# **CHENNAI FLOODS :CLOTHES DISTRIBUTION**

There is quite an infamous saying,” United we stand; divided we fall!” The best example of which was observed in the fairly recent Chennai floods, when gigantic waves gushed into the city at high speeds, destroying villages, houses, airports and flooding everything in sight. Hundreds of people died, thousands were rendered homeless and more than a million lives were affected by what was one of the worst monsoons, the city had experienced since the 2006 tsunami.

What was assumed to be the wrath of Mother Nature, actually turned out to be a test of humanity, wherein people, irrespective of their caste, religion, sexuality and all other social aristocracies came together and with the help of the government, brought back the affected cities to their feet. Our NGO also did their bit to help out the affected victims. With the help of an organization named Arrapor Iyakam, under the leadership of Mr Bashid, our NGO contributed in the relief work of the flood victims.

Walking in knee deep water our volunteers collected donations in the form of clothes from the various residential societies like Abode, Estancia, in and around the SRM University. The event was publicised all around the university and students, faculty, staff were encouraged to donate their unused or spare cloth items including blankets, mattresses etc, to those who are in dire need of it and the response that we received, was mind boggling! People actually came forward to help us out in every which way possible!

These clothes were then washed, pressed, packaged and neatly put into plastic bags. They were then distributed on 20th November in a small village named Mudichar, near Tambaram, which was one of the worst affected areas of the floods.

It is in times like these that the true nature of a human being reflects. By helping not only our fellow humans but also the mute animals, who have no option but to whimper in pain, Chennai floods stand as a live example that the future of humanity is not all bleak and shady. When in need, people will rise for change and that is what we, at Hind Towards Change promote at every step of the way.