



# Towards a better future...

Dawale family had been residing in the settlement of Kotitirth Yadav Nagar for the last 70-75 years one generation after the other. Sonabai and her husband Namdev stayed here along with their 3 children. Due to undesirable & unfortunate financial conditions, Namdev fell prey to unwanted activities and started developing multiple addictions- drinking being dominant. He would not work, but just spend all his wife's money on drinking. This led to such miserable conditions for the family as Sonabai was the only bread earner and she could not even afford to get her children educated. The situation just got worse, when he started having an affair with another woman and chose to marry her, leaving behind Sonabai and his 3 children. Sonabai would earn her living by doing some domestic work and some scrap collection work. In a few days, Namdev brought his new wife & their son to Sonabai's house and they all started residing under the same roof and were financially all dependent on Sonabai as Namdev would just drink and be useless all day. His health started to deteriorate and at the age of 30, he died.



Sonabai's house

By this time, Sonabai got her children married as they were in their teens. Assuming that both her sons would work and earn some money and so would their wives, she had some hope now. Her sons started to undertake some labour work. Within no time, the sons had disputes within them and they separated. As luck would have it, the elder son Vinod, who stayed with Sonabai was detected with paralysis and the only other bread earner of her family was on bed, leaving Sonabai devastated. For the last 13 years, Vinod has been bedridden showing very little improvement. His wife and daughter Aishwarya take up domestic chores and earn a living as Sonabai is 73 now and is unable to do any laborious work. She has set up a small shop that sells chocolates, candies & biscuits. With the household toilet in their house now, Vinod is very relieved and so are his wife, his daughter and Sonabai.



Vinod, his wife and his daughter Aishwarya

