



## Double Crisis

April 6, 2026

This is a long report - I just couldn't find any information that I should not send. Rachel and Nupi continue to do a great job of giving us pertinent information.

“With fuel shortages spreading across the world, the crisis has finally landed here at Prakash. We have been struggling to get domestic gas cylinders (bottled gas) which are the primary source of our cooking fuel, since the government has halted **all** supply of cylinders to commercial establishments. Our requirement is almost 10 LPG cylinders per month and so we have been shifted down on the priority list.



The situation has become even more chaotic, with long queues of people thronging the gas stations, desperate to secure as much fuel as they can for cooking as well as vehicles. Panic buying has only made things worse, as it is draining the supply at a much faster pace.

After booking a cylinder for cooking gas the agency is giving us a waiting period of minimum 35 days to get one single cylinder.

It doesn't hurt to say that modern convenience has gone out of order. In this time of need, we have returned to cooking on the firewood, our only rescue, keeping kitchens alive and feeding students when fuel and gas have failed us.

The PBI and RGI cook ladies are making it possible for students to receive food on time . . . even while



cooking over firewood. The RGI girls are also helping in making chapatis as the cook lady cannot do it all by herself on the firewood.



Meanwhile, the PBI boys have also taken up the additional responsibility of chipping the wood into smaller pieces to make it easy for the women to use it for cooking. The scorching summer heat isn't making their job any easier yet they are happily working together.

What was just another global headline has now become a reality for us too. We pray that the uncertainty hanging over our heads ends before the firewood stock at Prakash runs out. At the same time, we are also praying for others who are affected, and we hope that everything comes to a close soon—in peace and with relief for all.

**Unfortunately,** another issue has now arisen: the RGI bore well pump has stopped functioning.

Our electrician instructor Nitin, together with the students, examined the situation and determined that the pump needs to be pulled out for further inspection. We engaged a team from outside to assist with this task, but during the process their hooks



broke while

attempting to remove the pipes.

They will now need to return with hydraulic equipment to complete the job.



In the meantime, the campus maintenance crew is supplying water to RGI from the PBI bore well. Students have been advised to use water responsibly and avoid wastage.



After two days a new team arrived with better equipment. After nearly six hours of hard labour, the team successfully managed to pull out the pump that had been badly stuck in the sludge.

A hydraulic machine was used to extract everything, and several of the metal pipes were so rusted and jammed that they couldn't be unscrewed and had to be cut with a grinder. In total, 160 feet of pipe along with the pump were removed.

A few boys were enthusiastic in helping with the cleaning, while the girls and the housemother kept the tea coming in for the hardworking group

**The next recommended steps are:**

1. Purchase a new pump along with the cable.
2. Replace the rusted metal pipes with modern PVC pipes available in the market.
3. Flush the bore well thoroughly to clear out the sludge before installing the new pipe and pump.

*These measures will require additional funds, as this is NOT a budgeted expense. I am grateful to Nitin and Munshi, who missed attending the Good Friday service at church but worked tirelessly alongside the laborers to get the job done.*

**Needless to say, Loren and our USA Board have been on their knees in prayer.**

**TODAY'S UPDATE**

Today Sunil visited the gas company with a written application to consider supplying us gas on priority basis as we have students on campus. The gas company is going to let us know how many cylinders they will be able to supply us by tomorrow.

Also, the pump, pipes and cable have arrived on campus ready to be installed tomorrow. Hopefully funds will come in to pay the bills.

**Thank you again for your prayers and continued donations**

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