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

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# SEWA INTERNATIONAL'S TOILET AND HYGIENE PROJECT FOR A GIRL CHILD September - 2016



# Bengaluru, Karnataka – Toilet Installation

We are happy to inform that SEWA INTERNATIONAL'S TOILET AND HYGIENE PROJECT FOR A GIRL CHILD has crossed the magic number **100** this month. From last June 2015 to September 2016 we have installed 113 toilets reaching out to 2000 school children, 2250 families. This could not have been possible without our generous donors, who are backing our time and efforts in reaching the underserved communities in India.

5 Toilets in Bheemshakthinagar, 120 families - Bengaluru, Karnataka



4 Toilets in Tande Periyarnagar, 130 families - Bengaluru, Karnataka





# Varanasi, Ramnagar - Toilet Installation

Sewa International's Toilet and Hygiene Project for a girl child team ran into floods, slums with no drainage and poverty reeking in every way possible when we visited Varanasi Sept 8 - 26 to complete installation of 30 toilets for the weaver community.

Varanasi is the holiest place for Hindus around the world, but the city is under developed in technology, Education and Manufactured goods and services. Farming is the main source of income.

The overall sewer system and hygiene are poor. The sewers drain into Ganges, our holy river and people are totally unperturbed about this.



We installed 30 soak pits, one pit for each toilet, thus preventing the sewage from the toilets going to the open culverts. We had to do a great deal of damage control by creating awareness about the usage of toilets and why the sewage from the toilets should not be connected to the culverts that emptied into the river Ganges. Initially there were angry comments from the community. Finally they understood the value of soak pits and happily started building the soak pits with us.

The Toilets arrived with damages from transportation.

In pouring rain, the team repaired the flaws in each toilet, hired a carpenter to check the latches, cemented the floors, built steps for elevated toilets, and finally added Calcium chloride, sand and broken pebbles to the soak pits and closed them. It was a marathon job for the Sewa team!

Our donors wished to be recognized by putting their names on the toilets. The Sewa team took care of that as well! We took pictures and finished the project successfully in great spirits.

Ekanandji from the Varanasi Sewa staff will be in charge of inspection and maintenance of these 30 units.

Kudos to our sewa team for thinking out side the box and sticking to our principle of clear and conscious work ethics and successful completion of the project on time and on budget! Every city or town is known for a unique factor, it may be a cultural aspect or a traditional or commercial aspect. It is just unfortunate for the residents of Raichur district that their land is known mostly for poverty, malnutrition and oppressive weather conditions. Over the last decade several hundred articles and reports have been published with striking titles But it is sad that no permanent actions have been taken up to address these issues.



Last month when Seva Kirana received invitation from Raichur BJP slum morcha president, we were very glad to be part of opportunity to be a helping hand in elevating the poor community. It hit us at the start of the journey towards Raichur itself that spoke volumes about the status of the Raichur. After crossing Bagalkot up to Raichur town roads were in deplorable condition, journey of 346 Kms from Belgaum to Raichur took us almost 12 hours.

The hotel we checked into was good until we got muddy brown stinking water for bathing in the morning and we had to search all over again for a decent lodging.

Our first visit was to SIA THALAP slum, one of the largest slum communities of Raichur. Over 25,000 people live here in wretched living condition. They get water for 1 hour every alternate day and the sad part is this tap shared by 20 to 30 families. Surrounding area is a mosquito breeding site. Water that is provided is muddy it is unfit to household usage let alone drinking it but without other alternative they have to survive on this. They live in inhabitable ramshackle houses made of bamboo charpoy (cot made of bamboo sticks). To sum it up they are living in a very bad condition that no other fellow human should live in.



Our next visit was to Chandrabanda slum, we can finish the report of this slum in few lines and THEY ARE

"No drinking water, No roads, No toilets, No streetlights, No drainage, even though it is a legally registered slum, till now people have not received house property papers which is a critical situation because without those papers they cannot apply to any government

schemes for the poor. Children and young adults have to walk two to three kilometers for school and college."

Our last visit was to sindol community slum, the living conditions were similar to our last two visited slums, their 15\*20 feet houses were constructed under Government scheme a decade ago and the houses are in shambles now, fearing the condition of the house, people sleep outside their houses when it is not raining.

Action taken by our team: Work in parallel with Government to give their basic rights, our local team has already started compiling and issuing the basic documents to apply for their rights.







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