Inakhunbi of Singjamei Thongam Leikai, aged 35 years married to a blind man was considered completely mad by her relatives and neighbours. A graduate and physically fit lady marrying a blind man made disappointment to her parents. Her relatives and friends tried to separate them. So they hid away from place to place for about a month and they got married in a court.

Inakhunbi’s husband Lokrakpam Milan Singh, a matriculate from Ideal Blind School completed one year course on General Mechanic cum Machine operator and worked for six months at New Delhi, in a private company. On returning to Manipur he worked in an industry for some years. People took advantage of his blindness and did not give him proper share. He was disappointed from their ill treatment. After their marriage, together they established Emoinu Iron and Steel Industry at Singjamei. The welding work was completely new to Inakhunbi. Keeping faith in her husband’s talent and for their livelihood, she challenged to go to the welding work. At first she can’t even open her eyes properly for about a week while doing the work. She had to face lots of trouble with their two children.

Inakhunbi said, “No one is ready to give support to me. Even there is a saying that God ushers his blessing only to wealthy people. For our means of livelihood as well as for running the business it is a difficult task to borrow money from others. During that time we have to wait for order so that we may get advances for working Capital. I am happy to be a member of Chanura. Chanura has shown a ray of hope to our life”. In the first cycle loan, she received a sum of Rs. 5000. From that money she bought raw materials and effectively run the industry. When she qualified for the second cycle loan, she got Rs. 15,000. Along with this loan amount, saving & money borrowed from neighbors bought a seat bending machine. She said “It was our dream to own a bending machine which can be a tremendous help in running our business. And our dream came true within a short period with the help of Chanura. So, I give my heartiest gratitude to Chanura”.

Now, they bring out products like Iron Almirah, Table, Chair, Sign Board, Cabinet, windows frame, Gate Grill and laboratory pipelines for colleges etc., and also give employment opportunity to seven other persons on contract basis. It is needless to say that her economic condition is steadily improving day by day and thus the net profit per month stands at Rs. 7,000.

Her husband Mr. Milan said, “In every success of a man there is a hand of a woman. So is my case, Inakhunbi is the woman in my life”.

Inakhunbi concludes, “Chanura makes our family a happy family. I thank Chanura for their support”.

CASE HISTORY

LIGHT TO A BLIND HUSBAND