



Unfortunately, the spread of education had not ensured people's awareness on health and hygiene. The villagers were somehow oblivious of the serious consequences of open defecation and dirty surrounding.



IHL at Hatibari

In course of time, the message of Total Sanitation Campaign reached the people of this gram panchayat. Through posters, handouts and other IEC material, they knew how they pollute air and water by defecating in the open. They also came to know that the District Water and Sanitation Mission extended support to people for setting up toilets. Early this year, some people showed interest in the matter and formed the Village Water and Sanitation Committee. The DWSM, Sudargarh provided training in this demand-driven approach to the members of the panchayat and those of a community-based organization(CBO) named Sraddhanjali. During the period from January to March 2005, there was an intensive awareness drive. The entire exercise was conducted as an intensive and collective social mobilization drive with the help of ward members; anganwadi workers and youth club members. They adopted a strategy of repeated door-to-door contact. The Sarapanch, Sri Bage Kujur and CBO head, Sri Bikramaditya Panda played important roles in motivating people to set up latrines. A production center-cum-sanitary mart was set up, where people could get

the material. They felt the necessity of latrines in their day-to-day life. In a short time, all the households set up their own latrines.

Hatibari gram panchayat now wears a new look. Besides digging the pit and fixing the rings and the pan, people have covered their latrines with low cost material made of bamboo, straw, gunnysacks or polythene sheets. Some of them have constructed brick walls. What is more important is the fact that people are using these latrines regularly. It is interesting to note that a few houses with larger families have set up more than one latrine. All the seven schools and six anganwadi centers now have toilets. Each school toilet block comprises a latrine and two urinals, one for girls and the other for boys. As result of the motivation, old and defunct tube wells have been repaired and a new tube well has been set up in Hatibari primary school. The villagers now get adequate safe drinking water.

People have also learnt to maintain the village roads and drain, and clean the village pond regularly. They dispose of the waste at a safe distance. The village committee keeps a close watch on cleanliness. The charm of rural beauty has been restored. At Hatibari, nature smiles again.



Bill Board inside the G.P. Office Campus, Hatibari

NO LONGER AN EMBARRASSMENT

Situated at the heart of Nuapada town, Block Colony Primary School is one of the leading institutions of primary education in this district. More than 150 boys and girls are taught in the school, which was established in 1971. From 2004, the school building houses a Cluster Resource Centre(CRC), which organizes training programmes for teachers.

The school building comprised classrooms and an office room. And of course, there was a toilet block, but in a



Primary School, Nuapada

damaged condition. We --students, teachers and teacher-trainees--had to use the open space for urination. We often found it embarrassing to answer the call of nature in public, but we had no choice. Everyone felt the need for a toilet, but it was not possible to mobilize resources for the purpose.

An opportunity came our way in May 2005, when the school was selected under the School Sanitation programme of the Total Sanitation Campaign. A model

