

# SIR DORABJI TATA TRUST AND THE ALLIED TRUSTS

A N N U A L R E P O R T 2 0 0 7 - 2 0 0 8





# MESSAGE

In 2007-2008, the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Allied Trusts have together made grants amounting to Rs 2014.00 million (US \$ 50.36 million) supporting Institutions, NGOs and Individuals. The projects supported by the Trusts — which are administered and viewed as one donor entity — are in sync with the development needs of the nation, reaching out to remote and far-flung areas with innovative, pioneering and committed work. The Trusts have further strengthened their grant making approach across all sectors by augmenting programs in the identified priority areas.

The work of the Trusts impacts the quality of life of the rural poor, the fast-growing less privileged population of the urban poor, and issues related to the environment. The past year has seen projects that have reiterated our commitment to the now global problem of food security, culminating in the number of grants promoting System of Rice Intensification (SRI). In time, the SRI projects will lead to larger yields and a stronger agricultural base, ensuring that the first steps towards a more sustainable approach to farming are being taken.

A grant of Rs 400.00 million (US \$ 10.00 million) was made to the Tata Medical Centre Trust for establishing the Tata Cancer Hospital in Kolkata. The hospital, once functional, will provide diagnostic and detection facilities, treatment and ameliorative care for thousands of patients based in the Eastern and North-Eastern regions of India.

By proactively initiating programs in the field of disability on a pan-India level, it is expected that through these efforts a sensitive and forward-looking approach will be put in place, here too providing an opportunity where little existed before.

Supporting an overall ‘child-centered’, joyful approach to learning and education will further the crucial national cause of literacy and instill confidence and hope in the country’s youth. Additionally, the individual grants and scholarships given by the Trusts directly impact many well-deserving and meritorious students.

At the grassroots, the Trusts have been working consistently on developing leadership by providing support to community-based organizations and panchayats, and thereby building a strong foundation in participatory democracy for future generations.

In many ways, the focus provided by these initiatives will not only protect the vulnerable — be it the environment or people — but also provide a positive and constructive path for the country to follow.

I thank all our partners for their unfailing commitment to the difficult, yet important task of nation building and I also thank the consultants and staff of the Trusts who have furthered the ideal of constructive philanthropy.



Ratan N. Tata  
Chairman



Joyful learning at the Educational Resource Centre set up by Mahita in Hyderabad

# CONTENTS

The Trustees of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Allied Trusts.....	5
Management Team and Staff.....	7
Overview 2007-2008.....	8
Institutions .....	12
Natural Resource Management and Rural Livelihoods .....	18
Urban Poverty and Livelihoods.....	42
Education .....	52
Health .....	70
Civil Society, Governance and Human Rights .....	84
Media, Art and Culture.....	98
Individual Grants .....	108
Medical Grants .....	109
Education and Travel Grants.....	111
Financials.....	114
Consolidated Financial Statements .....	116
Guidelines for Grant Applicants.....	120
Acknowledgements .....	122