

News@acf

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Skilled and equipped

With increasing population and decreasing land size, pressure on land to provide optimal livelihood has reached its brink. It is no longer possible for all members of the family to work and earn adequately from the same plot of land. For people to adopt vocations besides agriculture it is imperative to impart new skills to them. With this understanding, ACF has set up skill training institutes called Skill and Entrepreneurship Development Institutes at Darlaghat, Himachal Pradesh, Jaitaran, Rajasthan and Chandrapur, Maharashtra. These Institutes have well equipped classrooms, professional trainers and adequate space for practical hands-on training. Continuous training programmes are held on employable trades such as welding, turning, fitting, motor driving, hospitality, masonry, security guards, carpentry, household electrical work, beauty management etc in these institutes. Some of these courses have gained Government certification – an achievement in itself. ACF doesn't only provide training to people, it also helps them find gainful employment. Support is offered to those keen on establishing their own small enterprise while others are helped in identifying and joining existing set ups. Till now almost 3000 persons have been trained by the Institutes and the employment rate of those trained is 70%. Most of those trained find employment soon after completing their training and augment their earnings, bringing their families

out of the poverty line.

Here is a story of one such person whose life was positively and permanently changed when he came in touch with ACF.

Rakesh lost his father in an unfortunate accident at a young age. After his father's demise, the plummeting family income forced him to discontinue his education. Before long Rakesh was old enough to work but being only 10th std. certified he could find no work other than that of a common labourer in his village in Pali. He earned a meager amount of Rs.1000/- or 1200/- per month doing odd jobs. His family had married him off at an early age and the combined pressure of family responsibilities and an appalling financial condition was a cause of constant stress for him. He was certain his life would never improve and that he would have to continue leading a hand to mouth existence.

He chanced upon an advertisement by SEDI, Jaitaran regarding security guard training in the newspaper one day. Out of curiosity he made a visit to the Institute & interacted with the instructors. Within minutes he decided he wanted to enroll himself for the security guard course of the Institute. He felt learning specific skills will get him a particular job. He undertook the training sincerely and was picked up by ICICI Bank to work for their branch at Sojat city right after completion of the course.

With the new job Rajesh's income more than double. Beginning with a salary of Rs.3200 a month, his diligent work got him periodic increments. Not satisfied with only working 8 hours a day, he began learning the ropes of working as an insurance agent on the side. Rajesh's combined income from both his professions was over Rs.8000/-. He was able to send home a good amount of money. His family is but naturally happy with his success. They have never been so financially secure. Their future is bright and full of opportunities.

