



A better world for all...



HGS (INDIA) LIMITED

Corporate Social Responsibility

Individual House Toilets – 2016-17

Executive Summary-Phase IV



Preamble

Open Defecation is a big problem faced by our society. Despite the efforts from our Government and various NGOs, defecation in the open has been surprisingly resistant to solutions and is still posing a big threat. It can lead to various fatal diseases, stunted physical development and impaired cognitive function. A report by WHO-UNICEF says that 58 percent of Indians do not have access to proper sanitation & still defecate in the open. HGSI has decided to contribute to tackling this problem by building Community Toilets in rural areas in the NCR & surrounding areas.

For this purpose HGSI contacted Sulabh Sanitation & Social Reform Movement for their sheer experience and expertise developed over the years in tackling this particular issue. It is our belief that given proper awareness, infrastructure and facilities, open defecation would soon be a problem of the past and we could contribute to providing a better and hygienic living environment for the people of India.

HGSI has adopted the villages of Jatpura and Mukimpore in district Bulandshahar of Uttar Pradesh. HGSI has resolved to completely eradicate the problem of open defecation in these two villages. For this HGSI has decided to spread awareness about problems of open defecation and by organising “Awareness Camps” in these villages and construct community and individual toilets in the villages. HGSI is determined to make these villages completely ODF (Open Defecation Free) by 2020.

In PHASE-I, which was our Pilot Project, community toilets were constructed at 2 locations which were identified by HGSI and Sulabh after surveying the villages of Jatpura & Mukimpore in district Bulandshahar along with the Gram Pradhan and people of the village. These toilets were constructed primarily for women & children.

In PHASE-II, the local Jatpura- Mukimpore Inter-College was chosen for construction of a toilet complex. This location was decided upon the requests from the school principal and local villagers for constructing a toilet complex for both girls & boys. Earlier, the girls numbering over 500 were made to share a common toilet which was woefully inadequate for the number of users.

In PHASE-III, toilet construction was focused at individual homes of Jatpura villagers. The whole village was surveyed, and one area predominantly occupied by the under-privileged was selected for toilet construction. The chosen locality has no proper sewage system, with most of the waste/ sewage water accumulating in surrounding areas near fields. The situation was especially problematic for women and young girls, who travel considerable distances for their daily ablutions. The construction of toilets inside individual homes of villagers would help provide them a basic life necessity and promote hygienic and respectful lives.

Executive Summary- Phase IV

Individual House Toilets for villagers of Jatpura, Bulandshahar (UP)

For Phase IV of the toilet construction project, HGSI has successfully completed construction of 40 toilets at individual homes of villagers in Jatpura. In order to choose recipients, the whole village was surveyed, and 70 under-privileged households were selected for construction of toilets. On being asked to sign a declaration that they would not demolish the toilets, 30 households backed out of the project.



With no safe toilets in the selected households and in nearby public spaces, and no proper sewage system, the sanitation and hygiene conditions in the area were wanting. Most inhabitants resorted to visiting open fields for defecation, increasing their chances of contracting multifarious diseases.

Women were especially affected by the inadequacy of public toilets given the long distances they traveled for their daily ablutions. Young girls too faced a problematic situation and formed groups when visiting open fields during night hours given the unsafe environment.

Having access to safe toilets is an essential necessity of life. This phase of the toilet construction project aimed at providing such a facility to the most under-privileged villagers and enhancing their quality of life with respect to sanitation and hygiene conditions.



The constructed toilets, if used properly, can last at least 20 years. The technology used in the construction of these toilets ensures little consumption of water for flushing waste and helps to convert human secretion into manure that can be of suitable for farming activities.



After successfully completing the first four phases of the toilet construction project, improving the awareness on proper use of safe toilets has been considered essential for the long-term impact of the scheme on the lives of the villagers.

In light of this, HGSI arranged multiple awareness camps on the importance of accessibility to and use of safe toilets, with the dual intention of increasing awareness and improving sanitation and hygiene practices.



Through such camps, villagers have been educated not only on the design and area required for the toilets, but also on how to properly use such toilets.



HGSI also organized an awareness camp on “**Women Hygiene**” for girl students of the local school and women of the village in Jatpura. The camp primarily focused on issues related to women and menstrual hygiene and was used as a platform by camp organizers to educate participants on how to make and dispose sanitary napkins hygienically.



Survey on Use of Previously Constructed 85 Toilets in Phase III

HGSI’s implementation and awareness campaign partner Sulabh conducted a second survey on the use and implementation of previously constructed 85 toilets at individual homes of villagers in Jatpura, a summary of which is provided below:

	November, 2016	July, 2017
Toilets in Use	58	30
Toilets in use but soak pit cemented	5	15
Toilets Not in Use	18	35
Toilets Demolished	4	5
Total:	85	85