Lakshmi Shinde, a resident of Rupadevi Pada in Thane, lost her husband around 10 years ago and was left with her 16 year old son to look after.

Since then she has been staying with her mother and her son in her brother’s home. Very recently she also lost her brother who was the sole bread earner for the entire family and had willingly taken up the responsibility to look after all of them.

As destiny seemed to be challenging Lakshmi’s life, she had to resort to undertaking household chores and wandering door to door seeking help from families as ‘Jogwa’. Jogwa actually means alms given to a person, usually known as a Jogta or a Jogtin. They are forced by the society to give up everything and serve God.

With her mother aging gradually and seeing the inconvenience that was being caused, she was very determined to get a household toilet constructed.

At the right time, SA had stepped in and Lakshmi could tap this perfect opportunity and get a toilet constructed due to the ease in door step material delivery. With her schedule being busy, she had no time and enough finances to spend on toilet construction.

With SA’s facilitation, she not only constructed her toilet but also upgraded her house. Due to her financial crunch, she availed a loan of Rs. 50,000 and her neighbours monetarily helped her in procuring construction materials.

She spent a total of Rs.1,50,000 on the upgradation and toilet construction. This has led to an incremental rise in her standard of living and her family is much more comfortable now. She continues to work and seek Jogwa whilst her son has just commenced working and shall steadily start contributing financially, much to her relief!

Lakshmi with her mother & son

Household toilet

House being upgraded

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