

Alls well that ends well

We often appreciate the finer things in life and take for granted the simpler ones, like family and more importantly the love it lends us. If it hadn't been for the unconditional love and support provided by her mother, Pramila tai perhaps would not have come this far in life.

At the early age of 10, Pramila tai was diagnosed with a physical disability. She could not walk properly and her condition was slowly deteriorating with every coming year. After a failed 1st marriage, she was married off to a widower who had 2 children, both girls, of his own. She took on the role of a mother immediately and raised his 2 children as well her own. All her married life, she sat in the house and did all the housework.

Her family, being in a financial crunch, could not afford to build a separate toilet for her to use within the house. They made a provision for her in the existing mori inside the house by digging a hole inside the mori itself. Her family had to help her use the "toilet" when



Toilet built by Pramila tai's mother for her.



she needed to go. For 30 years Pramila tai could not walk to the toilet to relieve herself. Her selfesteem was hit hard by this. Not only did she feel embarrassed that she had to defecate in the mori but also terribly guilty of being entirely dependent on her family.

Eventually, her husband passed away and her children married and left their home. Pramila tai was left helpless and without support. In such a time, her family members came to her aid. They helped her in whatever way they could. Pramila tai's siblings and her more prominently, her mother were here emotional backbone, her support. Her mother saved money little by little and when she had enough money, took the help of Shelter Associates and built a toilet for her.

Pramila tai feels grateful to her family and Shelter Associates for helping her get her dignity back. After 30 long years, she can now finally live her life with self-esteem and pride. Despite all the immense hardships she faces daily, Pramila tai is always seen with the most effulgent smile on her face.