



Annual report 2012 - 2013



Dear reader

I am delighted to share **Prime Trust's Annual Report 2012 – 13** with you. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the staff members who devoted their time and energy to the growth of the organization and for making it such a successful year. We have initiated many new projects and programs and grown our existing ones through the support of our donors, volunteers, friends and staff members.

We could not have done this without the help of many volunteers and interns who have offered their expert skills, knowledge and financial support in order to help our community and ensure the survival of the organization. Our volunteers and interns come from all over the world and work on awareness programs that deal with issues such as **HIV/AIDS, Nutrition, Health and Hygiene, Diabetes, Cancer, Personal Hygiene, Environment, Women Rights and Child Rights**. One of our most successful projects, the **Evening School**, has been entirely led by a team of volunteers this year who have helped the local children improve their level of English.

Our sister organization, **India Volunteer Care**, has continued to support Prime Trust throughout this year. India Volunteer Care makes a financial contribution to Prime Trust to meet its running costs and their volunteers work on Prime Trust's many projects.

Our core work continues to respond to our three main areas of interest: **empowering women, educating and helping children** and **raising social awareness**. Our work on these three areas has grown dramatically this year and we are delighted to present successful and sustainable projects that all work to achieve our goals.

With thanks again to our staff members, volunteers, interns, sponsors and donors. We are happy to present events from this year and look forward to a successful year ahead.

S.M.ARASU

Chair of Prime Trust



Core Activities

Empowering Women

Prime Trust seeks to challenge gender inequality in India by providing women with a better education and a chance to earn the respect that they deserve from society. We do this by offering a number of projects that empower women and give them the opportunity to support themselves and their families financially.

Educating Children

At Prime Trust we believe that there is no better way to pull a child out of poverty than through education. As such, we endeavor to enrich children's lives through education and social programs.

Raising Social Awareness

India continues to face many social issues, one of them being that the people lack access to valuable information. By tackling these issues we can raise awareness on numerous important topics surrounding health, human rights and environmental issues.





Programs

Empowering women

Akshaya Federation of Self Help Groups

Our **Akshaya Federation of Self Help Groups** contribute micro credit to women in need. More than **one thousand women** received micro credit this year and were able to support themselves by starting a business and receiving advice from our Self Help Groups (SHGs). Micro credit was provided by our partners the Indian Bank, Bharathiar Banks and Cooperative Banks.

At the beginning of this year, we initiated a door mat production unit in order to offer opportunities for SHG members. We were able to do this due to the generous support of **Credit@People**. This income generating activity gives members the opportunity to support their families.

Tailoring Centre

The **Tailoring Centre** now teaches sewing skills and embroidery to over 30 women. This year, we have set up a handicraft unit to make products and provide job opportunities for a further three women.





Women's Empowerment Centre



This year we have started helping out at a Women's Empowerment Centre at Muthialpet. We have started a new handicraft unit equipping underprivileged women with the skills to provide themselves and their families with a sustainable income.

Educating Children

Evening School

The two **Evening Schools** have now grown to support more than 100 children. This service gives impoverished children access to a primary level of education at no cost to their families. The aim of the school is to improve the writing, communication, and comprehension skills in English, and therefore open up a wider range of opportunities to children who would otherwise have not had access to formal education. We have received generous support for our Evening Schools. **CuCu Foundation** supports the school that is run in Muthialpet and we were also delighted to give the children stationery and provide a celebratory lunch this year due to kind donations.

Summer Camp

We ran our first **Summer Camp** this year where students were taught Sanskrit, yoga, drawing, spoken English and abacus. This camp provided education and day care for children during the holidays. The camp ended on a celebration where the children performed dance and songs to their parents. It was a great success and we look forward to expanding the camp and including our volunteers in May 2013.





Day Care Centre

The **Day Care Centre** provides support for mothers and 45 children. Set up to provide a positive and caring environment for children, this centre is an affordable option for working parents. Volunteers are invited to teach at the centre and improve the English skills of the students. This year we expanded our work by starting a Day Care Centre for visually impaired students. Volunteers help by reading the students their lessons and local volunteers assist them as scribe for their university exams.

Sponsorship Program

For just 15 Euros each month, we offer a sponsorship program that gives underprivileged children a proper education until they are 17 years old. This sustainable and irreversible project is now supporting 28 children in the local community and we are looking to expand next year.

Celebrations this year

Although education is at the core of our work with children, it is essential that we also provide the means for young people to express their creativity and enjoy themselves. Events this year included a day of festivities in November where children were invited to dance, play music and enter drawing competitions. We also celebrated Children's Day at Tamil Sangam alongside Satya Special School, Women and Child Development and the Government of Puducherry. Children organized a traditional day of Indian dance. Another celebratory event included





Republic Day with our Social Enrichment Centers. Children were invited to take part in a drawing competition at Vengatewara Nagar Centre. Volunteers from HAMAP were the chief guests of the function and prizes were awarded to children.

Raising Social Awareness

International Coastal Cleanup day

We celebrated International Coastal Cleanup Day in collaboration with Indian Maritime Foundation, Chennai and the Department of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Pondicherry University. Along with the students, our volunteers participated in cleaning the coastal zone from Auroville to Periakalpet.

Eye Camp

In January 2013, Prime Trust organized an Eye Camp with the Institute of Medical Sciences at Uppuvelor village. More than 200 people were screened and 15 people were found to have a cataract. They were taken to the hospital for further treatment where they were offered cataract surgery.



HAMAP

This year, Prime Trust was excited to announce that they have formed a partnership with HAMAP, an aid agency in France which specializes in helping communities achieve better sanitation, access to water and education for all. A government aided middle school has been chosen to receive support in constructing 10 toilets, a kitchen and drinking water facilities for children.

The future...

HAMAP

Prime Trust will be working very closely with HAMAP and their volunteers to ensure the projects that are in early development stages are completed successfully. This will start in May 2013 where volunteers through Mission Humanitaire will be arriving from France. Mission Humanitaire is the sister organisation of HAMAP and will be supporting 15 villages in the district of Villupuram in order to create a medical camp and provide medicines and advice for further treatment. These medical centers will remain within the area throughout the year.

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