



OUAT Farm Gate Basti Bhubaneswar

Name of the Slum: OUAT Farm Gate Basti, Bhubaneswar

No. of Households: 630

Total Population: 2300 (Females – 1104, Males – 1196)

Children (0 – 6): 144

Children (7 – 18): 591

Name of the Child Clubs: Bapuji Humara Bachpan Club and Royal child club

Name of the Corporator: Ms. Binayani Jena

Name of the slum president: Mr. Nihar Kumar Mallick

Background:

OUAT farm gate basti is one of the oldest communities in Bhubaneswar established almost years before. There are a total of 630 households in the community with a population of 2300 of which 735 are children. The inhabitants of this community primarily are fish mongers and daily wage labors. A few of them work as drivers and run petty businesses. The women of the community mostly support their husbands in running their petty businesses. Some are engaged in incense stick making and few work as daily wage labors.

There are 22 water taps with one storage tank and 16 wells in the community of which five are defunct. There is no playground or park near by the community due to which the children play on roads and lanes within the community. The major issues of this community are sanitation and power. There is not sufficient power supply to all the houses and the electric poles are within the community with wires dangling which is very dangerous for the children. Secondly, the drains running through the community are uncovered and get flooded during the rainy season.

Humara Bachpan Campaign: Its intervention

Humara Bachpan Campaign started its intervention at OUAT Farm gate Basti in March 2013 with the formation of Bapuji child club. Due to a higher population of children in the community HBC formed another child club, Royal child club. There are 40 children each in both the child clubs. The children led planning process

of HBC was carried out in the community. Through this process children identified the major issues prevalent in this community. Lack of dustbins, uncovered drains, no streetlights and dangling electric wires were some of the issues which the children identified. Through this process the children were also able to identify the stakeholders who would support them in resolving their issues. Based on that, the children met the local corporator and the city Mayor and built rapport with them. Gradually, they shared the issues of their community with them seeking their support to solve the problems. They have also submitted charter of demands to both of them on various occasions. The children of this community are very proactive and have always come forward together to solve the issues in their community.

Following are some of the achievements of the children since the inception of the clubs:

1. A 40 metered long drain which was lying uncovered for years causing problems was covered in December 2014 due to the advocacy of children who submitted their demand to the Mayor.
2. After regular interaction with the local corporator a dustbin was provided in October 2014.
3. Three new street lights have been installed after submission of charter of demands to the respective corporator and the city Mayor.
4. Two kitchens have been constructed in Anganwadi centers with regular water supply to the centers.
5. Another 50 metered drain was covered in January 2016

The children of this community are very talented and active. They regularly attend the child club meetings as well as the city and state level federation meetings. They have established good network with various stakeholders. They are planning to conduct a city audit whereby they will identify different issues in the city pertaining to children and present their findings to the municipal commissioner.