

## Aided Elementary School, India

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At the Aided Elementary School, the water crisis became a significant obstacle, impacting the daily lives of its students. The school, equipped with four toilets, struggled to maintain proper sanitation due to water scarcity. They relied on an overhead tank provided by the municipal government to distribute water to the community and the school through a standpipe, but there wasn't enough water for everyone. This scarcity was compounded by salty water, which was unsuitable for cooking the mid-day meal that the students depended on. The nearby borehole, another potential water source, failed to meet the needs of residents due to insufficient water levels. The lack of adequate water supply hindered basic hygiene practices for students, which affected their health and educational experience.

The school's teachers and staff faced their own challenges due to the water crisis. They brought drinking water from alternative sources, which was inconvenient and often resulted in consuming contaminated water. Plastic pots and bottles for storing and transporting water became common, yet this solution was far from ideal. The containers couldn't be cleaned properly, which meant they harbored bacteria. Teachers responsible for the well-being and education of their students found themselves grappling with these logistical issues, detracting from their primary focus of teaching.

A teacher from the elementary school shared: "The school had a tap connection, but it only provided salty water once a week. This posed a problem for cooking the mid-day meal for the students. Additionally, the nearby borehole did not have sufficient water, and the community faced water scarcity. Teachers and staff had to bring drinking water from outside, which is not always safe."



Construction begins on the new borehole!



The school community gathers to pray over their new water source.

School officials were concerned about the water crisis's effect on students, so they urgently sought a solution to this problem. When they heard of Living Water's work in the region, they immediately reached out for help. Living Water India responded by drilling a new borehole and installing a hand pump.

The teacher is grateful for the new safe water source's benefits to her school. She said, "The availability of a new water source ensures that the staff and students have continuous access to safe water. This enables them to maintain proper sanitation practices and utilize the school's latrines effectively. Additionally, the school can now prepare mid-day meals and fulfill other water-related needs without difficulties."

For students, the new well means they can reliably access safe water, providing them with drinking water for the day and enough water to prepare the mid-day meal—a critical component of their nutrition and health. Additionally, the availability of a sufficient water supply means that the school can maintain proper sanitation in the latrines, a significant step towards improving the overall hygiene standards within the school premises. For the teachers, the well's construction brings relief and a shift in their daily responsibilities. They are no longer burdened with searching for alternative water sources and can redirect their energy and time toward educational activities and supporting their students. The new well symbolizes a renewed sense of hope and stability and a testament to the power of God's compassion and everlasting love.



Now, students can easily access safe and abundant water right outside their classrooms.