



SANGANERIA FOUNDATION  
FOR HEALTH AND EDUCATION  
A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
SINCE 2003—HELPING THOSE WHO ARE IN REAL NEED

# CLEANING UP KARKAR

A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
PROJECT



FUNDED BY



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**HUMANA**  
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INDIA

# CLEANING UP KARKAR

A community development project in Karkar village, Ghaziabad, implemented by Humana People to People India in partnership with **Sanganeria Foundation for Health and Education & Ultra International Limited**

Pink, yellow, green, orange, red... Colours are the first thought that comes to one's mind when one enters the Rana Street in Karkar village. One does not always expect to see a clean street in the middle of an industrial area, let alone in Ghaziabad, which is a planned industrial city in the National Capital Region of Delhi. As we entered the lane, we saw a painter finishing up a wall painting with a social

message about a classroom with a teacher and students learning the alphabets. Every wall outside or bordering a home, shop or temple had been covered with beautiful social messages—importance of hygiene, anti-smoking and anti plastic pollution messages, safety of the nation's girls and women as well as the benefits to planting trees.





As it got closer to 11:00 am, the street filled up with hustle bustle and all residents prepping up for an event marking the inauguration of their renovated and refurbished Rana Street. The said street will serve as a "Model Street" for the rest of the village with an aim to eventually redevelop and beautify the village area.





Dressed in their fine attires, women, children and staff from Humana People to People India (HPPI) gathered at the local temple to welcome the honourable guests from the Sangneria Foundation for Health and Education and Ultra International Limited. The panel of guests included **Mr Sant Sangneria**, Founder-chairman of the Sangneria Foundation along with Programme Director, **Bhuvana Nageshwaram**, Director-Marketing **Mr Prasenjit Mazumdar**, IT Head **Dinesh Chandra** and Programme Coordinator **Ravinder Singh** along with **Helle Lund**, Head National & International CSR Projects, HPPI and other staff members.

With songs, dance performances and testimonies from the beneficiaries, the gathering interacted with the panel, followed by cutting a red ribbon and inaugurating Rana Street. When asked about the impact of the programme in the

community, Bina, a resident of Rana Street said, "I really like that cleanliness is being taken care and given importance. Cleanliness is linked to health and we can now see the difference. We are grateful for the dustbins placed everywhere." She further described how earlier there were no clean spots to find, the drains were not covered and there was garbage was dumped everywhere.

But that has changed now to a degree, however, there is scope for more improvement. The parks need to be cleaned and awareness should be raised to increase greenery. When the youngest residents of Rana Street were asked, "What does your home and village look like?" They drew paintings of their home and said, "It is clean, colourful and we have dustbins placed every few steps. We water the plants regularly and never litter."



While happy with the progress and the presence of the women and children at the event, **Mr Sanganeria** made a very important point, “Both men and women in the community have to come together for a society to develop. We should definitely involve the youth more in the projects.” **Bhuvana Nageshwaran**, Programme Director of Sanganeria Foundation further added, “We are here to support you, but it is the community—both men and women—who has to come together and make a long lasting impact.”

Along with the refurbishing and cleaning of the street, the community development programme is also working towards providing vocational trainings for stitching and tailoring, beautician courses for the women, young girls and education centres for the children. One of them, a young girl, Sweetie, is enrolled in a basic computer course. Alongside completing her Bachelors in Arts, she also wants to

learn Tally. Seeing the growth and results of learning computers along with her curriculum, she requested the programme should provide more options of computer courses because many girls like her from the community look forward to learn more. The suggestion was appreciated and taken note of by the panel of guests. 20 other women from her community and calls her group Maharanapratap.



Several beneficiaries from the community, who also work in health clubs found a huge impact of the cleanliness drive in the health of the people. **Sarita Rana**, 52, is a member of a health club with 20 other women from her community and calls her group Maharanapratap. She sees a huge drop in the number of dengue and malaria cases. She says, "Earlier there would be long queues outside the doctor's clinic, now there are hardly one or two cases, and even they get free and good treatment." Talking about the other initiatives under the community development project, Sarita

explained how twice a week, a doctor visits their community and there is a doctor specialising in women's health. Along with it being a free service, around 60 women from across the health groups even have medical insurances.

Forty-five year old **Manju Tomar**, a member of the Gurudev women's group, talks about the progress of HPPI's community development projects since they started in 2016. She said, "Before HPPI's interventions, many male family members wouldn't allow girls to study. Today, they encourage their girls and women for the education and the work they do. Families of migrant labourers have moved base from their native place and brought their families to our village because of the Kadam education programme." She added, "I wish all the other streets are also cleaned and the drains be covered. No one should say that in Karkar, only one or two streets are clean and we cannot even step in any of the other lanes. People now realise that when the drains are covered, the number of mosquitoes have also come down and lesser people are falling sick. Our friends who visit us compare the wall paintings and its beauty to the Noida Film City!"





**Shayamanand** who works as a Project leader of HPPI's community development project in Karkar says that once they whitewashed the walls, placed dustbins, covered the drains and placed nets and painted the walls, the residents saw the benefits. He says, "The challenge is to maintain this development and make it a sustainable one. Every member of the community has to take part in this initiative and support Humana People to People India in successfully implementing it. We also aim to

replicate such overall developments across other streets and lanes in the Karkar village."

