

SPIC celebrates 'Pride Month' by donating pandemic relief support to Thoothukkudi's transgender community

- *The company donated grocery kits to Thoothkkudi's trans-families at a recent event.*
- *The relief initiative took place in the presence of Ms Kanimozhi, Hon'ble MP of Thoothukkudi constituency, Ms Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare & Women Empowerment of Tamil Nadu and Dr Senthil Raj, IAS, Hon'ble District Collector, Thoothukkudi district.*
- *SPIC also sponsored Koovagam, the annual function of the Transgender Association of Tamil Nadu, in 2019 and built houses for 25 trans families in Thoothukudi in 2020.*

June 25, 2021, Chennai: Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation Limited (SPIC), one of India's leading agri-nutrient and fertiliser companies also a part of AM International, is a proud 'Pride' partner. In honour of the LGBTQ+ Pride Month, observed worldwide in June, the company organised a donation drive to distribute grocery kits to support transgender communities residing in the Thoothukudi district of Tamilnadu.

The relief initiative took place in the presence of Ms Kanimozhi, Hon'ble MP of Thoothukkudi constituency, Ms Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare & Women Empowerment of Tamil Nadu and Dr Senthil Raj, IAS, Hon'ble District Collector, Thoothukkudi district.

Commenting on the initiative, **Mr Ashwin Muthiah, Chairman, SPIC, and Founder, AM International**, said, "When each of us is cared for and feel well-integrated, the entire community becomes stronger. SPIC has been at the forefront of building an inclusive society. The integration of the transgender community ensures diversity and inclusion are a key goal for our society. At AM International, we are committed to continuing our efforts to better their social and economic condition."

Trans communities around the world have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. The pandemic has brought awareness of the deep inequalities that the group faces in obtaining necessities, access to healthcare, and their extensive exposure to abuse and violence. In addition, the economic injustice affecting these groups has never been more visible. They generally earn and save less, hold informal jobs or live close to poverty.

With the second wave of the COVID19 led to stringent lockdowns across the nation, innumerable members of



trans-communities were left without a source of income. As a socially conscientious organisation, SPIC ensured their well-being by providing them with groceries to sustain themselves during these difficult times. The grocery kits were distributed to over 150 trans-families in the Thoothkkudi district. Each kit contained 10 kg of rice, 1 kg of grains and 1-litre oil.

SPIC has devoted itself to its cause by undertaking initiatives for the trans-community over the years. In 2020, it contributed to the house construction of 25 trans families in Thoothukudi. All the families have now moved into their new houses. Earlier in 2019, the company sponsored Koovagam, the annual function of the Transgender Association of Tamil Nadu. The event was hosted in association with the International Transgender Group in Villipuram district. It was a phenomenal success and was attended by more than 10,000 members from various parts of Asia.

SPIC pledges to continue promoting marginalised groups so we have an equal, fair and just society where every individual has an equal chance to thrive.

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About Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Limited (SPIC)

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Founded in 1969, SPIC has served the Indian farmer's agri-productivity needs with scientific rigour and environment-friendly products. One of India's first petrochemical companies focusing on fertilisers, today it is amongst the most recalled agri-brands in rural India, trusted by Indian farmers. It continues with its mission to empower Indian farmers and agriculturists with products that increase farm productivity and yield and simultaneously replenish soil health. With a state-of-the-art modern fertiliser complex producing 6.2 lakh tons of Neem Coated Urea, the company is a torch-bearer in India's progress towards national farm productivity and food sufficiency.

About AM International Holdings Private Limited

AM International is a diversified, multinational group of companies with a federated operating architecture. Headquartered in Singapore, many of the group's businesses are market leaders with footprints across -*Southeast Asia, India and the United Kingdom. The group's business verticals include fertilisers & supply chain, petrochemicals, infrastructure, healthcare and green energy.