

Success Is A Matter of Choice After All!

Energising Organisations through Wholesome Leadership

Wholesome Leader, Kamath tells the story of his son, Sarthak Kamath.

Sarthak Thanks Others For His Success.

By Kaushik Chakravarthy (BANGALORE)

A score of 91 per cent in SSLC examination might have seemed like a distant dream for Sarthak Kamath a few years ago, when some of the city's famed schools refused to admit him.

But Sarthak, who suffers from a rare incurable degenerative condition known as Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy is made of sterner stuff. In fact, life cannot offer enough challenges for this mischievous 15-year-old boy, who exudes confidence that belies the pimples on his face.



ACHIEVER Sarthak with his family. DH photo

Sarthak's condition was discovered by his parents when he was four and he himself discovered it when he was ten and since then it has been a survival against all muscular odds. But the student, who has just completed his SSLC from ASM High School in Nandini Layout and wants to pursue a career in biology, says the achievement might not have been possible without the support of those around him.

Sarthak says "I went without a school for six months after I finished my seventh standard from NPS, Rajajinagar. But I am grateful to our school principal Parvathy who admitted me and made special arrangements." He credits his mother, little sister Sanmita, father, grandmother, class teacher, watchman, driver and everyone who has adapted their lives and made sacrifices for him and helped him overcome his condition for the success.

He has secured 95 in social studies, 94 in English, 90 in science and 85 in his weakest subject Maths. Sarthak's genius is not restricted to his exploits in academics alone. He is also an ace keyboard player and loves rock and is a chess enthusiast.

And to add a touch of adolescent mischief, he also fancies himself as the coach of the IPL team Bangalore Royal Challengers and says "I should be their coach and they will be a lot higher in the table." His proud mother Sneha Kamath says "It was hard for me to accept that an active child who excelled in roller skating and swimming was suddenly tied to a wheelchair. But he has been a source of inspiration for all of us. He wrote the SSLC exams despite of having the choice of a scribe." She adds that Sarthak must be a source of inspiration to everybody who suffers from degenerative illnesses.

Sarthak's simple message to children like him is "Visualize only positive things. Don't lose your confidence and be honest."