

## **Shruti Suhas Kadam - (Lila Fellow - 2011)**

A strong, hardworking girl, hugely inspired by her mother, Shruti Kadam is everything that a Lila Fellow aspires to be. She is a focused and committed student, paving her way to success.

Shruti Kadam (LF-2011) was born to a middle-class family in Chinchwad, Pune, and lost her father while she was still in school. Brought up by her mother and grandparents, Shruti knew very early on that she needed to become financially independent and do her mother proud. Her mother had great dreams for her, and Shruti was determined to fulfil them and touch the stars.

Shruti was her mother's only child, and recognised the need to do her best in everything she attempted. Her mother was her role-model, her greatest source of encouragement and support, pushing Shruti to outdo herself, without caring about what the world would say. Aware of her responsibilities at a very young age, Shruti strived towards excellence, learning the importance of being firm and focused.

Shruti was a smart child, smart enough to understand all the efforts her mother put in to ensure that Shruti had a good education. They dreamed of a bright future and never let anyone or anything come in the way. Shruti was determined to establish a career for herself – and not just any career, the career of her choice.

Shruti's mother is a housewife and as a growing teenager, Shruti wanted to reduce the financial burden that her mother bore in order to support her education. It was when Shruti was in her first year (B.Com.) at Symbiosis College that she learned about Lila Poonawalla Foundation (LPF) and decided to apply to it for her postgraduate studies.

As an MBA student at Modern College, under the University of Pune, Shruti was now a Lila Fellow, well on the way to standing on her own two feet. It is true that her mother no longer needed to support her financially, but Shruti is quick to point out that the LPF scholarship has not given her just financial support. Shruti's relationship with the LPF is like a relationship with a newly-discovered family. Scholarships are merely to overcome temporary financial struggles. A scholarship may be essential, but the LPF scholarship is far more than that; a relationship like the one she has with the LPF lasts a lifetime. She treasures the insights that the LPF programmes have given her and is confident that they will help her in the future.

Shruti finds herself lucky to have such a wonderful role model in her mother, and strives to be a similar source of inspiration to others, wherever life takes her. In the long run, Shruti aims to work with the Reserve Bank of India. An active girl, Shruti grabs every opportunity that comes her way and has completed her diploma in the French language from the Alliance

Française de Pune. She has developed a passion for the language and wants to pursue it along with her career. . She has completed summer internship in KPIT Cummins in Finance. Now she is working at Airport Authority of India (Mumbai) as Executive Finance with 7 lakhs per annum package. Those are the stepping stones – working hard, following her passion and staying committed. Treading lightly on them, Shruti is sure to find success!