

SHAKUNTHALA



KARNATAKA



Shakunthala and her husband **Mallappa Nalatawad** were left disheartened when their relatives stopped visiting them due to their poor living conditions. The couple stayed in a rented accommodation in a single room. The house lacked space and other basic amenities. Initially, Shakunthala and Mallappa lived in a joint family. However, after a few days, their property got divided and Mallappa received only a plot of land from their ancestors' property.

Due to shortage of money, Shakunthala and Mallappa couldn't afford to construct a home and hence, they lived in the single room on rent with their two children. To make ends meet, Mallappa started working as daily wage earner while Shakuntala got employed in a private bank as a support staff.

The couple spent over a decade in the single room until they came to know about Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) [PMAY(U)]. Soon, Shakunthala and Mallappa applied for the Scheme with all necessary documents and eventually, the construction work of their dream house commenced.

During the construction period, people discouraged Shakunthala by saying that they won't receive the grants on time. However, they received all the instalments within a stipulated time period which helped them to complete the house.

"Now, we have a permanent place of shelter which safeguards us from all weather conditions. The relatives, who earlier hesitated to visit us, are now coming to our new pucca home. Our children can study peacefully. The house has given us everything we ever wanted," she explains.

Shakunthala and Mallappa's social status is now uplifted. There is a sense of dignity and pride. Their life has changed completely after PMAY(U) Scheme fulfilled their dream of becoming proud owners of their house. They are thankful to the Government for providing financial assistance.