

MANDHALAPU Ananthalakshmi



ANDHRA PRADESH

A PMAY-U pucca house is not just about proper sanitation and safety. It gives people a new found confidence to initiate life changing decisions that impact next generations.

In Addanki Nagarapanchyat of Prakasam district of **Andhra Pradesh**, **Mandhalapu Ananthalakshmi** lives with her husband and three children. The family is into buffalo rearing and with the meagre income, they hardly ever thought of giving higher education to children.

“Our life's ambition was to get a good house for safe and secured living,” says Ananthalakshmi who earlier had a small house with temporary roof. “We were so poor that affording labourers for construction was difficult. So our family members decided to take up the construction work themselves. We all toiled hard physically,” she adds.



Now Ananthalakshmi and her family are happy on getting a new house under PMAY (U). But what surpasses every feeling is the fact that, now, they are sending her eldest daughter to college. “The new house has given new birth to us. We shifted from open defecation to using toilet inside our home. It gave us a sense of dignity. During discussions with husband, we decided to give higher education to our daughter. I want my children to find a good job and have better and secured livelihood”, Ananthalakshmi says

“Relatives and neighbours look at us with more respect now,” she added.