



State Award – Andhra Pradesh

Pole Climber

Nannem Tirupathi Rao
Prakasham, Andhra Pradesh
Scout: Palle Srujana

Tirupathi Rao (27) is an electrician by profession. He left studies after completing intermediate due to poor economic background and started working for laying out electrical lines as a sub-contractor. He has been engaged in this work for the past 12 years and has worked in many states including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Rao found it difficult to climb electric poles made of cement. Therefore in 2016, he began designing a device to aid in climbing up the electric poles of all types. He successfully developed a prototype after many trials and modifications. He used the

developed pole climber himself initially for climbing the electric pole, to instill confidence in others.

The pole climber is made of a 16 mm steel rod, shaped into a square and bent suitably. Two such pieces are used in tandem by the climber. He has fixed leather sandals on this bent frame. The climber simply shoves his feet into the sandals and climbs the electric pole using this innovation as one climbs a staircase. It is easy to learn and provides comfort in climbing which otherwise is a difficult operation. It is safe, as each climber is tested for 150 kg weight. One can sit on it and work with both hands.

