

#iamstrongest

The human mind is capable of being generous or selfish, kind or cruel, gracious or mean. The digital information age overloads us with negative stories that highlight only the dark side of humanity.

At Sharon Plywoods, we believe that the World is a beautiful place and we ought to celebrate the inherent strength of the human spirit.

This calendar brings you the stories of grit and determination, courage and valour, empathy and selflessness that exemplify the human potential for goodness and greatness.

Be inspired and inspire others by sharing with us your stories at

www.iamstrongest.com

Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives by



Sharon Plywoods distributed almost 50,000 tree saplings free of cost across Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka as an initiative to make a better world for tomorrow.

Plastic pollution is at unprecedented levels in our environment today thanks to humankind's indiscriminate use of the material. Marine life and land animals are directly affected by plastic trash while we suffer unmanageable floods in cities with discarded plastic clogging our waterways and drains. Sharon Plywoods is committed to the cause of doing away with Single-Use Plastic.

- Sharon Plywoods distributed *Plastic-Free School Bag Kits to 1650 students of Madanlal Khemani Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Gummidipoondi on Vijayadasami day in October 2018. This was a small step to encourage and inculcate in the young minds, the habit of choosing non-plastic items in their everyday lives.
- Sharon Plywoods distributed Plastic-Free Shopping Bags to nearly 6000 passengers at the Kamaraj Domestic Terminal, Chennai Airport, on Nov 4, 2018. This was to provide an alternative to single-use shopping bags to the passengers who took the pledge #ISayNoToPlastic with us.
- Sharon Plywoods conducted a "One Idea to Beat Plastic Pollution" contest on Social Media. The winners were given cash awards for giving us practical and useful ideas to reduce/eliminate plastic use.
- Sharon Plywoods has been distributing paper bags at the entrance to the Aringnar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, for the past several years. Thousands of such bags have been distributed over the years and this has had a visible impact on the cleanliness of the zoo.

Join us in Sharon Plywoods' crusade against Single-Use Plastic at www.isaynotoplastic.com and take the pledge #iSayNoToPlastic.

***Sharon Plywoods discourages Single Use Plastic.**

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Sumit Mamgain, from Uttarakhand, was on a field to graze cattle with his cousin Ritesh when a leopard attacked them. Sumit showed extraordinary bravery in chasing the leopard by beating it with a sickle and saved his cousin's life. He was awarded the Sanjay Chopra award for bravery by Gol in 2017.

Full story and many more such true stories on
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JANUARY 2019

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True stories of **strong minds**.
Inspiring tales of **persistence, determination** and **dedication**
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K. Balaguru, son of a daily wage labourer from Karur TN, dreamt of becoming an IAS officer. He worked as a delivery man, lift operator, pharmacy asst. and other jobs to fund his Civil Services exam preparation. He succeeded after 3 attempts to become an IAS officer in 2015. He now serves in MP as SDM.

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FEBRUARY 2019

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Kousalya Periasamy is the first Indian woman to declare that she is HIV-positive. Through her Positive Women Network, she has raised awareness about the infection risk for Indian women who marry AIDS carrying men, like in her case. She is helping other women in dealing with the disease and fighting social stigma.

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MARCH 2019

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K Prithika Yashini is the first transgender sub-inspector in India. She fought a long court battle to win the system's bias against the third gender. Her goal is to become an IPS officer and set an example to other transgenders who invariably end up begging or in the sex trade.

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APRIL 2019

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Chewang Norphel is called as the Ice Man of India. He created artificial glaciers in the Ladakh regions which sees very little rainfall during the non-frost months. He used his engineering skills to create the glaciers to benefit the farmers in the region. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2015.

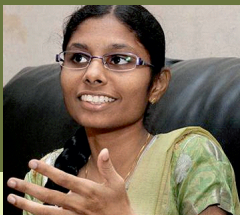
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MAY 2019

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S Venkatalakshmi (age 17 then) saved her mother and sister from a burglar when she acted quickly without panicking. The intruder was holding a knife to her mother's throat when Venkatalakshmi threw some chilli powder on his face and foiled his attempt at robbing them of gold jewellery. They pinned him down and handed him over to the police.

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JUNE 2019

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Sudhakaran, a small store owner, gave up on a legal opportunity to earn Rs 1 crore because he is honest to a fault. A lottery ticket that he had set aside for a customer had won the jackpot. He could have kept the ticket to himself as the customer hadn't paid for it yet. But Sudhakaran gave the ticket away because he couldn't keep what was not his!

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JULY 2019

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Sindhutai Sapkal took to begging on the streets to support her newborn baby after being abandoned by her loved ones. She wanted to help all the children on the streets and started feeding orphans. She has till date adopted and supported 1400 children, fed the, gave them education and settled them in life.

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AUGUST 2019

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Born without both hands, Jebin Kousar from Assam, the daughter of an auto driver, wrote the Matriculation exam with her feet and scored a distinction. Jebin wants to become a teacher and has joined college to pursue her dream. She achieved success without any kind of help.

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SEPTEMBER 2019

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Jadav Molai Payeng started planting bamboo trees in an area where he noticed receding reptile population. In 30 years, he has single-handedly built a 1360 acre forest with a thriving bio-diversity. The forest has been named Molai Forest after him. He belongs to a small tribe in Assam yet understood the value of green cover and bio-diversity for a thriving environment.

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OCTOBER 2019

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Priti Patkar runs an initiative called 'Prerana' to break children from the cycle of sex-trade in red light districts of Mumbai. She runs childcare centres to care for and educate the children of the sex workers. She also provides the women with medical care and vocational training to empower them to leave their profession.

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NOVEMBER 2019

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Mariyappan lost his right leg at age 5, when a bus ran over it, but never lost his interest in sports. He became the first Paralympics Gold Medallist from India for High Jump at the Rio Paralympics 2016. He believes the deformed foot works in his favour for the leap and has no regrets.

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DECEMBER 2019

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