

# Delivering on our promise of social impact

# Working together for a better tomorrow

For STL, FY20 was pivotal, in terms of achievements on account of innovation, eco-friendly operations, creating shared value, leveraging tech and data among several other aspects; all for transforming everyday living and creating a more inclusive world for everyone.

However, none of it would be possible working in isolation. For STL, it has always been about collective effort. It has never been only about its own actions, as no business can achieve the scale of transformation needed alone. During the COVID-19 pandemic STL has demonstrated the efficacy of collective action in reaching out to migrant labourers and tribals across some of the country's remotest villages. These alliances have allowed the Company to ensure timely and essential aid to victims of such pandemics and natural disasters.



# **Aligning with Global Goals**

The UN Sustainable Development Goals have been the pillars, STL has chosen to base its operational fundamentals on; be it in business, operations, through its supply chain or even its community initiatives.

These universal goals are inter-connected. Improvement in one can lead to dramatic changes in another. The Company has thus integrated them into its everyday work and ensures it has an equally comprehensive strategy to address this universal agenda.

But it is not possible for a business to achieve sustainable growth, in a world afflicted with poverty, gender inequality, inequitable access to healthcare and education, among other essentials. As a corporate, STL believes it has the ability to contribute to the achievement of these common universal goals — not just in terms of its community outreach programmes, but also by ensuring that the processes it employs are comprehensive in terms of ethical, social and environmental criteria. Only when the communities around the Company progress can it attain sustainable growth.

Becoming a signatory to the UN Global Compact, further reinforced STL's commitment to maintaining high standards on human rights, fair labour, anti-corruption and proactive action to conserve the environment.

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### **WE SUPPORT**





# **FOCUSING ON WHAT MATTERS**

1. Quality healthcare

2. Women empowerment

3. Access to education

4. Environment conservation

5. Employee volunteering

6. Better workplace

7. Better collaboration

8. Better supply chain

9. Energy conservation

10. Zero waste

11. Water positivity

12. Carbon neutrality

The reporting boundaries for the following CSR and Sustainability data covers STL's three manufacturing facilities in Aurangabad (a new manufacturing facility – Gaurav has been added) and two manufacturing facilities in Silvassa.

It does not cover operations outside India and nonmanufacturing facilities such as offices in India. The Company has aligned this report with the GRI Standards.

# **Driving change throughout the Value Chain**

# Stakeholder engagement

Along with doing well and doing good, comes the responsibility to ensure transparency, through disclosures and reporting. The Company goes a step further by ensuring every disclosure and report is substantiated by external assurance and by proof of what it claims as STL's accomplishments. Again, apart from financial and business reporting, the Company also reports on its progress on corporate social responsibility and sustainability. STL communicated its progress on CSR and Sustainability for the first time in 2019 through the UN Global Compact.

At the same time, STL believes that sustainability should not be restricted to only its operations. It should be embedded across the value chain. The Company has identified who its stakeholders are, i.e. organisations and individuals impacted by or who can impact its operations; and ensure regular and continuous dialogue with each of its stakeholder groups across the value chain.

Partnerships, collaboration and knowledge sharing are what can help drive change in a better and more effective way. Therefore, the Company is committed to working closely with not just its customers, but also its suppliers, waste buyers and other partners to ensure collective action capable of driving transformation way beyond just its ecosystem.

At STL, stakeholder engagement is a continuous process, which happens throughout the year and it has well-established mechanisms for implementing it. The Company is engaging with stakeholders through several direct and indirect channels. The feedback received through each of these channels of engagement helps it formulate plans to address the varied needs of each of stakeholder group.

Stakeholder Groups	Modes of Engagement	Topics of Engagement
Employees	Townhall, all hands meeting, leadership shop floor visits, performance management systems, one-to-one interactions, trainings, induction workshops, surveys	Professional growth, skill development, increasing diversity, competency enhancement, CSR and Sustainability
Customers	Plant visits, customer satisfaction survey, key account management, conferences and events, social audits	New product development, research and innovation, delivery compliance, customer satisfaction, social and environment actions and achievements
Suppliers	Supplier meets, supplier plant visits, relationship management	Supplier satisfaction, material compliance, joint development, mutual value creation
Communities	Community visits, social needs and impact assessment, philanthropic engagement, employee volunteering	Development projects according to the identified needs, support to social cause
Shareholders	Annual general meeting, performance calls, interaction with investors	Economic value creation, disclosure on Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) performance

# **Materiality assessment**

High

STL engages with its stakeholders based on the feedback received from various forums. It identifies and assesses these requirements and categorises them according to their material aspects. This helps STL prioritise social, governance and environmental issues based on the organisational vision and values, in addition to other business priorities.

Each topic is evaluated in consultation with the process owner and management to assess its relevance, validity and significance.

This process gives the Company the materiality matrix, which helps it in identifying the areas that STL needs to focus on. It also helps ensure clear accountability, specific targets, governance and formulate a clear and time-bound achievement strategy.

During FY20, the Company further aligned each of its material topics with the GRI standards and its indicators. The reporting boundaries have been defined from the materiality assessment and depicted in the GRI index that forms a part of this section.

> Extremely HIgh

# Extremely HIgh · Research optimisation · Economic value creation · Research and development • Energy conservation • Waste diversion from • Waste management landfill and recycling • Occupational health and Community safety development • Employee satisfaction Stakeholder Concern • Training and professional development • Upholding human rights and ethical behavior · Customer satisfaction **Business Priority**

# Transformation starts with STL itself

STL's sustainability mission aims to 'create shared value' for each of its stakeholders and includes every aspect across its entire value chain, including sourcing, product design, manufacturing, storage, transportation, the customer and ultimately its end users. It also looks to address several global goals, including:











While the Company is transforming itself to operate in a more social and environment-friendly way, it recognises that the world's major issues need a collective approach. STL endeavours to work with each of its partners across the value chain to evolve the way businesses are conducted. The Company has been doing so by collaborating with its suppliers, customers and other partners to develop newer and more innovative ways of doing things that help scale and drive progress across economic, social and environmental parameters. Through each of these, it aims to deliver life-changing technologies for communities, reduce its environmental footprint through system-wide approaches, ensure its people are engaged and inspired to drive inclusive growth, stay safe and healthy as well as create sustainable business models that will drive development and progress for communities, along with the organisation.

STL's sustainability goals that it is working to deliver by 2030 are:



Water positivity
across locations



100% products with environmental impacts evaluated from Life Cycle perspective



Zero Waste to Landfill certifications for all manufacturing facilities globally

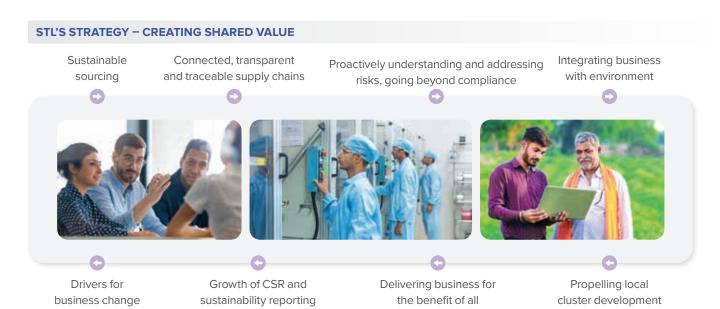


50% reduction in Carbon Footprint



STL's leadership plays a crucial role in driving the Sustainability Agenda and oversees implementation, monitoring and progress through a Sustainability Council. This involvement of leadership and defined targets allows the Company to work with stakeholders across its value chain to innovate collectively as well as ensure that they comply with stringent human rights practices, source their raw material sustainably and conduct their operations in an eco-friendly manner.





STL believes it is its moral duty and essential for generations beyond tomorrow to ensure that the Company uses minimal resources in terms of raw material, and design and produce best-in-class, green and durable products that withstand time and tests of nature; as well as offer the end users world-class experiences. Therefore, it does not just look to reduce energy, other resource usage and waste; but also takes every opportunity to replenish what it uses, recycling and repurposing any waste from manufacturing.

The Company has formulated a comprehensive Environment Policy that guides its processes and governs how they are monitored through an ISO 14001 certified Environment Management System. Through cross-functional teams, STL plans, implements and evaluates ways to reduce the impact its operations have on the environment. Environmental Impact Assessments are also conducted during expansions or when setting up new manufacturing facilities. This helps the Company ensure the high environmental and safety standards it maintains across its facilities is adhered to and any gaps identified are proactively mitigated through requisite action.

# Sustainability highlights for FY20 and till date

# Building a robust and sustainable supply chain

The extent to which sustainability is embedded into STL's strategy and values is not just determined by responsible manufacturing. How raw materials, packaging, finished products are managed and transported, ensuring a healthy mix of local and global suppliers, innovation and adherence to human rights and other such aspects all form an integral part to creating shared value and ensuring a greener and socially conscious supply chain. Here too, it's about collaboration and STL considers its suppliers in India and across the globe, partners in this endeavour.

### **Global Standards for Procurement**

STL aims to produce best-in-class products that are durable, eco-friendly and offer its customers and end users exceptional experiences. Ensuring this means maintaining the highest standards when it comes to procurement of raw material, as well as meeting stringent international requirements such as: Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulations for the products. Every supplier undergoes periodic assessments to ensure they operate sustainably and comply with global standards like the UNGC's 10 principles which STL abides by.

# Driving Excellence through Capability Building and Local Collaborations

To deliver world-class products, that do not just meet, but exceed customers' expectations, the Company maintains a mix of national and international suppliers for quality raw materials. However, it understands the risk such a mix poses. Over the past few years, the Company has been closely working with innovative and promising suppliers around its manufacturing locations to reduce this risk and increase its local procurement.

The Company believes collaboration facilitates innovation and these partnerships also help the suppliers and surrounding communities progress. STL shares its inputs on quality enhancements, competence augmentation and several other factors through its partner audit programme. Through capacitybuilding programmes, the Company works together with its suppliers to develop green, reusable packaging material, source durable and disaster-proof raw materials that are capable of withstanding natural calamities and so on. This allows STL to create shared value by facilitating progress and building the competence of local suppliers, diminish its environmental footprint through lowered transportation, lessen the risk from global disruptions as well as save cost and time. By partnering with these suppliers to build their capabilities, it is also able to ensure quality is not compromised while simultaneously creating diversity in the Company's procurement portfolio.

STL has worked together with its suppliers on the following programmes:

- Produce and supply superior quality Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) and wood drums
- Sustainable, User-Friendly, Reliable and Efficient (S.U.R.E) Packaging

### LOCAL PROCUREMENT



### Contributions to UN SDGs

- Regional development in Silvassa through collaborations with local suppliers for packaging material and noncritical materials
- 58% of raw material by value sourced from local suppliers promoting development in these regions
- Yearly Partner Audit includes Sustainability and Green Initiatives - 7 Supplier Audit conducted in FY 19-20





# Focusing on quality & green products

STL produces quality products that are not just good for its customers, but also green and good for the environment. Through Lifecycle thinking, the Company evaluates the impact its product will have on the environment across every stage of development. That includes the extraction of raw materials, manufacturing, transportation, deployment and ultimately end-of-life. Raw materials that have a higher environmental impact have been substituted with eco-friendly ones, innovative designs and light-weighing are all outcomes from these assessments that help make STL's products greener.

In the reporting period, the Company conducted Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) for its products to understand their environmental impact. The process included goal and scope definition, lifecycle inventory covering input and output analysis of mass and energy flows from operations, along the optical fibre cable products value chain, to study the environmental impact of the product from cradle to grave. In addition, a comprehensive Quality, Environment Health and Safety policy guides STL's operations to minimise accidents, spillage and reduce any negative environmental impact.

The Company has also gone on to further look at ways that can improve the customers' experience, as well as enhance the lifespan of products and deployment of the same. Increased durability not only reduces replacements, but ensures scarce resources are not wasted. Hence, STL couples its offerings with trainings and certifications by experts to those deploying or using them. This covers how are products and entire optic fibre networks being laid should be installed, used and maintained to prevent wear-and-tear, as well as any downtime.

Through its Smart City Solutions, STL contributes in building better, greener and safer cities. Its solutions support cities for high-speed data transfer, ensuring efficient information management, better traffic controlling, optimisation of energy consumption and fast emergency service management, among other aspects.

### Contributions to UN SDGs

- LCA for 10 optic fibre cable completed in FY20
- Significantly increased access to information and communications technology to provide universal and affordable access to the internet through STL Garv and STL's projects with BharatNet, MahaNet and others reaching out to three villages across Maharashtra, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh
- Improving resource efficiency in consumption and production in an endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation by developing durable and green products such as Mobilite, Multilite, Olympus Lite cables and others





# Aiming to reduce STL's water usage across locations globally

Although STL's manufacturing processes are not water intensive, it still consumes a significant amount of water and hence water management is not just a business priority but features among the Company's top material topics.

With water scarcity becoming a global issue, the Company has invested in advanced technology and monitoring processes that do not just help reduce its usage, but also recycle and reuse wastewater from manufacturing. This has allowed STL to substantially reduce its freshwater intake year-on-year. To ensure STL's intake from nature is minimal, the Company has incorporated a holistic water management approach which includes:



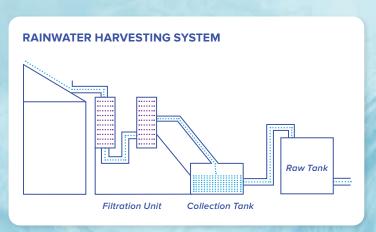
# Rainwater harvesting

Harvesting rainwater during the monsoons, provides a sustainable option of saving rainwater for future use as well as preventing its wastage due to run-off. With water scarcity as one of India's and now even the world's major challenges, the Company takes up every opportunity to save this precious resource.

A total of five injection type water harvesting structures were setup at STL's Rakholi and Dadra facilities in Silvassa. Old non-functional bore-wells were converted into groundwater recharging structures. Each of these have an hourly recharge capacity of 30 cubic meters (m³). During FY20, 800 m³ of rainwater was harvested at Rakholi and ~200 m³ at Dadra.

In Aurangabad, where water scarcity is rampant on account of it being a drought-prone region, STL completed another rainwater harvesting project with a harvesting potential of 2,400 m³ per year. Set-up in Waluj, this structure has been designed to use natural gradient reducing the need for electricity for harvesting rainwater and dependency for water from external sources.

The rainwater passes through a filtration unit first, then the filtered water goes to the collection tank. The entire system has been designed to use natural gradient so that rainwater flows to collection tank under the influence of gravity. The filtered water from collection tank is taken to raw water tank from where it is used in the process.



# **Water Conservation**

During FY20, STL evaluated its water consumption pattern through an audit across manufacturing locations. This helped the Company identify additional areas of change. Improvements implemented post the audit to monitor and optimise water consumption included:

- Introduced water dashboards at plants to monitor water consumption on a daily basis
- Installed an automated dosing system in cooling towers
- · Substituted fresh water with recycled water for scrubbing
- Optimised cooling tower blow down
- Optimised Reverse Osmosis (RO) plant
- Incorporated condensate recovery process

### Contributions to UN SDGs

- Reducing pollution by treating the effluents in effluent treatment plant and evaporating using multiple effective evaporator at Waluj, Shendra, and Gaurav through water treatment facilities and monitoring mechanisms
- During FY20, STL's manufacturing facilities in India have used 4,31,703 m³ of water. The total water consumption includes value for the new plant – Gaurav included in the reporting boundary in FY20. The Company recycled and reused almost 29% of this during the reporting period
- Investing in technologies like effluent and sewage treatment plants (ETPs and STPs), multi-effective evaporators and others helped the Company reduce fresh water consumption
- While STL recycled and reused over 78,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water in FY19, during FY20, it recycled and reused 1,24,791 m<sup>3</sup> of water
- Rainwater harvested through three structures in Rakholi, two in Dadra and one in Waluj
- Effluent and sewage treatment plants to treat wastewater from manufacturing setup across all three manufacturing units in Aurangabad
- Wastewater that has been recycled is reused within STL's manufacturing premises for horticulture

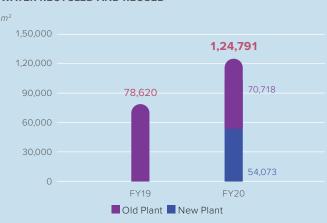


### WATER CONSUMPTION BY SOURCE\*



# New Plant

### WATER RECYCLED AND REUSED\*



\*A new manufacturing facility at Shendra was commissioned in FY20, which has resulted in an increase in consumption. To help with a comparative analysis, the new plant metrics have been shown separately.



# Facilitating a circular economy

# Aiming for Zero Waste to Landfill across manufacturing facilities globally

Waste management is one of the most fundamental ways STL drives its sustainability agenda to reduce its environmental footprint. The Zero Waste to Landfill journey has helped the Company optimise resource consumption, unlock innumerable efficiencies in operations and manufacturing, as well as transition gradually towards a circular economy. While significantly reducing carbon emissions through diversion of waste from landfills, repurposing byproducts and waste, reducing scrap generation and other such initiatives, waste management has also helped STL become the world's first integrated optic fibre and cables manufacturer to receive Zero Waste to Landfill certification for its manufacturing facilities in India during FY20.

Over the next few years, STL aims to have all manufacturing facilities globally, Zero Waste to Landfill certified.

### STL's approach

Waste reduction at source

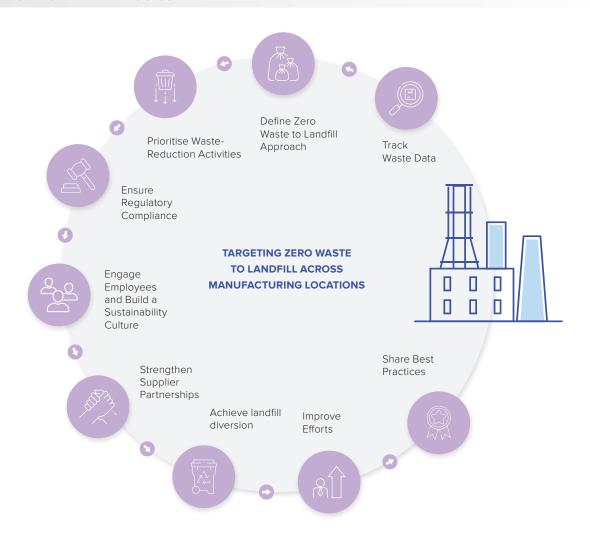
Waste segregation

Reuse and recycle

Legal compliance

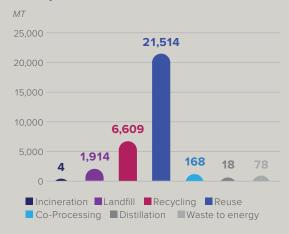
STL's Shendra manufacturing facility was Zero Waste to Landfill certified by Intertek in FY20 for diverting more than 99.99% waste away from landfills. Its Rakholi facility sustained its Zero Waste to Landfill certification diverting more than 99% of waste, while the Dadra facility was upgraded to a Zero Waste to Landfill unit for diverting over 99% waste in FY20 against 96% in FY19 during which it secured a Near Zero Waste to Landfill certification. Waluj, moved up in terms of waste diverted from landfills from more than 95% in FY19 to over 97% in FY20.

# **ZERO WASTE TO LANDFILL PROCESS**

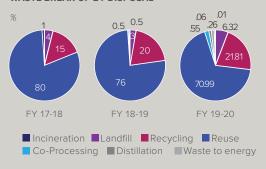


### **TOTAL WASTE BREAK-UP BY DISPOSAL METHOD FY20**

# 30,306мт



# WASTE BREAK-UP BY DISPOSAL

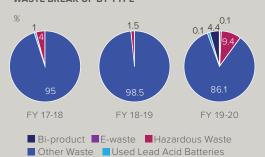


# **TOTAL WASTE BREAK-UP BY TYPE FY20**

# 30,306мт



# WASTE BREAK-UP BY TYPE





# **Optimised Energy Consumption**

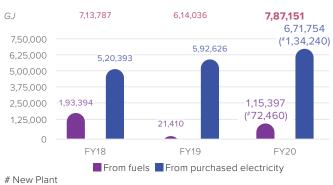
The quantum of energy used for manufacturing operations, make energy consumption a material topic for the Company. This is of course, apart from the fact that use of energy results in subsequent carbon emissions, which in turn adds to the global issue of climate change.

The Company is completely cognisant of the impacts of climate change and increasing carbon emissions, and has been continuously trying to reduce its energy consumption through different projects that include:

- Recovery of residual hydrogen was completed, to be used glass working area. This has led to a saving of 45,000 Nm³/ month and ₹5.5 lakhs/month
- The optimisation of auxiliaries in the captive power plant has resulted in a saving of 24.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/month
- Implementation of closed-loop chemical dosing system by real-time monitoring of parameters has resulted in a saving of 151 tCO<sub>2</sub>
- Replacement of metallic fans in cooling towers with the Fibre Reinforced Plastic fan has resulted in a saving of 11.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>
- Utilisation of condensate with feed water resulted in a saving of 4.2 lakhs/month. This has also led to a reduction in freshwater demand by 1,500 m³/month.

# 7,87,151GJ Total energy consumption in reporting period

### **ENERGY CONSUMPTION**



STL continues to rigorously monitor its carbon emissions and is working towards its reduction. In FY20, scope 1 and 2 emissions were 3,941 and 153,011 tonnes of CO2 equitant, respectively.

### **CARBON EMISSION\***





- \*The conversion factor of electricity has been corrected.
- \*A new manufacturing facility at Shendra was commissioned in FY20, which has resulted in an increase in consumption. To help with a comparative analysis, the new plant metrics have been shown separately.

# Contributions to UN SDGs

- Ensured Zero Waste is sent to Landfills at Shendra, Aurangabad and Rakholi and Dadra in Silvassa
- 97% waste generated at Waluj manufacturing facility diverted away from landfills and ensuring Zero Waste to landfill level 2 certification
- Implemented programmes for sustainable consumption and production, through S.U.R.E. packaging, saving 830 MT of plastic, 5,300 MT of carbon emissions and 4,300 MT of wood and paper
- 171 MT of by-products repurposed in FY20
- All waste buyers are assessed as per the requirements of Zero Waste to Landfill certification
- QEHS policy guides STL's safety processes
- Yearly Partner Audit includes Sustainability and Green Initiatives seven Supplier Audit conducted during FY20
- Redesigning of packaging material helped save 2,076 trees annually

- Value engineering in packing spool covers have helped reduce 23 MT of Polypropylene
- Adopted sustainable practices and integrated sustainability information into STL's reporting cycle through disclosures in its Annual Report & the Communication of Progress on CSR & Sustainability through the UN Global Compact website
- Awareness drives on water conservation and e-waste recycling conducted in FY20 for all employees
- 100% employees of Rakholi, Dadra and Shendra were covered under Zero Waste to Landfill awareness programme.
   This awareness module covered topics like importance of sustainability, water positive and zero waste to landfill







# Governance at par with global standards

# **Human Rights & Labour Practices**

At STL, its people are its biggest and most valuable assets. Both these aspects are integral to STL's value system and ways of working. The Company is guided by the principles of the United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work as well as the UN Global Compact and ensure the highest standards on human rights, ethical and equitable labour practices are adhered to.

It has a dedicated Human Rights policy covering aspects such as prohibition of forced and child labour, employee, as well as contractors' health and safety, labour standards, diversity and equal opportunity, among others. The policy also guides adherence to labour standards on working hours, working conditions, wages and overtime pay. Further, it ensures fair compensation, opportunity to improve skills and capabilities, safe and healthy working conditions, diversity and equal opportunity and non-discrimination.

This helps the Company positively contribute towards the protection and fulfilment of human and labour rights through its core business, strategic social investments and collective action. The safety and wellbeing of each of STL's employees, labourers and the communities surrounding the Company's operations is paramount.

The Company also facilitates strong employee-management interaction throughout the year. This not only presents employees and workers with the opportunity to ask questions and share their views directly with top management, but they also get to know of STL's plans for growth, increasing diversity across organisation, competency enhancement, professional growth, skill development and several others.

# **Anti-corruption**

The trust of STL's stakeholders has always been a priority for the Company. Transparency, regulatory compliance and a robust code of conduct and ethics policy guide its processes, operations and culture.

The importance of anti-corruption is reiterated to every employee and partner right at the start. For an employee at the joining phase and for partners, it is a part of the Code of Conduct the Company has incorporated into every contract. A whistle-blower grievance mechanism is also in place to allow partners and employees to raise any cases of corruption, bribery, extortion and others to its attention.

### Contributions to UN SDGs

- Provision of fair wages to over 1,600 contract labourers according to state regulations
- Ensuring women's full and effective participation with over 15% of STL's workforce comprising women
- Adherence to Sedex Members Ethical Trade
   Audit (SMETA) guidelines at Rakholi and ILO standards
   across STL locations
- Taken effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour through inclusion of this clause in all partner contracts
- All facilities are OHSAS 18001 certified
- Ensuring equal opportunity and reducing inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory practices and promoting appropriate legislation through effective grievance mechanisms like the Whistle-blower Policy, Code of Conduct, Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) and others









# Amplifying impact through co-creation and shared value

The UN SDGs form a fundamental part of how STL conducts its business, as well as plans and implements its community initiatives. They not only provide clear and precise direction on ubiquitous social issues, but also on environmental and governance aspects. This has enabled the Company to put together a framework where social, environmental and financial aspects of business are all prioritised equally. Ethics and social welfare, STL believes are just as essential as a good financial performance and essential for the Company to transform into a sustainable business. Thus, each of its sustainability initiatives are reinforced through community programmes, that do not just drive development, but also look to resolve national and global issues.

STL's four focus areas were chosen for the fact that each of them has an intrinsic linkage to several other development areas, form part of India's development priorities and are also important global goals. The SDGs are the UN's most ambitious visualisation of sustainable development capable of restructuring progress globally. To deliver on such an ambitious vision, the Company believes it's crucial to not just look at addressing existing issues, but develop sustainable programmes that delve deep into the problem, work with communities and stakeholders to address the root cause and prevent recurrence of the issue.

While working with communities for over a decade, STL has incorporated several learnings and observations from the field to develop more inclusive, tech-driven and sustainable programmes. Community involvement and ownership have been significant contributors to ensuring sustainability of programmes, while technology has helped dramatically enhance the Company's reach across urban, semi-urban and rural India.

During FY20, STL delivered several programmes under each of these focus areas, contributing to achieving regional development, as well as to the global goals. The Company leveraged technology and data to not only receive real-time inputs from its programme locations, but also analyse and improve its interventions proactively. It plans to address the community's needs based on past trends, and reframe its strategies to address different age groups of beneficiaries.

By delivering the smarter networks, STL is known for and together with its transformation enablers – its employees, the Company was able to mobilise communities in a way that ensured progress and development reaches some of the country's remotest villages. This aided the Company in not just reaching but surpassing the goal of impacting 1 million lives through CSR and volunteering programmes.

### **TOTAL LIVES IMPACTED**



# STL doubled its impact in FY20





5,000+

Lives benefitted through Women Empowerment



3,61,000+

Lives benefitted through Education



1,16,000+

Lives benefitted through Healthcare



+000,8

Lives benefitted through Environment initiatives; planting 2,000+ trees



4.000+

Lives benefitted through Volunteering

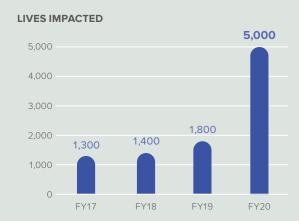


# CSR Highlights in FY 19-20 and till date

# Women empowerment

Women have the exceptional ability to bring about change that spans across generations due to the various connections they make on a daily basis. However, even today women in rural India, despite their ambition to study, pursue a career or even work do not have the freedom to do so. They are still considered homemakers.

The Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment programme, set up in Ambavane, Velhe in Maharashtra in 2014 aimed at changing these notions. While it started with equipping these rural women with vocational skills in tailoring, fashion designing, computers, beauty culture and nursing, during FY20, it helped them drive progress and development for their communities and villages through self-help groups, setup up enterprises through facilitation of micro-financing and even design handicrafts for sale through a newly established production unit.





Through a holistic approach, which incorporates personality development, soft skills and interactions with city folk through mentoring sessions and excursions, these women are transformed into envoys of change. They take responsibility for the change they would like to see in their communities and drive it together with the Jeewan Jyoti programme.

And, STL believes that through these envoys of change the Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment programme will further go on to contribute in its own small way towards the targets set under SDG 5 – Gender Equality as well as lead to achieving targets set out in SDGs 1, 3, 4, 8, 10 and 17, which are indirectly impacted through the advancement of SDG 5.

Today, each of these women are not just homemakers, but leaders and role models for the younger girls in their villages. They are looked up to and inspire the need for change in younger generations. Through their progress and ability to help their communities, they have even gone on to change the perception their elders have of working and independent women.



# "I'm living my dream today" Prajakta, 21 years, Velhe, Pune

A wide-eyed, ambitious girl, Prajakta wanted a better future; for herself and her family. Traditions of women being home-makers and not bread-winners weighed her down, but fortunately did not break her spirit. JJWEP helped her explore a whole new world she did not know existed where she was guided on her career choice, taught industry relevant skills and equipped with a personality and a government certificate that helped get her first job at Pune city. After the demise of her father, she has gone on to support her mother and her younger siblings while teaching them how to pursue their dreams. Today, this young lady works as an Assistant Manager with Hinduja Finance in Pune.



# 2,000+

Lives benefitted till date, through Women Empowerment

### Contributions to UN SDGs

- Till date, the programme has provided vocational education and livelihood opportunities to 2,265 women impacting over 11,000 villagers and over 5,000 in FY20
- Among one of the few programmes to provide beneficiaries with transportation facilities from their villages to the programme site
- A total of 1,014 women during FY20 have benefited through the programme
- Empowered women from across over 100 villages across Haveli, Velhe and Bhor Talukas have been covered through the programme till date
- 54% of beneficiaries now earn a livelihood through jobs, small enterprises, self-help groups and their own businesses
- Minimum salary earned by beneficiaries is ₹8,000 per month
- 50 self-help groups initiated to help women earn a livelihood
- Crèche facilities provided to enable young mothers to avail of the vocational course and livelihood opportunities

- 970 women have benefited through healthcare services provided through the programme till date
- 723 have been trained on manging self-help groups and supported in turning them into profit making enterprises
- 16 women self-help groups have been linked to banks for financing them to setup their own businesses; ₹55 lakhs have been disbursed to these women
- The programme has helped spread the need to be digitally empowered through 536 computer course students till date
- 134 students today hold well-paid jobs in administration, hospitals, teaching and private companies while over 400 have their own businesses
- Partnered with MAVIM, a nodal agency of the Government of Maharashtra, Maharashtra State Board of Vocational Education, and Rangsutra to empower women in rural Pune with vocational skills and livelihoods















# **Education**

Quality education is fundamental to create sustainable growth and progressive communities. It is a powerful enabler that helps break inter-generational cycles of poverty. Together with an improved quality of life, access to quality education helps equip individuals with knowledge the capability required to develop pioneering solutions to the world's most pertinent issues.

During FY20, STL continued focusing on delivering quality education through ed-tech programmes like Pragyan and Smart Nandghars. Additional investments were made to contribute towards the 'Digital India Mission' by deploying two mobile classrooms in Pune to digitally empower individuals across age groups mainly hailing from the city's slums. Another investment in this area involved leveraging the Company's know-how in connectivity to create digital villages or STLGrams in Aurangabad. Several scholarships and upgradation of school facilities during the year also ensured that deserving children from low-income families get the opportunity to excel. By using technology-driven solutions to make education more interactive and interesting for students, as well as teachers in government and play-schools, STL has helped create the love for learning among children from rural, tribal and semi-urban communities who otherwise lacked access to quality education.

Through STL's digital empowerment programmes, it hopes to spread the need and importance of using digital infrastructure available to youth, home-makers and individuals across age groups to learn, facilitate online transactions, earn their livelihood, as well as ease utility payments methods, among other aspects.



### LIVES IMPACTED





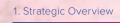
"I was scared to use a computer. The individual attention during the course has helped me overcome that fear"

Anita, 42 years, Khilarewadi, Pune

A member of a Bacchat Gat group at her slum, Anita joined the data entry course along with her friends, despite the fact that using a computer overwhelmed her. But the customised approach used through the digital empowerment programme that focuses on overpowering weaknesses, helped her learn how to handle a computer. Today, Anita is adept at online transactions which she quickly replaced standing in long queues by and also uses her knowledge to help her Bacchat Gat group.

Through each of these interventions STL hopes to facilitate a truly inclusive India where ease of access, learning opportunities and equality are warranted, thereby contributing to SDG 4 – Quality Education, while simultaneously impacting SDGs 1, 8, 10 and 17. STL approached SDG 4 in a very comprehensive way to make sure that it addresses not just the requirements of children from underprivileged backgrounds, but also upskills and trains teachers to deliver quality lessons to students in an interesting and engaging way.

Every one of these interventions have helped contribute to achieving this global goal and national priority through the smarter networks. STL is making quality education accessible even at places otherwise distanced due to their location, unavailability of transport facilities, good teachers and so on. It has also ensured that capable students, irrespective of the financial backgrounds are not deprived of opportunities to grow and reach their full potential. The Company partnered with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation and Governments of Rajasthan and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, the Pune Municipal Corporation and Pune City Connect to ensure quality education and digital literacy is accessible to the masses.



Quality education is fundamental to create sustainable growth and progressive communities. It is a powerful enabler that helps break inter-generational cycles of poverty.

### Contributions to UN SDGs

- Till date quality education made accessible to over 796,000 students from low-income families through STL's ed-tech programmes and Smart Nandghars
- 1,483 government schools and 1384 teachers and headmasters in Mumbai impacted through STL's Data Support Programme in FY20
- · Technology used to make learning and teaching fun during FY20 for 5,700 students in Rajasthan
- Eight Nandghars re-developed in Silvassa for tribal toddlers and further enhanced with solar-powered panels to ensure continuous power supply in FY20
- Till date 640 toddlers provided with a tech-enabled and vibrant environment playschools inculcating in them a love for learning right from the start
- 281 individuals from across age groups digitally empowered through STL's Digital Empowerment Buses during FY20
- Through Pragyan, 500 teachers found a renewed purpose in teaching with the latest tools and tech, trainings and regular tips for making learning fun and interesting
- 1,000 students benefited with uninterrupted power supply through diesel generators installed at municipal schools
- 27 scholarships worth ₹4,20,000 lakhs given to deserving and needy children for higher studies











# Healthcare

Ensuring good health and wellbeing across all age groups is essential to build sustainable communities. It indirectly affects a community's ability to enhance their livelihoods and contribute to achieving several other national and global goals.

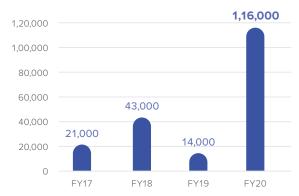
During FY20, the Company continued to focus on providing quality healthcare to tribals in Silvassa through the Mobile Medical Unit. This year, it increased its coverage – from 24 locations in FY19 to 36 in FY20. Through real-time data and use of technology, despite these locations being in low-to-no internet network areas, STL was able to customise the health camps in the region ensuring the needs of the various patient age groups were met. The Company also supported 73 surgeries of individuals from low-income families to help them live long and healthy lives.

STL even stepped up to provide relief to those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 10,000 tribals, underprivileged and contract labourers were provided with food and hygiene kits across locations like Silvassa, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Island, Gadchiroli, Nagpur, Wardha, Nanded, Hyderabad, Delhi and Mumbai. N95 masks, gloves and PPE kits were provided to over 12,000 health workers to keep them safe. The Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment beneficiaries aided police officials and health workers in rural Pune by making 20,000 cotton masks.

Access to quality healthcare should not be a privilege for a few who have the financial capability. It is a necessity and STL believes it should reach every person irrespective of their financial or cultural background or where they live.



### LIVES IMPACTED



Hence, the Company has been working towards contributing to SDG 4-Good Health & Well-being and has ensured it forms an intrinsic part of every single programme STL implements. This also involves providing nutrition to those in need during times of crisis, thereby indirectly impacting the targets set for SDG 2.

By providing the communities with means to guarantee their health and wellbeing, STL has been ensuring that these remote and poorer sections of society are not left unattended since 2006. Over the years, it has looked at ways to incorporate technology into its programmes, thereby bringing in better and more efficient ways to address hygiene and health issues among patients across different age groups and ensure their health and wellbeing.



"Now I can walk, but one day soon, I hope I can play with my friends."

Pritesh, 5 years, Sidoni, Silvassa

Affected by complications at the time of his birth, Pritesh was unable to use his limbs. Regular physiotherapy and medications at a hospital 20 kilometers away from his village were needed to help him walk again. Being a daily wage earner, his father was unable to afford the high transport and hospital charges. However, continuous medication and physiotherapy exercises prescribed by our MMU doctor has helped Pritesh walk again. Now is he no longer dependent on anyone to move around.



# **Environment**

Climate change is today one of the world's most pertinent problems. The vagaries caused by climate change not only have a devastating effect on human life, but also on a country's economies, property, individual health, lead to scarcity of resources, hunger, famines and so on. However, despite the floods and rising sea level, another major result of climate change that is prevalent across the globe has been water scarcity and droughts inevitably leading to famines, loss of livelihoods, landholdings and increased indebtedness.

STL understands both these issues and has thus designed holistic programmes that endeavour to bring about sustainable transformation through behavioural change. The community therefore features not as a beneficiary in the Company's environment programmes, but as an important partner.

During FY20, the Company continued to maintain the green belt developed in Aurangabad and expanded it to cover the dividers through 280 additional plantations. STL believes that every plant contributes to increasing the green cover in the region and mitigating the harmful effects of industrialisation. It is also investing in a comprehensive reforestation programme near Pune that looks to recreate forests along the Sayadri hills and restore biodiversity across 40 acres of barren land.

Another major programme initiated in FY20 is a holistic Water Programme together with World Bank in Aurangabad. Through this programme, STL is looking to leverage wastewater treatment for afforestation and groundwater recharging, together with water conservation and purification. The programme will ensure that these villages do not face water scarcity even in drought conditions through sufficient water reserves to serve their agricultural and domestic requirements.



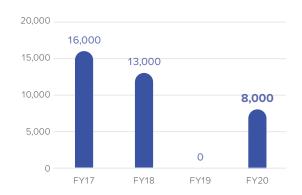


Environment initiatives

The Company is working on innovative and technology-driven solutions to not just resolve two issues, which are priorities for every country, but also contribute to SDGs 6 and 13. The approaches it has formulated also ensure that the other SDGs such as SDG 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are positively impacted.

Apart from these community programmes, STL looks for every opportunity to drive these initiatives through its own operations, thereby exponentially enhancing the cumulative impact towards these global goals while at the same time setting the bar higher for what it means to operate responsibly within the industry.

### LIVES IMPACTED



### Contributions to UN SDGs

- More than 8,000 Assam and Kolhapur flood victims benefited through STL's donations
- Over 10,000 plantations done till date and 2,780 in FY20
- Through Project Jaldoot, implemented prior to FY20, STL created access to clean drinking water for 16,000 villagers
- 200 toilets were constructed in Silvassa for tribals in the region
- 2,938 acres covered under drip irrigation through Jaldoot and Gram Samruddhi till date
- ~785,000 m³ of water were replenished across
   11 villages in Aurangabad through 20 water storage structures redeveloped
- 28,000+ villagers benefited through Jaldoot and Gram Samruddhi till date
- 20% increase in average income of villagers through Jaldoot
- 2,468 farmers benefited through irrigation and using less water intensive crops
- Improved agricultural output for Tur pulses by 42% and wheat by 15%, thereby ensuring availability of food, output for sale

























# **Exponential reach by working together**

With the help of STL's employees - its transformation enablers, the Company has been able to reach out to over 6,000 lives till date. Its people have helped the Company reach out further and wider than it could have on its own. These volunteers are examples of STL's value system. Despite their busy schedules they have taken time to volunteer and spend time with those less fortunate showing them the world still cares. They have also helped the Company build a conscientious culture in the organisation by contributing to e-waste donations and actively participating in awareness sessions on waste segregation, disposal, sustainability and mentoring, among others. This not only helps the Company reduce its environmental footprint across facilities, but also helps STL extend its reach across the country to help those in need.

FY20 was a year, where STL's employees exemplified their commitment to helping the Company create a better world beyond tomorrow by spreading hope for those less privileged.

Through Daan Utsav, more than 318 employees contributed to #GiftAWish for over 1,300 differently abled children and youth. Not just the presents, but the employees spending time with these individuals made the festive season a special one for each of the beneficiaries.

An organisation-wide blood donation drive allowed the Company to provide 683 units of blood to children affected by thalassemia and the underprivileged.

While 49 employees continued to mentor the Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment students through Saksham volunteering over 392 hours and traveling more than 100 kms to do so, STL also launched a digital mentoring programme powered by Mentor Together that allows employees to mentor underprivileged youth across India from the comfort of their home through virtual or mobile platforms.

Additionally, tree plantations, e-waste donation drives, orphanage visits and other such efforts helped us contribute to building individual responsibility towards society and the environment.

Overall, in FY20, 1,122 employees volunteered more than 2,900 hours and benefited over 4,000 lives, while simultaneously helping us contribute to UN SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12 and 13.





### **VOLUNTEERING STATS**



# Contributions to UN SDGs during FY20 and till date

- 2,435 children, women and men provided with clothes, essentials, food grains and toys through Daan Utsav, orphanage visits and food donations till date and 1,352 during FY20
- 2560 units of blood donated by STL employees till date and 683 in FY20
- 779 students benefited through mentoring sessions over the last two years
- 1,715 trees grown by employees over the last two years
- 137 employees conducted awareness drives across villages in Aurangabad on cleanliness, water usage, hygiene and so on















# **Awards & accolades**

STL won 16 awards in FY20, including two of the country's most prestigious awards.

































# Creating shared value beyond tomorrow

During FY20, STL did not just meet its goal of impacting 1 million lives but surpassed it by transforming everyday living for over 1.32 million lives across the country. However, these numbers do not mean that it has done its part towards development of the nation. In fact, it makes the Company eager to set bigger and more ambitious targets for the future.

Starting in FY21, it intends to reach out further and wider along with the help of its transformation enablers.

Thus, STL set three ambitious social goals, which are:



Transform
Everyday Living for
5 million lives



Undertake 5 million plantations to contribute to the Climate Change Agenda



Replenish 5 million  $m^3$  of water in communities to ensure water security and thus reduce scarcity



# **DQS-Independent Assurance Statement**

То

The Management and Stakeholders of

# **Sterlite Technologies Limited**

DQS has been engaged by Sterlite Technologies Limited (STL) to provide independent assurance over (non-financial) based on GRI aligned reporting framework with selected KPIs. The engagement took place from 9th June 2020 to 12th June 2020.

# Scope of Assurance

The assurance encompassed the selected corporate assured non-financial KPIs (GRI aligned) and the quality of information presented in the report over the reporting period of April 2019 to March 2020.

Operational Boundary: Verification of Corporate office at Pune of Sterlite Technologies Limited (STL) along with specific production sites - Dadra Plant, Rakholi Plant, Waluj Plant, Shendra Plant and Shendra Glass (New Facility) for the following:

- 1. CSR
- 2. Water
- 3. Waste
- 4. Energy / Carbon Emissions

The assurance engagement was performed in accordance with a Type 2 Assurance of the AA1000 Assurance Standard (AA1000AS 2008) which consists of evaluating the reliability of specified sustainability performance information of the reported non-financial KPIs within the Company's sustainability framework and processes using the inclusivity, materiality and responsiveness.

### Level of assurance and limitations

A moderate level of assurance under DQS Assurance
Framework was provided for this engagement. Information
and performance data subject to assurance is limited to the
provided KPIs. The stakeholder engagement review was limited
to the employees as interested groups directly dependent on
the organisation's activities and participation in the achievement
of the non-financial KPIs. The assurance did not cover financial
data, technical descriptions of buildings, equipment and
production processes or other information not related to
selected performance indicators.

### Assurance methodology

The assurance procedures and principles used for this engagement were drawn from the International Standards and methodology for data verification developed by DQS as below:

 Based on GRI aligned reporting framework, STL have identified selected corporate KPIs and data sets, which are classified according to the relevant data owners and the type of evidence required for the verification process.

- Carry out interviews with key functional managers and data owners at STL.
- 3. Data quality verification included the following:
  - Enquiring about the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the KPI disclosures, including performance information, policies, procedures and underlying management systems.
  - ii. Requesting evidence of the data sources and explanation of relevant collection and calculation methods to substantiate the figures and claims.
- Challenging the KPI claims, where possible, confirming the
  presented evidence, including calculation methods, criteria
  and assumptions, with multiple data owners and other
  documentation from internal and external sources.
- Assess the collected information and provide recommendations for immediate correction wherever required or for future improvement of the non-financial indicator's verification within the scope.

# **Key observations and recommendations Strengths:**

- STL has strong focus on materiality issues like Zero Waste to Landfill. The Shendra, Waluj, Rakholi and Dadra plants are certified for Zero Waste to Landfill. This helps in meeting customer expectations for Responsible Manufacturing.
- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) & Environment
   Product Declarations (EPD) studies for fiber optic
   cables were carried out in FY20. This shows STL's
   commitment in building credibility and transparency on
   compliance to accepted international standards and
   environmental performance.
- STL has touched 1.32 million lives with CSR initiatives aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and National Voluntary Guidelines (NVG). This demonstrates STL's intent of being a socially responsible company and creating positive impact in the community.

# **Opportunities for Improvement:**

- Benchmarking and target setting at micro level especially in energy, water, carbon sources shall be established for all locations. STL may develop short-term and long-term sustainability goals for all the top material issues
- 2. STL need to declare carbon neutrality (for Scope 1 and Scope 2) or (inclusion of Scope 3 also) and plan for calculating all relevant Scope 3 emissions in coming years

- STL may begin to focus on key supply chain partners to identify and mitigate the sustainability challenges in the supply chain.
- STL may explore implementation of renewable energy (solar/wind energy) at each site
- STL may undertake assessment studies to determine water footprint and social capital valuation of CSR projects

# Evaluation of the adherence to AA1000 Accountability Principles

DQS has evaluated the Report's adherence to the GRI principles

- Sustainability Context: 'STL has established the
  relationship between sustainability and organisational
  strategy within the report, as well as the context in which
  disclosures are made
  - a. Stakeholder Inclusivity Stakeholder identification and engagement are carried out by STL on a periodic basis to bring out key stakeholder concerns as material aspects of critical stakeholders. In our view, the Report meets the requirements. In addition, STL could further include its key stakeholders in developing its long-term sustainability goals and strategy.
  - b. Materiality STL has developed its Environmental and Social materiality map through engagement with its key stakeholders. The Report fairly brings out the aspects and topics and their respective boundaries of the diverse operations. In our view, the Report meets the requirements.
- Responsiveness The material topics have been aligned with GRI framework covering the environmental and CSR issues in the Sustainability report. STL may consider developing strategies for the other material topics in the materiality map and disclosing them in the future reports.
- Reporting Principles for defining report quality: Most of the data and information was verified by DQS assurance team at STL and found to be accurate. Some inaccuracies in the data identified during the verification process were found to be attributable to transcription, interpretation and aggregation errors and these errors have been corrected.

### **GRI 300: Environmental**

•	Energy:	GRI 302: Energy 2016: 302-1, 302-5
•	Water:	GRI 303: Water 2016: 303-1, 303-3
•	Emissions:	GRI 305: Water 2016: 305-1, 305-2
_	Effluents & waste:	GRI 306: Effluents and Waste 2016: 306-2

### GRI 400: Social

• Employment:	GRI 401: Employment 2016: 401-1
Training &	GRI 404: Training and Education 2016:
Education:	404-1, 404-2
Emissions:	GRI 305: Water 2016: 305-1, 305-2
• Local	GRI 413: Local Communities 2016: 413-1
communities:	

### **DQS** Competency and Independency

DQS is a global provider of sustainability services, with qualified environmental and social assurance specialists. DQS states its independence and impartiality regarding this assurance engagement. In the reporting year, DQS did not work with 'Sterlite Technologies Limited" on any engagement that could compromise the independence or impartiality of our findings, conclusions and recommendations. DQS was not involved in the preparation of any statements or data included in the Report, apart from this Assurance Statement. DQS maintains complete impartiality toward any people interviewed during the assurance engagement. Considering the Covid19 situation, the assurance / verification of the report is undertaken through remote method.

Based on a moderate assurance engagement according to the above-listed criteria On behalf of the DQS India assurance team June 12, 2020

# Signature



# Dr. Murugan

Kandasamy CEO & Managing Director

# **GRI Index and UNGC Principles**

# **General Disclosures Index**

GRI Standard	Title Disclosure Number	Disclosure Title. Individual disclosure items ('a', 'b', 'c', etc.) are not listed here	Page Number/ External Reference
		General Disclosures	
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	102-3	Location of headquarters	End Cover Page
	102-4	Location of operations	129
	102-5	Ownership and legal form	91, 125
	102-6	Markets served	129
	102-7	Scale of the organisation	129, 130
	102-8	Information on employees and other workers	134
	102-9	Supply chain	49, 50
	102-10	Significant changes to the organisation and its supply chain	No Changes
	102-11	Precautionary Principle or approach	48, 49
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	102-46	Defining report content and topic Boundaries	45
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	102-49	Changes in reporting	No Changes
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	102-51	Date of most recent report	FY18-19
	102-51	Reporting cycle	Annual
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	102-53	Contact point for questions regarding the report	End Cover Page 45
	102-54	Claims of reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards GRI content index	74
	102-56	External assurance	73
		GRI 200: Economic	
GRI 201: Economic Performance 2016	201-1	Economic Performance  Direct economic value generated and distributed	Financial report
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GRI 203: Economic Impacts 2016	201-1	Significant indirect economic impacts  Anti-Corruption	Financial report
GRI 205: Anti-corruption 2016	205-2	Communication and training about anti-corruption policies and procedures	56
	205-3	Confirmed incidents of corruption and actions taken	1, 34, 135
		GRI 300: Environmental	
		Energy	
GRI 302: Energy 2016	302-1	Energy consumption within the organisation	55
	302-5	Reduction in energy requirements of products and services  Water	
GRI 303: Water 2016	303-1	Water withdrawal by source	52

GRI Standard	Title Disclosure Number	Disclosure Title. Individual disclosure items ('a', 'b', 'c', etc.) are not listed here	Page Number/ External Reference
		Emissions	
GRI 305: Emissions 2016	305-1	Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	55
	305-2	Energy indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions	55
		Effluents and Waste	
GRI 306: Effluents and Waste 2016	306-2	Waste by type and disposal method	54
		GRI 400: Social	
		Employment	
GRI 401: Employment 2016	401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover	134
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GRI 404: Training & Education	404-1	Average hours of training per year per employee	134
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GRI 417: Marketing and Labeling 2016	417-1	Requirements for product and service information and labeling	138

# **United Nations Global Compact Index**

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# Annexure VI

Particulars of Energy Conservation, Technology Absorption and Foreign Exchange Earnings and Outgo required under the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014 for the year ended March 31, 2020.

# A. Conservation of Energy

# The steps taken or impact on conservation of energy:

In FY20, various initiatives were taken up across plants which has contributed to decrease in energy consumption and the carbon footprint:

- Installation of Blower and vacuum based air wipers to reduce compressed air consumption & power consumption.
- Recovery of residual hydrogen.
- The optimisation of auxiliaries in the captive power plant
- The continuous monitoring of load depending upon the market conditions and updating of the contract demand
- The optimisation of HVAC systems by taking into account the real-time weather conditions and incorporation of 3-way valve and VFD frequency optimisation.
- Implementation of closed-loop chemical dosing system by real-time monitoring of parameters.
- Replacement of metallic fans in cooling towers with the fiber reinforced plastic fan.
- Substitution of split air conditioner in UPS room with centralised air handling unit.
- i. Utilisation of condensate with feed water.
- Optimisation of the HVAC system based on the ambient condition and production.
- Recycling of water by using RO permeate in cooling towers and optimisation of water treatment systems has led to reduction in fresh water consumption of 5.5m3/day.
- Optimisation of Power factor and contract demand according to production

Kaizen implemented in shop floor to reduce cost & improve productivity in shop floor.

# The steps taken by the Company for utilising alternate sources of energy

- Feasibility of sourcing power from Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI- Govt Unit) is being explored at the group level.
- Adoption of solar thermal technology is being explored along with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.
- Initiated 165 KVA Roof top solar systems with auto cleaning of panels.
- Collection of RO plant waste water to reuse in garden for plantation.
- Switched to coil dispatch of the cables resulting in elimination of wooden drums. The change resulted in saving of 4200kg wood per month, 50.4 MT per annum. The resulted savings in wood is equivalent to saving 120 trees, which can supply equivalent to 16 man oxygen demand for one year.
- Installed motion sensors in offices & washrooms.

# 3. The capital investment on energy conservation equipment

- Compressor Air booster procured to reduce the loading time of compressor.
- New coiling set up is initiated to improve coiling in place of wooden drums.
- Installed new 400 KVA UPS with higher efficiency of 96 % as compared to existing UPS having 92 % efficiency.
- Installation of a new 600 CFM air compressor having high power efficiency as compared to existing compressors.

# **B.** Technology Absorption

# The efforts made towards technology absorption

The newly commissioned plant in Shendra (Project Gaurav) for optical glass manufacturing has industry 4.0 enabled systems to monitor and control quality, efficiency and pollution avoidance. This is one of the biggest cleanroom facility in India.

# **Directors' Report** (Contd.)

- b) The newly commissioned plant uses LNG as fuel in cladding process with a provision of methane upgrader technology, making available higher calorific value, and higher purity fuel. This improves the overall efficiency, cost and safety.
- c) The aging HVAC chilled water lines of 4542 meter was replaced with new insulated water lines leading to higher efficiency and reliability. The task was completed in a 3 day complete shutdown period.
- d) Auto load shedding system by the use of the MD controller is installed and is extensively used to keep the load within the permissible band and shed the identified noncritical load temporarily to ensure the plants avail maximum load factor discounts in power bill.
- Earth leakage circuit breaker system implemented in 100 LDB's to enhance the safety in lighting & single-phase circuits.
- f) Upgradation of electrical panels and circuit breaker of UPS with newer generation for better reliability.
- g) Firmware upgradation completed for UPS. This has resulted in improving the changeover time from 8 milliseconds to 4 milliseconds.
- h) Replacement of aluminum bus bar with copper bus bar has been completed to decrease hotspots and hence improve safety and reliability.
- Adoption of technology of automated chemical dosing pumps has led to minimisation of manual handling of hazardous chemicals.
- Replacement of ageing standalone UPS with parallel system has been completed for better reliability and efficiency.
- Vi) Oil Natural Air Force (ONAF) fans provided for two transformers of 2.25MVA to minimise oil & winding heating.
- Enhanced reliability by upgrading ageing transformer upgraded of 2MVA 33kV with 2.25MVA 33kV.
- Redundant power provided for scrubber to ensure continuity of our ability to provide environmental protection all times

- upgradation of UPS firmware for enhanced reliability.
- LNG methane system upgrader to achieve 95% purity from 89% for enhanced quality of glass preforms.
- q) Installation of latest technology & high efficient UPS, dry transformer & load break switch for improving utilities reliability & efficiency.
- r) The centralised utilities project started with the energy bridge concept.
- s) New high speed & high tech machines are purchased in some sections to increase productivity with minimum scrap and capable of producing multi products without increase in the energy consumptions.
- Machine parameters data streaming through OPC UA has been completed on POC on 02 production lines

# The benefits derived like product improvement, cost reduction, product development or import substitution

a. Import Substitution – High Purity Chemicals used in Glass Manufacturing.

Successfully completed import substitute of high purity chemicals from Europe by manufacturing it in-house that matches the quality of import. This in house manufactured chemical which is now used in the new glass plant process to the tune of 150 tons / month presently.

 Import Substitution – Components for modification in refractive index profile.

Successfully completed import substitute of components used for attaining special refractive index by changing the process of manufacturing and installation, commissioning of special equipment. This not only saves cost but also enables to make new design of profiles and products.

c. Bill of materials (BOM) optimisation.

The project aims to optimise all the raw material consumption & the process types based on the

underlying chemical reactions and variability from machine to machine.

This will lead to a reduction in cost and will also help in optimising the inventory, leading to a leaner operation.

### d. Helium Gas Recovery

Helium gas is imported from Middle East through various gas companies to overcome acute shortage of helium gas and price increase which causes serious disturbance in costing and availability. OF manufacturing units have taken initiatives to reduce the consumption of helium and recover the used helium using technological interventions.

# Rain Water Harvesting

Implementation of rain water harvesting at Waluj E1 Plant with a harvesting potential of 2400m3 of water annually, with a provision to use water back into process. Similar rainwater harvesting structures with equivalent harvesting potential are in progress for E2 & E3 plant of Waluj. The horizontal deployment of the usage of water back to the process is planned for other locations based on feasibility.

### **Scrap Reduction**

The scrap reduction product is one of our key focus projects to become sustainable by reducing the environmental footprint and reduction of cost.

### New products were developed:

Cat6a U/UTP 7.6 MM - This design enables the cable to comply to stringent Alien crosstalk parameter with lower diameter and makes the cable suitable for duct application with lower space utilisation.

Cat6a S/FTP Shielded Cable - This is used for enterprise and industrial application. The outdoor version of this cable is being supplied to Google with connecterised solution.

Cat6 UTP No filler cable with improved space utilisation. This design does not include any pair separator which makes the cable compact in size and consumes less material. This design also eliminates one of the processes during manufacturing that helps in improving the plant efficiency / productivity.

Cat6 UTP Duplex cable was developed and commercialised for Europe market, which contains two units of Cat6 UTP in one cable and reduce the installation time and effort.

Construction Products Regulations (CPR) **certification** – Successfully passed through the Product testing and factory production control audit at SCB

Cat6 SF/UTP PE Outdoor cable was specially developed for outdoor antenna application.

Cat6 UTP and Cat6a UTP Outdoor (Single or double jacket) cables developed for periphery CCTV surveillance application which are being used at customer end at Airport also.

The optimisation and process improvement has resulted in tremendous improvement in outputs, increasing productivity, reducing scraps, generating higher value. The reduction in scrap and process enhancements enabled faster throughput and conversion efficiencies. The yield signatures increased significantly of the bend insensitive fibers namely BOW LITE (E) and BOW LITE SUPER exceeding ITU-T G.657.A2 & ITU-T G.657.B3 recommendations respectively. The product specifications are in best in class globally.

These bend insensitive fibers are most suitable for FTTX deployments where macro bend losses are very high due to installation and deployment conditions. These high losses directly impact the life time of networks and Sterlite's bend insensitive fiber ensures the reliable performance in toughest of environments.

At Optic Fiber Cables(OFC), new products like Air blown and Nano Cable were developed specially for dense areas, such as metro applications where duct space is very limited, can be installed in new as well as existing ducts. It gives optimum balance of stiffness and flexibility allowing longer blowing distances compared to other blown cables available in the market which are blown into the smallest duct size using air-blowing cable installations.

Hybrid cables were developed which are best for data communication and control installations that require fiber and power copper under one cable

### **Directors' Report** (Contd.)

jacket. Applications include Remote application of Low-Voltage power, High information transmission speed with optical fiber, FTTA, Security Networks, IP Enable appliances, Wireless Access Points (backbone cable).

In Copper Cable Dadra Plant, replace the Conversational Single Pass Water Trough by Dual Water Trough for better cooling of FG Cable at high speed.

In OFC the Company has started the use of Tandemisation process for making all Double layer cables which reduces Power, Manpower, single machine etc.

RIBBON- LITE® Multitube Single Jacket Cable -1000F –This cable offers an outstanding solution for demanding high-growth, high-bandwidth communications applications like data centers, equipment connections within cabinets, outside plant applications.

Atlas Lite™ Airblown-24F – This design gives optimum balance of stiffness and flexibility allowing longer blowing distances compared to other blown cables available in the market which are blown into the smallest duct size using airblowing cable installations.

Indicium Lite™ Retractable Fibre Optic Cable -1F/
Tube - This 24F cable can be used for outdoor installation and window cuts into the sheath wall allow easy selection and extraction of single fibre unit for re-routing purposes without the need to dispose of excess cable. This design is with 1F/
Tube and in-turn the high stiff tube may be further blown, pushed or pulled (using pulling cords) inside microducts (7/3.5mm).

192F Micro-LITE - This 192F cable of nominal dia meter of 8.0mm is typically used for Access / Metro and (air blown) Drop cabling for FTTx networks , duct systems in a more effective manner by accommodating more fibres in given subduct network and can be blown for approx. 1000mtrs in 10/14mm duct.

Flat 200micron pitch RIBBON- LITE® Unitube Cable - This 72F-144F Ribbon unitube design meets the application which requires delivering the highest fibre density in the most compact cable package possible. This cable offers an outstanding solution for demanding high-growth, high-bandwidth communications applications like data centers, equipment connections within cabinets, outside plant applications.

AERIAL-LITE® Figure-8 Steel Wire Armored Unitube Cable – This product is intended for use in short span aerial installations.

**Microduct Micromodule** – This design is suited for use in most network arenas, including backbone, access and distribution.

# 3. In case of imported technology (imported during the last three years reckoned from the beginning of the financial year) – Not Applicable

### The expenditure incurred on Research and Development (₹ crores)

- a. Capital 42.78
- b. Recurring 74.39
- c. Total 117.17
- d. Total R&D expenditure as a % of total turnover 2.46%

### C. Foreign Exchange Earnings and Outgo

Discussion on activities relating to development of exports is covered in the Management Discussion & Analysis Report.

Foreign Exchange Actual Inflow: 1080.22 crores Foreign Exchange Actual Outflow: 1629.55 crores

### D. Environment and Sustiability

Project Zero waste to landfill

In FY20, STL – Shendra Draw became the first Optical Fiber manufacturing facility to become Zero Waste to Landfill Certified, diverting 99.99% waste away from landfill. With this certification, STL also became the world's first integrated optical fiber and cable manufacturer to be Zero Waste to Landfill certified. STL - SCB Dadra is the second communication cable (Copper cable) manufacturing facility to become certified. Four manufacturing locations of STL in India are now Zero Waste to Landfill certified. STL being a responsible corporate, aims to minimise the waste at source and to divert all wastes away from the landfill to minimise its environmental footprint across operations.

### Annexure VII

A brief outline of the Company's CSR Policy, including overview of projects or programs proposed to be undertaken and a reference to the web-link to the CSR policy and projects or programs.

STL, through a collaborative approach envisions 'Transforming Everyday Living, by Delivering Smarter Networks for its communities. Connectivity, Innovation and Sustainability are thus pivotal not only to how STL operates as a business, but even for its community outreach programmes. This approach helps STL 'Create Shared Value' for each of its stakeholders as well as enable connected future for the nation that is inclusive for all.

Each of STL's CSR and Sustainability focus areas - Education, Women Empowerment, Health and Environment are interconnected and power each other through their alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact Network. This, in addition to strategic partnerships with the Government of India, NGOs, technical institutions and other development players allows STL to create holistic solutions that positively impact and contribute to the realization of integrated development for rural, semi-urban and urban areas in India.

In FY 19-20, STL did not only achieve its CSR goal for 2020 of impacting 1 million lives, but surpassed it by impacting over 1.32 million lives.

The Company's CSR Policy can be viewed on the link mentioned below:

https://www.stl.tech/pdf/20May07%20-%20CSR%20Policy\_newBrand.pdf

- The Composition of the Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility Committee (CSR Committee)
  - a. Mr. Arun Todarwal (Independent Director)
  - Mr. A. R. Narayanaswamy (Independent Director)
  - Mr. Pravin Agarwal C.
  - d. Dr. Anand Agarwal
- 3) Average net profit of the Company for last three financial years: ₹ 457.30 crores.
- Prescribed CSR Expenditure (two per cent of the amount as in item 3 above):

The Company is required to spend 2% of last three years' average net profit – ₹ 9.15 crores

- 5) Details of CSR spent during the financial year -
  - Total amount to be spent for FY19-20: ₹ 9.15 crores
  - b. Amount unspent, if any - Nil
  - c. Amount Actually spent on CSR: ₹ 9.20 crores
  - Manner in which the amount spent during the financial year is detailed below -
- In the column 'Cumulative expenditure up to the reporting period', while we have taken 2014-15 as the base year, it is not the first year of our CSR programmes. Several of our programmes have been started well before 2014-15. Considering the practical challenges of reporting the cumulative expenditure from inception, we chose to define 2014-15 as the base year.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				Amount outlay		Cumulative	Amount
C				(budget),	Amount spent	expenditure	spent: Direct
Sr. No.	CSR project or Activity Identified	Sector	Location	project or	on the projects	upto the	or through
NO.				program wise	(lakhs)	reporting	implementing
				(lakhs)		period (lakhs)	agency*
1	Jeewan Jyoti Women	Education, Women	Pune	150	136	797	Indirect
	Empowerment Institution -	Empowerment					
	Vocational training and holistic						
	development program for wome	n					
	from rural communities						
	Jeewan Jyoti Ved Vidyalaya –	Education	Pune	20	20	139	Indirect
	Preservation of heritage language	е					

# Directors' Report (Contd.)

4	2	3	4				(₹ in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5 Amount outlay	6	7 Cumulative	Amount
Sr. No.	CSR project or Activity Identified	Sector	Location	(budget),	Amount spent on the projects (lakhs)	expenditure upto the reporting period (lakhs)	spent: Direct or through implementing agency*
	Educational Scholarships and donations	Education, Health	Multiple locations	155	116	186	Indirect
3	Pragyan - Technology based quality education program for underprivileged children combined with training for the teachers.	Education	Jaipur	45	45	115	Direct
	Sterlite School Tech Ed Tech programmes (Data Support Analysis for BMC schools & Virtual Classroom)	Education	Mumbai	10	19	297	Direct
4	Green Belt – Plan & develop of layout, sustainable green zone development, etc.)	Environment	Aurangabad	26	25	48	Direct
5	Mobile Medical Unit – Enabling access to preventative and curative healthcare services across tribal communities in Diu, Daman, Dadra, Silvassa area	Health	Silvassa	18	14	135	Indirect
6	Smart Nandghars – Redeveloping existing government Anganwadis at Silvassa and quipping them with a setup at par with private play schools.		Silvassa	30	4	61	Direct
7	Community service	Education, Women Empowerment, Environment	Multiple Locations	12	12	18	Indirect
8	Disaster Relief	-	Multiple Locations	10	8	24	Direct
9	COVID-19 Relief	Health	Multiple Locations	-	100	100	Indirect
10	Digital Empowerment of underprivileged youth from slum areas	Education	Pune	30	15	15	Indirect
11	STLGram - Leveraging STL's business expertise in connectivity to digitally empower villagers & provide them with skills and education	Education, Health, Women Empowerment, Environment	Aurangabad	50	7	61	Indirect
12	Holistic Water Programme - Treatment of waste water to increase ground water reserves, reduce water scarcity and increase afforestation	Environment	Aurangabad	75	55	73	Indirect
13	Neo-natal & Maternal Care Programme – To provide state-of- the-art maternity care facilities for the underprivileged		Aurangabad	55	100	128	Indirect

							(₹ in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sr. No.	CSR project or Activity Identified	Sector	Location		Amount spent on the projects (lakhs)	Cumulative expenditure upto the reporting period (lakhs)	Amount spent: Direct or through implementing agency*
14	Contribution to IIT for Research	Education, Environment, Health	Multiple locations	100	100	100	Direct
15	Afforestation Programme - To support increased bio-diversity and increase the forest cover in Maharashtra	Environment	Pune	85	100	100	Indirect
16	Administration and Management	Admin	Multiple locations	45	44	98	Direct
тот	AL			916	920	2495	

Note:- CSR activities have been carried out either through Sterlite Tech Foundation (Public Charitable Trust with 3 years track record) or directly by the Company through administrative support of several Implementing Agencies as mentioned above and other Non-Governmental Organisations or Charitable Institutions.

7) In case the Company has failed to spend the two per cent of the average net profit of the last three financial years or any part thereof, the Company shall provide the reasons for not spending the amount in its Board report. – Not Applicable

### 8) CSR committee responsibility statement

CSR Committee confirms that the implementation and monitoring of CSR activities is in compliance with CSR objectives and policy of the Company.

Anand Agarwal Date: May 12, 2020 Arun Todarwal

Place: Pune CEO & Whole-time Director Chairman - CSR Committee

# **Business Responsibility Report**

#### Introduction

At STL, we believe in creating shared value through responsible operations that encompass a number of environmental, social and governance aspects. Alignment with global goals, national priorities and the triple bottom line of sustainability are core to how we choose to operate and progress. For us, it is about ensuring communities and other stakeholders' progress along with us as we work collectively to create a more sustainable and better future.

Our Business Responsibility Report details our endeavours in the domain of sustainable development in FY 2019-20. The report has been prepared in line with the quidelines prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). It presents STL's commitment to the 'National Voluntary Guidelines on Social, Environmental and Economic Responsibilities of Business' principles issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

### Section A: General Information about the Company

1.	Corporate Identity Number (CIN) of the Company	:	L31300MH2000PLC269261		
2.	Name of the Company	:	STERLITE TECHNOLOGIES LTD.		
3.	Registered address	:	E1, MIDC Industrial Area Waluj, Aurangabad, MH 431136		
4.	Website	:	https://www.stl.tech/		
5.	. E-mail id : communications@sterlite.com				
6.	Financial Year reported	:	2019-20		
7.	Sector(s) that the Company is engaged in (industrial activity code-wis	se) :			
	Product / Service		NIC Code		
	Fibre Optical Cable		3890		
	Optical Fibre		3890		
	Copper Telecom Cables		3130		
	Fibre Optical Cable Laying Services		3890		
8.	List three key products/services that the Company manufactures/	a.	Connectivity Solutions		
	provides (as in balance sheet)		o. Network Services		
		C.	Network Software		

### Total number of locations where business activity is undertaken by the Company

- a. Number of International Locations (Provide details of major 5)
  - i. Italy 1
  - ii. China 2
  - iii. Brazil 1
  - iv. UK 1
- b. Number of National Locations
  - i. Maharashtra 6
  - ii. UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu 2
  - iii. Gujarat 1
  - iv. Haryana 1

### 10. Markets served by the Company – Local/State/National/International

With expertise ranging from optical fibre and cables, to hyper-scale network design, and deployment and network software, STL is the industry's leading integrated solutions provider for global digital networks. We partner with global and national telecom companies, cloud companies, citizen networks and large public enterprises to design, build and manage such cloud-native software defined networks.

### Section B: Financial Details of the Company

1. Paid up Capital (INR)	: 80.79 crores
2. Total Turnover (INR)	: 4,760.50 crores
3. Total profit after taxes (INR)	: 433.52 crores
4. Total Spending on Corporate Social Responsibility (CS	R) as percentage of profit after tax (%): 2.01%

- 5. List of activities in which expenditure in 4 above has been incurred:
  - a) Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment Programme aims to provide rural women with a comprehensive ecosystem that will help transform them into agents of change. The programme empowers these rural women through vocational training, self-help groups, livelihood opportunities and entrepreneurial opportunities.
  - b) Ed-tech programmes (Pragyan & Smart Nandghars) are technology driven programmes for children from lower income families and tribal communities. Both programmes aim at ensuring quality education is available to the masses through digital mechanisms, make learning fun and interesting while simultaneously aiding faculty through trainings and teaching techniques.
  - c) Mobile Medical Unit provides tribals in Silvassa with quality healthcare at their doorsteps every week. Apart from free consultation, the programme also distributes free medicines and has been instrumental in spreading awareness on general well-being and hygiene practises among these communities.
  - d) Digital Empowerment Classrooms are aligned with the Digital India Mission. We partnered with Pune Municipal Corporation and Pune City Connect to digitally empower slum residents in Pune. This is conducted through two mobile classrooms that visit four slums in the city to conduct digital education sessions.
  - e) GreenBelt is a 1.4kms stretch where we have continued to maintain over 9,500 plants and trees developed to mitigate the adverse effects of industrialisation and climate change in Aurangabad. We added another 280 plantations to the programme in FY 2019-20.

### Section C: Other Details

- 1. Does the Company have any Subsidiary Company/ Companies? : Yes
- 2. Do the Subsidiary Company/Companies participate in the BR Initiatives of the parent company? : Yes, three (3) subsidiaries (Indian) If yes, then indicate the number of such subsidiary company(s):
- 3. Do any other entity/entities (e.g. suppliers, distributors etc.) that the Company does business with, participate in the BR initiatives of the Company? If yes, then indicate the percentage of such entity/entities? (Less than 30%, 30-60%, More than 60%):
  - Along with end-to-end solutions that we offer our customers, we also guide and train them on best practises and sustainable approaches for laying networks, maintenance and other such aspects. The multidimensional benefits of sustainable practices have motivated almost 30% of our customers to participate in our BR initiatives and we stay committed to improving this percentage with partners across our value chain

### Section D: BR Information

### 1. Details of Director/Directors responsible for BR

Details of the Director/Director responsible for implementation of the BR policy/policies

1	DIN Number	00057364
2	Name	Dr. Anand Agarwal
3	Designation	Group CEO & Whole-Time Director

### b. Details of the BR Head

No.	Particulars	Details
1	DIN Number (if applicable)	03040078
2	Name	Anupam Jindal
3	Designation	Group Chief Financial Officer
4	Telephone number	+91.20.30514000
5	e-mail id	anupam.jindal@sterlite.com

### 2. Principle-wise (as per NVGs) BR Policy/policies

### a) Details of compliance (Reply in Y/N)

No.	Questions	P1	P2	Р3	P4	P5	Р6	P7	P8	P9
	Principle Area	Code of Conduct	Product Responsibility		Stakeholder Engagement		Environment	Public Advocacy	CSR	Customer Value
1	Do you have a policy/ policies for	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
2	Has the policy being formulated in consultation with the relevant stakeholders?	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
3	Does the policy conform to any national/international standards? If yes, specify? (50 words) <sup>1</sup>	Υ	Y	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y
4	Has the policy been approved by the Board? If yes, has it been signed by MD/ owner/CEO/ appropriate Board Director?	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Υ
5	Does the Company have specified committee of the Board/Director/ Official to oversee implementation of policy/policies?	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Υ	Y
6	Indicate the link for the policy to be viewed online?	Code of Conduct <sup>2</sup>	Internal	Internal	Internal	Internal	Internal	Internal	CSR policy <sup>3</sup>	Internal
7	Has the policy been formally communicated to all relevant internal and external stakeholders?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Y	Y
8	Does the Company have in- house structure to implement the policy/ policies?	Υ	Y	Υ	Y	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Y
9	Does the Company have a grievance redressal mechanism related to the policy/ policies to address stakeholders' grievances related to the policy/ policies?	Y	Y	Y	Y	Υ	Y	Y	Υ	Y
10	Has the Company carried out independent audit/ evaluation of the working of the policy/ policies by an internal or external agency?	Y	Y	Υ	N	N	Y	N	Y	Υ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Based on National Laws and Regulatory Frameworks

### If answer to the question at serial number 1 against any principle, is 'No', please explain why: (Tick up to 2 options)

No.	Questions	P1	P2	Р3	P4	Р5	P6	P7	P8	Р9
1	The Company has not understood the Principles									
2	The Company is not at a stage where it finds itself in a position to formulate and implement the policies on specified principles									
3	The Company does not have financial or manpower resources available for the task									
4	It is planned to be done within next 6 months									
5	It is planned to be done within the next 1 year									
6	Any other reason (please specify)									

 $<sup>^2</sup> https://www.stl.tech/pdf/coc/Sterlite\_Code\_of\_Conduct\_Final.pdf$ 

 $<sup>^3</sup> https://www.stl.tech/pdf/coc/Corporate\% 20 Social\% 20 Responsibility\% 20 policy.pdf$ 

#### 3. Governance related to BR

(a) Indicate the frequency with which the Board of Directors, Committee of the Board or CEO to assess the BR performance of the Company. Within 3 months, 3-6 months, Annually, More than 1 year

Our Board of Directors meet every quarter. Whereas, Sustainability Council which is responsible for reviewing the BR performance meets every month.

(b) Does the Company publish a BR or a Sustainability Report? What is the hyperlink for viewing this report? How frequently it is published?

We publish the Business Responsibility Report annually as a part of our annual report. The first BRR was published in 2016-17. Additionally, we published our first sustainability report in 2017-18 as per globally accepted GRI sustainability reporting standards and have thereafter reported on CSR and Sustainability in line with GRI standards in the Annual Report.

### Section E: Principle-Wise Performance

### Principle 1

# Business should conduct and govern themselves with ethics, transparency and accountability

Transparency and ethics are an integral part of how we conduct our operations. We endeavour to meet the highest standards while upholding integrity in every business transaction. We believe that ethical and economic values are interdependent and businesses must always strive to not just meet, but surpass national and global norms.

We have a comprehensive set of policies that govern ours as well as our partners' actions. Each of these are an extension of our values and principles and guide us on managing business activities while ensuring utmost integrity.

 Does the policy relating to ethics, bribery and corruption cover only the Company? Does it extend to the Group/Joint Ventures/ Suppliers/Contractors/ NGOs /Others?

The Company's Code of Conduct and Ethics policy covers every employee of the Company, its subsidiaries as well as partners across the value chain. The Whistle-blower policy covers all employees of STL, its subsidiaries and all external stakeholders. The

Company's supply chain partners are covered under Supply Chain Management policy, which includes principles on conducting business transactions with high level of ethics, transparency and integrity.

 How many stakeholder complaints have been received in the past financial year and what percentage was satisfactorily resolved by the management? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

Details of the shareholder complaints are included in the Corporate Governance Report of the Annual Report under the section on Stakeholders' Relationship Committee.

### Principle 2

# Businesses should provide goods and services that are safe and contribute to sustainability

STL's unique proposition of offering integrated solutions enables us to effectively address sustainability challenges.

We have undertaken several initiatives in this regard, which have helped us reduce the environmental impact of our products and services. STL became the world's first integrated optical fibre and cable manufacturer to receive the Zero Waste to Landfill certification from Intertek for its manufacturing facilities in India.

 List up to 3 of your products or services whose design has incorporated social or environmental concerns, risks and/or opportunities.

### **Smart City Solution**

Smart cities are known for their administrative efficiency and fast services to citizens and businesses. The efficient administration and fast services are powered by super-fast communication based on data transfer. Our smart city solution enables this and helps in better and improved governance, transportation, safety of citizens, energy efficiency and fast emergency service management among other facets. These all ultimately help in creating safer, greener and cleaner communities to live in, while minimising any negative impact on the environment.

#### **Optical fibre cables**

Our products drive data transfer through cable networks facilitating last mile connectivity. Data transfer being paperless helps in protecting the environment reducing deforestation. These optical fibre cable networks have enabled the world to access unlimited information available on internet. It has digitised

rural and remote areas providing them with access to quality education, healthcare, financial services, better agricultural techniques and so on. Our products drive progress, by empowering communities and reducing inequalities.

#### Garv

The GARV kiosk bridges the rural-urban digital divide in the country. This solution leverages BharatNet's rural broadband connectivity and the power of future technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things (IoT) to provide a multitude of communitycentred services helping reduce inequalities and build progressive communities.

For each such product, provide the following details in respect of resource use (energy, water, raw material etc.) per unit of product (optional):

At STL, we ensure optimum utilisation of resources across our value chain. What we take in the form of natural resources, our raw materials; how and what we make in terms of the quality and durability of our products; and what we waste, are for us, all a question of ethics. Our Manufacturing Excellence Strategy focuses on innovative ways to reduce resource consumption as well as wastage. Every employee is encouraged to identify opportunities to do more with less. We firmly believe that this not only brings cost savings, but also helps mitigating risks in a resource constrained world.

By adopting a 'first time right'approach, we have eliminated waste and rework and are gradually transitioning to a circular economy. Along with our partners across the value chain, we believe we can collectively work towards a cleaner, greener and better world by reducing, recycling and reusing.

(a) Reduction during sourcing/production/ distribution achieved since the previous year throughout the value

As production lines at the factory are flexible and produce multiple types of products, there is practical difficulty in isolating product wise resource utilisation data. For the overall production, a total of 7,87,151 GJ of energy was used and 4,31,703 kl of water was consumed.

(b) Reduction during usage by consumers (energy, water) has been achieved since the previous year?

The products manufactured by the Company do not consume any energy or water during their use. However, to help enhance the durability and longevity of the networks deployed and prevent replacements due to wear-and-tear, STL Academy conducts in-depth certified trainings on the deployment of the networks and their maintenance in addition to other optic fibre and network related topics.

- Does the Company have procedures in place for sustainable sourcing (including transportation)?
- If yes, what percentage of your inputs was sourced sustainably? Also, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

Our Supply Chain Management policy has been enacted to facilitate development of suppliers as longterm business partners. We work closely with them not only on business focus areas, but also on sustainable development, identifying and addressing existing issues to achieve a sustainable supply chain.

Additional details can be found under 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' of the Annual Report under Supply chain section.

4. Has the Company taken any steps to procure goods and services from local & small producers, including communities surrounding their place of work?

At STL, we believe in creating shared value for each of our stakeholders, including our suppliers and local communities. We have made significant progress towards developing a local vendor base and have assisted several suppliers in expanding their operations closer to our manufacturing facilities. In fact, as part of our responsible corporate citizenship commitment, all non-critical materials such as packaging, machine spares, job work and others are procured from local vendors. We have observed that such vendors benefit immensely from these opportunities and several have been able to scale rapidly.

- If yes, what steps have been taken to improve their capacity and capability of local and small vendors? Additional detail can be found under 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' of the Annual Report under Supply chain section.
- Does the Company have a mechanism to recycle products and waste? If yes what is the percentage of recycling of products and waste (separately as <5%, 5-10%, >10%). Also, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

The Company has a well-defined system and processes in place to recycle products and waste which amounts

to >10% of total waste generated. Further details can be found 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' of the Annual Report under the Zero Waste to Landfill section.

### Principle 3

# Businesses should promote the wellbeing of all employees

STL is a certified Great Place to Work. This has been achieved through a mix of progressive policies and continuous interactions with employees for feedback and improvement. Our Human Resource Strategy centres on employee safety, well-being as well as facilitating a progressive and equal-opportunity work environment.

Our commitments towards helping build a professionally rewarding career for our employees include:

- Providing and maintaining absolute transparency and equality during all stages of recruitment and employment, which discourages discrimination on any grounds
- Promoting wellbeing of employees by helping them achieve work-life balance and providing necessary facilities to them, including those with special needs
- Assisting the employees to move up the professional ladder and ensure availability of continual training and skill-upgradation opportunities and promote employee morale and career development
- Enabling a safe workplace free from all sorts of harassment and providing all required means and measures to ensure access to grievance redressal mechanisms

1	Please indicate the Total number of employees.	3120
2	Please indicate the Total number of employees hired on a temporary/ contractual/casual basis.	2593
3	Please indicate the Number of permanent women employees.	494
4	Please indicate the Number of permanent employees with disabilities	2
5	Do you have an employee association that is recognised by management?	Yes (in Italy)
6	What percentage of your permanent employees are members of this recognised employee association?	26 of 3120 (0.83%)

7. Please indicate the Number of complaints relating to child labour, forced labour, involuntary labour, sexual harassment in the last financial year and pending, as on the end of the financial year.

Sn	Category	No of complaints filed during the financial year	No of complaints pending as on end of the financial year
1	Child labour/forced labour/involuntary labour	0	0
2	Sexual harassment	2	2
3	Discriminatory employment	0	0

8. What percentage of your under mentioned employees were given safety & skill up-gradation training in the last year?

Sn	Category	Safety Training	Skill upgradation
1	Permanent Employees	100%	84%
2	Permanent Women Employees	100%	80%
3	Casual/Temporary/Contractual Employees	100%	NA
4	Employees with Disabilities	50%	100%

### Principle 4

Businesses should respect the interests of, and be responsive towards all stakeholders, especially those who are disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised.

1. Has the Company mapped its internal and external stakeholders?

Yes, we have identified five direct stakeholder groups – Employees, Customers, Suppliers, Communities, Shareholders and Investors.

Out of the above, has the Company identified the disadvantaged, vulnerable & marginalised stakeholders.

At STL, we actively engage with communities around our operations and our objective has been to identify and work towards uplifting those who are socially and financially disadvantaged. Are there any special initiatives taken by the Company to engage with the disadvantaged, vulnerable and marginalised stakeholders? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

At STL, we believe that progress should be inclusive and have hence aligned our community outreach programmes in a way that not only contributes to national priorities, but also to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Till date, our Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment Programme has been actively working with over 2,200 rural women in Pune to help them emerge as confident, independent agents of change. The Mobile Medical Unit in Silvassa has since 2006 been ensuring quality healthcare is accessible to more than 2.29.000 tribals in the region residing at remote villages. Whereas, our Digital Empowerment Buses in Pune and Ed-tech programmes across Mumbai, Rajasthan and Silvassa have benefitted over 7,96,000 lives ensuring quality education is not limited to a privileged few.

### Principle 5

### Businesses should respect and promote human riahts

STL has a standalone policy on Human Rights which is based on the principles of United Nations Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and also applies to our subsidiaries. We are a signatory to United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).

Our fundamental intent with respect to human rights has been to focus on nurturing an environment where employees feel happy, satisfied and respected at the workplace. Further, we have mechanisms where employees can report their human rights related grievances appropriately for resolution. To ensure awareness and access to the human rights policy and its helpline channel, it has been effectively communicated as well as displayed through electronic mediums and physically.

Does the policy of the Company on human rights cover only the Company or extend to the Group/Joint Ventures/Suppliers/Contractors/NGOs/Others?

Our standalone human rights policy covers important aspects like labour standards, child and forced labour, diversity and equal opportunities, health and safety, freedom of association and non-discrimination among other tenets.

The policy applies to STL, its subsidiaries and all partners we do business with. We have also taken necessary steps to ensure implementation of these principles across our operations and value chain.

How many stakeholder complaints have been received in the past financial year and what percent was satisfactorily resolved by the management?

2.1	Stakeholder complaints related to human rights received in the financial year	Nil
2.2	Stakeholder complaints related to human rights pending from previous year	Nil
2.3	Stakeholder complaints related to human rights resolved in the financial year	Nil

### Principle 6

### Business should respect, protect, and make efforts to restore the environment

Environmental sustainability has been a core focus area for us. To achieve the same, we have a dedicated Quality, Environment, Health and Safety (QEHS) policy across our facilities which guides all environmental initiatives. Additionally, we reinforce each of our environmental initiatives through our community outreach programmes as well as through employee volunteering.

We have elaborated on our initiatives in the 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' section of the Annual Report.

- Does the policy related to Principle 6 cover only the Company or extends to the Group/Joint Ventures/ Suppliers/Contractors/NGOs/others?
  - The QEHS policy is applicable to STL, its subsidiaries as well as every partner we do business with.
- Does the Company have strategies/ initiatives to address global environmental issues such as climate change, global warming, etc? If yes, please give hyperlink for webpage etc.

Yes. At STL, we not only ensure we operate responsibly, but also contribute to addressing national and global issues such as climate change, water scarcity, global warming and the likes. Being a signatory to the UN Global Compact has reinforced our commitment to responsible operations, social accountability and transparency.

We aim to minimise the environmental impacts of our operations through resource optimisation, water and energy conservation and waste reduction. To address one such environmental issue of water scarcity, in addition to realigning our own operations, investing in technology and enhancing monitoring, we also worked with villages in the vicinity to redevelop 20 defunct

water conservation structures and promote sustainable use of this precious resource through Jaldoot.

Further details about our own operations as well as our community interventions are available in the 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' section of the Annual Report as well as on our corporate website https://www.stl.tech/about-us/csr/

# 3. Does the Company identify and assess potential environmental risks?

Yes. Potential environmental risks are identified on the basis of interactions with stakeholders and regions we operate in. We have established a Sustainability Council under the leadership of our Group CEO. The council regularly reviews these environmental risks and undertakes initiatives to mitigate them. Also, considering growing customer awareness and ever stringent regulations coupled with the expanding market base of STL, we have developed a process to critically analyse business strategy with respect to potential effects of environmental risks for taking proactive mitigation measures.

- 4. Does the Company have any project related to Clean Development Mechanism? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so. Also, if Yes, whether any environmental compliance report is filed? Not Applicable
- Has the Company undertaken any other initiatives on – clean technology, energy efficiency, renewable energy, etc. Y/N. If yes, please give hyperlink for web page etc.

Yes. The details are elaborated on in the 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' section of the Annual Report.

- 6. Are the Emissions/Waste generated by the Company within the permissible limits given by CPCB/SPCB for the financial year being reported? Yes.
- 7. Number of show cause/ legal notices received from CPCB/SPCB which are pending (i.e. not resolved to satisfaction) as on end of Financial Year. No show cause/legal notices from CPCB/SPCB are pending as on the end of FY 2019-20.

### Principle 7

# Businesses, when engaged in influencing public and regulatory policy, should do so in a responsible manner

 Is your Company a member of any trade and chamber or association? If Yes, Name only those major ones that your business deals with:

The Company regularly engages with industry bodies and expert agencies. A list of STL's major memberships is given below:

- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- ASSOCHAM
- Cellular Operator Association of India (COAI)
- Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association (Taipa)
- India Cellular & Electronics Association (ICEA)
- 2. Have you advocated/lobbied through above associations for the advancement or improvement of public good?; if yes specify the broad areas (drop box: Governance and Administration, Economic Reforms, Inclusive Development Policies, Energy security, Water, Food Security, Sustainable Business Principles, Others)

STL actively participates in committees set up by the industry association. We provide our opinion for promoting development of policies and regulatory frameworks for advancement and improvement of public good in the areas of Governance and Administration, Economic Reforms, Inclusive Development Policies, Sustainable Business Principles, Data and infrastructure security and Sustainability.

#### Principle 8

# Businesses should support inclusive growth and equitable development

STL's vision is to 'transform everyday living by delivering smarter networks'. We aim at making this vision a reality by facilitating a cleaner, greener, connected and more inclusive world, not just through our products and services that drive progress, but also through our operations and community outreach programmes.

While our primary focus is on communities around our operations to ensure they have access to quality healthcare, education and a pristine environment, we also work with needy communities across the country to reduce inequalities through women empowerment programmes, environment conservation and livelihood generation.

Does the Company have specified programmes/ initiatives/projects in pursuit of the policy related to Principle 8? If yes details thereof.

The details of our CSR programmes are elaborated on in the 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' and 'Annexure VI to the Director's Report' sections.

Are the programmes/projects undertaken through in-house team/own foundation/external NGO/ government structures/any other organisation? STL's CSR programmes are undertaken by Sterlite Tech Foundation (STF) either directly or through an external NGO, NPO or in partnership with government authorities. The operations of STF and partner NGOs, NPOs among other social development partners are overseen by STL's in-house CSR team.

#### Have you done any impact assessment of your initiative?

Impact assessments have been conducted by third parties for our Jeewan Jyoti Women Empowerment Programme, Jaldoot and Virtual Classrooms.

Additionally, every programme is closely monitored by STL basis key performance indicators (KPI) finalised at the time of the programme inception. These include:

- · Activity indicators, which show if we are on track to deliver the activities in our programme plan
- Outcome indicators, which tell us if the programme is achieving the intended purpose
- Impact indicators, which tell us the short-to-medium term impact resulting from programme outcomes.

Our Data Management System ensures that this data is regularly submitted through online mechanisms by our partners enabling us to analyse various trends. This allows us to proactively implement strategy changes and drive programme deliverables to ensure maximum benefit to the communities the programme is intended for.

What is your Company's direct contribution to community development projects- Amount in INR and the details of the projects undertaken?

We have spent INR 9.20 crores in FY 2019-20 on our community outreach programmes. The details of each of our CSR programmes are elaborated on in the 'Delivering on Promises through Impact Creation' and 'Annexure VI to the Director's Report' sections.

Have you taken steps to ensure that this community development initiative is successfully adopted by the community? Please explain in 50 words, or so.

STL's primary objective is to create shared value for each of its stakeholders and the community is one of these stakeholders. Hence, each of our community programmes do not simply work towards benefitting lives in these communities, but instead works with them as partners who help us drive sustainable transformation. We believe that a programme can only be sustainable after our intervention, when the community understands its importance and are equally committed to wanting progress and development. Our strategy revolves around addressing the main issue by resolving the underlying reasons for its emergence. Behavioural change, awareness, collective effort and ownership have thus been key factors to ensuring each of our community outreach programmes are successfully adopted by the communities we implement them for.

### Principle 9

### Businesses should engage with and provide value to their customers and consumers in a responsible manner

At STL, we believe in not just meeting, but exceeding our customers' expectations. We are a customer-centric organisation and we regularly interact with them to understand their requirements, needs and feedback on products and services. A robust QEHS policy ensures quality is delivered while focusing on cost reduction, recycling, waste reduction and reduction in liquid discharge and carbon emissions.

Innovation is also a key element to providing our customers not just with green and durable products, but also with trainings and techniques on how to lay optic fibre cable networks and maintain them in the best possible way. This not only avoids replacements, but also ensures their longevity.

- What percentage of customer complaints/consumer cases are pending as on the end of financial year?
   Of the total customer complaints/consumer cases open at the beginning of the year and filed during the financial year 2019-20, 22% complaints/cases are pending as on March 31, 2020.
- Does the Company display product information on the product label, over and above what is mandated as per local laws? Yes/No/N.A. /Remarks (additional information)

Yes. All our product labels are made in compliance with the local law and consumer requirements.

 Is there any case filed by any stakeholder against the company regarding unfair trade practices, irresponsible advertising and/or anti-competitive behaviour during the last five years and pending as on end of financial year? If so, provide details thereof, in about 50 words or so.

There are no cases filed or pending against STL regarding unfair trade practices, irresponsible advertising, and/or anti-competitive behaviour during the last five years.

4. Did your Company carry out any consumer survey/ consumer satisfaction trends?

The Company regularly engages with customers to get their feedback on products and services and carries out Customer Satisfaction (CSAT) Surveys to gauge their satisfaction levels, expectations, product and service feedback among other criteria. In the reporting period, one such important customer survey – Voice of the Customer was conducted to get feedback from our key customers.

# YEARS OF OPTICAL FIBRE

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