

Hindustan Zinc Adopts 152 Schools in Rajasthan

112 schools were adopted earlier and the work is in progress, MoU for additional 40 schools signed

UDAIPUR: To improve the infrastructure in government run rural schools Hindustan Zinc signed an MoU with the District Education Department, Government of Rajasthan to adopt another 40 Government schools, including only Girls' Schools in Udaipur District, covering Udaipur City (10), Zawar (12), Maton (8) and Debari (10) areas. The company had recently adopted 112 government schools in Bhilwara (72), Chittorgarh (20) and Rajsamand (20) to improve infrastructure facilities in these schools. The infrastructure work in these schools is already in progress.

With signing of MoU to improve infrastructure in 40 schools in Udaipur, Hindustan Zinc shall be improving infra-structure in 152 schools with a cost of over Rs 5 crore.

Many studies have pointed out that in order to improve the enrolment in government run schools there is a dire need to improve the infrastructure, which includes not only repairs of the building but also sitting facilities, black-boards, electricity fittings and teaching aids. Through this project, Hindustan Zinc is

providing basic infra-structure facilities like construction of boundary wall, class rooms and labs, installation of hand pumps, ceiling fans, coolers, construction of toilets, playground and furniture. Besides, scholarships to meritorious students will also be given and to keep up the green belt in schools, special plantation drives would be conducted.

"Hindustan Zinc is quite please with the progress of the work already initiated in 112 schools and looking forward to complete the work at the earliest. This project under the PPP model is expected to improve the quality of education in these schools", said Pavan Kaushik, Head of Corporate Communication.

CSR Mehta Head Corporate Relations spoke about the necessity to improve the infrastructure in the schools but also emphasized that the project should also monitored by Principals to ensure timely execution.

The MoU was signed by Sushma Sharma, CSR Head on behalf of Hindustan Zinc and from Education Department by Krishna Chauhan, District Education Officer (Secondary) and Bhupendra Jain, District Education Officer (Elementary). ■

Odisha Mining Corporation to Spend 5% on CSR

BHUBANESWAR: Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) Chairman and Managing Director Saswat Mishra declared that the corporation intends to spend 5% of its funds on CSR activities. It is significantly more than the 2% stipulated by the New Companies Act 2013, he said.

He was speaking at the "New Companies Act and the CSR Symposium 2014" organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce here on May 6 to discuss issues regarding the Corporate Social Responsibility related provisions of the Companies Act 2013. Mishra was critical of the Schedule VII of the Act which contains the permissible activities of what would be construed as CSR activities. He said the items mentioned in the schedule are strongly biased in favour of the Centre. While contributions to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund are permissible, such

contributions to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund are not. Similarly, the Act accepts the contributions to technology incubators of Central Universities as acceptable expenditure but not those to State Universities, he pointed out. Mishra requested the ICC to bring to the notice of the concerned authorities these anomalies and the lopsided tax benefits for the contributions to such activities. ICC Odisha Chapter Chairman Vishal Agarwal identified the OMC, Nalco and Tata Steel as some of the corporates which have made significant contributions on the CSR. Agarwal said that CSR has been practised in India long before it became a global buzzword, but the globalisation of the Indian economy has led to shift in approach to CSR activity from an act of philanthropy to an essential responsibility which called for a more professional approach. ■

IICA & PHD Chamber Sign MoU To Collaborate on CSR

The MoU also stipulates that the IICA and PHD Chamber will also collaborate to conceptualize and develop agenda, course content and modules and award certificate in the area corporate governance and CSR on mutually agreeable terms and conditions.

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on May 8, 2014 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish collaboration in the areas of corporate social responsibility, environment and sustainable business practice.

The MoU was signed between Director General & CEO (IICA) Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee and Executive Director PHD Chamber Mr Saurabh Sanyal in the presence of President PHD Chamber Sharad Jaipuria and Co-Chairman Task force on CSR, PHD Chamber Vinod Bansal.

In a press statement issued here, President of the PHD Chamber, Mr Jaipuria said that the MoU also aimed at facilitating towards advancement of knowledge on the basis of reciprocity, mutual benefits and frequent interactions.

It also so provides that the two bodies would undertake joint workshops, seminars and conferences as also organize certified courses in the area of CSR from time to time and corporate governance and its sustainability.

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