



**Habitat**  
for Humanity®  
India



# Rebuilding India

Habitat For Humanity India Quarterly Newsletter  
October - December 2017

Year Two  
Issue Four

## Editorial

With the beginning of the New Year, we would like to thank you for giving hope to families in India throughout 2017. You have helped Habitat for Humanity India serve 15,39,839 individuals across 20 states in the country through housing, sanitation and disaster response initiatives.

We have a lot more to accomplish and we need your continued support to create a world where everyone has a decent place to live. In 2018 and in the years to come let us work

together to realize this. Every rupee you donate, every minute you volunteer with us counts.

Together we can do more. Habitat for Humanity India wishes you and your family a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

### In partnership

**Rajan Samuel**  
**Managing Director**  
**Habitat for Humanity India**

### CREDITS

#### **Creative Team**

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Habitat for Humanity India

 Families served  
**3,19,375**

 Individuals served  
**15,39,839**

 Homes built & repaired  
**2,81,502**

 Sanitation units built  
**2,47,380**

 People served through S2S coalition  
**1,75,68,112**

 People served through DRRR  
**2,08,149**

 Individuals trained under CBDRM  
**35,000**

 Volunteers  
**37,96,164**

 Number of States  
**20**

# Building a Solid Ground for Irula Tribal Community



*Women from the Irula community who have received the land patta in Cuddalore through SGAC with Ms. Suseela Anand, Campaign Manager, SGAC - Habitat India*



*Justice Akbar Ali addressing the forum on strategic partnership on Housing for All in Tamil Nadu*

Over 60 organisations have joined Habitat India's Solid Ground Advocacy Campaign (SGAC) to advocate for land for tribal people across Tamil Nadu. These organisations comprise of civil society organizations, research agencies, funding agencies, micro finance companies and international NGOs. The campaign emphasizes on: secure tenure, slum upgrading, disaster resilience and gender equality. Solid Ground has taken up the cause of Irula tribes residing in the Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu and in its first year, succeeded in securing land ownership for 40 Irula families.

A State Level Forum Meeting was held on 14th December, 2017 at Loyola College, Chennai where rapid urbanization, displacement, disaster response, slum upgradation, land and housing were discussed. Some of the eminent speakers at the meeting were Justice (Rtd). Akbar Ali, High Court of Madras, T.P.Devadass, Superintending Engineer - Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, Samuel Inbadurai, Joint Director, National Urban Livelihood Mission – Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women and Reni Jacob, Director - International Justice Mission. Strengthening the State Forum to

*SGAC has succeeded in securing land ownership for 40 Irula families in its first year.*

demand land and secure tenure from the Government was the central take away from the meeting. Habitat India's Solid Ground film was showcased at the meeting. You can watch the film on our official YouTube channel.

# John Abraham Salutes Students for Supporting Habitat India



*Bollywood actor John Abraham and Rajan Samuel, Managing Director – Habitat for Humanity India with the students*

Renowned actor and Habitat brand ambassador John Abraham felicitated four schools for their contribution to Habitat India's 'Rupee for Change' programme at an event held on 4th November, 2017 in Mumbai. The principals and students from four different zones - The Millennium School, HMEL, Bathinda; Central India Public School, Nagpur; Sadhu Vaswani International School, Hyderabad; and Sacred Heart School, Kalyan were honoured for their contribution. John also felicitated Universal High School, Thane who raised the highest

amount for Habitat India at the 2017 Mumbai Marathon. Rupee for Change is an annual campaign that engages schools in advocacy, volunteering and awareness raising activities. Over 35,000 children from more than 300 schools are part of the Rupee for Change campaign.

*"It is heartening to see so many children zealously participate in the Rupee for Change campaign. Along with their valuable contribution to the cause of housing and sanitation, an important lesson of working together for the underprivileged is*

*also being learnt. I sincerely thank the schools, teachers and the parents for their support", said John Abraham.*

*"These children are  
the real stars."*

**John Abraham,  
Renowned  
Bollywood Actor**



# John Abraham Salutes Students for Supporting Habitat India



*Bollywood actor John Abraham encouraged all the students to continue supporting Habitat for Humanity India*



# Aditya Birla Group Builds in Karjat



*Hindalco and Novelis employees at the build site*

In a two day build, 70 employees from the Aditya Birla Group companies - Hindalco and Novelis - volunteered with Habitat to build four homes for four families in Jambulwadi village, Karjat, Maharashtra. These four families earlier lived in dilapidated homes with poor foundations and thatched roofs. Due to limited funds and resources, the families were unable to rebuild or repair their homes.

Thanks to the enthusiastic participation from the employees of Hindalco and Novelis, these families will now be able to live in decent homes. Vaishali Kewari and her husband Ananta Kewari were one of the home owners on whose house the volunteers worked. *"We want to start a family, but before we give birth to a new life, I want us to at least have a proper house"*, says Vaishali. They are one step closer to fulfilling their dream.

*"We want to start a family, but before we give birth to a new life, I want us to at least have a proper house."* Vaishali Kewari, Karjat, Maharashtra.





# Beauty Queens with a Purpose

## Launch of Habitat Young Leaders Build 2018

Alankrita Sahai, former Miss India, Miss Earth launched the Habitat Young Leaders Build (HYLB) 2018 campaign on 14th November, 2017 in Chimtewadi village, Karjat, Maharashtra. Now in its seventh year, HYLB brings together young people to volunteer, fund-raise and help families build better lives.

*"If we build a home for one family, they are able to progress in that household. When young leaders come forward to build homes for those in need, they build hope", said Alankrita Sahai*



Alankrita Sahai, former Miss India and Rajan Samuel, Managing Director - Habitat for Humanity India launched HYLB 2018 at Karjat, Maharashtra

## Divas Build with Habitat

Shraddha Shashidhar, Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva Miss Universe 2017, along with Apeksha Porwal, Miss Diva 2017 2nd runner-up and Peden O Namgyal, Miss Diva 2017 Supranational volunteered for a build in Karjat on 15th October, 2017. Shraddha Shashidhar expressed her views saying, *"The foundation of a society lies in building homes. If we have a strong home, a home that will unite a*

*family, that is when the society will progress".* The trio laid the foundation for Harichandra Rere's home who lives with his wife Girija and 10 year old daughter Pushpa. Harichandra, a farmer by profession, lost his house during the rains in 2016.

*"I have big dreams for my daughter. A home of my own will help me build a better life for her", he says.*

*"I have big dreams for my daughter. A home of my own will help me build a better life for her."*  
Harichandra Rere, Karjat, Maharashtra.



Miss Divas lay the foundation for Harichandra and Girija's home

# Celebrations with a Cause



*The Women Build India Committee organized a high tea to raise funds for Habitat India*



*Bollywood actress Evelyn Sharma at the event*

## Diwali High Tea, Scones and Auction

Habitat's Women Build India (WBI) Committee organised a Diwali High Tea and a Silent Charity Auction at The Table in Colaba, Mumbai on 10th October, 2017. The auction aimed to raise money to build homes and sanitation units for underprivileged women across India. More than 60 elite women showed solidarity to the cause and over INR 4 lakhs was raised through the event.

Three sarees from top designer Shehla Khan, an overnight stay in Goa sponsored by Isprava Luxury

holiday homes, a make-up tutorial by top celebrity make-up artist Priya Tadarwal, a 3 night stay at the luxurious Ananda Spa and deep cleaning services valued between INR 12,000 to INR 15,000 by Mr. Home Care were the items placed for auction to raise funds.

Some of the key dignitaries present at the high tea were Phiroza Godrej (art historian), Desiree Tambiani (wife of the Swiss Counsel General), Tanuja Mullick (wife of the Chief Secretary of Maharashtra), Nurit Finkelstein (wife of the Israel Counsel General), Cynthia Gire (wife of the US

Counsel General, Edgard Kagan), Srikanta Devi Damani (wife of the founder and owner of D Mart, Radhakishan Damani), Avanti Birla and her daughter Shloka Birla, Habitat India's board member Sabira Merchant, actress and Habitat brand ambassador Evelyn Sharma, Rael Padamsee (Indian theatre personality), Habitat India's long-time supporter Kanan Koticha, her daughter Sneha Koticha, chair of the WBI committee Sheila Kripalani and her daughters Vandana Kripalani and Priyanka Kripalani.



## Build with Santa



# BUILD WITH SANTA

This Christmas, Santa Claus has joined hands with Habitat for Humanity India to rebuild the lives of families affected by farmer suicides across the country.

Donate now to Build with Santa and empower the farmers' families to build a better future through shelter.

Habitat India's 'Build with Santa' campaign was initiated three years ago as a unique employee fundraising idea with an aim to foster the spirit of giving during the festive season of Christmas. Today the campaign has become a part of the organisation's annual calendar supported wholeheartedly not only by Habitat India employees but also by our supporters. The 2017 edition of the campaign aimed to provide homes for widows of farmers who committed suicide. Over INR 16 lakhs was raised through the campaign.

*"A farmer widow's desire to fight her challenges is commendable. While she has lost her husband, she has not lost her dignity. We appealed to corporates and individuals to join us and we are grateful to have received such enormous support."*

Rajan Samuel, Managing Director,  
Habitat for Humanity India.

# A Secure Home leads to Secure Lives



*Dinkar and Lata with their son Manoj*

For over a decade Lata Pardhi lived in a small hut made of bamboos and cow dung with her husband Dinkar and their two sons Kumar and Manoj in Karjat, Maharashtra. Without a sturdy roof or strong walls, the house leaked during monsoons while in summers the family found it unbearable to stay indoors due to the humidity.

Lata and Dinkar work as daily wage labourers to provide for their children. The couple wish to see their sons break the cycle of poverty and hence they ensure both the boys do

well at school. Kumar is fond of studying. Even though he walks 3 kms every day to attend school, he makes sure to never miss a day. The family is happy to move into their Habitat home. Their dream of living in a home that is safe and secure has finally come true.

Lata believes this home will help her sons study well to realize their dreams. She says, *“The new house with brick walls will help us focus on important things like my children’s education and building a bright future for them.”*

*“The new house with brick walls will help us focus on important things like my children’s education and building a bright future for them.”*

Lata Pardhi,  
Karjat, Maharashtra.

## Gallery



CEPT University, Habitat's Sensitise to Sanitise (S2S) Coalition partner, was felicitated by Shri Ram Nath Kovind in the presence of the Chief Minister and the Governor of Maharashtra for providing 360,000 families household latrines and supporting the Swachh Maharashtra Urban Mission.



Over 250 students and 8 teachers participated in the School Disaster Management Training Program conducted by Habitat India at the Government Middle School in Tirupali Village, Tiruvallur District, Chennai.



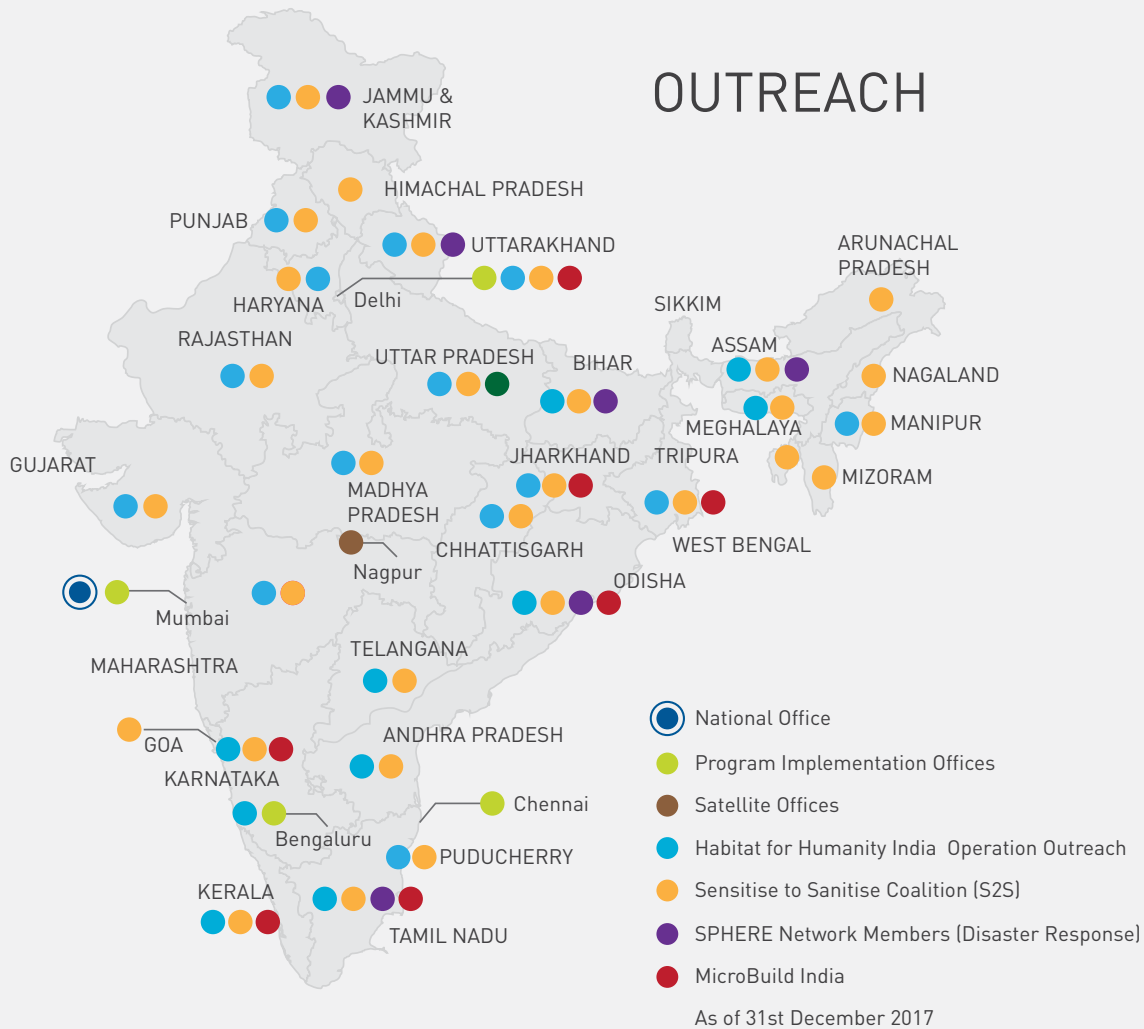
12 employees from Texas Instruments participated in Habitat India's build and plantation activity at Bangalore, Karnataka.



Mphasis and Habitat India handed over 25 new homes to families affected by the 2015 Tamil Nadu floods. Mr. Sathya Gopal, I.A.S., Principal Secretary and Relief Commissioner, Government of Tamil Nadu inaugurated the homes.



# OUTREACH



**Habitat  
for Humanity®  
India**



Habitat for Humanity India has been empanelled as a Key Resource Centre with the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India

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