

## Transport Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India



### Kaali Devi

*We have benefitted by coming together as a Single Window Forum. The officials now listen to us and also consult us when they come to the settlement. As for the community, they approach us for any sanitation related issue and we together plan how to find a solution. Besides sanitation we also work on helping the disabled, elderly and single women in the basti as they need our support in securing their dues.*

Transport Nagar is a fifty year old slum settlement inhabited by residents who were involved in kilns where limestone powder was manufactured. Most families living here are migrants who settled here to work in the kilns. In course of time the dust and smoke from these kilns became a health hazard not only for the employees but also for the neighboring settlements and colonies. The government put a ban on the kilns and most workers were rendered without any work to support their families

Kaali Devi and her family have been living in Transport Nagar for over 35 years. She came here with her husband when he was 25 years old and migrated from Jaipur to work in the kiln. Kaali is disabled and has difficulty in walking. She was 15 years old when she settled in Transport Nagar in a small hut which the couple bought a piece of land for Rs 400 in the settlement

"I was disabled and my husband was poor so we got married. I have two children -two girls and one boy and all three of them go to school. Eight months ago her husband met with a near-fatal accident when he fell off the terrace and fractured his backbone. He is not able to move or get up without any support now. Since then I have taken the responsibility for getting food on the table through her widow pension and sifting gram from the chaff for which I get 25 to 50 Rs per day for her expenses. We also get ration from the government

We did not have a toilet at home. All of us would go to the jungle to relieve ourselves but gradually this became very difficult with my daughters growing up and my husband bed ridden. I constructed a toilet by taking a loan from the local money lender.





Besides toilet one major issue we faced was of securing sanitary napkins. The distribution in schools is erratic and when we used cloth we suffered from infection and rashes. It was at this time that CFAR came to the settlement and I attended the meeting where I got to know the work we could do to secure sanitation services for the settlement and how disabled, elderly and most vulnerable households could get access to safe water, toilet and waste services

I became a member of the Community Management Committee and later a Single Window Forum member.

As the first step, the CMC decided to meet the Municipal Corporation for addressing the issue of clogged and dilapidated sewer lines as a result of which there was water logging in the basti and water sources were contaminated. It took us two weeks but the officials responded positively and the sewer lines were renovated. In the same week, the community toilet management and cleanliness was also strengthened. We have now maintained a community register in which we record the sanitation concerns of the settlements which

we collected from members and the CMC members write applications, or make telephonic or online complaints to JMC. Most community members support us to follow up with nodal officials. All of us cooperate with them and keep them informed or any problem we are facing

With the help of CFAR, we secured pension, Palanhar and labour cards for most vulnerable households in the settlement. To do this we made a map of the basti and marked HHs where elderly, single women, disabled and ill family members live. Even in the Community Management Committee many members are disabled and come from very poor families so securing social entitlements is one of the key areas where we support members in the slum



Now with the spread of Coronavirus infection our responsibility has increased two-fold as we have to take ensure that all of us take collective responsibility for preventing any kind of infection. The SWF-CMC members are training women to make masks, wear them properly and conducting one to one meetings to inform members on how to wash hands using the correct techniques, visit the health centre in case of any illness.

Especially for the most vulnerable HHs we ensured delivery of cooked food through doorstep delivery. The CMC members have designated one member in every lane to deliver food packets to these families. They also support persons with disability to maintain safe hand hygiene and using the toilet facilities

