

HOPING FOR THE BEST IN THE ADVERSE CONDITIONS

Name	:	P. Spandana
Age	:	17 years
Educational	:	1 st Year B.Tech.
Father's name	:	P. Sreeramulu
Mother's name	:	P. Lalithamma
Village	:	Vankapalli
Mandal	:	Tanakallu
District	:	Anantapur

THE BACKGROUND:

The family of Sreeramulu and P Lalithamma hails from Vankapalli village of Tanakallu mandal in Anantapur district. They have two children, P. Spandana, the daughter who is now in her 1st year of B.Tech., in KMM College, Thirupati, and a son,

P. Tarun Kumar, who has completed his 10th class and to get enrolled into a college to pursue intermediate education.

The family was earning its livelihood on a petti shop being run by Sreeramulu and Lalithamma. For various reasons they have taken loans every now and then, which has now amounted to around one lakh rupees. "I heard my father explaining to mom about selling out the shop along with the stock, to repay the loan" says P. Spandana. This plan would have worked out to them, had the fate not took a twist in their life.

THE UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT:

On the unfortunate day of 19th May 2021, P. Sreeramulu had a massive heart attack, and by the time he was shifted to the nearby hospital, he breathe his lost. "This was a shock for the entire family" explains Spandana in a sad voice. It is true that the death of the family member is a shock



for anyone. The death of Sreeramulu, had a very deep impact on Lalithamma, the wife, who could not digest the fact that she has to now lead a life without her husband's support.

This feeling of her made her mentally enter into depression. Her health started deteriorating

day after day, even though her relatives and friends started counseling her and trying their best to boost her confidence. Another unfortunate day came in the life of Spandana ! it was on 14th July 2021, that Lalithamma did not wake up from the bed she slept.

Young Spandana, and Tarun Kumar turned orphans within a period of two months. They have been now staying with their paternal uncle and aunt – but the shock they have had is looking like a dream than a reality.

THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM

Young Spandana, who has been enrolled in KMM College, Tirupathi for her B.Tech., course is staying with the family as the colleges are closed down in the backdrop of COVID-19. With the death of both her parents, she is now staying with her paternal uncle's family. So, is young Tarun Kumar, who has to go for his college education. Their uncle's family is not in a position to send Spandana to college as she has to pay an amount of Rs.4000/- per month towards fee for hostel accommodation, plus other incidental charges every now and then. The further education of young Tarun Kumar is also a big challenge.

However, with the intervention of REDS team, and after discussion with the children paternal uncle and aunts, the family has agreed to see that their education continues. However, they are in need of some support in this regard so that the financial situation can ease up. The fee details of her college were also collected. Youth Tarn Kumar has decided to stay with his uncle's family instead of joining any hostel in the town. He was assured by REDS team that they will take efforts to get him a Bus Pass to travel from the village to the town where he joins the college.

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Ref No.: C1043/SVIMAT/DT/PT/20213 Date: 06/08/2021

This is to certify that the student with the following details is a bonafide student of 1st year of 4 years Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) course in our Institute during the academic years (2020-24).

Name of the student: P. Spandana
Roll No: 203C190581
Father's Name: P. Sreeramulu
Branch: B.Tech. C.S.E.

The following are the estimates of the fees to be borne by the student during the 4 years of B.Tech program (2020-24).

B.Tech (Management) Course	1 Year 2020-21	2 Year 2021-22	3 Year 2022-23	4 Year 2023-24
1 Admission /Registration/Recognition Fee	5000	5000	5000	5000
2 Common services rendered by the University	10000	40000	40000	40000
4 Project Work	---	---	---	20000
5 Books & Stationary	---	6000	7000	8000
6 University Exam Fee	---	1600	1600	1600
Sub Totals	10000	52,600	53,600	74,600
GRAND TOTAL	1,90,800			

Further it is advised that the student should own a computer at home, for better practicing on the system, the rates of which depends on the configuration of the system and prevailing market rates.
If the student stays in Hostel an average monthly expenditure of Rs.4,000/- will be incurred.

This estimate letter is issued at the request of the student for obtaining Education Loans / Assistance from different financial institutions. Payments to college shall be paid by way of DD / Pay order (Preferably UNION BANK OF INDIA) in favour of "PRINCIPAL, KMMITS" payable at TIRUPATHI.

Date: 06/08/2021

PRINCIPAL
KMM Institute of Technology & Science
RANIREDDYPALLI
TIRUPATHI - 517 101

INTERVENTION BY 'REDS'

Having heard about the death of P. Lalithamma, after the death of her husband P. Sree Ramulu, the staff of REDS visited their house on 16th July 2021. Having seen the dire conditions the children are facing they were supplied with a packet of dry ration.

Followed by this REDS staff has approached the Gram Sachivalayam of Vankapalli, explained about the death of both parents of Spandana, and enquired about the schemes applicable for their support. The Secretary of Grama Sachivalayam informed that P. Lalithamma was sanctioned an amount of of Rs.2,00,000/- under Insurance (Bheema) scheme. The amount is yet to be released.

Later the staff of REDS also approached the APM of VELUGU, and enquired about the schemes and entitlements applicable for P. Sreeramulu, which the children of the deceased can avail. The APM has responded saying that they do not have funds for sanctioning. But he assured that they will contact and inform the same to the children of the family once they receive funds under Insurance (Beema) from the government.

The case is under follow-up.

THE STORY OF A VILLAGE WHICH 'ELIMINATED' COVID-19

ABOUT THE VILLAGE

Chamalagondi is a remote village in Gandlapenta mandal of Anantapur district. It is about 8 kms. from the mandal headquarter village Gandlapenta, and 20 kms. from Kadiri, the nearest major municipal corporation town. This village is about 110 kms from the district headquarter town Anantapur. The village lies amidst the foots of hillocks, having no bus facility to the village. The villagers depend on private autos for their travel from the village to the other places.

Name of the village	:	Chamalagondi
Mandal	:	Gandlapenta
District	:	Anantapur
State	:	Andhra Pradesh

The village has a population of 1969 (Women – 966; Men – 1003) as per census 2021. Majority of the population depend on agriculture related wage employment. However, they are also dependent on multiple skilled works for their day to day earning during the season when they do not get farm labour.

In the month of May, 2021, a total of **five (5)** COVID-19 cases were reported in this village. All of them have been admitted into the quarantine centre. However, as the condition of 2 patients turned serious, they were shifted to Anantapur Super Specialty Hospital for intensive treatment. The other 3 members, after 14 days of quarantine, returned to the village after they were tested negative. It is a very positive news that the two patients who have been admitted into the Super Specialty Hospital also recovered, and returned safe to the village.



At this juncture, the villagers have conducted an internal meeting among themselves and formulated certain strict rules to eliminate the spread of COVID-19 in the village. They don't want to see even a single person die of COVID-19 in their village. The collectively taken decisions were:

- ⇒ Not to allow any new/unknown persons into the village;
- ⇒ Not to leave the village (not to go to other villages) unless it is an emergency;
- ⇒ For supply of ration; vegetables etc., one person was identified and he only was allowed to go outside the village, that too once a week only;
- ⇒ All the villagers have to purchase the ration, greens and vegetables etc., from him only;
- ⇒ If there is a need for Medicines, they should contact the local ANM (Auxiliary Nurse-Midwife) and get them from her only;

- ⇒ If they come outside their houses they should wear masks – at work sites, in the fields and in all such places;
- ⇒ Person coming back from work should take a bath as soon as they reach home;
- ⇒ Should follow all the COVID-19 protocols like frequently washing hands and face; maintain physical distance while interacting with others; or in public;
- ⇒ All should take COVID-19 vaccination.

REDS, as a part of its COVID Relief Program, has identified a Volunteer in this village. The Volunteer and the local ANM were supplied with Oximeters, Thermo-metre, PP Kits, Masks, and Sanitizer. They both have conducted 'Door-to-Door' Fever survey in the village. REDS has also appointed a person by name "Mahendra" who was assigned with the responsibility of creating awareness about COVID-19 and allied topics among the people. He is extending his committed services by visiting the families at regular intervals, enquiring about the family health conditions etc.

It is worth mention that the collective efforts of all these have resulted that all the villagers in this village have got 2 doses of vaccination. Except the 5 cases reported earlier in the month of May 2021, no new cases were reported in this village, as the villagers have strictly adhered to the restrictions/conditions they have self-imposed.



This village has successfully Eliminated COVID-19 from their village.

Raging war against COVID-19

A Story of dedicated REDS Volunteer & his Team

Name of the village	: Thumukunta
Mandal	: Galiveedu
District	: YSR Kadapa
State	: Andhra Pradesh
Name of the volunteer	: G. Chiranjeevi

ABOUT THUMAKUNTA VILLAGE

THUMUKUNTA, the major gram panchayath village is about 10 kms from the mandal headquarters GALIVEEDU, and 86 kms from the district headquarters town of Kadapa.

Total population of Thumukunta, as per the statistics of 2011, is 2699, of which 1317 are women and 1382 are men. Agriculture is the major profession of the communities, and majority of the population depends on agri-based wage employment along with other unskilled works.

When it comes to COVID-19 infection, as per the statistics, 3% of the Indian population was infected with it. The infection rate in Andhra Pradesh is reported as 3.39%, whereas it is as low as 0.28% in Thumukunta village.



It is also to be mentioned that this village has got the distinction of lowest COVID infected villages in the entire Galiveedu mandal. The total number of COVID-19 infected cases in this village are Nine (9), and all of them have recovered under home quarantine itself. **No deaths occurred due to COVID-19 in this village.**



There are certain major contributing factors for this achievement. There went up a collective team work which included, a committee was formed by involving the Volunteer of REDS, ANM, ASHA Worker, the Gram Sachivalayam staff. The committee has planned various activities to be taken up in the village, and regular reviews and planning sessions were also conducted. Some of the major aspects focused were:

⇒ Continuous awareness camps were conducted in the village. Door to door awareness visits were paid to educate the families about the preventive measures to be taken to protect themselves from COVID-19 infection.



⇒ Fever test was conducted for every individual in the village.

⇒ Track record of the 9 persons infected was maintained on a day-to-day basis, and their health condition was closely monitored to ensure that the condition is stable and under control. Time to time suggestions regarding health, hygiene, good, sanitation was explained and duly monitored by this team.

Sensitive places where there is a scope for the spread of COVID-19 were identified and precautions to be taken were informed. The sensitive places included places where MGNREGS works are in progress – as the wage labour work



in groups, and do not maintain social distance and other precautions. Hence, they were specifically targeted and they were made:

- ⇒ To wear masks while they are at work;
- ⇒ To work maintaining suggested distance between one person to another;
- ⇒ Not to use the instruments, spades, sickles etc., used by others.



It was also observed that there is a high risk of virus spread during the weekly market days. Hence, decision was taken to allow a vehicle with greens and vegetables to into the village, and it moves around each street to enable the villagers buy them at their door steps.

Similarly, all such sports and games were prohibited which involved more than 2 players from different families.

All these efforts and collective decision taken by the committee and strictly followed by the villagers have given the positive and expected results. This village has turned into a COVID-19 secure village without any further spread and not even a single death due to COVID-19.

