



Started in July 2014, the *St. Anthony's Industrial Training Institute (ITI)* has already completed four years of its diploma courses. Around 150 graduates are now out from the Institute, many of them started making a living ! Here are the current students.

## News from the ITI of Dugawar

It is more than two years since we brought to you some news from our *St. Anthony's Industrial Training Institute (ITI)*.

Our main concern with this training center, as mentioned in our *ACB News 51* was to get the students attend the class regularly. It is not in the culture of the region to attend technical schools regularly and it is really difficult to make them understand that once they get a good diploma, it is for life. Many youths who join the ITI are from a very poor family background, helping their parents to sustain their families and it is difficult for them to come for the class daily. Some are already working in cities and have already some practical knowledge in the subjects, but the diploma certificate is necessary to get a good job and so they join the course. In spite of all these drawbacks, each passing year, we take a step forward, by admitting students

who are ready to be regular, motivating and following them up on a daily basis. And we do see the positive result !

In a society, where the certificates can be bought and the education is for sale, those who want to stress on quality may seem to be irrelevant. But we know that its a matter of time, people will wake up and realize that the quality cannot be compromised. We already see the people in the responsible positions pointing out to this big flaw in the ITI department. Last year, there was a move from the *Skill Development Department*, a national administration, to expose the very poor quality of training imparted in the ITI sector. The department highlighted that due to this poor quality training, the employability has become extremely poor. The government was forced to evaluate all the *Industrial Training Institutes* across the country. All technical schools were asked to self assess their Institution and then this assessment was

evaluated by a team of experts from the side of the government. Based on the rating of the expertise, the top performing ITIs were selected for funding by the government. This step was taken to enhance the quality of skills training imparted in these institutions and to promote the well performing ITIs.

Our technical school has been self evaluated and later verified by the government officers. The evaluating team did go through all the details and was happy with our performance and noticed our sincere effort to bring quality into our work. They rated our school as the best in the region and made it eligible for the government funding for the coming four years. This funding enables each of our student to get 100% sponsorship from the government.

In order to make the diploma affordable to the poor children, we had kept the tuition fees very low. The evaluation team by the government found it much lower compared to the expenses the school had and increased it to Rs.1800/month, almost double. Each of our students will be receiving this scholarship amount in their bank account and they have to return this to us as the tuition fee. This new support help us to pay the salary of our staff and to run the technical school without *Anthony's Bread* putting in money ! It will enable us to bring in the students from more deserving families as well. Continuity of this scholarship after 4 years depends on the will of the political parties that will be in power.

## Placement of our graduates

During the last three years, around 150 students have passed out from our ITI and more than



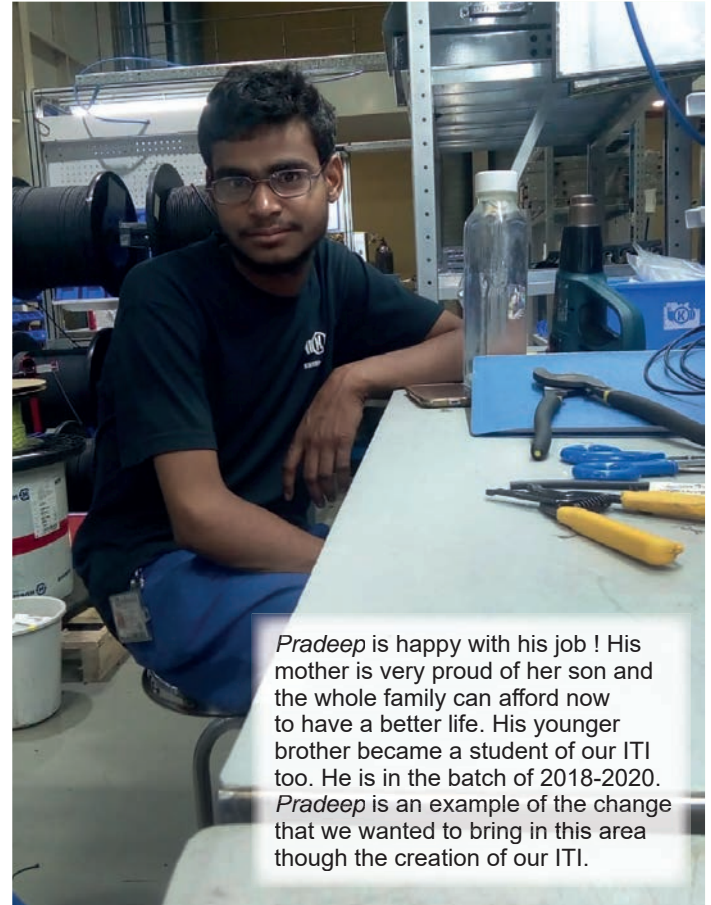
Each year our ITI participate to « *The World Youth Skills Day* » organized to spread awareness on the importance of youth developing skills. Students who perform best are awarded on this day by the authorities. This year, our student Narendra was awarded. He is now working as a technician in the telecom field, he has a good salary and is happy.

50% of them are already working in companies. Some found jobs in the nearby cities while others went to *Delhi* and neighboring States.

*Pradeep* is one of our students from 2015-2017 batch electrician. His parents could hardly make a living from the small



*Yogender* is working as an electrician for *Hero Moto Corp* and *Rishiraj* is working in a company manufacturing alternators. Both were successfully graduated from our *St Anthony's ITI* !



Pradeep is happy with his job ! His mother is very proud of her son and the whole family can afford now to have a better life. His younger brother became a student of our ITI too. He is in the batch of 2018-2020. Pradeep is an example of the change that we wanted to bring in this area through the creation of our ITI.

piece of agricultural land they have. After finishing class 12 in an hindi medium school, he joined *St. Anthony's ITI*. He attended his classes regularly and passed the examinations successfully. After the completion of his two year diploma, he got a job in a metro company in the state of *Haryana*, the neighbouring State of *Delhi*. This company is manufacturing air condition for Metro.

Our ITI in this region offers opportunities to those who wish to gain skill and progress in life. The move of our youth towards the cities for labour on a daily wage can be reduced from this generation.

Many of our students are now happily working in many different companies. Some of them are helping the others to get a job in their own companies as well. So, the change happens and the wheel of development is on its move !

### **Working in the leprosy colony**

The Spirit of Christmas fills the air and we are once again in the season of celebrating the Love of God for the Humanity ! While looking back at this year 2018, we can say without any hesitation that we did make a difference in the

lives of so many people in our project.

*Aisha* is a teaching staff of our *School Supporting Program* created in the *Tahirpur Leprosy Colony* near *Delhi*. We know her since she was a little girl. She shares her experience of God's continuous care in her life.

*« I have been growing up facing very hard realities of life. It was not easy but we learned to wait for the bad days to pass and to trust in the providence of God. My mother has been the source of strength for my brother, my father and me !*

*My parents have gone through turmoil in their life because they contracted leprosy. They had to leave their home and community at a younger stage and come settle in this colony which is thousand km from their home town. Like most of the people here, they met each other here and got married. My father got a small job as a watchman which helped us meet both ends. Worst of it all happened last year, when he was attacked by a man in the night. The man threw acid on his face. My father, who already had lost his one leg due to leprosy now had to loose one eye as well. We were in and out of hospital, pleading for the mercy of people around. We sank with this*



Aisha and her family  
ten years ago...



... and now. « Helping children form  
the colony makes me happy » !

tragedy but many supporting hands including Anthony's bread lifted us up from this too.

Meanwhile, I just had finished my studies and needed a job to sustain my family. It is not easy for me to find a job outside the colony and the new School Supporting Program of Anthony's bread was just starting.

So, the providence has not left us again and I believe, we will see the Hand of God above all the evil that surround us !

Being with children and helping them learn make me happy. I feel motivated to get up in the morning and start my day ! I do not know what life holds for us in the future,

but I look at it as it is today and live my day. Anthony's bread has been making a big difference to many of our lives in this colony, and the children we support are growing well. My brother has been sponsored by Anthony's bread and he is completing his class 12 this year as well. We thank each of those who make this happen !

We all wish you a Happy New Year and pray for the Blessing of God to each of you and your dear and near ones ! »



We had the occasion  
to be with this family  
and share their pain  
and sorrows closely.