

Bharti Foundation to implement Quality Support Program in 15 Government Schools in Jammu

Bharti Foundation signs MoU with the Jammu Directorate of Education to implement the Quality Support Program in rural Jammu.

20th April 2016, Jammu: Bharti Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Bharti Enterprises, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Directorate of Education, Jammu to support the Government's initiatives in enhancing the quality of education in the rural blocks of Nagrota, Dansal and Bhalwal in Jammu district. The Foundation will begin operations in these blocks and corresponding Education Zones by extending its successful Quality Support Program to 15 Government Schools, selected and run by the Directorate of School Education, Jammu.

The Quality Support Program supports Government Schools to improve the overall quality of schooling experience. As part of the partnership, Bharti Foundation will work with the school leadership and the Directorate of School Education, Jammu to jointly implement interventions that contribute towards enriching the overall schooling experience. Additionally, the Foundation will share best practices and facilitate capacity building for the teachers and school staff. This program stands to cover more than 3500 students and include 175 teachers across the 15 schools falling in 14 Halqa Panchayats of the 3 aforementioned blocks of Jammu District. Currently, 39 Government Schools are benefitting from this program across the states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi reaching out to 21,620 students and impacting 953 teachers.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Devender Singh Rana, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), Nagrota, said, "Education truly is the first step in developing self-esteem for the future generation and Bharti Foundation's initiative in this regard is a source of inspiration for "Young India". On behalf of my constituents and myself, I thank Bharti Foundation for their support and the launch of the Quality Support Program in Nagrota - a symbol of Bharti Foundation's true commitment to excellence in education."

Mr. Simrandeep Singh, the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu added, "The launch of the Quality Support Program is a good initiative by the Bharti Foundation and we will extend all possible support to make this initiative a success."

Mr. J. K. Sudan, Chief Education Officer, Jammu said, "It is my pleasure to announce our partnership with Bharti Foundation, in which we will jointly create initiatives to bring in excellence in education in our schools and also help our committed teachers on their journey towards imparting quality education."

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Vijay Chadda, CEO, Bharti Foundation said, "We are very happy to start our Program in the state of Jammu & Kashmir. With this new partnership, we look forward to learning and sharing best practices and contribute to the good work being done by the Directorate of Education, Jammu."

About Bharti Foundation*:

Bharti Foundation was set up in 2000 as the philanthropic arm of the Bharti Enterprises. It implements programs in the field of primary, elementary, senior secondary and higher education through the Satya Bharti School Program as well as Government School interventions under its Satya Bharti Quality Support and Satya Bharti Learning Centres Program. This year, the Foundation is celebrating 10 successful years of the Satya Bharti School Program. In addition to education programs, the Foundation has initiated 'Satya Bharti Abhiyan', to improve sanitation facilities in rural Ludhiana District and 'Nyaya Bharti' to provide legal and financial aid to deserving underprivileged under-trials languishing in jails across the country for minor offences.

Bharti Foundation has till date impacted the lives of close to 1,50,000 students from underprivileged background and has touched over a million lives through its Education initiatives. Satya Bharti Abhiyan has delivered over 12,000 individual household toilets, directly benefitting more than 63,000 beneficiaries in 559 villages. The program aims to benefit nearly 1,25,000 individuals, covering over 900 villages.

Bharti Foundation's initiatives include:**➤ The Satya Bharti School Program:**

The Satya Bharti School Program is the flagship program of Bharti Foundation and is currently celebrating 10 successful years of implementation. This rural education initiative provides free quality education to underprivileged children, with a special focus on the girl child. The program envisions transforming students into educated, confident, responsible and self-reliant employable citizens of India with a deep sense of commitment to their society. The program's reach is multi-pronged, encouraging active involvement of the rural community, parents of students and like-minded organizations working in the field of education in India. Making a lasting and sustainable impact on the community where schools are present and finding innovative solutions, through its primary and senior secondary schools, to create replicable and scalable components in the program ensures delivery of quality education. The Satya Bharti School program is being implemented with the intent to arrive at replicable and scalable components of quality education which may be adapted by the Government and other like-minded organizations. Reaching out to thousands of underprivileged children, the program, through its focus on holistic development, aims to bring forth a new generation of citizens eager to usher in positive change. Currently 249 primary/elementary Schools and five senior secondary schools are operational across Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal reaching out to 40,676 children and employing 1,635 teachers. Focusing on the girl child [49% girl students] and the weaker sections of society [75% of children from SC/ST/OBC Communities], the program is one of the largest end-to-end education initiatives by a corporate group in the country.

➤ Satya Bharti Learning Centres:

Bharti Foundation has introduced the remedial/bridge courses program in close partnership with 'Educate A Child' - a global initiative. The program aims at bridging

the education gap of out of school children and mainstream them into regular schools. The first phase of the program has been deployed in partnership with the Government of Rajasthan. Currently, 416 Education Volunteers are engaged in teaching 5,302 out of school children, of which 50% are girls, enrolled at 459** Satya Bharti Learning Centres. Till now, 14,703 children have been mainstreamed, with the total impact reaching up to 22,830 children.

*** 424 centres have been closed as most of the OOSC's in these villages have been mainstreamed (number included in overall impact); in some villages the count of OOSC's have dropped to such a low figure that it has gone below the minimum numbers required to run a centre, as per Government norms.*

50 Centres had to be closed because of unavailability of qualified education volunteers.

3 Centres were closed due to mass migration (in Madhya Pradesh).

2 Centres had to be closed due to some other reason

➤ **Satya Bharti Quality Support Program:**

This initiative envisages working with the government system and improving the quality of schools through need-based interventions. Bharti Foundation has taken the learning and best practices from the Satya Bharti Schools to the Government schools for improving the overall quality of schooling experience. The program aims to partner the Government schools and work along with its leadership and teachers to support them in their journey towards excellence. Currently, 39 government schools are under active implementation supported through this model, across Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi, reaching out to 21,620 students and 953 teachers.

➤ **Satya Bharti Abhiyan:**

Bharti Foundation has undertaken a major initiative – ‘Satya Bharti Abhiyan’ - to improve rural household sanitation facilities in Punjab. Inspired by the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s call to the corporate sector in his 2014 Independence Day speech to strengthen Government’s initiative on this score, the Foundation has decided to adopt Ludhiana district – home district of the Founders - as its focus area for improvement of rural sanitation. As part of this program, the Foundation has committed an investment of up to INR 100 Crores over the next three years for constructing toilets in rural households lacking such facilities in over 900 villages across the district. In addition to rural household sanitation, ‘Satya Bharti Abhiyan’ will also invest in improving sanitation facilities in Government schools in rural Ludhiana by building new toilets for girls, where no such facilities exist.

Till now, the Abhiyan has directly benefitted over 63,000 users, providing 12,723 Individual toilets across 559 villages of Ludhiana district.

➤ **Nyaya Bharti**

Nyaya Bharti was launched in November 2015 to help deserving and underprivileged undertrials languishing in jails across the country for minor offences by assisting them with legal and financial assistance and also promoting awareness about every individual’s constitutional right to legal defence. It is a first of its kind national level corporate initiative in the country in line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s Vision of

bharti

Bharti Foundation

‘Sabka Nyaya’ – Access to Justice for all. Its Board will consist of eminent persons led by Justice A.S. Anand (Retired Chief Justice of India) to provide oversight and guidance to the initiative and a panel of young public spirited lawyers shall provide pro-bono service towards the initiative.



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For further details please contact:

Sherry Bhawsar-Malhotra, Head of Communication, Bharti Foundation:

sherry.malhotra@bhartifoundation.org

Mobile: +91 9910019052