

A Story of Determination and Courage

Aakash Institute student Sunil Prajapati from Kushinagar district in Uttar Pradesh defies odds to prepare for NEET and fulfil his lifelong dream of becoming a doctor

- *With high aspirations, Sunil is focussed on removing all financial issues his family struggles while also earning a name for himself.*
- *Facing many financial hardships in life has made Sunil stronger in his drive to become a doctor.*

Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, June 03, 2021: The Second Wave of the Covid-19 pandemic has had a lasting impact on almost everyone. For students particularly, the lockdown has caused deep distress – the constant worry about exams being rescheduled, preparing for competitive exams online as well as the fear of an uncertain future. However, this period of grief and struggle has also given rise to many stories of courage among the student community that are a true inspiration for all. Of fighting against a situation and overcoming it and of finding opportunity in adversity.

One of such story is that of 18-year-old aspiring doctor **Sunil Prajapati, a student of Aakash Institute in Gorakhpur who hails from Kushinagar district of Uttar Pradesh.**

Sunil's father is a small farmer with 2 hectares of land, which is the only source of income of the family. With a meagre earning of Rs 50,000 per annum, finances have always been constrained in supporting a family of five including parents and an elder brother and a sister. Sunil uses a mobile phone to study, which is obviously a hindrance but with his determination he does not let it be one.

The earlier days of lockdown were a bit harsh on him due to the unavailability of proper internet and a device to study and he used to study from his father's phone. But subsequently, his father arranged a mobile for him to continue his studies without interruption. Facing many financial hardships in life has made him stronger in his drive to become a doctor.

Sunil has been a studious kid throughout with a clear vision of becoming a medical professional. Since the beginning he was inspired by various dignitaries who used to visit his school during functions and he too aimed to be someone who is respected and honored. He used to dream of becoming famous one day. While earlier his complete attention was devoted to the board

examination, he has dropped a year after Class XII and is currently preparing for the prestigious NEET examination.

Says **Sunil**, “I aspire to become a great doctor, who helps the needy and the underprivileged. Coming from a lower middle class background the financial troubles have been there since the beginning which made me realize the importance of education. Right now my main focus is only clearing the NEET examination with flying colors. I was always deeply inspired by the various achievers who used to visit my school and I too aspire to be someone who is respected and honored by one and all. My parents since the beginning have completely supported me and I intend to make them proud by clearing NEET.”

Aakash Institute has made special efforts to ensure that students from Tier 2 cities and rural areas who were badly hit when the lockdown struck, are able to continue their studies and are not left behind. Teachers across all branches in India are making constant efforts to mentor the student, solve their doubts and them so as to overcome their infrastructure needs and any problems thereof.

Says Mr. Aakash Chaudhry, Managing Director, Aakash Educational Services Ltd, *“Examinations like JEE and NEET require strict study regime. It takes months of preparation to crack such high-stake exams. While the safety of students is our top-most priority, so is to provide the best learning culture. The pandemic has disrupted all our lives, yet we thrive to provide best possible learning environment for our students. We want exceptional students living in remote locations to not miss a chance at achieving their goals, irrespective of their geographical locations or economic conditions. Sunil belonging to a farmer’s family from Kushinagar in Uttar Pradesh is a perfect example of the same. I wish him all the best for his NEET exam and hope he fulfils his dream of saving lives.”*

Students who wish to take admission in Aakash can either take the instant Admission cum Scholarship Test (iACST) or register for ANTHE (Aakash National Talent Hunt Exam). iACST is a recently launched scholarship program conducted for students in Class 8th to 12th which offers them a chance to win upto a 90% scholarship on tuition fees.

About Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL)

Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL) provides comprehensive test preparatory services for students preparing for Medical and Engineering Entrance Examinations, School/Board Exams and Competitive Exams such as NTSE, KVPY, and Olympiads. AESL believes that the “Aakash” brand is associated with quality coaching and a proven student selection track record in various Medical and Engineering Entrance Examinations, Scholarship exams & Olympiads.

With over 33 years of operational experience in the test preparatory industry, the company has a large number of selections in Medical & Engineering Entrance Exams and several Foundation level Scholarship exams/Olympiads, a pan India network of 200+ Aakash Centers (including franchisee), and a student count of more than 250,000.

The Aakash group also owns famous K-12 EdTech brand, Meritnation.com as well.

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