THE DATA

Population: 1.21 billion
- 11% without access to an improved water source
- 72% without adequate sanitation services
- 41% living below the poverty line

Life expectancy: 64 years

Infant mortality rate: 52 per 1000 live births

GNI per capita: $3337 USD

Sources: World Bank, UNICEF, USAID, UNDP, CIA World Factbook

Official statistics often understate the extent of water and sanitation problems, sometimes by a large margin. Insufficient resources for monitoring population and/or coverage as well as varying definitions of coverage and access contribute to statistical variability.

THE PROJECT

Project Location: Saredi, Rajasthan, India

GPS Coordinates: Latitude 23 20.511 N Longitude 74 16.509 E

People Served: 140

Report Presented To: The Feldman Family

THE COUNTRY

According to the most recent UNDP report, India is ranked 119th out of 169 countries with comparable data in the United Nations Human Development Index. India struggles with a swelling population, environmental degradation, extensive poverty, and ethnic and religious violence. Droughts, flash floods, and destruction from monsoonal rains, earthquakes, and tsunamis all continue to challenge the nation’s developmental goals. With an annual population growth rate of 1.5%, essential resources and services (such as clean water and adequate sanitation) are becoming increasingly scarce.

Health is one of the most serious issues affecting development in India. One third of the world’s tuberculosis cases are in India, and the country is one of four in the world where polio persists. An estimated 2.47 million people in India are HIV positive. Diarrhea alone causes more than 1,600 deaths each day, making it the second leading cause of death among Indian children. The World Bank estimates that 21% of communicable diseases in India are related to unsafe water. Latrine usage is also extremely poor in rural areas, with only 14% of the rural population having access to a latrine.

OUR WORK IN INDIA

Living Water International began working in the Indian central state of Andhra Pradesh in 1997. After beginning work in North India in 2000, an office was established in 2003 and new operations were launched in the south and the east in 2007. Living Water India has completed more than 750 water projects throughout these regions, most in collaboration with local churches, schools, and hospitals.

Future projections for Living Water operations in India include expansion into new areas, an increased emphasis on health and hygiene, and a redoubled effort in oral evangelism. In Central India, our implementer is continuing a program of sustainability, revisiting every single Living Water well site in his area and conducting inspections to ensure these wells are working properly. Although the religious persecution faced by our implementers on the ground often impedes progress on water projects—one team was attacked and forced out of a village where they were drilling—Living Water’s goal in India for 2011 is to drill more than 70 new wells and rehabilitate more than 25, continuing to share the love of Christ through the provision of clean water to India’s thirsty.
GENERAL INFORMATION

When the LWI India team arrived, community members were utilizing a river located half of a kilometer away from the community to meet all of their water needs. Because of this and the community’s practice of informal defecation, families were suffering from cholera, dysentery, malaria, diarrhea and severe dehydration among other preventable water related illnesses. During the team’s stay, community members assisted the team by providing food when possible and by helping the team provide security over the water project during the night. Most community members sustain their families by farming or working of local Christian ministries. The nearest school is located 1.5 kilometers away from the community whose students, teachers and administrative personnel all have access to the new, safe water source. Before leaving the community, the LWI India team provided community member, Pramod Patel, with a LWI India contact number in case their well were to fall into disrepair, become subject to vandalism or theft.

INTERVIEW

The LWI India team had an opportunity to meet with thirty-five year old community member, pastor and farmer, Sobhchand Garasia, who stated, “After the first survey, the site was rejected as there was no road to reach the site. After four vain attempts, trees had to be cut and then drilling started. There was no water initially but prayers were answered and God gave water after four days. Thank you.”

CHARACTERISTIC OF THE WELL

Project Details

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<td>No. of people served</td>
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WATER QUALITY TEST

Chlorination: Yes

(It is policy of Living Water International to shock chlorinate water wells at a minimum: after completion of drilling and installation of pump and before use by end users, After the well seal is broken during maintenance or rehabilitation and before use by end users.)

HYGIENE EDUCATION

All Required Lessons were taught by the LWI India hygiene instructor and all LWI well pad standards were met. The LWI India team shared an introductory hygiene lesson with community members gathered at the well site. During the hygiene education, the team addressed: Hand washing, how to take proper care of the pump, how to keep the water clean, how to properly transport and store water, disease transmission, causes of diarrhea with a display of the diarrhea doll, good and bad hygiene and Oral Rehydration Solution.

EVANGELISM

Before leaving the community, the team had an opportunity to establish a partnership with the local missionary who will continue to cultivate community members after the team leaves the area. A LWI India team member stated, “Sobhchand is a Pastor whose village needed water badly. After drilling there was no water. The people prayed for four days and water came. This is a big miracle.”
Previous water source depended on by the entire community to meet all of their water needs.

Project in process and LWI India drill rig.

Close up of plaque.
Completed water project and cement base constructed by LWI India. This water source will be used to meet the community’s most immediate water needs.

Community members pumping clean, safe drinking water.

Community member, Sobhchand Garasia, interviewed by LWI India and who stated, “After the first survey, the site was rejected as there was no road to reach the site. After four vain attempts, trees had to be cut and then drilling started.”
There was no water initially but prayers were answered and God gave water after four days. Thank you.”

Community members served by LWI India.

Community members gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony and to thank the Lord for His provision of clean, safe drinking water. As stated above, the community prayed for four days to have clean drinking water. It was, stated by a LWI India team member, “a miracle.”