

### **Breaking Free**

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I'm stronger than I've been ever before. This is the part when I break free because I can't resist it no more.

Break the barbs of poverty & unequal opportunity and make the world a better place to breathe.

Give wings to my dreams, to become who really I am.

Gently until the barbs of age and pain, to feel better today and live the tomorrow.

I only want to die alive, never by the hands of a broken spirit.

I'm stronger than I've been ever before. This is the part when I break free because I can't resist it no more.

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# Reflections on Serving Society

"Enhance the quality of education and address the challenges of poverty, disease and degradation of the environment". This is our calling.

- Striving for the best in customer value has been a longstanding tradition at Rane. We have known no other way. This stands acknowledged by our major partners across India and the world.
- "Community First" has been the founding principle of the Rane Foundation. Created in 1967 as the philanthropic arm of Rane, the foundation has been a worthy implementation partner. The focus areas have been Education, Healthcare, Environment and Community Development. The practice of "Charity by Cheque" has been substituted with "Affirmative Action".
- Many hundreds of our past and present employees have shouldered the responsibility by investing time and effort to work alongside in communication, planning and implementation of projects. We travel, meet with schools, hospitals, Self Help Groups (SHGs) and NGOs to identify worthy causes, develop plans for execution. In our small way we believe we have touched effectively the lives of many.
- In this, the 50th year of Rane Foundation we have instituted the **Pioneer of Change** a biennial award to recognize outstanding contribution in the field of social development.
- We believe social and community development is not just dear to our hearts but a moral imperative.

Lakshman
Chairman Emeritus

#### Vision

"To be a socially and environmentally responsible corporate citizen."

#### Focus Area

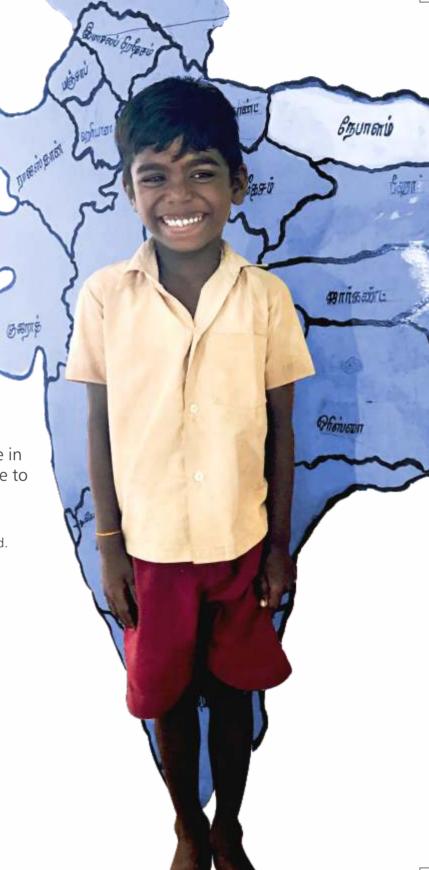
We constantly strive to promote and engage in activities that help strengthen and contribute to the enrichment of society.

• Creating better access to quality education.

■ Improving access to quality healthcare for people in need.

 Engaging and / or helping non-profit organizations serve towards community development in a meaningful way and restoring communities after disaster strikes.

 Being conscious of the imperatives of the need to protect environment and adopting measures to conserve natural resources.







Rane Foundation, a public charitable trust founded in the year 1967, is the lead for implementing Rane Group's corporate social responsibility initiatives. We are continuously working to live our vision – "To be socially and environmentally responsible corporate citizen". Our humble yet persistent effort over the years has touched thousands of lives and made a small positive change in the society in the areas of Education, Healthcare, Environment and Community Development.

Our group companies contribute their bit in various sustainability initiatives to improve quality of life for the local communities. All our 24 manufacturing plants maintain the highest standards (better than as mandated by the law) in continuously reducing industrial waste and pollutants. Our employees volunteer their time, management expertise and execution skills to help make life better for the society.

For us at Rane Group a federal structure to handle CSR works well. It empowers our employees to identify the needs of local communities in their locations. This creates an opportunity for our employees to volunteer for such initiatives and make a difference. The communities get an instant and a lasting solution to their problems. Our volunteers gain a sense of fulfilment and joy in their lives.



# Education

India is at the cusp of a paradigm shift where 200 million children need education and employment. Seize it, and we would be at the forefront of an economic and demographic renaissance.

A plethora of government initiatives to provide access to primary education may be underway, but issues of equity, quality and access remain areas of concern particularly in rural schools. Children in rural areas continue to be deprived of quality education owing to factors like lack of competent and committed teachers, lack of textbooks or teaching-learning materials and so on.

We believe that education and employment are two crucial weapons to win the war against poverty. Rane Group has been actively involved with several educational institutions in supporting and providing industry exposure opportunities to students and faculty. Most of our initiatives have been aimed at improving infrastructure for schools in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana.











Gunaseelan's story is one of fortitude. He was born in a village near Trichy. After his father's death, his mother, a tailor had meagre means but a burning desire to educate her children. She brought Guna to Rane Polytechnic as she understood that skilled

education and a stable employment was a must to overcome poverty and menial labour. While she toiled with odd jobs, Guna worked hard to complete his diploma. Her dream was realized when Gunaseelan was recruited by Sundaram Clayton on campus. He is a Supervisor now. He inspires his brother and others from his village to join Rane Polytechnic.



Kalaiarasu, Pavithrakumar, Kesavan and many other students at RPTC share a similar narrative. Raised either by a single parent or by parents working as daily wage labourers, the vagaries of life have pushed them into poverty. Parents believe in securing a

skilled education for their children is the only chance to get out of a debt ridden existence. Rane Polytechnic helps students get quality education and employment with organizations such as Sanmar, TVS Sundaram, Alstom Projects etc.

### Rane Polytechnic

#### Learn and Grow



Rane Polytechnic Technical Campus (RPTC) was established in Sethurapatti village, Trichy in 2011. Since its inception RPTC has contributed to the industry needs and sustainable development of rural youth. RPTC focuses on the holistic development of students by providing theoretical knowledge (curriculum), technical exposure (on the job training) and management programs (finishing school). It offers diploma courses to secondary and post-secondary candidates and follows the curriculum and evaluation system as prescribed by the DOTE. Our college governing council comprising of eminent members from industry, academia and government oversee the operations. RPTC is accredited by NBA for Diploma in Mechanical Engineering(DME) course. RPTC is based on the "Green Building" concept with maximum natural lighting and water conservation methods built into its ecosystem. It has created employment opportunities for over 1200 students over the last 6 years.





### Rane Vidyalaya



#### **Nurturing Tomorrow**

India has made significant progress in ensuring children's access to school with near-universal enrolment in primary education over the last decade. Ensuring access to primary education and improving quality and learning are two sides of the same coin, requiring efforts to address both.

We are embarking upon an exciting journey to set up Rane Vidyalaya at Theerampalayam, Manachanallur district. This school will realize the dream of providing quality wholesome education to rural children. The school from Nursery to Class 12<sup>th</sup> will follow CBSE curriculum and opens its doors for the academic session 2018-19.





#### Augmenting School Infrastructure

Ganapathy Iyer Girls Higher Secondary School, Gopalapuram, Chennai, is a Government-aided School. This school provides high-quality education for economically backward girls living in the area. The school building suffered an onslaught of Chennai floods in 2015. We volunteered to mitigate the damages and ensured that 270 students of the school got back to their routine within a month. We continue to volunteer for various activities and any help that the school needs.

#### Learning made Fun

Eureka Nursery and Primary Schools were founded in 2006 with the vision of providing high quality affordable education to rural children from poor families. What sets the schools apart is their outcome oriented teaching methodology and "fun and effective" learning environment. We have partnered with Eureka School, Vembakkam & Kalpakkam and have supported them financially. It is heartening to see the growing confidence of these children to realize their true potential.

We have supported for developing building infrastructure, providing books and school bags in government schools at Nolumbur, Om Sakthi Nagar, Pregnapur, Pondy, Sethurapatti and Fatima Nagar. This has positively impacted lives of 650 children.



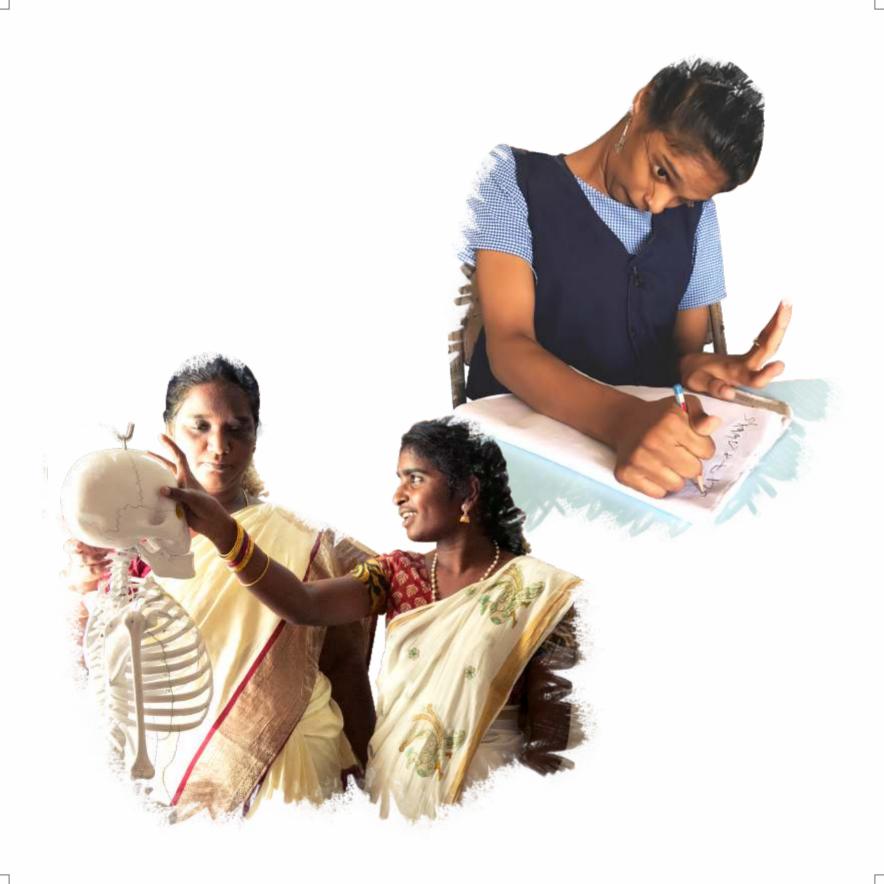
# Healthcare

Health – for rich and poor alike – is the linchpin of the positive changes we want to see in our society. A recent report stated that about 11% of the economic growth in lower and middle income countries over the past generation, resulted just from reductions in adult mortality.

This remarkable statistic underscores the fact that the raw material of a dynamic society is the mental capacity and labour productivity of its population. And that is tied directly to investments in health.

We at Rane Group have been working relentlessly to bring quality health care to communities who need it the most. The initiatives are simple yet effective and are aimed to reach masses. To broaden our scope we include sanitation & hygiene, clean drinking water and diet & nutrition also as part of healthcare.

We work along with various NGOs, SHGs and hospitals to organize health camps for general health, women's health, oral hygiene & eye screening for rural marginalized people. Our employees across the locations donate blood in various blood donation camps round the year.

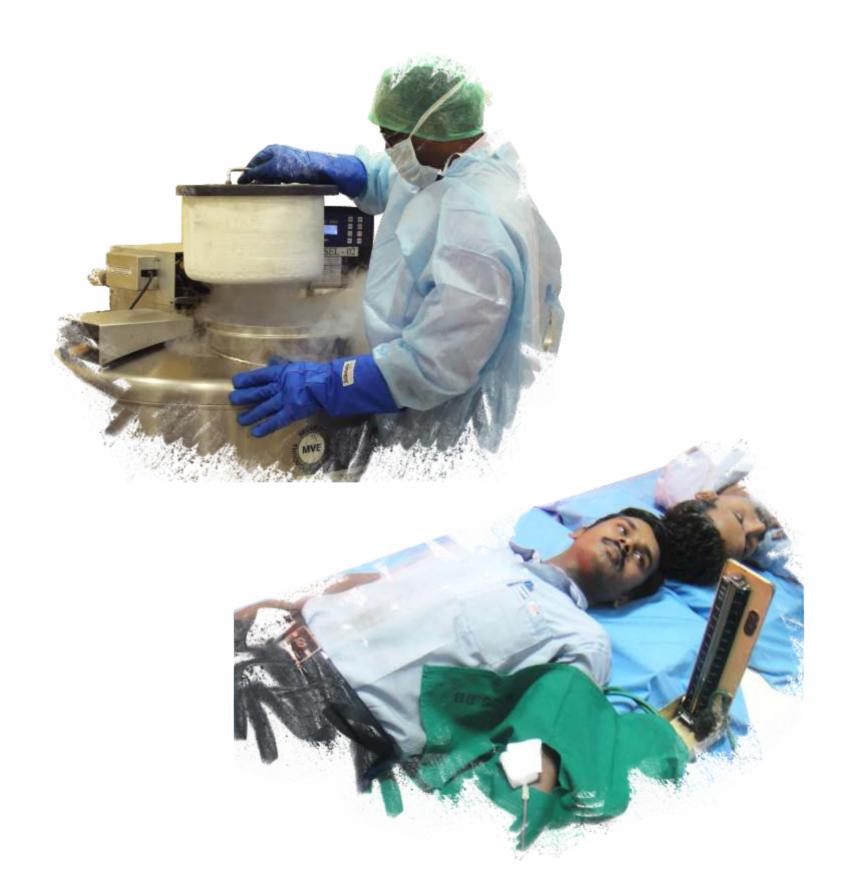


### **Empowering Mobility**

We extend support to physically challenged people in and around Trichy through the Spastics Society, Trichy. We partner with Freedom Trust, that specializes in conducting disability assessment camps and distribute mobility aids to the people in need. With the help of qualified doctors and paramedical staff, the disability assessment camp is conducted every year and physically challenged children are provided with wheel chairs, tricycles, tripods, calipers, crutches and other loco motor aids.

#### Bedside Assistance

We partner with Pratham to train 150 rural youth, mostly women to become bed side assistants. We have set up a new healthcare centre in Trichy. This on one hand creates employment opportunities for rural women and on other creates access for affordable bedside healthcare for those in need.



#### Research to fight Cancer

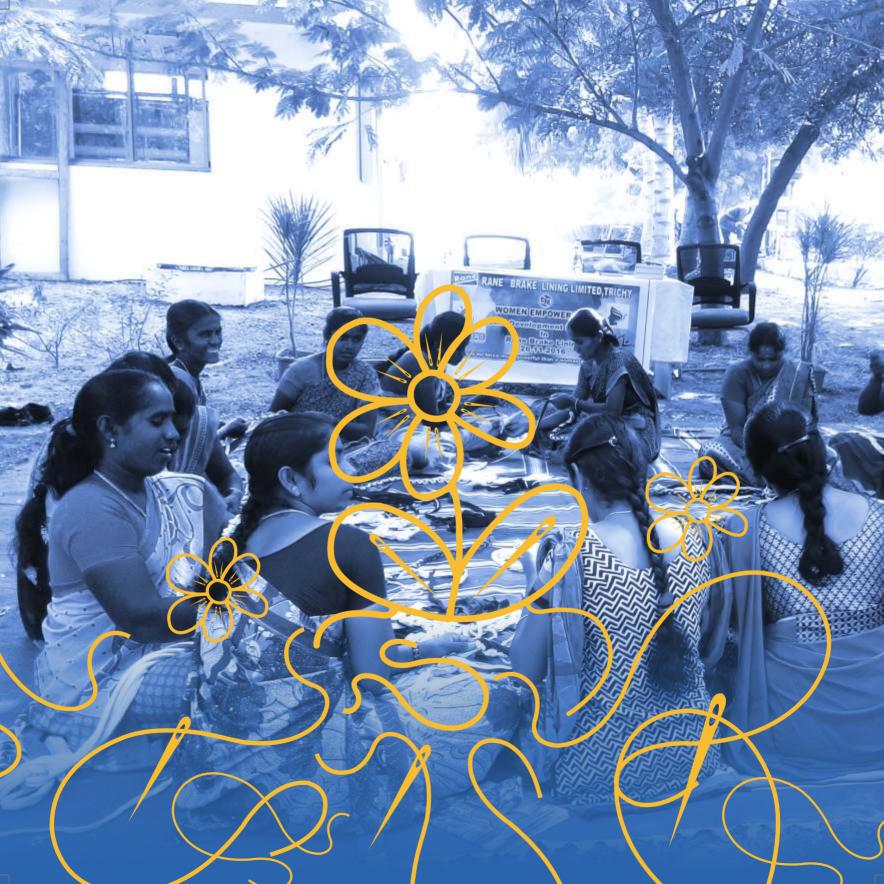
We contribute to support clinical research on Cancer at the Adyar Cancer Institute. This research involves distributing expensive medicines and injections for cancer treatment free to the needy patients. This helps in providing affordable treatment for cancer to the marginalized sections of our society.

#### Cord Blood for Cancer Treatment

Jeevan's Public Cord Blood Bank is for Indians, by Indians and made from Indian DNA! We partner with Jeevan for contributing towards Stem Cell Treatment for Blood Cancer affected people with limited means. This life saving treatment has helped many patients who wont be able to otherwise afford this expensive treatment.

### Caring for Health

All our plants regularly participate in health camps organized in and around their locations. Eyes, dental, general health, women's health & wellness and blood donation camps organized at primary healthcare centres, government schools, panchayat blocks etc. are often frequented by our employee volunteers. We provide every assistance in the form of medicines, implants, aids and even blood to help the needy. We provide protein supplement to 53 HIV affected children every month in Hyderabad through Desire Society.



# Community Development

We believe empowerment is a practical approach of sharing resources to make communities self-sufficient, strong and responsible. The needs for each community are different. We encourage our volunteer teams to identify those needs and work along with the community to implement these initiatives. We work with communities and groups on diverse projects like construction of public toilets in the villages and installation of RO plants for providing potable drinking water. We actively participate in Swachh Bharat initiatives to clean the neighbourhood. We conduct skill based training programs for rural women that helps them with means of livelihood. We have learnt that to help people and communities become self-reliant is the biggest gift we can give.

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

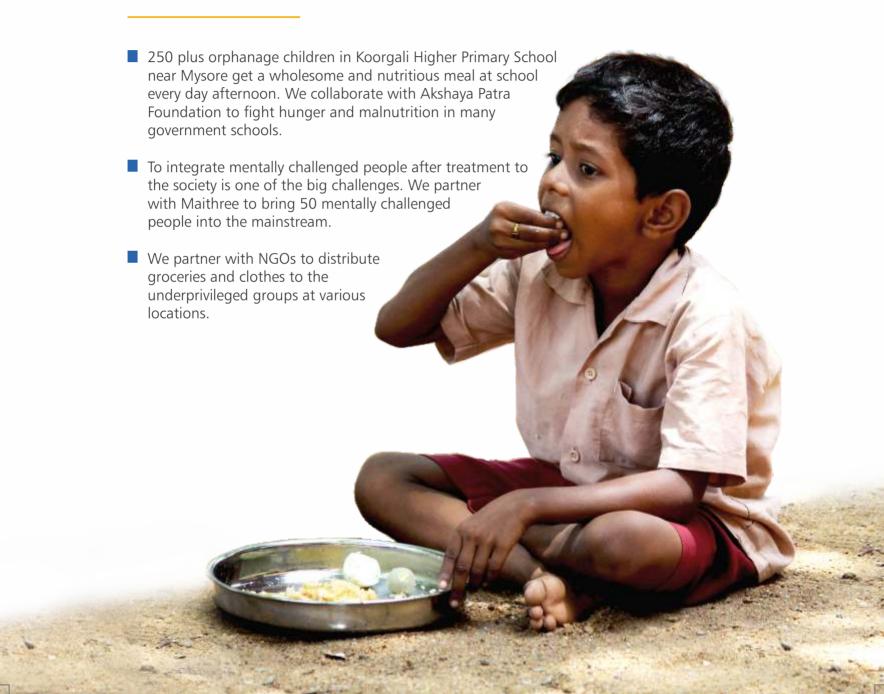


### Sound of Hope

Sudheer, 12 is so happy. He cheers, claps and jumps every time he hears the sound of chirping birds, followed by his own voice. He has been coming to us for last 2 years. He lost his hearing at birth due



#### To Give is to Live



#### Disaster Relief

The Chennai flood had a devastating effect on the city in 2015. Life was thrown out of gear as thousands of people were displaced and lost most of their belongings. It was heart wrenching but we turned into warriors determined to defeat disaster and disease. Our volunteers visited several worst affected localities like Ambattur, Pallikaranai, Kolapakkam etc and also to other towns like Cuddalore, Mudichur to distribute relief materials like food, clothes, medicines, essentials etc. We partnered with Ramakrishna Trust, Agni Foundation, Little Drops Trust, Satyananda Yoga Charitable Trust and Freedom Trust amongst others to broad base the help when it mattered the most.

### Preserving for Posterity

Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute(KSRI), Chennai is a very old, reputed institution, dedicated to extensive work in areas of Sanskrit and related Indology research. We are proud to be associated with a unique project to digitize old and rare books & manuscripts to make them an eternal source of knowledge and wisdom.



# Environment

Partnering with local communities to solve environmental challenges has been our approach. That's why we nurture people power to fight climate change, defend our water bodies, plant trees and ensure a clean and green future for all. We often work with school children to carry out our plantation programs. Our 6000 strong workforce partners with NGOs and village communities to plant around 3000 trees and nurture them on an on-going basis. Afforestation is part of our mandate to help save the environment.

Thirutheri lake at Singaperumal Koil village, Chengalpattu spread over 40 acres was heavily polluted due to garbage and sewage being dumped into the lake. We partnered with "We Care" and the local village panchayat to restore this picturesque water body. Desilting and extensive cleaning ensured that the lake can store rain water to be supplied to the village through the dry months. Storage of water is likely to improve the water table in and around the village. An elevated bund to check the unauthorised dumping and trees lining the bund has given a new lease of life to Thirutheri lake.



தாளாண்மை என்னும் தகைமைக்கண் தங்கிற்றே வேளாண்மை என்னுஞ் செருக்கு.

The pride of profuse giving dwells only With the dignity of diligent effort.

குறள்: 613

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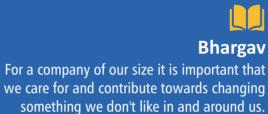
#### குறள் விளக்கம்

பிறா்க்கு உதவி செய்தல் என்னும் மேம்பட்ட நிலைமை முயற்சி என்று சொல்லப்படுகின்ற உயா்ந்த பண்பில் நிலைத்திருக்கின்றது.



## **Employee Speak**







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#### Sasirekha

Planting saplings along with school children made me feel like them — playful, happy and simple. I loved it and want to do it again.



#### Gerald

I always participate in blood donation camps in our plant. I am healthy and can help a patient get well. I want to donate my eyes and organs as well.







#### Saravana Kumar

I teamed up with my colleagues and distributed food, clothes & medicines during Chennai floods-2015. It was an experience that cannot be described in words.





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