

## **SAINT-GOBAIN INDIA INAUGURATES THE RAKSHIN PROJECT**

**~ empowering Community Creche (Anganwadi) ecosystem with POCSOA training in collaboration with NGO Sakshi**

### **Chennai, 19th October 2023:**

Saint-Gobain India, a leader in light and sustainable construction is reaffirming its commitment to "Making the World a Better Home" with **The Rakshin Project**, in collaboration with Sakshi (NGO). Institutionalized by the NGO, The Rakshin Project is a gender-transformative initiative to prevent gender-based violence with a special focus on child sexual abuse. The initiative aims to skill-build the "Rakshins" (preventers) i.e., Teachers and Helpers from community creche centres (Anganwadi), by providing extensive training on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSOA), while ensuring overall well-being of the children.

**Mr. P Padmakumar, Executive Director of Human Resources and Head – Corporate Social Responsibility, Saint-Gobain India**, said, "Every child has the right to flourish within a safe and nurturing environment. By imparting POCSOA training to the Anganwadi ecosystem, we aim to establish a network that protects children from 1 to 6 years, promoting a safe and secure environment for their holistic growth and development."

The Rakshin Project was inaugurated by Dr. M. Sudhakar IPS, Superintendent of Police, at the office of the Superintendent of Police, Kanchipuram District on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in the presence of Mr. M. Pugalenthil, National Head – Human Resources (Industrial Activities), Saint-Gobain India Private Ltd. and Dr. Ramya Nisal, Senior Trainer and Director, The Rakshin Project.

Over 200 Anganwadi teachers and helpers will undergo the training that will in turn benefit approximately 2800 children in Sriperumbudur. This programme will subsequently be scaled to Anganwadis in other blocks in Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu.

### **About Saint-Gobain**

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