

Bharti Foundation to set up Fifty Senior Secondary Schools for Underprivileged Students

Inaugurates the first School under the Adarsh Scheme in the State of Punjab

- *Innovative Public Private Partnership model to take quality education to the underprivileged*
- *Schools to offer free quality education to children with special focus on English language, computer based learning skills*
- *Bharti Foundation has already set up 236 primary schools for underprivileged children in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, UP and Tamil Nadu under its Satya Bharti School program*
- *Senior secondary schools to complement the primary schools under Satya Bharti School program*

New Delhi, April 8, 2010: Bharti Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Bharti Enterprises, today said that it will set up fifty senior secondary schools across for underprivileged children in rural areas across the country. These schools will offer free quality education to children with special focus on English language, computer based learning. These schools also plan to impart vocational training skills to students in future to make them employable.

The first of these schools was inaugurated today in Distt. Amritsar, Punjab under the Adarsh Scheme of the Punjab Government. Under the Adarsh Scheme, the Punjab Government will be providing land to Bharti Foundation on a long term lease. The Punjab Government will also provide financial assistance to the Bharti Foundation for the construction and day to day running of these schools. Bharti Foundation will be responsible for the operational processes, teacher training processes, innovative teaching methodologies, monitoring and evaluation and the successful implementation of the program in these schools.

Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal said, “The Adarsh scheme is an innovative approach to Public Private Partnership in the area of education and will offer students from financially weak background access to quality education, helping them fulfill their potential. Going forward we aim to set up fifty senior secondary schools that will also impart vocational skills in addition to quality education to make the students employable. These senior secondary schools will help us to deliver our promise of free quality education across the learning curve.”

Bharti Foundation has already set up 236 primary schools in the first phase of operations, across the states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, with approximately 29,000 children and over 1100 teachers. The Foundation plans to set up a total of 500 primary schools under its Satya Bharti School program. These 550 primary and senior secondary schools are expected to benefit over 200,000 underprivileged children.

The Government Satya Bharti Adarsh Senior Secondary Schools will follow the CBSE curriculum and will have facilities like computers, labs, libraries, innovative teaching aids, sports facilities and teacher training facilities. The schools shall have quality teachers and dedicated staff to ensure highest learning levels and imparting of holistic education to the students.

About Bharti Foundation

Bharti Enterprises set up Bharti Foundation in 2000 to help underprivileged children and young people of our country realize their potential. Bharti Foundation has been creating and supporting programs that bring about sustainable improvement in the field of education - both primary and higher education. The Foundation has adopted a two-pronged strategy to make a difference in the quality of elementary education in the country through its Satya Bharti School Program. In addition to the above two flagship programs Bharti Foundation has also partnered with premier institutes like the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi in 2000 to set up the Bharti School of Telecommunication Technology and Management, IIT Delhi and IIT, Bombay to set up the Bharti Centre for Communication, Bombay. The Bharti Scholarship and Mentorship program has also been instituted to support academically brilliant students from financially weak backgrounds.