

## Education Builds the Future: From a Farmboy to Mastering Art of Beautician

A man and a comb. A man picks haircutting scissors to his another hand and gives a friendly, grin smile. Can a man attend a beauty parlour training and become a beautician – as well as form a saloon of his own? Actually, that is just what 20-years-old Abhijee Magar has done!

### A Man and a Vision

Abhijee's parlour's name is "Facebook Unisex Saloon", as they do only face-related treatments and haircuts in the parlour. As unisex-parlour, ladies and gents are both welcomed to come in. And yes, the saloon has its own website under the famous Facebook-site.

Abhijee is a man who speaks in certain, confident and friendly voice. He is determined on what he is doing and mentions "profession" several times. Indeed, knowing what one is doing gives him good self-certainty. From the beginning of the beautician training in iLEAD he knew he will work only for himself. He wanted to be independent – and so he seems.

### Customers and Gains

In this unisex-parlour Abhijee has two co-workers: his brother-in-law and one employee. The Facebook-saloon is three months old and doing great! The parlour has had a great success and now they have 30 to 40 customers in an usual day.

After all the expenses, parlour profits about Rs. 30 000 per a month. A sum, which Abhijee shares with his brother-in-law equally. The one employee who is working in the saloon receives salary of Rs. 7 000 per a month.

In this amount of customers and salary Abhijee is very satisfied with. He uses the salary for household use, savings and a part he invests to the parlour. In the family the father makes the decisions how the money is spent among

### The Person

Name: Abhijee Magar  
Age: 20  
City: Pune  
Family: Father, mother,  
two sisters



Education until: 10<sup>th</sup>  
iLEAD-Training: Beauty parlour  
iLEAD-Batch: Completed in  
December 2012  
Employment: Owner in Facebook  
Unisex Saloon  
Salary: Rs. 15 000

household uses. His father also tells Abhijee that he can save the money for the parlour if he wants to.

### From Enjoying to Earning

Both of Abhijee's parents feel very good about their son's working. Before Abhijee was only helping in his father's farm and enjoying life, but now he is earning livelihood and taking responsibility.

Besides Abhijee's earnings, in the family there are only father's earnings from the farm – which may vary, depending on how the crops do each season. No wonder incomes from the parlour had a good improvement on the family's economy.

" Be your own self and economically independent"

- Abhijee

## Be Educated, Be Professional

But how did Abhijee meet with success so quickly? What is his secret? Abhijee replies as it's the art of working. Doing a work with professional quality. In the saloon they give their customers a professional advice what they can offer. And the customers usually do come back to hear their advices again and to purchase saloon's services.

During *i*LEAD Abhijee found out his own aim: one should work for himself, rather than depend on and work for somebody else. After 10th grade he was just working in his father's farm and enjoying life. Then Abhijee heard about the *i*LEAD from his brother-in-law, who had been to the training. Through him, Abhijee knew a little bit about the work of parlour in beforehand.

### What Did You Learn in the School Today?

In *i*LEAD Abhijee learned more about the profession of parlour and its theory and practical tricks. But not did he only attend classes, but also on his spare time Abhijee practiced what he had learned earlier during the day. He wanted to be even more proficient. Abhijee kept asking himself: "What extra can I do to this matter? How can I improve my competence and develop my own style on this work?"

Finally, just after finishing *i*LEAD Abhijee formed his own saloon with financial aid of his father and brother-in-law. Brother-in-law came also to the parlour as co-owner and they hired one employee to the parlour. Now in his work Abhijee likes the most beard shaves. That is not only shaving it off, but "shaving the beard to a new style is the best" he adds, "to do something special and new". So he has done to some clients – and they have liked the shave and keep coming back to his saloon. It gives Abhijee a good feeling of self-confidence on his work and brings a happy smile onto his face.



### Round the Clock

The saloon is open from 9am to 9pm. During a week there is no closing – the parlour is open seven days a week. For now Abhijee feels it hasn't been too much of work and he tries to meet his friends after work. Parlour's neighbours have felt that there is not too much males in this field – and so Abhijee is doing something new, which is a good matter.

On society, Abhijee feels that what men are capable of doing, so are women as well – and vice versa. Although, now this isn't applying to everywhere in India, it should be there. And it will be there. If Abhijee could help the people, then the first thing he would do is provide education to poor people and teach them how to read and write. After *i*LEAD Abhijee has participated *i*LEAD to promote the training in CMD; Community Mobilization Drive. He has also been telling his friends about the *i*LEAD. Abhijee wishes to teach in the future people more about beauty matters and make people more aware of beauty issues.

"Before I was a simple man, but now I have become a professional" young man admits. Abhijee wants to keep on building a career. In the future he wants to be well-known by his name. Maybe we will hear from this young, eager man. So keep on checking the end titles in the most famous Bollywood movies, who has been doing the stardoms' hairs and makeups. One with such a desire to use his skills and and develop his style might one day find oneself there among the most famous beauticians.