



Mahesh Kumar: When Diligent Work and Training Bring Success

Mahesh Kumar, age 25 years, is a resident of Dhandhusar, a small village of Hanuman Gary district, Rajasthan. His father, Mr. Indra Raj Sihay, is a farmer and the only earning member in the family of four. His mother is a homemaker, and his brother, age 17 years, is currently in High School. After having completed his class 12th, Mahesh wanted to pursue Bachelor's. However, owing to the poor financial condition of his family, he could not study further. Mahesh decided to add to the income, and thus started searching for a job. As luck would have it, he came across a friend working at a Micro-Finance Company, and asked him for available opportunities. His friend introduced him to Gurukul Career Academy, Jodhpur – an intervention of the Development Alternatives Group, run under the 'Skills to Livelihood' project funded by Fullerton India Credit Company Limited. This vocational training centre has been running in Jodhpur since 2016, with the aim of building capacities of unemployed youth through 35 days of training on the Banking Correspondent and Business Facilitator Course. He further informed Mahesh that till date, around 500 people have been imparted training, of whom, 85 per cent have been placed with different Micro Finance Institutions for entry level jobs. On learning about the prospects of this course, Mahesh enrolled at the academy. He completed the training with dedication and enthusiasm, gaining knowledge not only on the course model, but also about banking products, money transfers and KYC. He got a grip on effective communication and the English language, and started conducting himself with good etiquettes. His skills got him placed at FICCL as a Group Credit Officer (GCO). Today, he feels happy and confident in his work, and thanks the Development Alternatives Group for the programme that helped his dream come true. He is currently earning INR 10,300 per month, supporting the education of his younger brother, and fulfilling not only the basic needs of his family, but also their dreams and aspirations.