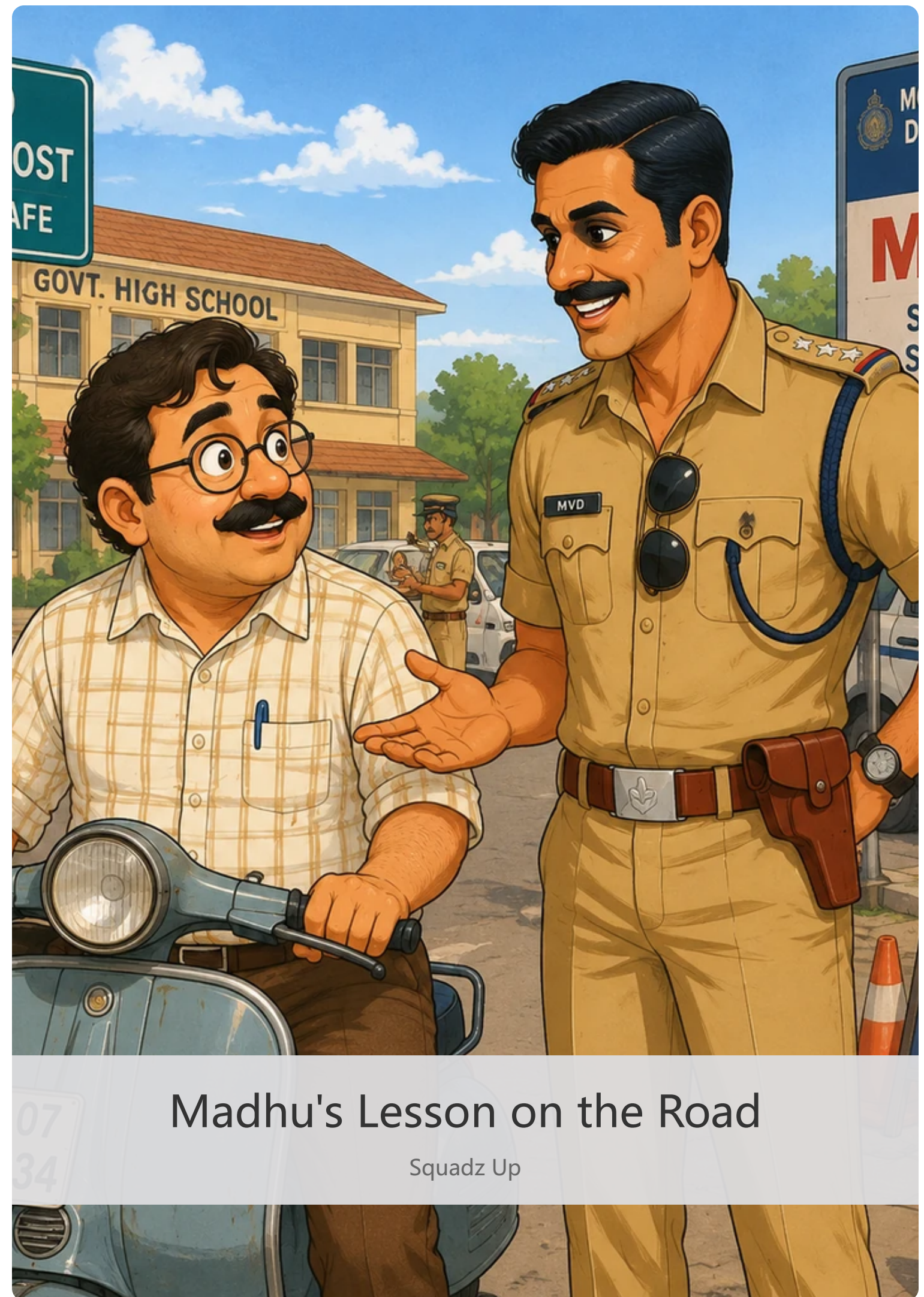




Madhu's Lesson on the Road

Squadz Up



Madhu was a gentle and beloved school teacher in a sunlit village, admired by his students for his thoughtful daily lessons. Every morning, he walked down palm-shaded paths to the schoolhouse, greeting everyone in town with a warm smile. He took great pride in teaching children to be honest, helpful, and responsible citizens.



One bright morning, an urgent school errand required Madhu to travel to the neighboring town before classes began. Running short on time, he decided to borrow a shiny blue scooter parked in his yard. Although excited to ride, Madhu felt a tinge of hesitation because he had not yet taken his official driving test or earned his driving license.



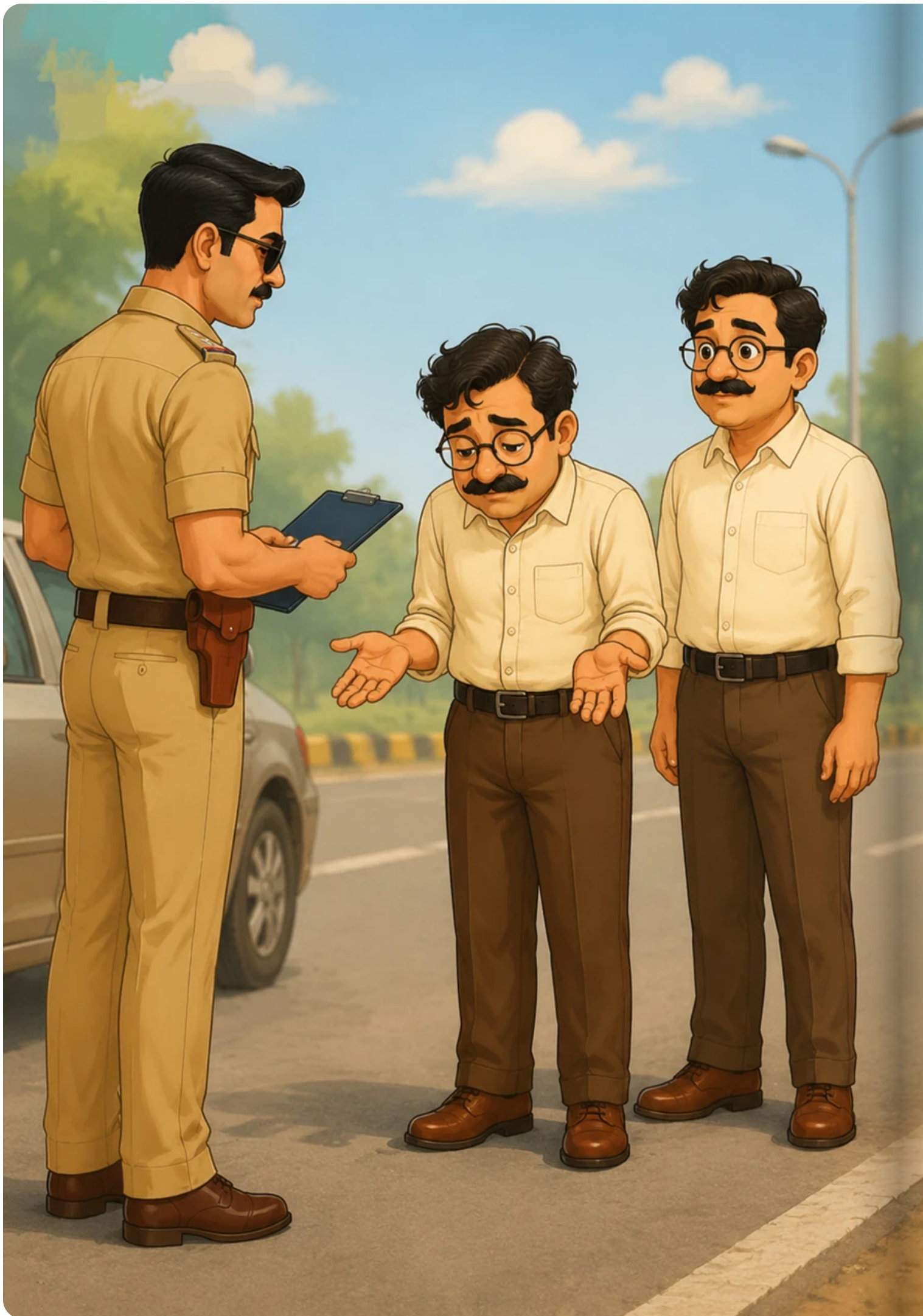
Madhu started the engine and glided onto the main road, the cool morning breeze refreshing his face. Despite the pleasant ride, a wave of nervousness washed over him with every passing vehicle. Deep inside, he knew that taking a motor vehicle onto public roads without a valid license was against the law.



As he rounded a broad bend near the highway junction, Madhu noticed orange traffic cones and bright warning signs set up ahead. Officers from the Motor Vehicle Department were conducting a routine checkpoint, waving oncoming drivers to the side of the road. Panic set in as Madhu realized there was no route to turn back.



A uniformed officer stepped forward, signaling with a hand gesture for Madhu to pull over along the grassy shoulder. Madhu gently brought the scooter to a stop, his hands trembling slightly on the handlebars. He took a deep breath and resolved to be completely honest about his mistake.



A tall Motor Vehicle Department Sub-Inspector in a crisp khaki uniform and dark aviator sunglasses walked over holding a clipboard. The officer politely asked to inspect Madhu's driving license and vehicle registration. Madhu looked down remorsefully and confessed that he was driving without a license.



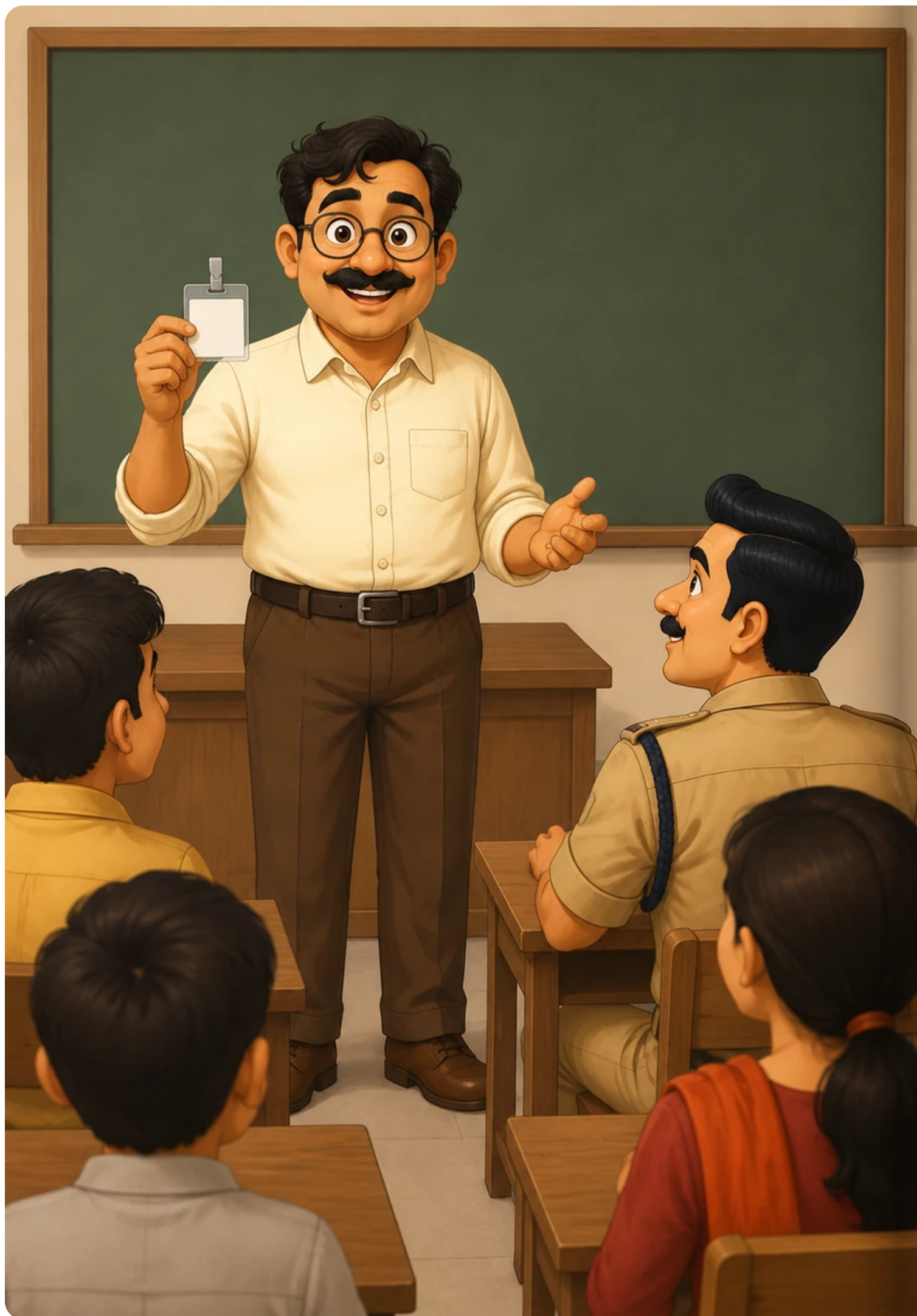
The officer paused, removed his aviator sunglasses, and broke into a broad, delighted smile. Madhu looked up in surprise and immediately recognized the face of Rajesh, his best friend from their school days. The initial fear melted away as the two friends shared a joyful moment of unexpected recognition.



They exchanged a warm handshake and talked about how long it had been since they last met. However, SI Rajesh gently reminded Madhu that duty comes first and road safety laws apply to everyone equally. He kindly pointed out that as a respected teacher, Madhu was expected to set the best example for the community.



Rajesh wrote out an official traffic fine with a supportive smile, encouraging Madhu to schedule his official driving test right away. Madhu willingly accepted the ticket and expressed his sincere gratitude to his friend for doing his duty fairly and reminding him of what was right.



A few weeks later, after studying hard and passing his driving exam, Madhu proudly held up his brand-new driving license. Back in his classroom, he shared the entire experience with his students, teaching them that true responsibility means upholding the rules even when no one is watching.