

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE: **NAVEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL MEERA NAGAR, BHOPAL**

It is evident that Naveen Primary School in Meera Nagar, Bhopal, faces significant infrastructural challenges that hinder children's access to education. This is Govt. School and the only hope for children for primary education. This school is located within the slum and a convenient place for small children to walk down to school. There was water logging near the school building and also there is a sewer surrounding the school building that over flowed during the rains making it difficult for the children to approach school. There was no boundary wall, no playground and no electricity in the building and no toilets. Earlier the problem of children not attending school and their attendance and dropout were addressed. When the school was contacted and coordination work started in the initial phase of the program



implementation all these problems aroused. Applications were submitted focusing each these problems of infrastructure requirement at school b Mohalla Samiti members and the community at ward office, Zone office, Commissioner Bhopal Municipal Corporation, education dept and also SCPCR. Commissioner BmC was invited to visit the slum and Meera Nagar School and to witness the pathetic conditions in children were being forced to attend school.

The concerted efforts made by Meera Nagar Mohalla Samiti members to address the infrastructure challenges faced by Naveen Primary School. Through their advocacy and persistence, significant improvements have been achieved, aligning with the provisions of the Right to Education (RTE) norms and ensuring a safer and more conducive learning environment for the children. Here's a breakdown of the accomplishments:

Electricity Connection: Responding to the children's plea during BAL Chaupal, an electricity connection was provided, enhancing the learning environment and ensuring adequate lighting for the school premises.

Ground Leveling and Filling: The completion of ground leveling and filling addressed issues related to water logging, making the school grounds safer and more accessible for students.

Toilet Construction: Following the Commissioner BMC's visit, the construction of school toilets commenced, fulfilling a crucial requirement for sanitation facilities, which is essential for maintaining hygiene and dignity among students.

Sewer Construction: Media coverage helped shed light on the hazardous conditions caused by the overflowing sewer surrounding the school. Subsequently, the construction of sewers was undertaken, mitigating risks to children's safety while traveling to school.

Boundary Wall Construction: Despite facing opposition from the community due to the presence of a temple nearby, Meera Nagar Mohalla Samiti members persevered in their efforts to construct a boundary wall for the school. Through dialogue, discussions, and continuous advocacy efforts, the concerns were addressed, and the boundary wall construction was completed, ensuring the safety and security of the school premises.

Road Construction and Playground: Continuous efforts were made to address additional infrastructure needs, such as road construction and playground development, further enhancing the overall school environment.

Advocacy and Follow-Up: The relentless advocacy efforts by the Mohalla Samiti members, including raising the matter with various forums like School Management Committees (SMC), State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR), Child Protection Committees (CPC), and the Commissioner of BMC, played a pivotal role in driving positive change and securing necessary resources for the school.

Overall, the concerted efforts and advocacy initiatives undertaken by Meera Nagar Mohalla Samiti members have not only helped in meeting the infrastructure requirements of Naveen Primary School but also empowered the community by fostering awareness of their rights and responsibilities in ensuring quality education for all children as per RTE norms. This success story serves as an inspiration for collaborative action and community-driven change in improving educational facilities and opportunities for underserved communities.



Meera Nagar Primary School after construction.
