Sukdas Banjare, aged 75 years, lives in Bagnara village of Bagnara Gram Panchayat of Ambagarh Chowki block of Rajnandgaon district in Chhattisgarh. This is situated 78 km away from district headquarters. His wife left him around 30 years back. He is a single headed household; he has three brothers who are younger to him having no son or daughter, due to his old age, it was extremely difficult for him to manage even a square meal a day. He gets 10 kg of rice under food security scheme. He has severe financial crisis. As nobody is staying with him, ever he has to manage everything on his own.

He had to go at least 1 km from his house to defecate and that too in the open. In such an old age, his problems became manifold as he finds it difficult to go outside and squat in the ground for defecation. Many a times, he also faced difficulties to access the basic human necessities like safe drinking water and sanitation.

Open defecation was a common practise for the villagers and for him since long. One day he heard, that some people have come and were discussing about the ill effects on health due to open defecation and they were sharing about the Swachh Bharat Mission (G), where they were also sharing about
saturation of all households with toilet, and construction of individual household toilets, within a certain time period. This became a huge surprise and he was shocked as he didn’t have any money to spend for this cause; as all the other households of the community were committed to building latrines and make use of it. As days passed by he felt pressurised, he tried to borrow some money, look for some external help but was not able to manage the desired amount. He then took a hard decision by selling/giving away his 1.80 acres of land to one of his neighbours.

With the money he had thus got and with the support of the community he was able to construct the toilet. Now he is very happy that he has his own toilet & making use of it. It has certainly influenced the community members...an example of an individual to go any extent to build a toilet with the help of the community. Today Sukdas is a proud owner of a toilet and he is happy that he is respected in the community and he need not let his self esteem down.