

How many lifetimes will it take to make India a developed nation?

The answer my friend is if all of us do our bit we can probably just about manage to see this change in our lifetime! We always think of ourselves as an insignificant individual and wonder what change we as individuals can bring about. At Rang De we are trying a different approach and saying, 'Let us do our bit to make this change happen!'

The spirit of Rang De has always been to encourage little deeds from individuals to create an impact. **As a social investor at Rang De, you have the opportunity to invest for a brighter and fuller life of fellow Indians** - people who are fighting against all odds to ensure a better quality of life for their family.

What else would you like to do apart from investing? We at Rang De are always waiting to hear from you. Do write to us on how you think you can contribute and enrich the lives of people.

A Volunteer's Diary

Don't give up ... Stand up for the Colours of Joy!

Green as the sari Muneera makes with embroidery by hand

Orange as the flowers that Devaki uses for the garlands she makes to sell

Blue as the bracelets Vijayalakshmi displays at her shop

Silver like the fish Dhanalakshmi Sells in the morning everyday

Yellow as Kuppu's new telephone at her stall on the main road

White as the shells Boopalan uses to make the religious figures that he sells.

*These are just a few colours I discovered when I met these inspiring people in a village in Tamil Nadu. Wouldnt you like to be part of this rainbow? Come on join us in this **colourful journey!***

- Maria Rengifo
Volunteer, RangDe.Org



Business Standard
Tuesday, April 27, 2008

BI NORWEGIAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

ECONOMY & POLICY

A portal that lures the Mohammed Younus in you
Sreelatha Menon / New Delhi April 8, 2008

You too can make a difference, and turn into a mini 'Mini' named Younus. This is what the founder of a new social investment forum Rang De claims. Started by Rameshwarthi NK, with help from the CICI Foundation, the forum is a portal whose main objective is to provide support to low cost micro credit.

Does low cost micro credit exist? asks R.N. 'I have heard of it in seminars but never seen anyone practice it. For it is not feasible,' says R.N. Then he goes on to speak about his dream venture he launched on January 25 this year in this Rang De spirit.

This is an investment forum for ordinary people. Ordinary people will invest as less as Rs 1,000 and have a choice of taking it back at the end of a year with interest of 3.5 per cent and with the satisfaction of having helped someone.

MARKETS TODAY

Sensex	17706 (262)
Nifty	4866 (166)
Bse-5	46.36
Gold (24)	19591 (-114)
Silver (24)	22148 (-322)

Updated: 29-04-08 13:43 hrs IST

Most Popular

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TCS makes 4pc price cut with US firm

The story of Rang De on Business Standard

A portal that lures the Mohammed Younus in you by
Sreelatha Menon / New Delhi April 08, 2008

You too can make a difference, and turn into a mini Mohammed Younus. This is what the founder of a new social investment forum Rang De claims. [Read the entire story here ...](#)

The story of Mr.Boopalan

Mr.Boopalan is a native of Birudur, 3 km away from Vandavasi and 113Km away from Chennai. Being born and brought up in a poor family, Boopalan struggled through out his life to stand up on his feet. His parents hailed from a farming community and could not afford their children's education. In spite of all these difficulties Boopalan completed his 12th class and took up a job as an apprentice in Chennai.

For a few years Boopalan worked in Chennai. But he yearned to get back to his village and soon enough he could not resist the calling anymore. After coming back to Birudur, his village, he started his own business. He added more machinery and got more orders for moulding jewel boxes. Being back into a village setup wasn't all good for him. He struggled to get the required man power and financial problems started to pop up. In spite of the stumbling blocks he faced, Boopalan continues to run his business with the same passion.

For the past 5 years he has been borrowing money from the local money lenders who charge very high interest rates. Given no other option he is forced to depend on them. Boopalan has now employed 3 people from the neighbourhood and runs a full fledged business.

Boopalan is unable to get access to any microcredit because he is a 'man' and traditional microcredit is meant only for 'women' because men are not considered creditworthy. Rang De is working out how Boopalan can be given a loan with support from the partner organisation ASSCOD.

What do you think?

Should Boopalan be denied a loan purely based on gender?

Send your thoughts to info@rangde.org. [Read more on Boopalan.](#)

We now have ... A small and closely knit team who all share the vision and spirit of Rang De. Something that had tied down Rang De was lack of a team who can share responsibilities and take Rang De to the next level. We have now found people who are motivated and passionate about Rang De. You are welcome to join this team as a volunteer no matter where you are. [Just drop us an e-mail](#) and we will tell you how!