



All hands at work!

Vijay Pawar has been residing in this settlement for around 40 years. Having grown up here, he has witnessed the settlement grow and transform over the years. Struggling to meet their basic demands and with some stressful family issues growing, he split from his family. In the interim he got married to Rupali and they now have 2 sons. Trying to meet with their financial needs, he started off by undertaking some fabrication work, did some odd jobs and currently he is financially stable as he drives an Auto Rickshaw to earn his living. Being content at what he does, his family is happy! His wife too has been working at a hospital for over 4 years now in the housekeeping department. Their sons study in a school nearby and are keen on studying and achieving their dreams! Vijay drives around throughout the day and in the evening, he runs a small eatery setup and serves Chinese food to allow him to gain some additional income. Having seen their parents work so hard, the children too are very dedicated and help their parents with their work and also study. If their mother keeps unwell or gets home late from work, they both wash utensils, help in cooking or even clean the house which makes their parents so proud, “we do not miss the fact that we do not have a daughter, our sons make up for it in such valuable ways, they are so precious to us!” says the couple.



Rupali and her 2 sons

Just recently Vijay suffered from a heart attack and post that he has been having issues related to high blood pressure which keeps him unfit. At such times using the Community Toilet Block feels burdensome, eats up a lot of time and is very unhygienic. When SA started their intervention in this settlement, Pawar family showed a lot of interest in being facilitated with a household toilet. While delivering the construction materials to this family, the children were the active members who took up the responsibility to receive the material as their parents could not afford to miss their work resulting in economic losses for those number of days due to absenteeism at work. Very promptly, their toilet stood ready and all of them have been using it since then. Within a house measuring 10'X8', a toilet of size- 3'6"X4' was constructed. “We thank you for the support, this would not have been possible without your help! Living in a small house, we thought it was not possible to get a toilet constructed, but you all helped us out in finding a solution tailored to our needs”, expresses the couple on being facilitated with a household toilet under SA's 'One Home One Toilet' initiative. “We have used the CTB and faced difficulties for so many years, we definitely do not want our kids to face the same hence we took it up very seriously. This is just the start, we now look forward to getting a house constructed and shall work hard towards achieving it” says Vijay.

