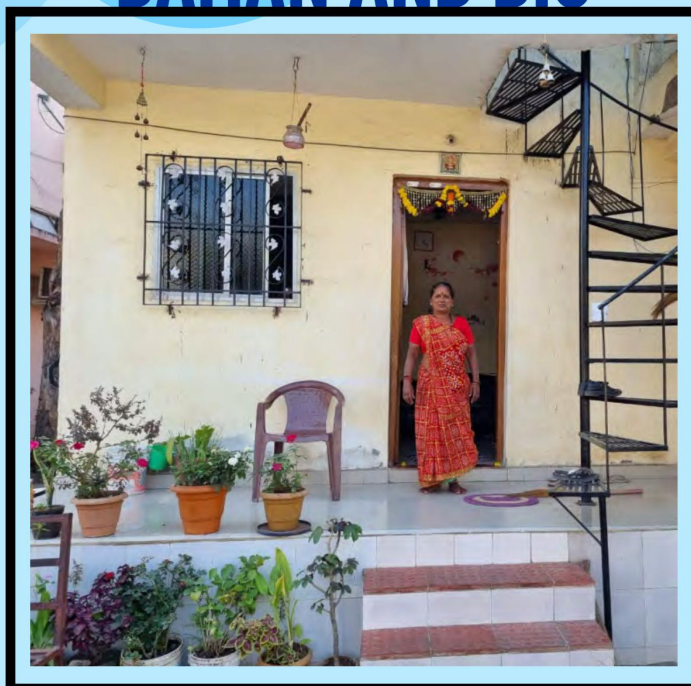


# KOKILABEN Manubhai Halpati



## DAMAN AND DIU



**Kokilaben Manubhai Halpati** and her husband **Manu Mangal** are from Nani, **Daman** and used to live in a kutchha house with their three children. Manu was a fitter by profession and is now retired. Kokilaben works as a sweeper in a nearby private school and earns about Rs 8,000 a month. Her son used to work in Ayushman Bharat and earns a meager income.

Living in a kutchha house comes with its set of problems. The house was in a low-lying area and water logging in rainy season was a major concern. During rain water used to pour inside their house and the whole family had to take out the water with buckets the whole day making their children unwell. This kept Kokilaben worried about the health of her children yet they had no means to build a pucca house.

There was no toilet in the house and they had to walk a considerable distance for the same. One of their daughters got married in the old kutchha house and it was very difficult for the family to make arrangements for the ceremony. Even the relatives were not interested in attending the marriage. Kokilaben felt helpless and vulnerable.

During the course, the Urban Local Body (ULB) conducted an awareness drive on the PMAY(U) and the couple got to know about the Scheme. Soon they submitted their application in the ULB and got themselves enrolled under the Scheme. With the financial assistance from Government, they could manage to construct a pucca house.

Kokilaben says that this house showed them a way to lead a better life in a dignified manner. She now feels empowered, safe and secured in her new house. She is even more happy that the marriage of her second daughter and son would be in the new pucca house and she is confident that all her relatives will attend it.