



Sewa International is a Non-Government Organization (NGO) bridging the gap between the privileged and the under-served.

DECEMBER 2017 UPDATES - SEWA INTERNATIONAL'S TOILET AND HYGIENE PROJECT FOR A GIRL CHILD

I. Highlights

- Installed 20 toilets in Ramnagar, Varanasi
- Installed 7 toilet unit for 3 Government schools in Lucknow
- Fund Raising Event at the Dublin High Center for Performing Arts & Education in the Bay Area

II. Ramnagar, Varanasi (UP)

We installed 20 toilet units in the village of Macharahatta Idga, Ramnagar this December. There are 500+ families in this village, a Muslim handloom weaver community.

Logistical issues have arisen: each toilet weighs 215 kg (474 lbs), creating many obstacles during the installation process. Our truck transporting the toilet units broke down en route, and a laborer was injured during the installation process. However, despite all the difficulties, we managed to install all the units in 2 weeks. (See figure 1)



Figure 1: Installed Toilets @ Macharahatta Idga Village, Ramnagar

III. Lucknow (UP)

In Nadar Ganj, we installed a toilet unit in Primary School Aazad Nagar with the school's cooperation. Previously, they had no functioning toilet; the children, school staff, and parents are pleased and thankful to Sewa International's Toilet and Hygiene Project Team.

In Krishna Nagar Pandit Kheda, prior to the installation of our toilet, there was conflict between primary and upper primary schools. Both schools are in the same compound, but only primary school had a toilet – that too in very bad state – and primary school staff did not allow upper primary school girls to use the facility. Now they are thrilled to have their own Sewa toilet.

Government authorities and the citizens of Lucknow are recognizing Sewa International's efforts in the deployment of toilets to government schools. BJP Uttar Pradesh state vice president and Vidhan Sabha Prabhari Shri J.P.S. Rathore-Ji inaugurated the Sewa toilet at Primary School Bholi Kheda, Kanosi, Krishna Nagar, Alam Bhagh. (See figure 2)



Figure 2: Shri JPS Rathore Inaugurating the Toilet Primary School Bhola Kheda, Kanosi, Krishna Nagar, Alam Bhagh

IV. Fund Raising Event at Dublin High Center for Performing Arts & Education, Bay area

Sewa International's Bay Area Chapter recently arranged a dance extravaganza as a fundraiser for our project.

Vidushi Mrs. Naina Shastri and Namaha Foundation for the Arts, a San Ramon-based non-profit art organization spearheaded efforts to bring together nine prominent dance schools and Shanti Youth Choir for this unique program. Featuring over 125 performers, an attentive audience of over three hundred people sat enthralled.

Following schools with their directors performed during this magical event:

- Indradhanush Dance Academy: Bidisha Mohanty
- The Chitresh Das Institute: Charlotte Moraga
- NrityaTara School of Odissi Dance: Dipti Mallik
- T & D Dance Classes: Hemali Gondhalekar
- Jumpin' at The SUN: Lindsey Neville
- Ushanjali School of Dance: Naina Shastri
- Tarana Dance Academy: Pragya Dasgupta
- Sanskaar School of Dance: Samidha Satyam
- Shanti Youth Choir: Pranita Suraiya and Aanal Anjaria
- Sunita Pendakanti's School for Kuchipudi Dance

The show was compiled by Mrs. Naina Shastri, Mrs. Shalini Ramchandran and Akash Mankude.

Chief Guest of the evening was Mrs. Jayanthi Ramanan, the Director of Sewa International Project Director in India. Jayanthi-ji and Shree Jayant Somani-ji, President of Sewa Bay Area Chapter, inaugurated the program.

The highlight of the program was an art exhibition by students of Mrs. Minu Shukla. A painting was sold to raise \$500 towards the Girl's hygiene program. Ms. Chinmayi Shukla handed over the check to Mrs. Jayanthi Ramanan, the program director. (See figure 3)

Bay Area Chapter raised about \$6000 for the project through ticket sales, advertisements and donations.



Figure 3: Students Performing in the Event (left),
Jayanthi Ramanan Receiving \$500 Cheque from the Organizers (Right)



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