



FRANKLIN TEMPLETON INVESTMENTS

Franklin Templeton Investments inaugurates computer lab at Abhyudaya Nagar Mumbai Public School to enhance education

MUMBAI, India, August 10, 2015 - Franklin Templeton Investments (India), in association with The Akanksha Foundation inaugurated a computer laboratory in Abhyudaya Nagar Mumbai Public School, as part of the firm's long term social purpose initiative and commitment to the school on Friday, 07th August 2015. Mr. Vijay Advani, Executive Vice President - Global Advisory Services, Franklin Resources, Inc. inaugurated the facility along with The Akanksha Foundation CEO, Vandana Goyal and the School Leader, Chitra Vishwanath. The event also saw the presence of Mr. Vivek Kudva, Managing Director, India and CEEMEA, Franklin Templeton Investments and Mr. Harshendu Bindal, President, Franklin Templeton Investments, India.

As part of this initiative 10 desktop computers have been set up for providing quality education, mentoring and additional support to facilitate improved academic performance for the students. Franklin Templeton is committed to being recognized as a responsible global corporate leader. The setting up of this computer lab is part of the firm's policy to invest in the sustainable long term prosperity of the community at large and the students of this school in particular. This commitment comes to life through investment in institutions and programs to support and enhance community development in a viable fashion.

Speaking at the inauguration, **Mr. Vijay Advani, Executive Vice President - Global Advisory Services, Franklin Resources Inc. said**, "We at Franklin Templeton understand the growing importance of technology in the field of education in India and believe strongly in providing an environment where educational institutions are galvanized using technology and providing skills enhancement opportunities to empower students to make progress and, indeed, shape their own future."

Mr. Vivek Kudva, Managing Director, India and CEEMEA, Franklin Templeton Investments said, "We are proud to embark on this project that will touch the lives of children. This initiative will not only help address the issue of quality of instruction, but use of technology and e-learning will also allow teachers to expand their reach."

"The concept of digitized learning will not only improve the quality of education but will give the students power to enhance their performance and ultimately be fully equipped for better quality higher education." added **Mr. Harshendu Bindal President, Franklin Templeton Investments - India.**

Abhyudaya Nagar Mumbai Public School believes in creativity and aims for the entire primary and middle school to eventually become completely project based, to integrate learning across subjects and to develop a core team of teachers who can take on leadership roles in the school.

Chitra Vishwanath, School Leader at Abhyudaya Nagar Mumbai Public School says, “With the use of computers for teaching and learning we can tackle over all literacy with more innovative instruction. By integrating subjects, multiple skills can be cultivated, from creating documents to conducting a web search.”

Vandana Goyal, CEO at Akanksha Foundation added, “Technology has become a crucial tool for a progressive and creative pedagogical approach. The partnership with Franklin Templeton has brought this technology into our school, which not only makes the teaching process more innovative, but equips our students with the skills required to navigate a world beyond school.”

About Franklin Templeton

Franklin Templeton Investments (India) is the largest foreign fund house* in the country. It manages one of the most comprehensive ranges of mutual funds (33) catering to varied investor requirements and offering different investment styles to choose from. It has offices in 33 cities and Collection Centres in over 100 locations across the country.

Franklin Templeton Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc., a global investment organization operating as Franklin Templeton Investments.

Franklin Templeton Investments provides global and domestic investment management solutions managed by its Franklin, Templeton, Mutual Series, Franklin Bissett, Fiduciary Trust, Darby, Balanced Equity Management and K2 investment teams. The San Mateo, CA-based company has more than 65 years of investment experience and \$866.5 billion in assets under management as of June 30, 2015.

* Source: AMFI Website (based on AAUM as on June 30, 2015)

About Akanksha

The Akanksha Foundation is a non-profit organisation with a mission to provide children from low-income communities with a high-quality education, enabling them to maximize their potential and transform their lives. Akanksha works in the field of education, initiating school reform through The School Project, and providing a supplemental education through the Akanksha centers.

Currently, Akanksha reaches out to over 5000 children through two models: the after-school or center model and the School Project.

Akanksha has 8 centers and 16 schools in Mumbai and Pune. The School Project is a venture to open high-quality schools serving children from low-income communities in Mumbai and Pune.

These schools are in partnership with local municipalities, with the vision of creating small clusters of model schools in these cities that can be used to impact the mainstream education system.

Through the centers, a commitment is made to support each child by providing a strong educational foundation, good time, self-esteem and values, and to help them plan how they can earn a steady livelihood as a step towards improving their standard of living.