

# The Challenge

Orissa State  
Water &  
Sanitation  
Mission



## Building a cleaner Orissa



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2005

### CONTENTS

Nature Smiles Again

No Longer an  
Embarrassment

So Much, Yet So Little

Sanitation for All :  
Technological Option for  
Individual Household  
Latrines

Events

Afterword

Feedback

### BOARD OF EDITORS

Olushola Ismail  
A.K. Sundar Ray  
A. K. Mohanty  
H. N. Pattanaik  
R. K. Mallick  
Prakash Nayak

## NATURE SMILES AGAIN

Hatibari, Olahani, Baidyanathpur, Mangratoli and Dumermunda—the five villages that form Hatibari gram panchayat are surrounded by hillocks. Trees and bushes lend a green cover to these villages. This gram panchayat in Nuagaon block of Sundargarh district, which is located at a distance of 140 kilometers from the district headquarters, can be described as one far from the madding crowd of the urban centers. It is said that once upon a time a king ruled here and he kept his elephants at a place, which is now known as Hatibari. The village Dumermunda remains uninhabited. Mostly tribal people, Orams and Mundas, live in the remaining four villages. According to the baseline survey conducted in October 2001, there were as many as 1175 households in the gram panchayat, with a population of 6877.



Social Map of Hatibari G.P.

With hillocks and trees serving as a backdrop, the five villages have an idyllic setting. However, the landscape had lost its charm as it was strewn with human excreta scattered almost everywhere, its foul smell pervading the air. Bushes and trees provided cover to people, who had no hesitation in defecating in the open. By 2004, only 11 families had individual household latrines. People did not bother about waste disposal and personal hygiene. As a result, they exposed themselves to health hazards.

However, all this should not give one the impression that people here were ignorant and illiterate. The light of education had spread here even in the nineteenth century. Baidyanathpur Primary School was established in 1895 and Olahani Mission Primary School in 1910. There are four primary and two upper primary schools in the panchayat besides a high school.



Primary School, Hatibari

*"To me, the test of a people's knowledge of sanitation is the condition of their latrines."*

Mahatma Gandhi