

A visit that inspired!

Friends of Sehgal Foundation, Susen and Jim Berg from the United States, brought inspiration to their visit to Sehgal Foundation in India in September 2018. They visited the Bukharaka government school that has been partially renovated with partnership support from Fluor Daniel India Pvt. Ltd., they saw the toll-free citizen helpline in action at the Citizen Information and Support Center in Nuh that is operated with support from Sapient. The Bergs also visited the community center and training center in Ghaghas that houses the community radio Alfaz-e-Mewat FM 107.8.

Renovation of Bukharaka school was initiated in January 2018 and has since seen an enrollment increase of 48 students. The school now provides a healthy and a safe learning environment for schoolchildren. Dysfunctional and broken structures were repaired and some new infrastructure was created within the school premises. The team built the capacities of the School Management Committee to maintain and sustain these interventions and conducted awareness sessions with schoolchildren on the importance of education, hygiene, and sanitation.



The Bergs learned from the children how the renovations have brought about positive changes in their lives and how teachers feel more motivated in the improved school environment and take active interest in the school affairs. They saw the functioning of the toll-free helpline number that has become a lifeline for villagers in Nuh, who call up to receive information about various government programs and seek help to file complaints in case of denial or delay in receiving the benefits. At the community center in village Ghaghas, they witnessed firsthand how a community radio works, saw farm demonstrations used for farmer training, and interacted with local citizens who work with the foundation team.

Susen Berg described her feelings, "I was so touched by meeting the schoolchildren. I will never forget those faces. I am so grateful to Sehgal Foundation for providing those children real hope for the future."

The couple has already provided a support of \$20,000 to start with to provide further improvements in Bukharaka school and support the Transform Lives *one school at a time* project. The entire Sehgal Foundation team in India and the US thanks the Bergs for their generous support, which will go a long way in transforming many more lives in rural India.