

# Full-time techies, part-time teachers

Employees of Mphasis double up as teachers at Panchayat Government Schools

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**"E**ach one teach one" goes the slogan to promote literacy.

As part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, several employees of Mphasis tutor students of two schools in namma Chennai. They spend about six hours a week teaching students from Std VI to VIII of Panchayat Govt Schools at Neelangarai and Perungudi the basics of computer and spoken English.

Mphasis, an EDS company, as part of its CSR, had formed four core groups – education, health-care, general awareness and environmental awareness in their 3 facilities in Chennai. There are more than 2,300 people employed in these facilities and 200 employees have volunteered for community initiative activities.

The education core group handles the tutorship programme.

Meenu Bhambhani, manager, Community Initiative, leads the CSR activities that are co-ordinated by Gokul Santhanam, HR-Leader, Raghuram V (Senior Manager - HR), Anand C (Assistant Manager-HR) and Arun Prasad P (Assistant Manager-HR) in the city. "The CSR-education group has come up with specially designed course materials on basic computers and spoken English," explains Arun Prasad. "We have also provided study materials to the students. This is a three-month course and conduct regular tests for these students."

Apart from this, the firm has also tied up with an NGO Kazhinggara that works for the welfare of school dropouts in Tirusulam. There is a plan to adopt this village and carry out community service, Arun Prasad added.

V. Karthick, Senior Software

Engineer, who conducts classes in one of the schools says that the main aim of the initiative is to improve the standard of govt schools in par to that of matriculation schools. "In the beginning, we found it difficult to control the students who lacked discipline and they didn't even know alphabets properly. We had to start everything from the scrap. We handle basic computers, spoken English and moral science. It has been 45 days since we started and now we have started receiving positive feedback from the teachers, both in terms of students discipline and studies." ■

CSR Dossier will be a regular feature in Ergo to showcase the activities of the companies that we reach out to. If you want to feature your organisation's CSR activities in Ergo, ping us at [feedback@goergo.in](mailto:feedback@goergo.in) or [haripriya@goergo.in](mailto:haripriya@goergo.in). Phone: 2857 6690.