

## Water Security in Kishan Bagh and Kishan Bagh Harijan Basti



Ward Number: 10

22 September 2020.

***A 200 litre capacity water tank has been installed in Kishan Bagh and Kishan Bagh Harijan Basti benefitting 300 households including sanitary workers, differently abled, elderly, children, women and adolescent.***

Kishan Bagh and Kishan Bagh Harijan Basti settlements in Ward 10 have issues in access to safe water. The water used by the people in these two settlements comes from bore wells and, at times, contains harmful chemicals. The residents, are predominantly from the Scheduled Castes who work as sanitation and domestic workers.

In August 2020, a community strengthening meeting was conducted in Ward Number 10 with the Single Window Forum members, Community Management Committees of Kishanbagh and Kishan Bagh Harijan Basti. The issues raised during the meeting were:

1. Access to safe drinking water: Households have access to bore well water but the water is not safe for drinking. They have been discussing the same with the PHED for years.
2. Connection of the sewer line to each household: The sewer line has been laid in these settlements after CFAR's intervention but not all the HHs have been connected.



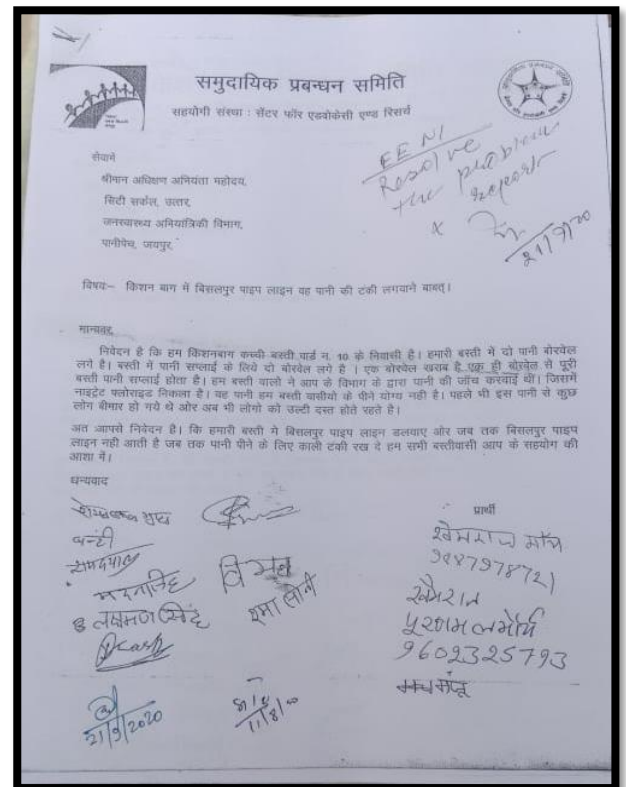
It was decided during the meeting that the SWF members would work on one issue at a time. They decided to work on getting Bisalpur water line to these settlements. A letter has been also been written for the same but there has been a delay in action and response.

### The letter of request

On 19 September 2020, there was a Micro Planning consultation conducted in the Ward involving the SWF members, CMC members, youth and men's groups of Kishan Bagh, Kishan Bagh Harijan Basti and J.P. Colony. One of the key issues that emerged again in the meeting was access to safe water, though J.P. Colony has access to Bisalpur line now but not the rest of the settlements.

On 21 September 2020, Manju Devi, SWF member; Subhash, CMC member, and Hemraj, Organizing Committee member and some members of men's group visited the PHED and submitted a letter to Mr. Ajay Singh Rathore, Superintendent Engineer, North seeking resolution of their demand. They demanded that the Bisalpur line should reach the settlements or PHED needs to come up with an alternative.

Responding to this, the Superintendent Engineer said that constructing the Bisalpur water line would take at least a year and half but PHED would start working on it at the earliest. However, for time being the PHED can restore huge



water tanks in the settlements, supply the Bisalpur water through water tankers and fill these tanks with potable water regularly. People can get drinking water from these tanks till the Bisalpur water line is laid.

The PHED officials also sought help from the SWF members in operation and management of these tanks, and also to encourage people in getting water from these tanks for drinking and cooking purpose.

Mr. Hemraj subsequently visited the zonal level PHED office and discussed the same with the J.E of PHED, North for restoration of water tanks.

*PHED Workers install the tank*

