

Annual Report 2019



Sewa International

Toilet and Hygiene Project for the Girl Child

From the Director's Desk

As we come to the end of yet another productive year, we would like to thank all the donors; without you this would not be possible. With your support, we have built 478 toilets across 6 Indian States. (Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal)

In 2019, we received great support from all the Sewa Chapters and corporate initiatives, with Google sponsoring 50 toilets, Phoenix young volunteers raising funds through "Hike for Sewa" campaign, LEAD students of North Jersey raising \$11,000 through car washes, Riya Dadheech, a vibrant 13 year old girl from New Jersey raising \$30,000 through her paintings, was truly an amazing act of compassion and kindness.

A special thanks to Google LLC, HSS Norway, and enthusiastic fund raising endeavors by Sewa Bay Area chapter Karyakarthis. Our monthly newsletters and project reports, provide the details of each project from the need analysis phase to project completion phase. Our honest, sincere and tenacious team made sure the projects are executed according to the donor's satisfaction. We encourage anyone visiting India to personally spend sometime visiting our projects.

As we close 2019, we salute you for your compassion, and appreciate your continued support, as we are making huge impact in the most under served communities. Let 2020 brighten the horizon for one and all.

Mrs. Jayanthi Ramanan
Executive Director

Our Journey..

Sewa International's Toilet and Hygiene Project for the Girl Child was conceived to provide sanitation facilities to girls who belong to the vulnerable section of Indian society so that they can overcome social and cultural norms of the till now accepted practice of open defecation outside of the home.

There are several 'rights' given to citizens of India but the right to a safe, secure, and healthy life at home and in schools is not one of them. Thus, we believe a "Right to Sanitation Facilities", especially for our women and girl children who face several challenges everyday just to attend nature calls in a safe and secure environment, is much needed. We are committed to providing such toilet facilities in communities, neighborhoods, and schools, where they are not available so that we can ensure both dignity and safety to women and girl children.

In 2015, Sewa started the "#Yes! I can go to School" program in the slums and government schools of Bengaluru, Karnataka with generous founding support for multiple years from Pankaj Agrawal of Chicago, USA. We expanded our project to 3 new Indian states this year. (Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal) Since 2015, our sanitation projects have benefited 7,803 families and 29,379 school children from various sections of Indian communities.



Our Impact



478
Toilets



29,379
Students



7,803
Families



6
Indian States

“ Thank you Sewa team, for understanding our needs. It was very difficult for us to attend nature calls as most of our toilets were in bad condition. With the leaking roof and damaged doors, we felt unsafe to use them. We thank you for the new toilets. We feel safe now. ”

- Class 9 students, Uttar Pradesh



2019 Highlights



GOOGLE PROJECT
We have constructed 25 toilets each in Karnataka (Belgaum) and Uttar Pradesh (Mirzapur)

50

33

UTTAR PRADESH AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH
We have constructed 20 toilet units across Uttar Pradesh. (Lucknow and Gorakhpur) and 13 toilet units in Arunachal Pradesh.

MAHARASHTRA AND WEST BENGAL
We have constructed and repaired 18 toilet units in Maharashtra (Miraj and Pune) and 16 toilet units in West Bengal.

34

34

RURAL KARNATAKA
We have constructed 34 toilet units across Karnataka. (Belgaum, Kolar Hassan, Mandya)

- ★ This year, our project expanded to three new Indian states. (Maharashtra, Arunachal Pradesh and West Bengal)
- ★ 50 toilets sponsored by Google. (25 toilets each in Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh)
- ★ 151 toilets built across 5 Indian states in 23 Districts. (Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and west Bengal). Repair and renovation of existing toilets - Lucknow and Gorakhpur.
- ★ Need Analysis for Sodhani Foundation in Rajasthan. (2020 First Quarter project - 50 toilets)
- ★ Watch our success stories of Google project and North Karnataka flood relief program. > <https://toilets-sewausea.org/pages/videos>



Repair and Rebuild



(Flood Relief Program)

Project team visited the flood affected regions of Karnataka to survey the impact of the floods in various schools.

A detailed impact report was prepared and shared with sewa international chapters & Bharat for fund raising.

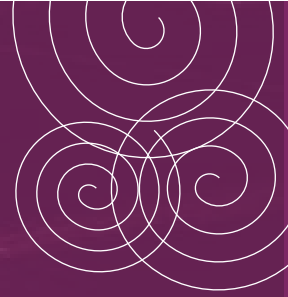
•Sewa Bay Area chapter, USA raised \$5,000 towards rebuilding North Karnataka.

•Sewa Delhi received funds from multiple donor organisations towards North Karnataka relief program.

We have built 16 new toilets, repaired toilets & classrooms, provided new furniture, books and bags to the flood affected schools of Belgaum district of Karnataka. (Funded by Sewa Bay Area Chapter and HSS Norway)



Menstrual Hygiene



- We are working with like-minded organizations to spread awareness about menstrual hygiene amongst high school girls.
- This women's day, we distributed cups and cloth sanitary napkins across schools in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- Menstrual hygiene awareness drive included as a part of the project closure activity. Along with hygiene awareness camp, our team conducts a menstrual hygiene program for higher primary and high school girls. We are working towards providing cloth sanitary napkins to all high school girls where Sewa has installed toilets.



About 336 million girls and women experience menstruation in India,

Research shows that approximately 23% of adolescent girls drop out of school when they start menstruating and those who don't usually miss up to 5 days of school every month.

Toilet and Hygiene team has launched Menstrual hygiene project, it is the next level to building toilets in government schools.

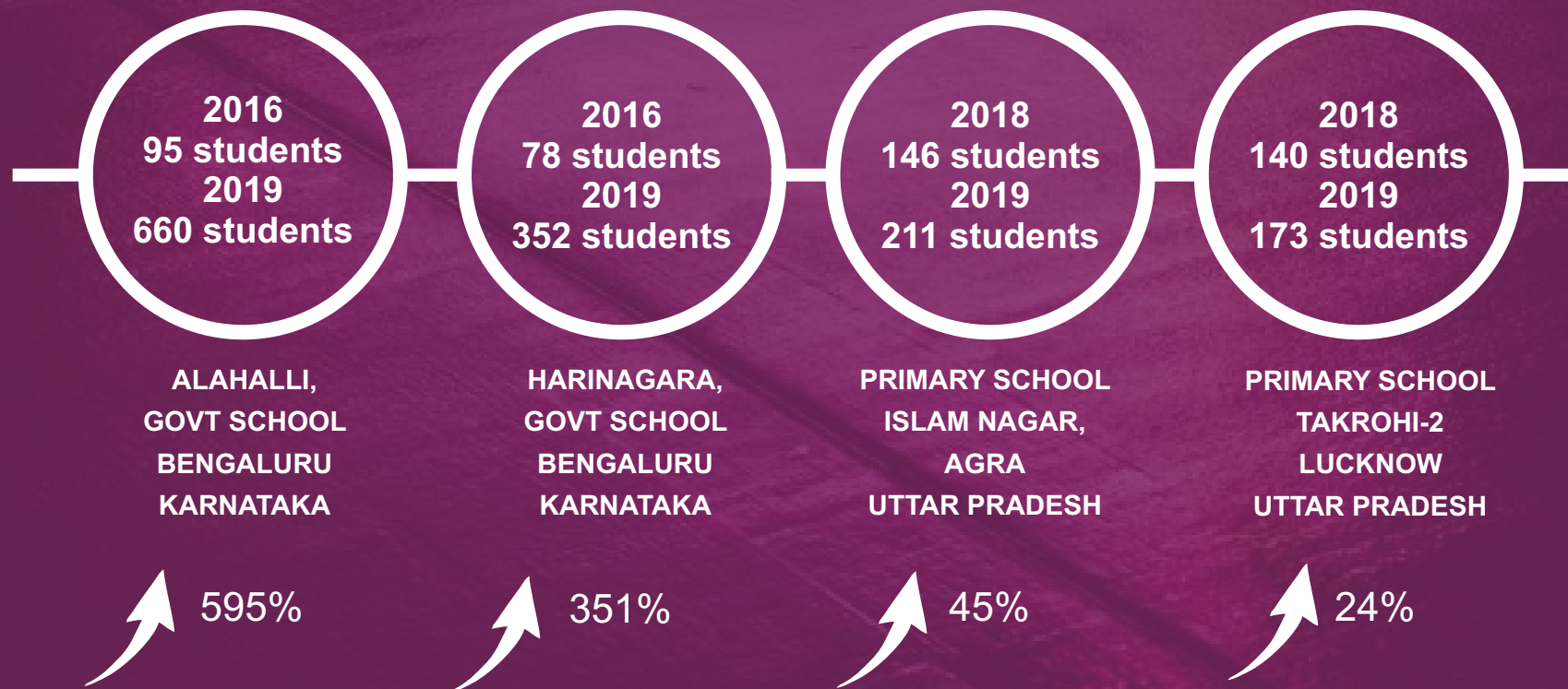
*Re-usable Sanitary napkins are less expensive than disposable pads/Menstrual cups and they reduce the amount of waste produced. After use, they are washed, dried and then reused.
- making them better for the environment and reducing any impact these might have on our system.*



Impact Survey

(2015 - 2019)

Oct 2019, Impact and Maintenance Survey was conducted at all the schools where Sewa has built toilets to measure the effectiveness of our program. Health and attendance data was recorded at all the schools.



Note: Depicted information is a sample from the data collected.
for detailed report, log on to our website.

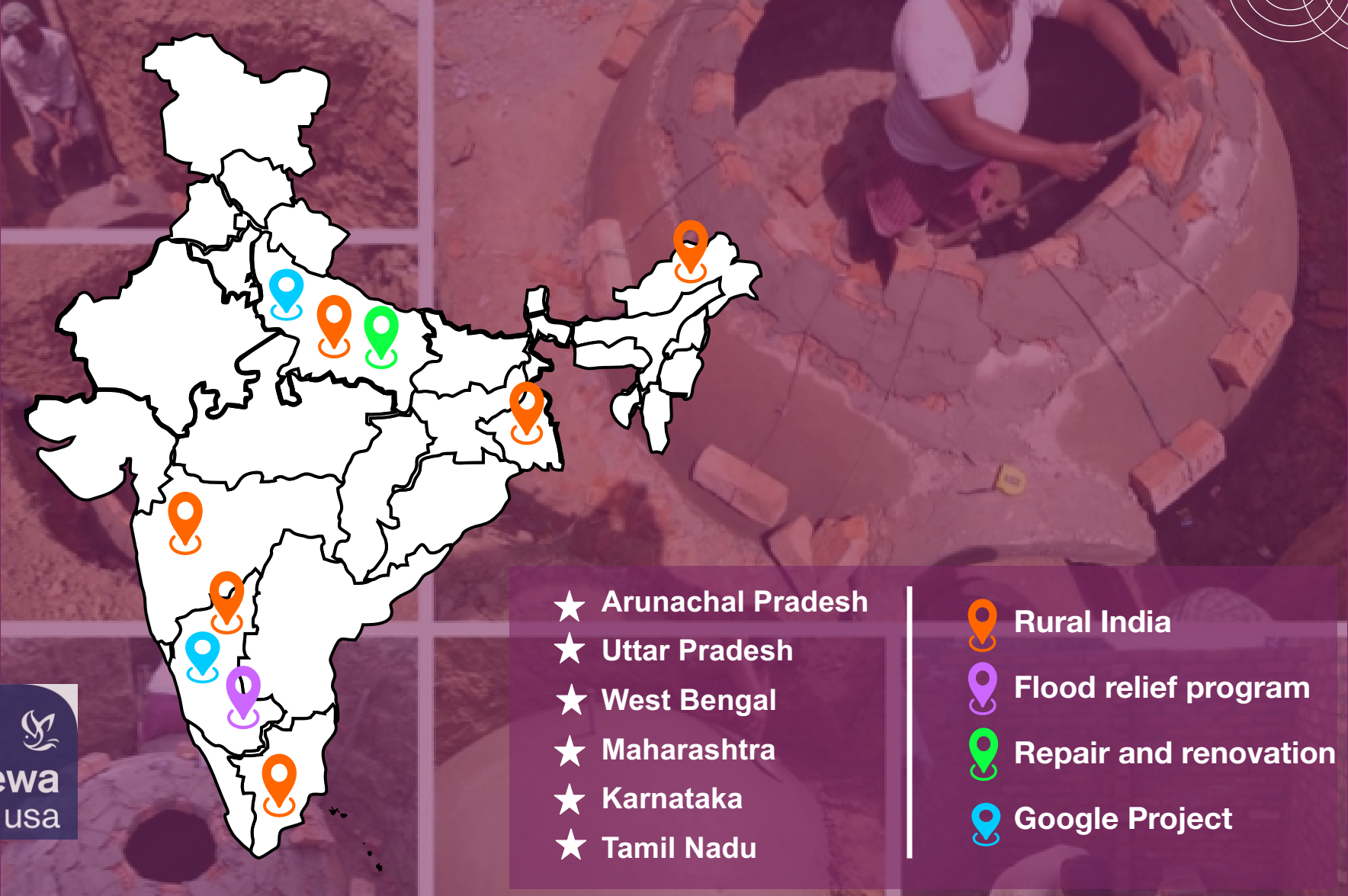


Our Young Volunteers

- ◆ **Riya Dadheech**, a 13-year-old, pledged to build 250 toilets in India in support of Sewa's Public Hygiene Project. Riya, now a middle schooler, is the daughter of Anil and Sushmita Dadheech, from Parsippany, NJ. Riya has a younger sister, Sonia. A gifted painter and dancer, Riya can bring nature to life in her drawings.
- ◆ From North Jersey chapter, 49 LEADs (high school volunteers) raised total of \$11,760 for Toilets and Hygiene project. We appreciate their efforts and kindness.
- ◆ Sewa Youth group from Phoenix chapter organised a Hike for Hygiene event at South Mountain Park. Around 50 volunteers participated and raised \$820 for our toilet and hygiene project for the girl child.



Our project locations



Our Communities



Macharhatta is a Muslim community village in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. The village is famous for the Dargah (shrine of a Muslim saint) which has more than two hundred visitors every day from the surrounding villages and districts. The village had no sanitation facilities to the devotees who visit Dargah from far places.

“ Our family has been visiting Dargah for many years, we seek blessings for our daughter who has been mentally ill for several years. It was difficult for us to attend nature calls when we visit this village as it is usually crowded most of the times and doesn't have any sanitation facilities. Thank you Sewa International for providing toilets for the families who visit Dargah from Long distances.” - Akifa, age 52, Varanasi



“These tribal areas are highly populated with Christians. Most of the people are daily wages labors.

We have been staying in this village from 28 years, it was difficult for us and children to attend nature calls after 4 pm in the open. Rock-port area contains 250 households and about 1000 Inhabitants, none of the households has sanitation facilities.

There are households with teenage girls who are subjected to abuse by male youth while being outside with security threats.

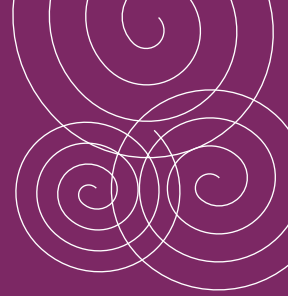
Thank you Sewa International, for understanding our needs and providing the sanitation facilities to us.”

- Kolende Teresa, Age 45, Muthalaga Patti

We are serving communities without discriminating beneficiaries, on the basis of color, race, caste, creed, or religion.



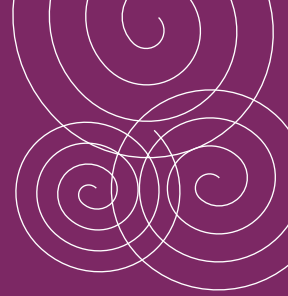
Our Success stories



Access to sanitation is crucial for the maintenance of health, safety, and dignity. For women and girls, toilets provide a space to manage menstrual hygiene and are an important measure in mitigating the risk of harassment whilst defecating in the open around dusk and dawn.



Testimonials



“

We had 6 toilets and 10 urinals for 1500 school children and 70 staff members. Among them, there are over 500 girl children studying in this school and 35 female teachers. We were having a lot of issues to lack of sufficient toilets. Now, we have separate Sewa toilets for girls and female teachers. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. ”

*- Primary Class teacher,
Govt School Number 14, Belgaum, Karnataka.*

“

If we have to attend nature calls during the school hours, either we had to go home or find an open space nearby. Sometimes, we take two more girls from the class when we go out to attend nature calls so, they can watch out for us. During the menstrual period, we don't attend schools due to the lack of toilets.

When we go home in between the school hours to use a rest room, most of the time we don't come back as our parents suggest us to stay home instead of going back to school. We hesitate and feel embarrassed to share or openly talk about these issues. Thanks to Sewa team, now we have toilets and we can attend school without interrupting our study hours. ”

*- Class 8 and 9 Students,
Lucknow Government school, Uttar Pradesh.*



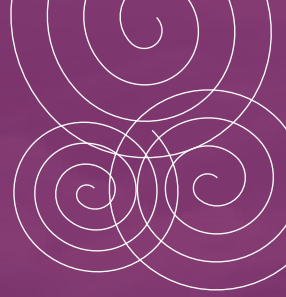
Donation..

We would like to thank our Donors in 2019 who helped us in reaching out to deprived communities, supporting us throughout the sewa journey in India and making our girl children safe and healthy through Toilet & Hygiene Project.

- ★The Benevity Community Impact Fund
- ★ The San Francisco Foundation
- ★ Riya Dhadheech
- ★ Aparna Bhat
- ★ Rashmi Jagada
- ★ Geetanjali Bandi
- ★ Yourcause, LLC Trustee for Varian Medical system
- ★ PSEG Power Of Giving Program
- ★ Vaijayanti V Ruikar
- ★ Vijay G Ruikar
- ★ Marsha Turbyfill
- ★ Rohit Tripathi
- ★ Merck Foundation
- ★ Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- ★ Raghavendra Shankar Rao
- ★ and many more....



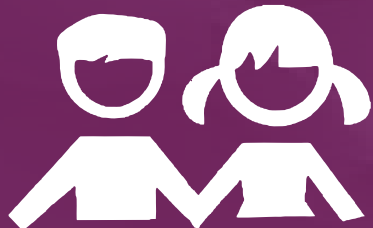
2020



In the year 2020, our goal is to build 600 toilets and expand our services to more Indian States. Sewa has the experience and the required infrastructure to execute toilet installation across India with the support of the local municipal government/state government bodies for installation/licensing.

2020 focus areas

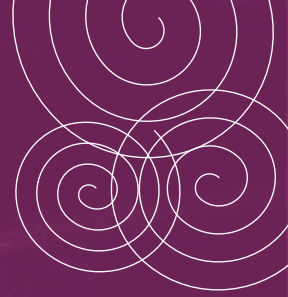
1. Spread our reach to more Indian states.
2. Focus on schools impacted by 2018 & 2019 floods by repairing/rebuilding classrooms & toilets.
3. Focus on toilet installation in Northeastern states - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura.
4. Hygiene awareness and Menstrual hygiene awareness camps.
5. Repair and renovation of existing non-functional toilets



Help us build more toilets...



Support our cause



If donating through website:

Please log on to:

www.sewausea.org,

<https://sewausea.org/Donate>

*Donate for project:

Toilet and Hygiene for the
girl child

If donating by Cheque

Payable to: Sewa

International

Mail to: Sewa International

P O Box 820867,

Houston, TX 77282-0867

USA

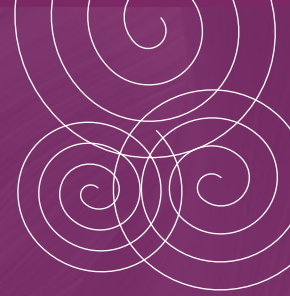
It is very important that you write on the bottom left of the cheque
'Toilet and Hygiene project for the girl child'.

Also write down your email address on your cheque

So, Sewa International can email you a receipt.



Our Team



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