

## **HDFC Bank completes restoration of flood-damaged schools in J&K**

- ***Fourteen schools restored and handed over to school authorities***
- ***Over 9,000 students to benefit from the restoration***

**Srinagar (J&K), June 6, 2016:** HDFC Bank today completed the restoration and renovation of fourteen schools in J&K, which were damaged by the floods in 2014. The schools were identified by HDFC Bank for restoration under the Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility mandate. The Bank had joined hands with SACH (Society for Action in Community Health), an NGO, to restore and refurbish these schools.

In a function organized today at Al Huda Public School, Khayam Chowck, Munawarabad, Srinagar, Mr. Zubair Iqbal, Circle Head - J&K, HDFC Bank, and Ms. Nusrat Pathan, Head – Corporate Social Responsibility, HDFC Bank handed over the refurbished premises to Prof. Bashir Ahmad, Chairman, Al Huda School and Mr. Rais Ahmed, Principal, Al Huda School in the presence of students of the school. In December 2015, HDFC Bank completed restoration of four schools. Today, the remaining 10 schools were handed over to school authorities.

Under the school restoration programme, HDFC Bank along with SACH, identified the schools that needed urgent repairs and restoration. Working with SACH, HDFC Bank first assessed the extent of damage the schools suffered, due to the deluge. The restoration took into consideration the needs and requirement for each school and then chalked out an action plan. Priority was given to schools situated in economically weaker areas, in and around the city of Srinagar, which were damaged due to the floods. Of the total, two schools for children with special needs or differently abled children, have also been refurbished and restored. The two schools are Chotay Taray Foundation, and Modern High School. In many schools, there were children, who were first-generation learners (first person from their respective families to attend school), whose education was interrupted due to the calamity. Because of the school restoration programme, over 9,000 students will be able to continue their education.

For example, Imamia Public High School located at Mir Behri, Dal lake, Vasanta Girls High School located at Nai Sarak Krala Khud, and Al Huda Public School located at Khayam Chowck Munawarabad, required extensive work and the entire school building was rebuilt. In other schools, like Muslim Public High School, apart from restoring infrastructure such as walls, ceiling, painting etc., facilities like furniture, computers, sports equipment and also uniforms for school children have been provided.



*"The devastating floods in the valley in 2014 forced students, especially from the economically weaker areas, to discontinue their education because schools' infrastructure was severely damaged. To help school children continue their education, the Bank initiated the school restoration programme. Under the programme, focus was not just on the restoration of the school premises, but also on providing necessary facilities like furniture, computers, and uniforms."*

**Ms. Nusrat Pathan, Head – Corporate Social Responsibility, HDFC Bank**

In the immediate aftermath of the floods last year, HDFC Bank had donated Rs. 1 crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, Rs. 1.77 crore to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and the Bank's employees across the country donated one day salary for the relief efforts in J&K State. To conduct medical camps in the state, the bank had tied up with Help Poor Voluntary Trust (HPVT) and donated medicines.

In the state of J&K, HDFC Bank has 73 branches. Nationally, HDFC Bank now has 55 per cent of all branches in its network located in semi-urban and rural areas. As of March 31, 2016, the Bank had a nationwide distribution network with 4,520 branches and 12,000 ATMs in 2,587 cities/towns.

**List of Schools:**

- Imamia Public High School
- Modern Era Public School, Saidakadal
- Muslim Public High School, Chattabal
- Recent Chinar Public School
- Chotay Taray Foundation
- C.M.S Tyndale Biscoe Memorial High School
- Madina Public High School (Baliheran)
- Madina Public High School (Ahmad Pora)
- Madina Public High School (Aram Pora)
- Kashyapa Girls High School
- Vasanta Girls High School
- Al Huda Public School
- SMD Educational Institute
- Modern High School of Blind



*"As a socially responsible corporate, our objective is to lend a helping hand and make a difference to the lives of people in the state of J&K. The school restoration is one such example of our effort to give back to the society. The renovation of educational institutions we believe will enable school children pursue their dreams by acquiring quality education. The programme is in line with one of our core values – Sustainability – where the objective is to help create long term sustainable benefit for the community in the state of J&K"*

**Mr. Zubair Iqbal, Senior Vice President  
and Circle Head – J&K, HDFC Bank**

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