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## Son of a rickshaw driver makes it to NDA

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RICKSHAW driver Chandrakant Gholap has been ferrying schoolchildren every day while his wife does tailoring work to run the family of four. Their hard work has paid: Their 18-year-old son Krishnakant has made it to the National Defence Academy (NDA).

"There is nothing more we could have expected from our son. He has made us proud by making it to the NDA. He will serve the country as a defence officer," the 43-year old rickshaw driver said.

He said his son has always been good in academics, but his joining the defence forces is a big thing for them as he is the first one in the entire family to do so.

Though, he would continue to ferry children to school, Gholap said: "I will proudly tell the children that my son



Krishnakant and his father Chandrakant Gholap

has got into the NDA."

For Krishnakant, it's a dream come true. He is all set to quit the bachelor of engineering course taken up by him this year. "I am a mechanical engineering student at Sinhgad Institute of Engineering and will leave it to join the NDA," he said.

Recalling the inspiration behind his decision to join the

NDA, Krishnakant said one of his seniors in school had got through the NDA and had told us about his experiences.

After deciding to join the NDA, Krishnakant said he prepared for the written examination, interview and personality development under the guidance of Col Pradeep Brahmanekar.