

# SABITRI Naik

## ODISHA



**Sabitri Naik**, a home maker is living with her husband, two daughters and two sons who are school going. Her husband **Simanchal Naik**, a bus conductor by profession, is the sole bread-winner of the family. They reside in a kutcha, asbestos-roofed house before becoming a beneficiary under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) [PMAY(U)].

Since they were residing in a cyclone-prone area, the family had to endure several hardships. During the cyclones, Sabitri Devi and her family would shift to government shelters leaving all their possessions behind, returning to find their mud house and all belongings destroyed. They would have to start from scratch every time. It was very painful for him to see his children suffering the most. Their studies were hampered with their books being washed away by the rains.

Despite all the hardships, the couple could never gather the courage to build a pucca house because of the meagre income. Additionally, rising housing costs had made it very difficult for him to afford a pucca house.

Remembering the tough times, they lamented, "In 2013 when Cyclone Phailin happened, all we could think of was saving our children. It was in the year 2016 that we heard about PMAY(U) and applied for it. With the financial assistance received, we constructed my own pucca house. Now we do not fear any cyclone. It brings eternal joy to us to see our children so happy and proud of our abode. I am very much thankful to PMAY(U)".

The couple constructed a pucca house with bedrooms, kitchen and toilet. To beautify their house, she had done wall art with social messages. Their children are very happy and proud to have a pucca house of their own and that they are able to continue their studies without any obstacle.