

DG, IICA visits Chhattisgarh Villages to Launch CSR Initiatives

HDFC Bank and Aroh Foundation lead the way



Dr Bhaskar Chatterjee, DG and CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Ms Smita Bhagat, Regional Head, HDFC Retail Branch Banking, handing over the toilets constructed by HDFC under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh):

Dr Bhaskar Chatterjee, DG and CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, inaugurated five toilet blocks and handed over the same to schools in Samertal and Pounsara villages of District Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh on 28th April 2016. 200 toilet blocks have been constructed by HDFC Bank in partnership with AROH Foundation under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan for various government schools in Chhattisgarh.



Newly constructed toilet block in Government School, Pounsara

He visited and took stock of the nature of CSR interventions taken up in the villages. Ms Smita Bhagat, Regional Head, Retail Branch Banking, HDFC, handed over the newly constructed toilet units to the school authorities. Ms Nusrat Pathan, Head CSR, HDFC and Dr Neelam Gupta, President AROH Foundation were also present on this occasion.

Introducing much needed support, HDFC Bank has made provisions for constant supply and storage of water for all constructed units in all schools to ensure appropriate cleaning of units and sanitation of children. One year WASH programme is also being run in each school to impact behaviour change and enabling environment.

Besides the school sanitation programme, various need-based interventions have been taken up in villages with an objective to build skills and community resources leading to sustainable development. Villages have also been provided with solar street lights with more than 150 lights already installed in 10 villages in Bilaspur.

Dr Chatterjee appreciated the strategic CSR initiative implemented by HDFC Bank through a variety of interventions taken up in villages of Bilaspur. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Bhaskar Chatterjee made reference to the national CSR policy and expressed his happiness to see it implemented in remote and unreached villages in true letter and spirit. He also pointed out that, "Corporates have excelled in the last two decades in generating much wealth and prosperity. Ironically, much of this growth has been skewed in

favour of a few, while the vast majority has been left behind. Section 135 provides us a historical opportunity to set this right by catalysing a process of national regeneration wherein corporate India can work hand in hand with the government and civil society to bring about sustainable development”.