

Disaster damaged schools rebuilt by CII Foundation at Mulya, Bagwan

By OUR STAFF REPORTER
DEHRADUN, 8 Jun: CII Foundation has handed over two of the newly reconstructed, disaster damaged schools as part of its Uttarakhand Disaster Rehabilitation Initiative, to the State Government, in block Devprayag.

Reconstruction of PS Mulya has been supported by DCM Shritam; Indo Asian and Legrand have supported the reconstruction of PS Bagwan, along with other donors. On the occasion, solar lamps, donated by Arjuna Awardee Anirban Lahiri were distributed among the students of the schools.

Elaborating on CII Foundation's Project Rebuilding Schools under its Uttarakhand Disaster Rehabilitation Initiative, Prashant Mahadik, Chairman, CII Uttarakhand State Council, said that CII Foundation had undertaken to rebuild eight disaster damaged government primary and upper primary schools in District Tehri Garhwal. These schools are being rebuilt as model schools, with focus on both physical infrastructure and

softer interventions to enhance the learning in these schools.

In terms of physical infrastructure, each school has an academic block comprising classrooms and principal's room; kitchen block with kitchen, store and wash area; toilet block with separate toilets for girls and boys. Kitchens have been fitted with chimneys and rain water collection systems have been installed in the school premises. The schools have been provided furniture for students, faculty and principal.

Dwelling upon the softer interventions, Suresh Redhu, Vice Chairman, CII State Council said that a three year intervention - Project Muskaan - is being initiated jointly by CII Foundation and Jubilant Bhartia Foundation. The focus of the project is to improve the learning environment, sustain interest of the students to attend school thereby reducing the dropout rates, and to strengthen the quality of education. The activities would include teacher training, curriculum enhancement, bringing in community engagement and a host of



interventions aimed at enhancing enrolment and motivating students to continue their education post school education.

Sharing CII's larger perspective on CSR, Vibha Malhotra, Director & Head, CII, Uttarakhand State Office,

said that in addition to working for industry, CII sees itself as playing an important role in nation building. She added that CII takes its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) role very seriously, hence when disaster struck Uttarakhand in June 2013, the CII

Foundation immediately swung into action with relief efforts. The rehabilitation work continues, focussing on school education, employment oriented skill development and community based livelihood initiatives.