



Facilitating comfort & dignity!

The family of ShitalKaur Taak has been living in Vichare mal for last 50 years. Their family consists of 6 members: 2 Parents, 3 daughters and a son. Two young daughters and the son are normal children but unfortunately the eldest daughter Anjali kaur is mentally challenged. All along the parents heavily invested in trying to find a cure for the mental disorder of their first born daughter but to no success. Eventually it was time for them to accept reality and pass each day with much grief and sorrow. Their family's source of income is through the sale of household iron ware that Udaysingh makes. Monthly income of family is around Rs. 5000/- which is not enough to make both ends meet. As Anjalikaur was growing older it was becoming more and more difficult and strenuous for her mother to take care of all her needs. Apart from bathing, feeding and taking care of all her needs, she would also need to collect her feces and carry it to an open ground close to their settlement to dispose it off. This would be very concerning during night times, as it would be very difficult and also embarrassing for them to dispose it off in the gutter outside their house. They would resort to disposing it in the gutter at times and pour lots of water over it, but still there would be a lingering foul smell, which the neighbors would strongly complain about. During Anjali's menstruating period, the mother would keep a bucket under her chair which would be emptied and washed at regular intervals by the family.

Carrying Anjali kaur to the community toilet in their arms was out of the question but building a toilet at home also was not possible because of non-availability of space and finance too! They spotted a ray of hope with SA's entry in the slum to implement its OHOT project. The father was skeptical about constructing it in their small house. Nonetheless, Shital kaur persuaded him and brought up the topic with SA's representatives. She called them over to her house and pleaded to help her with an appropriate solution which would reduce the complications for help her and Anjali kaur. SA's practical suggestion of widening their existing bathroom to accommodate the toilet was well received by the family. However, they lacked the funds to get the toilet constructed. Determined to get it done, they raised funds of around Rs 8000 and carried out the work. The privacy and the dignity that this toilet brought to them and especially to Anjali kaur was priceless and totally worthy of all the efforts they had to take till then in getting it done. The family is grateful to SA for giving this solace to them.



Anjali Kaur

