

The Challenge

Building a cleaner Orissa

Orissa State
Water &
Sanitation
Mission



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"The man who would not stir a finger to help his village is not the man who will bleed and die in the country's cause."

Sister Nivedita

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TOWARDS A LIFE OF DIGNITY

THE STORY OF GOLABANDHA

The village Golabandha in Kodapada gram panchayat under Anandpur block of Keonjhar district borders Mayurbhanj district. Situated on the bank of river Baitarani, the village can boast of nature's bounty. It also abounds in human resources. More than eight thousand people live in 1,274 households here. However, it is abject poverty that cripples them and prevents them from accomplishing their cherished goals. More than a thousand families, 1034 to be precise, live below the poverty line. Their houses are mostly mud huts, without any toilet facilities. People answered the call of nature in the riverbed, in rice fields, on roadside and even in the backyards. In the process, they polluted the atmosphere, contaminated water sources and suffered from water-borne diseases.



Secretary, Rural Development Department explaining the importance of sanitation to the villagers



Production Centre

The launching of the Total Sanitation Campaign in the district in 2005 marked the beginning of a new era. The people, who were ignorant of the health hazards associated with open defecation, now realized its serious consequences. And those, who lacked in the facilities, now got an opportunity to have the same. A non-governmental organization called National Institute of Professional Studies (NIPS), which was working in the locality, came forward to help the villagers set up their household toilets.

NIPS has been working in the backward areas of Anandapur block of Keonjhar district for the last ten years. It imparted training to the local youth in economic rehabilitation, helped the spread of education among masses, particularly among girls, and motivated

"Nothing is more expensive than a missed opportunity."

H. Jackson Brown Jr.