

Dear Pankaj ji,

## I. Highlights of July

- A 'need analysis' was conducted in Lucknow, with the view of extending the reach of the Toilet projects in Uttar Pradesh. As a result, we will be working with a few government schools in town for the toilet project.
- We hired a local person from Uttar Pradesh to oversee our activities for our Projects in and around Ramnagar, Varanasi; and now Lucknow.
- Our first batch of 10 toilet units has reached Bijapur, Karnataka. The installation will start first week of August.
- **Bidar Project:** 21 of the 30 toilet units we had installed have been damaged by natural elements. We are addressing this issue and will resolve it in couple of weeks.
- **Varanasi Project:** The 30 toilets installed in Ratanbagh and Biti villages are in excellent condition and are being put to good use. The community is ever thankful to Sewa International for their faith.

## II. Visit to Lucknow

We visited Lucknow during second week of July. Mr. and Mrs. Alok Singh helped us in identifying places where we can extend our help to the deprived communities. One of the schools we have identified has been featured in a local newspaper because of the dire condition of its infrastructure. No one has extended help to the school management (See Figure 1). We have initiated procedure to acquire permission to help the school management with toilets and drinking water. We will be identifying more schools in similar state in the near future.



Figure 1: Newspaper clip covering bad condition of school infrastructure

### III. New Addition to Our Sewa team

We hired a field coordinator to oversee our projects in Uttar Pradesh. Since 80% of our work will be conducted in Uttar Pradesh, we felt it appropriate to have a local person who can aid us in identifying the places where we can provide our services.

Mrs. Monica comes with immense experience in Journalism. She is very much interested in working with us to serve the deprived communities. Sewa Bangalore team will coordinate with her on weekly basis and generate reports from Varanasi as well as from other regions.



**Figure 2:** Monica ji(Dressed in Purple) involved in one of the Charity Events

### IV. Bijapur, Karnataka

We had ordered 10 toilet units in June and we received them on 24<sup>th</sup> July ( see Figure 3). Our field coordinator Jayanth will be there during the first week of August to oversee the installation.

After finishing this work, we will be picking up Dindigul and Bandipur projects in Karnataka before we head to Uttar Pradesh.



**Figure 3:** Unloading Truck and depositing them at the school premises

## V. Bidar Karnataka

We were shocked to see the bad condition of 21 of the 30 toilet units we had installed in November 2016. School management informed us that the toilet units were damaged due to unforeseen natural elements. (See Figure 3)

We invited the Bidar Management to Bangalore on 25<sup>th</sup> July for a face-to-face meeting and explained the gravity of the situation to them. They agreed to take appropriate action to repair and maintain the damaged units. The school management will provide funding. We will be monitoring the issue very closely.



**Figure 3: Damaged toilet units at Bidar.**

## VI. Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

We were pleasantly surprised to see the changes in the community surrounding Ratanbagh and biti villages. When we went there first, pigs were roaming around, there were a lot of garbage and mosquitos. However, during our recent visit, the same villages were 'spick and span'! The villagers had put in a lot of efforts that made us happy. We hope they will set an example to other communities. (See Figure 4).



**Figure 4: Toilet units @ varanasi**



Thank you and warm Regards

Sewa International's Toilet & Hygiene Project for a Girl Child Team