

PRESS RELEASE



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GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals partners with Habitat for Humanity India for a school sanitation project at Nashik, Maharashtra

On children's day, over 10,000 children from partly government funded schools in Nashik will now have access to proper sanitation facilities

GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited (GSK) handed over its school sanitation project to Nashik Shiksha Prasarak on November 14, 2016. GSK worked with its CSR Partner, Habitat for Humanity India Trust, to promote sanitation in schools. The project covered construction/repair of sanitation units and also focused on sensitising the children, teaching and non-teaching staff towards basic health and hygiene practices. The project, which will benefit over 10,000 students, is an integral part of GSK India's commitment to promote preventive healthcare in communities. A positive change in hygiene practices, combined with facility construction, will help the children as they use the facilities and will also sensitise their families about the benefits of closed sanitation units.

The school authorities have committed to supervise the project under the guidance of the implementing partner to ensure that the children continue to benefit from improved sanitation.

Sanitation units have been constructed/repared in the following five partly government aided schools in Nashik:

1. M.R. Sarda Kanya Vidya Mandir
2. CDO Meri High School
3. Sagarmal Modi Prathmik Shikshan Mandir
4. Ashram Shala Velunje – Primary School
5. Ashram Shala Velunje- Secondary School

Speaking on occasion of the completion of the sanitation project, **Mr. A. Vaidheesh, Vice President, South Asia and Managing Director - India, GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals Limited** said: *“As a global healthcare company, we are committed to health and wellbeing of communities in which we operate. We have been operating in Nashik since 1982 and have since been carrying out several social initiatives to cater to the healthcare needs of the communities in Nashik. As part of our continued commitment to community partnerships, we recognise that school sanitation is critical not only for health but also for education as it deters drop-outs, especially amongst girl students. GSK India is pleased to support this initiative and raise awareness on the importance of health and hygiene in schools.”*



Speaking about the initiative, **Mr. Sanjay Daswani, Senior Director, Resource Development and Communications, Habitat for Humanity India** said, *“Students, especially girls, lack access to clean, safe private toilets, which leads them to dropout at an early age. We at Habitat aim to impact the lives of the students in these selected schools of Nashik by providing them improved sanitation facilities. Through this partnership, we intend to educate the communities about the importance of health and hygiene and provide the right technological support for the sanitation units. By doing this we intend to do our bit to improve the entire ecosystem of sanitation.”*

GSK – one of the world’s leading research-based pharmaceutical and healthcare companies – is committed to improving the quality of human life by enabling people to do more, feel better and live longer. For further information please visit www.gsk-india.com

Habitat for Humanity - Habitat for Humanity India’s vision is a world where everyone has a decent place to live. The core area of Habitat’s work in India is - shelter assistance, sanitation and disaster risk reduction & response.

To learn more, donate or volunteer, visit www.habitatindia.com

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