



Drinking water was an issue with the school situated on a high-stony area in the Nawadih village of Giridih's Jamua Block, Jharkhand. Despite three borings, water was not found under the stony layer. A hand pump was installed in the school premises but it proved to be futile. Parts of the tube well were also stolen over the years as the school didn't have a boundary wall. This resulted in water being fetched from a distance of close to half a kilometer in the hilly terrain. Accessing the toilet also proved to be difficult due to the unavailability of water.

The school authority, along with the School Management Committee (SMC), took up the process of submitting an appeal for provision of a water facility to the District Superintendent of Education. But the department stated their inability to help in a situation where three borings too had failed.

With your support, CRY partner - Jago Foundation, facilitated a meeting with the SMC, the school teachers and the Mukhiya. And it discussed applying to the Zila Parishad for a deep boring well so that water could be available in the school. Money for installing a hand pump was finally allocated. The Mukhiya and the Zila Parishad collaborated to construct two tube wells in the northern and southern fringes of the school. The process for a deep boring within the school is still being pursued by the SMC and the Mukhiya, with the Education Department in the district and the PHD. The Mukhiya, though not a member of the SMC, is proactively taking the process forward.

Children are now able to access the school toilet because of the availability of water. **And the girls of classes seven and eight have stopped skipping school.** The community has also come forward to construct a bamboo fence around the school, through individual contribution of bamboos and labour.