



Sewa International Toilet For The Girl Child Project June - 2016



Highlights:

Installation of 83 toilets to date, 50 in 2015 and 33 in 2016 year to date.

Plan to build 72 more toilets in the next few months.

30 in a Girl's School in Bidar, Northern Karnataka,

30 in the weavers' community in Varanasi, and

12 in the tribal community near Chidambaram, Tamilnadu.

Continuing Comprehensive Approach for the Development of the Girl Child in India:

Sanitation – toilets and affordable sanitary napkins

Health – Monthly health camps covering dental, eyes, hygiene and over all health

Education - Starting education centers in slums for after school coaching

Environment - Teaching waste management, composting,

Please find below various initiatives to complement our core programs!

North Karnataka weaver Community Visit

Sewa International team visited the handloom industry in and around Haveri, Dharwad, Hubli, Belgaum and Bagalkot. They are part of Northern Karnataka. We were searching for places where government help has not reached the people, where basic necessities of life were lacking. This unique ancient art of handloom is near extinction in these villages.

- Got to know several forms of textiles made in Karnataka with rich history but nearing extinction
- Met some weaver families who live below poverty line.
- Connected with volunteers who were enthusiastic and willing to contribute



Disturbing facts of the weavers who weave colorful threads but whose life has no color in itself:

- Reeking poverty - weavers work 11 to 12 hours a day on the handloom and earn Rs 50 to 100 per day
- As a result, thousands of handlooms have bitten the dust
- People are misusing the power subsidy provided by the government
- People who need Government help are sitting idle because of lack of information and inability to reach higher authorities
- Power looms are dominating the textile industry. They flood the market with quantities that exceed the consumer need. There is no art left in the sarees as they are produced with cheap, imported silk and polyester mix from China and other countries. This is due to lack of capital for the locals to invest in good quality of raw materials.
- Middle-men purchase the sarees at a rock bottom price (sometimes at less than their cost) from the weavers and sell it at more than tenfold price increase.

Villages we have Adopted:



1. Deshnoor :

Hundreds of families who depend on income through handloom with:

- No toilet facilities
- Unpaved roads
- No Drinking water
- No Electricity

2. Kotkola :

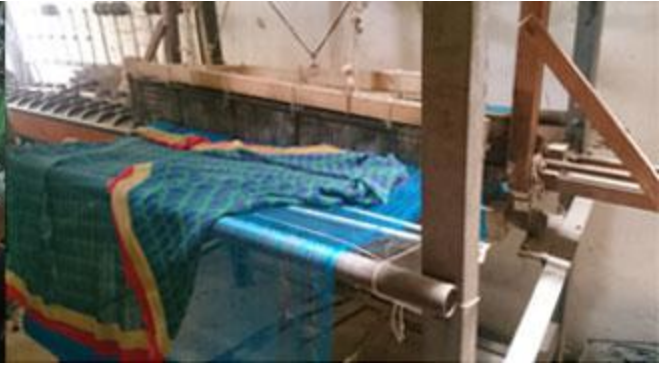
300 families who are still living in the early independence decade of India

Actions taken by seva kirana team:

- Our team has started working parallel with government to build toilets and meet community needs

Doddaballapur Devanga Community Visit

Doddaballapur is located north of Bangalore and is filled with weaver families. Unfortunately these families have quit their traditional profession and have migrated to the capital city to work as laborers to support their family



Very few have stayed back but they too have switched to powerlooms. As they are unable to invest in creating good products, they have resorted to producing imitations of the products available in the market using low quality raw materials in.

Projects Identified:

Facilitate to open education center for the weaver community children

Health

Progressive spectacles distribution for the elders of the Adugodi slum Community

Elders of the community who have worked as daily laborers and factory workers are left without any pension for their retired life hence they depend on their children for their basic needs. Buying a spectacles worth Rs 600 is out of the question for them.

Every month Team Seva kirana focus on these community elders of different local areas of Bangalore.



This June we distributed spectacles worth Rs 30,000 to 46 elders of Adugodi courtesy Sharada Rotary Health Care. All these efforts become worthwhile when we see the smile on their faces upon wearing the spectacles and seeing clearly for the first time!

School bus for Chintamani Government School for Girls

We keep hearing and seeing headlines in newspaper and tv channels stating “ a girl was raped on the way to her school “ or “ a woman was raped on the way back home” Which stirs our hearts for few minutes and we forget about it next day. Imagine if it happens to our wife/sister/daughter :it’s a scar you carry throughout your life

Unfortunately this tragedy struck one of the parents who sent their 14 year old daughter to school in the morning and didn't expect to find her brutally raped and abused lifeless body in the evening.



Fearing the same fate for their daughters, parents of neighboring villages stopped sending their daughters to school.

Seva kirana with the help of Rashthrothana under Hindu SevaPrathishta donated Rs 3 lakhs for a school bus to ensure safety of the girl child from the villages. This has helped them to attend school and achieve their dreams while ensuring their safety.

Planting 2500 saplings along with L & T Company volunteers

Whenever there is an opportunity to serve the community our team has always led the way. One such opportunity arrived through L & T Company and we joined hands with them for this social cause.

It felt good to be part of the tree planting, forming a human chain to water the plants, taking turns to fill the holes with mud and tying the sapling to the supporting pole.



End of the day even though our shoes were pretty heavy to lift due the embedded soil on the soles, mud on our clothes , our hearts were filled with the joy of seeing acres of

waste land filled with thousands of saplings.

Athiguppe Dental Camp in Government school

As part of our monthly health camps, In June we conducted oral check up in Athiguppe government girls' school. Our summer interns Prasann, Smruthi and Nidhi visited every classroom of the school educating the children about importance of the oral hygiene and taught them how to brush their teeth with proper strokes of the tooth brush.



Our sevarthis (female workers) from HSP helped us by providing their time and effort. We are thankful to the doctors from Rajiv Gandhi Dental College for making this camp successful.



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