

Portal's gesture

Statesman News Service

KOLKATA, June 24: If you think that people from the corporate world are self centred and socially irresponsible, think again. And if you see "scraping" in Orkut as just another fad for teenagers and privileged young adults, it's time for a reality check.

"*Esho kichu kori* (Let's start something)" was a concept that was born in Orkut and the people who came forward and formed this organisation to provide financial help to poor but meritorious students are mostly from the corporate sector.

The germination of the idea took place in Orkut but then IT personnel,

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teachers, homemakers and journalists alike joined their forces and met on the steps of Madhusudan Mancha for their first meeting and to chart their course. Their dreams finally took shape with the formation of *Esho Kichu Kori* as a registered society in February this year.

In this short time, EKK has already supported a number of students from myriad backgrounds but essentially similar in their tales of poverty. For instance, Shibu Tudu, who hails from Ilampur village of Hooghly district, has ranked 87th in West Bengal Joint

Entrance Exam in engineering under Scheduled Caste category. His mother died of cancer while his father is afflicted with paralysis. EKK has decided to extend support to him.

Subrata Barman is among the first success stories of EKK. He comes from Raigunj and worked as a mason. He secured 95 per cent in Madhyamik Examination. Subrata wants to be a doctor and has ranked 30th in WBJEE under Scheduled Caste category. Sunil Ray, a boy from Dinhatata, works as a daily wage earner and supports his family. He has got 81 per cent in the Madhyamik Examination this year. Both are being supported by EKK.

But what is more unique about EKK is the emphasis on "giving back to the community" which the members are trying to inculcate among the students receiving the assistance. "We do not want to function like a post office, sending assistance to the students who are financially weak. We also want to create in them a feeling for the rest of the community. It can be through teaching other students or helping us organise blood donation camps but they must give back even a little of what they receive from us," said Mrs Abira Ghosh, secretary of the organisation. If you want to seek help or extend your cooperation visit ekk.org.in.