

From desperation to a decent living

-CASE STUDY OF A DESPERATE YOUTH FROM AKUTHOTA PALLI VILLAGE

Suryanarayana was unemployed and a distressed rural youth, who had lost hope. He hails from Akuthotapalli village, of Dharmavaram area. His family consists of his old parents and an unmarried sister. They have about three acres of dry land. They are not cultivating the land, because they are not in a position to make crop investments. In these dire conditions, Suryanarayana could not continue



his studies beyond X std. So, he and his sister started working as agricultural wage laborers. But the earnings were grossly insufficient to meet even the basic needs of the family. So he was in search of some alternate job to shore up his family. In his desperation, he joined as a cleaner of a lorry. Away from home, he did strenuous physical labor, as a lorry cleaner. In return he got such a paltry income, which was not even sufficient for his needs, leave alone the needs of the family. In exasperation he left that job and was idle for one year. The parents were not at all happy with him being idle and day to day frictions started in the family. At this point of time, he came to know about AF's Driving School through AF field staff. He applied for admission and got selected.

"We are very happy that now our son need not toil hard as laborer or lorry cleaner. Now, we are living with some dignity in the village. We are very thankful to AF."

-Parents of Suryanarayana

During the training he learnt Driving along with Mechanism. The Driving training also included personality development and spoken english, awareness on HIV etc. The training was highly useful to him as he learned many things apart from driving practice.

Within 8 days of passing out of the Driving School, he was called for an interview by a Professor in S.K University, Anantapur. He got appointed and is working for the past 7 months and earning Rs. 5,000/- per month. He is, using Rs. 1500/- for his own expenses and sending Rs. 3000/-per month to his parents. He is also saving Rs. 500/- per month in post office recurring deposit scheme. He also got joined his sister in the tailoring centre run by AF in the neighboring village.

Suryanarayana and his family members are very happy now.

Recently the professor, who appointed Suryanarayana, contacted AF Driving School and congratulated the authorities for producing such drivers with good skill and decent behavior. He requested AF Driving School to provide one more driver for one of his friends.