



## Case Study

The first Hasiru Mane for Devraj





Around 1965-1966, Kuntigrama neighbourhood in Hebbal was declared as a notified slum that housed a nomadic community. It sits on a rocky surface, ground seepage, runoff, drainage etc. are a major issue.

The houses they live in range from shanties, tin sheds, mud or brick to poorly constructed structures that get very hot in summer, leak during the monsoons and lack ventilation. Some of the houses built with mud walls collapsed during floods. Houses built on the land given by the state-sponsored public housing program were below the road level leading to increased damage.

There are 120 households in the neighbourhood. The majority of the population are waste pickers, informal workers, and members of the Scheduled Caste/ Dalits.

The 2016, rains wreaked havoc in the area and a lot of the houses were on the verge of collapse. In 2017, Hasiru Dala decided that a program to support housing, housing upgrades based on a rights based approach needs to be implemented in the community.

The Hasiru Mane project decided to undertake the construction of a pilot housing project in collaboration with Selco Foundation.

Under the theme of reducing ecological footprint using recycled second hand materials sourced from demolitions and from the second hand materials market. Through a donation drive some good quality wood, tiles, granite, doors, windows, roofing materials were collected.

We approached the community for volunteers for the housing initiative. There was an initial apprehension on who will participate in the pilot, but the priest of the community was forthcoming in undertaking the construction of his house.



The estimated cost for a household of 12 people with an area of 1000 sq ft is 15 lakh rupees (on avg) but it took only 9 lakh rupees to complete it. The house is solar-powered.

Based on the request from the owner, some facilities were made for convenience during construction:

- An underground water sump holding two days of water requirement has also been provided.
- A platform for the wood-fired stove and one kitchen on each floor were made.
- More space for extended family and other temple-related work, thus a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor was built.
- Lofts were built in all the rooms, to increase storage space and save place on the ground.
- Solar water heating system and lights installation for cost reduction on electricity.



Even though constructing the home has put a very serious strain on the family, they have managed to accommodate all their aspirations in the house. From painting it the way they wanted to decor. The balcony extensions were added in later as work progressed, the second floor room came in later. The costs are still managed by using either donor given materials, or items picked up for less through his scrap dealer network.

