

‘Ek Saath’ or ‘Together’: Village Project with Indigenous Community in Uttar Pradesh

I worked for over a year from January 2023, with an elected Member of the Legislative Assembly's office in my home district of Padrauna, Uttar Pradesh to bring benefits of government schemes to the neglected, indigenous community, the Musahars, colloquially known as 'rat eaters' because they were so poor they once had to eat rats to survive. In a community of around 110 families, I engaged with them several times since 2023 to raise awareness over government schemes and entitlements and enable them to gain access. These included schemes for free housing, free toilets and cheap cooking gas cylinders. Getting enrollment into government schools for their children was also a project I worked closely on with the community. I also communicated deficiencies in current schemes reaching them and reported this to local government authorities.





