

IT'S GOLD FOR AMDAVADI

By Brendan Dabhi | Updated: Apr 17, 2017, 12:20 PM IST



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His mom vouches for his keyboard skills

A 23-year-old from Aapnu Amdavad became the youngest student of the first batch to pass out from Indian Institute of Management Nagpur (IIMN) and win its top honour. Dhruv Suchak, the only Gujarati student at the premier institute, won the all-rounder's gold medal from Union Minister Nitin Gadkari at the first convocation held on April 14. The gold medal is awarded to the student who excels overall in academics, sports, cultural activities and represents on the institute in various competitions. Dhruv was a member of the marketing and cultural clubs.

By his own admission, he plays the keyboard and his mother backs him for the way he performs. To stay fit, he plays badminton. Grocer's son, Dhruv said that though his family is not rich, he could go to IIM, whose fees is Rs 10 lakh for a two-year course, due to easy availability of loans. He said, "Once you get into IIM, just about any bank will give you a loan." A Gujarati medium student throughout, he passed out of CN Vidyalaya and proceeded to complete his graduation in mechanical engineering from LD Engineering College. He cleared CAT and secured admission at IIM Nagpur.

About him being the youngest student in the first batch, he said, "Mostly, it so happens that people work in the industry for a couple of years and then attempt to get admission into an IIM. However, I directly applied after graduation and got in." The students there were mentored by IIMA and Dhruv even did one term at the institute in the city. Even though he was the only Gujarati in his batch, Dhruv said he had little trouble in Nagpur. "Although there is no culture of speaking in English in engineering colleges, I tried to keep speaking and learnt enough to communicate well with the others."

Dhruv got placement with an insurance company in Pune. However, he says that his ultimate aim is to teach management students. His mother Parul beams with pride at her son's achievement. "We are proud of Dhruv. He has struggled hard to be where he is today. Although he has always been a sincere student and fast learner, he has reached higher than anyone ever imagined." Speaking of what advice he would give other IIM aspirants, Dhruv said, "I would only say what my teacher once said to me: Sakhat ane Sattat mehnat (Strong and constant hard work)."