

Adding value through Corporate Social Responsibility

In our stride to be a responsible corporate citizen which goes beyond the traditional role of doing business, at Exide we have adopted Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as an integral part of our core organizational strategy to contribute and add value to our immediate and larger communities. Over the years, our teams have been relentlessly putting in their dynamic efforts to fructify the community's needs and aspirations. Our main endeavor is to bring in optimistic and sustainable impacts in our neighboring communities both at the vicinity of our manufacturing units as well as for the society at large at the national level through various CSR activities. These activities revolve around the main pillars of our CSR philosophy within the focus areas of Children & Education, Health & Sanitation, Environment, Women Empowerment and Rural/Community Development.



Children & Education:

Projects related to promotion of education formed the main agenda for us in 2016 – 17 as we firmly believe that children are our future. Hence direct interventions for school infrastructure development, education enhancement and allied projects mainly at primary and high schools and child development



organizations superseded at the vicinity of all our operational locations. Fostering similar projects through partnership with organizations like CINI (Child In Need Institute), India Sponsorship Committee, Holy Tabernacle School, Haltu Arya Balika Vidyalaya & South Gurukul Society perpetuated beneficial impacts on substantiating educational facilities and nutrition for the children.



Health & Sanitation:

Our long term initiative with Unicef since 2009 has forged ahead to institutionalize WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Programme in Government Schools across districts in West Bengal, Assam and Bihar.

Some of our nationalized contributions were made to the Marrow Donor Registry (India),



Diabetics Association of India, Society for the Rehabilitation of Paraplegics, Prime Minister's National Relief Fund and Swachh Bharat Kosh. These investments were largely in accordance to our vision of providing support for sustainable health and sanitation facilities for the larger community at the national level for population where the real requirement exists.

In our tribute to diversity, with Cheshire Home, Kolkata Unit a project was taken up to grant support for "Disability Friendly Sanitation, Health and Nutrition" facilities.

At the plant level sanitation facilities including drinking water and sewage drainage facilities for an entire village

were constructed or renovated as per the need assessment conducted by our onsite teams. Regular health check-up camps were also conducted as required by the beneficiary communities around all our operations.

Environment:

We aim to do our best to bring environmental consciousness through our regular projects like tree plantations.



All our plant locations mandatorily develop green corridors by planting pollution abatement species and supporting tree plantation projects within the neighboring villages, barren land areas and municipalities. This year we also invested in solar energy related projects at different locations in Maharashtra and West Bengal. Another unique project on natural water resource management through desilting of clogged lakes were envisaged and implemented in the neighboring villages of our plant down south which ensures reduction of water scarcity in the neighboring villages.

Women Empowerment:

Girl child and women oriented projects remains at the core of our CSR interventions as gender parity takes the front stage when it comes to making provisions for any empowerment initiatives. Hence, this year too we were extremely contended to continue with the livelihood and entrepreneurship enhancement programme for women from the tribal villages around our plant in



Maharashtra which helps to usher in economic and social empowerment for the beneficiaries. Availing regular and safe transportation to schools and colleges are an ordeal for most of the girl children and young women from economically challenged background irrespective of where they are located. The challenging situation is an equal reality both in remote villages as well as in the suburban areas of larger cities. The free School Bus project was an empowerment initiative that got introduced this year to ply girl children and young women from a few neighboring villages and sub urban locations at two of our operation areas. The project recuperated regular

attendance for the students and also helped to revive a School which was almost on the verge of closing down due to lack of admissions.

Employee Volunteering:

Along with the investment and focused team efforts, our social commitment also extends deep into our corporate culture through employee volunteering programmes which embodies our special legacy of service for



the greater community. The scope of individually touching lives of the less privileged ones and contribute towards their sustainable development is wholeheartedly recognized by our employees backed by our leadership team. We strongly resonate with what Gandhi once said ***“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others”***. This year the volunteers had engaged for nurturing and empowerment sessions to boost up the morale of the differently abled female residents of Cheshire Home, Kolkata Unit and the girl students from our partnering Government School in south Kolkata. The engagement sessions generated heartwarming smiles along with a great sense of gratitude,

inclusiveness and
empowerment for all.

Our primary aim is to be one of the most respected companies in India delivering superior and sustainable value to all our customers, business partners, shareholders, employees and host communities. The CSR initiatives focus on holistic development of host communities and create social, environmental and economic value to the society.