

7/31/2023

Impact Assessment Reports of CSR Projects 2023

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Impact Assessment of CSR Projects of Muthoot Finance Ltd. 2023

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Acknowledgement

The Department of Social Work, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, has undertaken this evaluation study to assess the impact of the various CSR projects implemented by the Muthoot Finance Ltd. We are thankful to "Muthoot Finance Ltd." for allowing us to become a part of such a socially responsible initiative.

We would like to acknowledge and extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following individuals and entities for their valuable contributions and unwavering support in the preparation of the CSR Impact Assessment Report for Muthoot Finance Ltd., covering the time period of CSR projects in 2022-23.

Mr. George M George, Deputy Managing Director, Muthoot Finance Ltd., for his guidance and support in the assessment process. Mr. Babu John Malayil, DGM-Corporate Communications, for his dedicated efforts in facilitating communication and information gathering. Ms. Simi K S, Manager, Corporate Communications, for her instrumental role in coordinating and managing the data collection process. Shri Hibi Eden, Member of Parliament and Dr. Maria Vaghese, President, IMA Kochi Chapter for their insights and contributions with regard to the cup of life project. Our special thanks are due to all those who have supported us in the data collection process - The Principal and Headmistress of Sanskara School, The Principal and Vice Principal of Muthoot Institute of Technology, for their contributions to the assessment process. All other project beneficiaries who actively participated in the data collection process and shared their valuable insights, experiences, and feedback.

Your collective dedication and cooperation have been indispensable in shaping this report and advancing our commitment to creating a positive and sustainable impact on society. Thank you for your valuable contributions.

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Introduction

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a vital aspect of modern business practices, reflecting a company's commitment to contribute positively to society and the environment while pursuing its economic objectives. CSR entails a voluntary integration of social, environmental, and ethical concerns into a company's operations, aiming to balance profitability with sustainable and responsible practices. It has evolved from being viewed as a philanthropic activity to becoming an integral part of the strategic decision-making process for many organizations.



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CSR in India

CSR in India has undergone significant transformation over the past few decades, evolving from a philanthropic activity to a legally mandated and strategically integrated practice. With a rich cultural heritage emphasizing societal welfare and the concept of "giving back," CSR has become an integral part of the business landscape in the country.

The roots of CSR in India can be traced back to ancient traditions like "dharmic" responsibilities, where businesses were expected to contribute to the welfare of the community and support various social causes. In the modern era, prominent industrialists and business leaders set examples by establishing philanthropic foundations and supporting educational institutions, healthcare, and community development.

However, it was in 2014 that CSR in India witnessed a significant paradigm shift. The Indian government introduced Section 135 of the Companies Act, making it mandatory for certain qualifying companies to spend at least 2% of their average net profits on CSR initiatives. This legal mandate brought about a systematic approach to CSR, encouraging businesses to align their activities with the nation's development goals.

Though practised by many corporates and industrial organizations from early historical periods, CSR has become a mandatory requirement for companies with an annual turnover of Rs.1,000 crore or more or a net worth of Rs.500 crore or more or a net profit of Rs.5 crore with the enactment of The Companies Act, 2013, which replaced the Companies Act of 1957. The Schedule VII of the Act lists the following activities that could be taken up as CSR activities.

- 1. Eradicating Hunger, Poverty and Malnutrition
- 2. Promoting Education
- 3. Promoting Gender Equality
- 4. CSR initiatives related to the environment
- 5. Protection of national heritage, art and culture
- 6. Measures can be taken for the benefit and support of armed forces veterans, war widows and families
- 7. Contributions to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the central government for welfare, development and relief of the scheduled caste, tribes, other backward classes, women and minorities.
- 8. Contributions or funds provided to the development of technology located within the central government approved academic institutions.
- 9. Contributions can be made towards rural development projects and slum area development.



Moreover, CSR initiatives in India often focus on empowering women, promoting education for underprivileged children, providing healthcare facilities to rural areas, and supporting sustainable livelihood programs for farmers and artisans. Companies have also shown increasing interest in environmental conservation, sustainable business practices, and renewable energy initiatives.

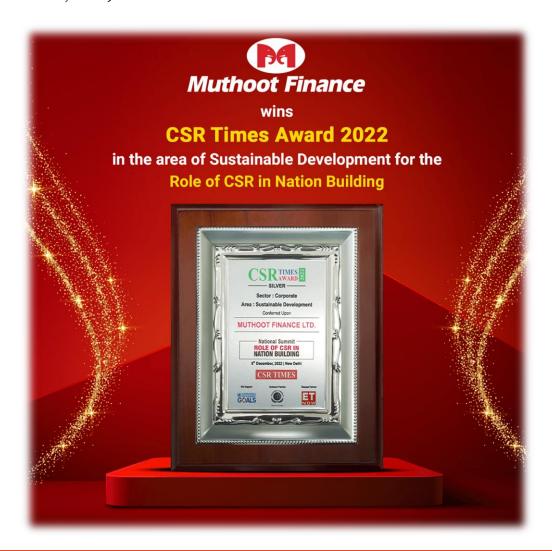
One of the notable features of CSR in India is the emphasis on stakeholder engagement and participatory approach. Companies actively involve local communities in the decision-making process, ensuring that the initiatives are relevant and responsive to the specific needs of the target beneficiaries. Additionally, companies encourage their employees to volunteer and actively participate in CSR activities, fostering a sense of responsibility and ownership among the workforce.

As India continues its journey towards sustainable development, the role of CSR is poised to become even more critical, with businesses expected to play a proactive and responsible role in shaping a socially inclusive, environmentally conscious, and economically vibrant future for the country.

This CSR Impact Assessment Study Report commissioned for Muthoot Finance Ltd. seeks to evaluate and analyze the effectiveness and outcomes of a company's CSR initiatives, measuring their impact on various stakeholders, communities, and the environment. This comprehensive assessment not only provides insights into the organization's social and environmental performance but also highlights areas for improvement and potential synergies between business objectives and societal welfare.

Muthoot Finance Ltd.: Corporate Social Responsibility

The Muthoot Group has a long history of involvement in philanthropic and social services to society much before the evolution of the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility. The CSR activities of the Muthoot Group are guided by the wisdom of Late Shri. M George Muthoot, Founder Chairman-Banking, "One should not lose any opportunity that may come across one's life to help the poor & the underprivileged." Inspired by this vision, the Group touches the lives of many across the country through a plethora of CSR activities. The major domains of involvement are education, environment, sanitation, health and medical aid, and financial assistance to the economically backward classes. The activities are centred around the four principles of **Honesty, sincerity, confidence** and **service**. The CSR Policy of Muthoot Finance Ltd. outlays CSR initiatives' vision, mission, and activities (CSR Policy- Muthoot Finance Ltd., 2021).



Impact Assessment Framework

The objective of the proposed evaluations studies is to generate a feedback from among the beneficiaries of the funds disbursed by Muthoot Finance Ltd.(MFL) for the purpose of CSR, the utilisation of the funds and its impact on the socio-economic front.

General Scope of the Impact Assessment Study:

- (i) Study, report utilisation of CSR funds and infrastructure developed for constructure endeavours
- (ii) Assess and report the impact and benefits of the Cup of Life Project
- (iii) Analyse the impact of Muthoot Vivahasammanam project
- (iv) Evaluate the effect of MFINs scholarship programs

Projects Reviewed

SI No.	Project Head	Sub head	
1	Cup Of Life		
2	Take aver of Schools/Colleges	(Sanskara School & MITS)	
	Take over of Schools/Colleges	Construction of Smart Anganwadi at Moolampilly, Ernakulam	
		Infrastructure development (Paul George Global School - Delhi	
		CONSTRUCTION OF A SMART CLASS ROOM IN GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT OF ALLAHABAD UNIVERSITY AS CS	
		Child Frienldy Painting & Beautification of Anganwadi at Mullakad	
		construction of Muthoot Childrens Park at DKZP LP School Emaje Managlore	
		Support Smart Classroom at 7 schools by RTI in Tamil Nadu	
		Enhance library facility at Govt. School Saidapet Chennai	
		Muthoot Mini Science Lab by STEM at Kanyakumari Dist	
	Infrastructure Development of Schools	DONATION TO WEST WIND NURSERY AND KINDERGARDEN SCHOOL AT MUMBAI	
-		Renovation of drinking water facility in Government School Thiruvallur	
3		STUDENT DESKS FOR AMAN VIHAR MCD SCHOOL AS CSR ACTIVITY	
		Lab equipments to School Malenadu Hubli	
		Drinking water facility in Government School Thiruvallur	
		CONTRUCTION OF WALL GATE AT ST. THOMAS COLLEGE KONNI AS CSR ACTIVITY	
		MI SMART LED TV FOR DONATING TO GOVT. PRIMARY SCHOOLS AT KARNAL AS CSR ACTIVITY	
		HARD DISKS FOR SMART TV FOR DONATING TO GOVT. PRIMARY SCHOOLS AT KARNAL AS CSR ACTIVITY	
		BOOK ALMIRAH FOR DONATING TO DON BOSCO ASHALAYAM AT PALAM VILLAGE AS CSR ACTIVITY	
	Scholarship for Engineering students	MMG Higher Education Scholorships	
4		scholarship to MITS students	
		Fellowship to students in CUSAT	
5	Scholarship to School students	Scholarship to St. George School, Delhi students	
		DEEPALAYA TOWARDS EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP OF 20 GIRLS AT DEEPALAYA SR SECONDARY SCHOOL, DELHI	
6	Promoting gender equality an empowering women	d Muthoot Vivahasammanam - Madurai, Jaipur & Delhi	

Project Review Process

Evaluation Design and Procedures

The evaluation used a mixed-method design with quantitative and qualitative data collected from various stakeholders. This evaluation process would adapt the

CDC Framework for Program Evaluation in Public Health (CDC, 2011). The framework includes six steps.

- 1. Engage stakeholders.
- 2. Describe the program.
- 3. Focus on the evaluation design.
- 4. Gather credible evidence.
- 5. Justify conclusions.
- 6. Ensure use and share lessons learned.

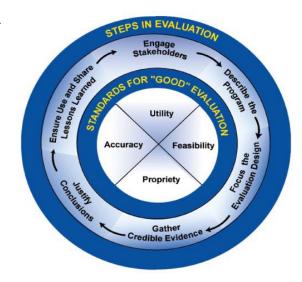


Figure: CDC Framework for Evaluation

The project review would be done based on interviews and focus group discussions with project implementation personnel, school/college authorities, and direct and indirect stakeholders of the project. The project review process includes site visits and interaction with various stakeholders.

Key	Evaluation Questions	
dimensions		
Relevance	1. How appropriate were the responses of the project? To what	
	extent were the responses tailored to the local context and	
	priorities of the beneficiaries?	
	2. To what extent was the beneficiaries involved in the design,	
	implementation of the project, etc.?	
Effectiveness	3. To what extent did the project achieve its objectives?	
	4. How timely was the response?	
	5. How well coordinated was the response? Did the project address	
	gaps in the overall response?	
Efficiency	6. How efficiently were resources used? Could anything have been	
	done differently to maximize the available resources better to	
	meet project objectives?	
Impact	7. How has the project achieved its intended changes?	

Key	Evaluation Questions	
dimensions		
Sustainability	8. What are the sustainability plan developed as part of the project?	
	9. What would be the participation of the beneficiaries, community	
	and stakeholders after the project closure	
Facilitating and	10. What were the facilitating factors that contribute to the	
hindering factors	achievement of project outputs and outcomes?	
	11. What hindering factors delayed the achievement of project	
	outputs and outcomes?	
Lessons learnt	12. What were the good practices and lessons have the project	
and	learned on the following: project design, partnership building,	
recommendations	project implementation and M&E?	
	13. What recommendations have been identified based on project	
	experience and lessons?	

Methodology of Data Collection

N	Project Head	Details	Methodology
1	Cup of Life		Secondary data Sample data collection from beneficiaries of the project Interview with coordinators, key persons of the project Travel of interviews
2	Takeover of Schools/Colle ges	Sanskara School & MITS	Site Visit Secondary Data from School authorities Interaction with School Authorities and selected students
		Construction of Smart Anganwadi at Moolampilly, Ernakulam	Site Visit Interaction with AW Teacher, ICDS Supervisor, CDPO, Ward member
3	Infrastructure Development of Schools	Infrastructure development (Paul George Global School - Delhi Chairs for St. Joachim's UP School, Kathrikadavu	Secondary Data from School authorities Interaction with School Authorities and selected students Telephonic interaction with the school authority
		Construction of A Smart Class Room in Geography Department of Allahabad University	Telephonic Interaction with college authorities Secondary data from college and photographs
		Bench & Desk Support to St. Augustine's School	Telephonic Interaction with the school authorities Secondary data from college and photographs
		Support for 20 benches and 20 desks to St. Gregorious Public School Bangalore	Telephonic Interaction with the school authorities Secondary data from college and photographs
		Child Friendly Painting & Beautification of Anganwadi at Mullakad	Secondary data from college and

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Impact Assessment Results

1. CUP of LIFE PROJECT

Name of the project: Cup of Life- A Revolution to Free the Shushed Stories about Menstruation

Location: Kochi, Kerala

Funding: Muthoot Finance

Target group: Women/Menstruators

Project description: "The Cup of life" A two-month menstrual health campaign in Kochi, Kerala, implemented by Muthoot Finance in collaboration with Shri. Hibi Eden MP, the IMA Kochi Chapter, and the District Administration to raise awareness about menstrual health, debunk taboos, and provide sustainable menstrual hygiene solutions to women in the region. The campaign targeted distributing 1 lakh menstrual cups to Women/Menstruators in this region.

Project goal / objectives:

- Raise awareness about menstrual health and hygiene: The campaign aimed to
 educate the community about the importance of menstrual health and hygiene,
 debunk myths and misconceptions surrounding menstruation, and promote a
 culture of openness and acceptance.
- Promote the use of menstrual cups: The campaign sought to highlight the benefits of menstrual cups as a sustainable and cost-effective menstrual hygiene solution. It aimed to encourage women and girls to consider using menstrual cups as an alternative to disposable pads and tampons.

Implementation: The campaign organized various events and activities to create awareness and debunk menstrual taboos. These activities included open discussions on menstrual taboos, celebrity engagements, discussions in moving metro, and a cycling event. These initiatives helped to break the silence surrounding menstruation and encourage open conversations about menstrual health.

Outcomes (immediate):

- 1 Lac women received the sustainable, hygienic and cost-effective menstrual cups for tackling menstruation.
- The society was generally empowered through the training sessions, social media and media awareness campaigns organized as part of the event.
- Provided quality products- high grade sustainable menstrual cups made out of silicon as per the best suited industry standards for the people.
- Eradicate the menstrual taboos prevailing in the society and various walks of life.

Evaluation Methodology:

- The data was collected through various methods, including registration forms, surveys, and attendance records during campaign activities.
- Qualitative data was also collected through interviews which allowed for the capture of demographic information such as age, gender, and socio-economic background.
- Additionally, post-campaign surveys and follow-up assessments were utilized to gather data on the percentage of individuals who adopted menstrual cups.
- The collected data was analyzed using statistical methods to derive meaningful insights.

Annexure (images)

















Conclusion

Menstrual cups are just one aspect of this broader movement to promote menstrual hygiene, inclusivity and open discussions about menstruation. The distribution of menstrual cups can serve as a catalyst for the social change. It is the need of the hour to implement such initiatives that are culturally sensitive and context specific. Cup of life helps in accessing sustainable quality menstrual products to menstruators.

2. Take Over of Schools/Colleges

A. SMART ANGANWADI PROJECT IN MOOLAMPILLY, KOCHI

Location

Moolampilly, Kochi. Moolampilly is one of the populated coastal suburbs of Kochi with majority people belonging to the lower income group

Funding

Twenty five lakhs, sponsored by Muthoot Foundation in association with Shri. Hibi Eden, Member of Parliament from Ernakulam.

Target group

Children belonging to lower income families of Moolampilly, Kochi

Introduction:

Anganwadis play a crucial role in the social welfare and development of communities, particularly in India. These decentralized centers serve as a vital cornerstone for early childhood care and education, maternal health, and nutrition services. Established under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program, Anganwadis act as a bridge between families and essential government schemes. They offer a range of services, including immunization, health check-ups, growth monitoring, pre-school education, and supplementary nutrition for children under the age of six and pregnant and lactating women. By providing a holistic and nurturing environment, Anganwadis lay the foundation for a child's physical, cognitive, and emotional well-being, ensuring they receive proper nutrition, education, and healthcare during their formative years. Moreover, these centers also empower women by imparting knowledge on maternal and child health, nutrition, and hygiene, fostering their active participation in the community. With their far-reaching impact, Anganwadis contribute significantly to reducing child mortality, malnutrition, and illiteracy rates, thereby fostering a healthier and more prosperous future for the nation as a whole.

The 'Smart Anganwadi' project, supported by the Muthoot Foundation in collaboration with the office of the Member of Parliament (MP) of Ernakulam constituency, Shri. Hibi Eden, aimed to enhance access to quality education and infrastructure for underprivileged communities, with a specific focus on lower-income families residing in Moolampilly, Kochi. The project was launched with an earmarked fund of 25 lakhs and inaugurated by Shri. George M George, Deputy Managing Director of Muthoot Foundation, and Shri. Hibi Eden. This CSR review report assesses the effectiveness and impact of the project, evaluating its achievements and contributions to the targeted beneficiaries and the overall community.

Objectives:

The objective of the Smart Anganwadi Project was to empower lower-income families by offering high-quality education and superior infrastructure. The project sought to bridge the digital divide and enhance access to smart education for underprivileged children.

Enhance the quality of education provided to children under the age of six in the target community by upgrading the infrastructure and learning resources of the Anganwadi center.

Develop and refurbish the Anganwadi center with modern amenities, including child-friendly classrooms, sanitation facilities, and a safe and secure environment conducive to learning and growth.

Ensure access to nutritious meals and regular healthcare check-ups for the children and pregnant/lactating women attending the Anganwadi. Empower women in the community by providing them with valuable knowledge and resources related to maternal health, nutrition, and early childhood development. Foster active community participation and involvement in the project's implementation and sustainability, promoting a sense of ownership and pride among the beneficiaries.

PHOTOS







Achievements:

Education Quality Improvement: The 'Smart Anganwadi' project succeeded in enhancing the quality of education for young children. Through the allocation of resources, the center could procure educational materials, toys, and teaching aids, creating a stimulating and engaging learning environment. Early feedback from educators and parents indicates positive changes in the children's cognitive and social skills.

Infrastructure Upgradation: The project's earmarked funds were efficiently utilized to refurbish the Anganwadi center, providing improved sanitation facilities, safe play areas, and adequate space for learning and recreational activities. The upgraded infrastructure has contributed to a better learning experience for the children.

Nutrition and Healthcare: The provision of nutritious meals and regular health checkups significantly improved the overall health and well-being of the children and pregnant/lactating women attending the Anganwadi. As a result, there has been a noticeable reduction in malnutrition rates and an increase in immunization coverage.

Women's Empowerment: The project's efforts in empowering women by imparting knowledge on maternal and child health have yielded positive results. Women in the community have reported feeling more confident and informed about childcare practices, leading to better care for their children's health and development.

Community Engagement: The project successfully engaged the local community through awareness programs, meetings, and involvement in decision-making processes. Community members actively participated in various project activities, demonstrating a sense of ownership and responsibility towards the Anganwadi's sustainability.

Indicators:

To assess the impact of the project, the following indicators were considered:

Number of beneficiaries: The project successfully enrolled children from lower-income families in Moolampilly, Kochi. The beneficiaries of the 'Smart Anganwadi' project are the heart and soul of this transformative initiative. As an Anganwadi that serves a community comprising 350 families, mostly from economically poor backgrounds, the project's impact on their lives has been nothing short of life-changing. For these families, the 'Smart Anganwadi' has become more than just an early childhood education center. It has become a beacon of hope, a place where their children's futures are nurtured and shaped with care and dedication. The upgraded infrastructure and modern learning resources have provided a level playing field for their children's education, breaking down barriers and offering opportunities that were once out of reach. Number of beneficiaries:

Educational outcomes: The academic performance and school readiness of the enrolled children were monitored. The children demonstrated significant improvements in their academic achievements, showing enhanced learning abilities and preparedness for formal education.

Stakeholder satisfaction: Feedback from parents and community members indicated a high level of satisfaction with the quality of education and infrastructure provided by the Smart Anganwadi. Respondents reported positive experiences and acknowledged the positive impact of the project on their children's development.

Digital divide reduction: The project contributed to reducing the digital divide by providing access to smart education tools and resources. Children gained exposure to digital technologies, improving their digital literacy and narrowing the gap between privileged and underprivileged students.

In the words of key stakeholders:

"Thanks to the 'Smart Anganwadi' project, we have witnessed a remarkable improvement in the quality of education provided to our young children. The upgraded infrastructure and learning resources have created a nurturing and stimulating environment for their overall development. The 'Smart Anganwadi' project has truly brought our community together. The active involvement and support from the Muthoot Foundation, our MP's office, and local stakeholders have fostered a sense of ownership and pride in this initiative.

I am grateful for the positive impact of the 'Smart Anganwadi' project on our village, and I am confident that its legacy will continue to benefit generations to come. It has been an honor to witness the positive changes and growth in our community, all thanks to this exceptional CSR endeavor. — President of the Panchayat, Moolampilly.

The collaborative effort put forth by the Muthoot Foundation, our MP's office, and our Panchayat President has been nothing short of exceptional. Their support and dedication have been the driving force behind the project's success. Additionally, the community's involvement and engagement have been vital in making the 'Smart Anganwadi' project a true success story.

As an Anganwadi teacher, I am filled with immense pride and joy to witness the positive impact of the 'Smart Anganwadi' project. It has been an honor to play a part in shaping the future of these young minds and contributing to the holistic development of our village. I am grateful for this wonderful opportunity, and I truly believe that this initiative will continue to brighten the lives of our children and community for years to come. – Anganwadi Teacher, Moolampilly

The 'Smart Anganwadi' project has not only improved my child's life but has also brought the community together. I appreciate the collaboration between the Muthoot Foundation, and our MP's office in making this project a reality. This commitment to the well-being of our village is commendable. — A Parent of the Anganwadi — Moolampilly

Recommendations for Improvement and Future Initiatives:

Based on the assessment findings, the following recommendations are provided:

- Continuously monitor and evaluate the long-term impact of the Smart Anganwadi Project.
- Consider expanding the project to reach more underprivileged communities in need of quality education and infrastructure.
- Explore collaborations with government agencies and NGOs to leverage resources and expertise for sustainable development.
- Identify opportunities for further technological integration and digital skill development in future initiatives.

Conclusion

The project successfully achieved its objectives of providing access to quality education and superior infrastructure to lower-income families in Moolampilly. The positive outcomes included improved academic performance, enhanced school readiness, increased digital literacy, and high stakeholder satisfaction. The project's success indicates its potential for scalability and replication in similar communities. The initiative exemplifies the company's commitment to promoting education and addressing the needs of underprivileged children.

Annexure











Conclusion:

The Smart Anganwadi Project, supported by the Muthoot Foundation, has accomplished its objectives with remarkable success, granting access to top-notch education and superior infrastructure to lower-income families in Moolampilly, Kochi. The project's impact has been evident through improved academic involvement, enhanced school readiness, elevated digital literacy, and high levels of stakeholder satisfaction. This initiative stands as a testament to the company's unwavering dedication to promoting education and addressing the needs of underprivileged children.

B. Infrastructure support at MITS

Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS) is promoted by Muthoot M. George Institute of Technology, a Section 25 Company within the Muthoot Group. MITS, a self- financing Engineering College is situated in the Industrial suburb of KOCHI close to the Smart City and Info Park, some 15 kilometeres from Vytilla, Ernakulam on the Cochin Madurai National Highway.

Courses are offered in B.Tech. in Civil Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. The college has a strength of 1300 students and 450 of them stay at the hostels situated at the campus itself.

A cumulative spend of Rs. 30,53,16,295 was utilized to upgrade the infrastructure of the college.

The infrastructure support provided to Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS) is a testament to the unwavering commitment of the Muthoot Group in fostering excellence in education. Situated in the industrial suburb of Kochi, MITS stands as a self-financing Engineering College, offering a diverse range of courses in the field of engineering. With a cumulative spend of Rs. 30,53,16,295 dedicated to upgrading the college's infrastructure, MITS has truly been transformed into a modern and conducive learning environment.

The courses offered in Civil Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering cater to a wide spectrum of career aspirations, providing students with the opportunity to pursue their passion and excel in their chosen fields. One of the most commendable aspects of the infrastructure support is the provision of on-campus hostels for students. With 450 students accommodated within the campus, MITS ensures that they experience a vibrant campus life, conducive to academic growth and personal development. Living on campus fosters a sense of community and camaraderie among students, promoting peer learning and cultural exchange.

The utilization of Rs. 30,53,16,295 to upgrade the college's infrastructure has yielded tangible benefits. The state-of-the-art facilities, modern laboratories, well-equipped libraries, and digital classrooms have transformed the learning experience for students. Access to cutting-edge technology and resources empowers students to explore and innovate, preparing them to face real-world challenges in their respective fields.

The college's commitment to creating a nurturing environment is evident in the investment made towards recreational facilities, sports amenities, and student support services. These additional provisions complement the academic pursuits and contribute to the overall well-being and holistic development of the students. Furthermore, the active involvement of the Muthoot M. George Institute of Technology, a Section 25 Company within the Muthoot Group, in promoting MITS reflects the group's dedication to the advancement of education. This partnership showcases the synergy between industry and academia, resulting in the creation of skilled and competent professionals who can contribute to the nation's growth.

In short, the infrastructure support provided to Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS) by the Muthoot Group have undoubtedly elevated the college to new heights of excellence. The significant investment in upgrading facilities and amenities has created an ideal learning environment, fostering academic and personal growth for the students. MITS stands as a beacon of innovation and opportunity, providing students with the tools and resources they need to thrive in a competitive world. The partnership between the Muthoot Group and MITS serves as a shining example of how collaborative efforts can transform educational institutions and empower the next generation of leaders and innovators.

Testimony from Stakeholders

Teacher: "As a teacher at Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS), I am immensely proud to witness the positive impact of the infrastructure support provided by the whole of the office of

Parent: "I am grateful to the Muthoot Group for their unwavering commitment to education. The infrastructure support at Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science has given my child the best possible environment to grow and excel academically, and I am confident that it will prepare them for a successful future."

3. Infrastructure Development of Schools

Muthoot Finance has initiated many CSR activities targeted towards assisting educational institutions, boosting infrastructural development, and improving students' learning environments. These initiatives highlight the company's dedication to community empowerment and inclusive education. The significant activities initiated under this project are given below:-

- a) The sponsorship of the M.G George Memorial Gate at St. Thomas College Konni
- b) Infrastructure upgrade provided to Padmasree Shri. Harekala Hajabba's Government School in Mangalore,
- c) Donation of a smart classroom to the Geography Department of the University of Allahabad,
- d) Donation of smart LED TVs with hard disks to Government Primary Schools in Karnal, Haryana
- e) Infrastructure Support to Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS)
- f) Infrastructure Support for Building KG Block of Sanskara School
- g) Financial Support to St George Educational Society, Delhi
- h) Financial Support for Infrastructure Development for School Education Delhi
- i) Infrastructure development for School Education at St George's Educational Society, Delhi
- j) Promotion of Sports and Games as part of Government of India's "Khelo India Scheme' setting up a Sports Complex at Kakkanad, Ernakulam
- k) Donation of 50 student's Desks & a Water Cooler to Govt. Primary School Aman Vihar, New Delhi.
- 1) Muthoot-Stem- Science Lab

Project goal / objectives:

- To enhance educational infrastructure,
- To promote digital learning, fostering inclusive and quality education,
- To reduce inequalities in access to educational resources.

Evaluation methodology: direct visit

The project was evaluated by direct visit and observations of team of experts to the schools/colleges/universities funded by Muthoot finance

Description of the projects

a) <u>Sponsorship of the M.G George Memorial Gate at St. Thomas College Konni</u>

Location: Konni, Pathanamthitta

Beneficiaries: Students of St. Thomas College Konni

Muthoot Finance has sponsored the M.G George Memorial Gate at St. Thomas College Konni in Pathanamthitta. This donation makes a substantial contribution to the infrastructure development of the college.



Project Outcomes

- Preservation of a legacy and the promotion of quality education in the region.
- Improvement of educational facilities, creating an enhanced learning environment for students at St. Thomas College Konni.

b) <u>Brand New Interior Cupboards to Padmasree Harekala's School in Mangalore</u>

Location: Newpadu, Mangalore

Beneficiaries: 177 students and school officials

Padmasree Shri. Harekala Hajabba's Government School has provided new sets of interior cupboards in the laboratory, sports room, and library sections.



Project Outcomes

- Improved infrastructure promotes a more suitable and comfortable learning environment for students and enhance their learning experience.
- Better school facilities make it possible for students from underserved rural communities to receive a high-quality education, which can lead to the development of a more educated and empowered society.
- Quality education to students in the village, ensuring access to inclusive and equitable education opportunities.
- By focusing on providing education to students in an underserved area, the project helps reduce inequalities by ensuring equal access to educational opportunities.

c) Donation of smart classroom to geography department, university of Allahabad, Old Katra, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

Location: Old Katra, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

Beneficiaries: Students

The donation of a smart classroom to the Geography Department of the University of Allahabad, located in Old Katra, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.



- The contribution of a smart classroom to the Geography Department at the University of Allahabad represents a commitment to improving education via innovative means and providing students with the tools they need to succeed in their academic endeavours.
- Smart classrooms offer access to a vast array of digital learning resources and educational content online. This access to a wealth of information can enrich the learning experience and provide students with diverse perspectives.
- Improves educational quality by combining sophisticated technology and interactive learning tools, giving students a more interesting and effective learning experience.
- Smart classrooms can facilitate remote learning, making education available to students who are unable to attend school in person. This adaptability is especially useful in times of emergency, disturbance, or for students with specific needs.

d) <u>Donation of Smart LED TVs with Hard Disks to Government Primary</u> <u>School Chundipur and Mangalpur Karnal Haryana</u>

Location: Chundipur and Mangalpur in Karnal, Haryana

Beneficiaries: Students

The donation of smart LED TVs with hard disks to Government Primary School, Chundipur and Mangalpur in Karnal, Haryana, signifies a significant contribution towards enhancing the educational environment and resources for students. The provision of these technological resources is aimed at improving the teaching and learning experience in these schools.



Outcome of the project

- The introduction of Smart LED TVs with Hard Disks enables interactive and multimedia-based teaching methods, making the learning process more engaging and effective.
- Teachers can utilize educational videos, digital content, and interactive applications to enhance their instructional delivery.
- Students, in turn, can benefit from visual aids, educational videos, and interactive learning materials that foster a deeper understanding of the subjects being taught.
- The donation helps bridge the digital divide and reduce inequalities in access to educational resources by providing modern technology to government schools.

By integrating technology into the educational infrastructure, the donation contributes to creating sustainable communities that embrace digital advancements and promote inclusive education.

e) Infrastructure Support to Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS)

Location: Kochi

Beneficiaries: Students

MITS, a self-financing Engineering College is situated in the Industrial suburb of KOCHI close to the Smart City and Info Park, some 15 kilometers from Vytilla, Ernakulam on the Kochi Madurai National Highway. A cumulative spend of Rs. 30,53,16,295 was utilized to upgrade the infrastructure of the

college

f) Infrastructure Support for Building KG Block of Sanskara School

Muthoot Finance has supported Sanskara School with a financial outlay of 14.3 Crores for constructing the KG Block for Sanskara School.

g) Financial Support to St George Educational Society, Delhi

Location: Delhi

Funding: Rs. 1,23,23,550/-

Target group: Schools

Project description: Financial Support was extended to St George's Educational Society, a charitable nonprofit Society providing financial support under the category of Promotion of Education to the students of Delhi. The project covered two schools in Delhi- St. George's School, New Delhi and Paul George Global School.

The schools have been one of Delhi's most prestigious schools for many years, offering CBSE curriculum with top- class extra-curricular & amp; sports infrastructure, delivering unique learning experience to its students particularly from lower middleincome groups. They are offering concessionary fee structure to many students, considering their weak financial & amp; modest family background. They are also

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giving free ship to nearly 300 children coming from poor families; thereby ensuring that they are not deprived of good quality education an opportunity to progress in life and contribute to the Society and Nation as good citizens.

Outcome of the project

Quality education to students through the welfare and upliftment of the school.

h) <u>Financial Support for Infrastructure Development for School</u> Education – Delhi

Location: Delhi

Funding: Rs.10,14,47,824/-

Target group: Schools

Project description: Financial Support was extended to St George's Educational Society, a charitable nonprofit Society providing financial support under the category of Promotion of Education to the students of Delhi. The project covered two schools in Delhi- St. George's School, New Delhi and Paul George Global School.

The schools have been one of Delhi's most prestigious schools for many years, offering CBSE curriculum with top- class extra-curricular & amp; sports infrastructure, delivering unique learning experience to its students particularly from lower middle-income groups. They are offering concessionary fee structure to many students, considering their weak financial & amp; modest family background. They are also giving free ship to nearly 300 children coming from poor families; thereby ensuring that they are not deprived of good quality education an opportunity to progress in life and contribute to the Society and Nation as good citizens.

Outcome of the project

Financial support for the maintenance and running of the School's various infrastructural facilities.

i) <u>Infrastructure development for School Education at St George's</u> <u>Educational Society, Delhi</u>

Location: Delhi

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Funding: Rs.10,00,00,000/-

Target group: Schools

Project description: Financial Support was extended to St George's Educational Society, a charitable nonprofit Society providing financial support under the category of Promotion of Education to the students of Delhi. The project covered two schools in Delhi- St. George's School, New Delhi and Paul George Global School.

The schools have been one of Delhi's most prestigious schools for many years, offering CBSE curriculum with top- class extra-curricular & amp; sports infrastructure, delivering unique learning experience to its students particularly from lower middle-income groups. They are offering concessionary fee structure to many students, considering their weak financial & amp; modest family background. They are also giving free ship to nearly 300 children coming from poor families; thereby ensuring that they are not deprived of good quality education an opportunity to progress in life and contribute to the Society and Nation as good citizens.

Project goal / objectives:

To upgrade the infrastructure and organizing more quality teaching experience for the students of the schools.

j) Promotion of Sports and Games as part of Government of India's "Khelo India Scheme' setting up a Sports Complex at Kakkanad, Ernakulam

Location: Delhi

Funding: Rs.13,91,87,579/-

Target group: Schools

Project description: Setting up a Sports Complex at Kakkanad, Ernakulam to develop world-class sports facilities where students can play and practice safely under the guidance of trained professionals. The sports complex comprises of ground floor, first floor & second floor with built up area of around 50,000 sq. ft. As a part of this, we are building a fully equipped indoor sports arena with a skating rink, swimming pool and provisions to play games like Table Tennis, Badminton, squash court, Chess

& Caroms. The outdoor sports facilities include a standard size athletic track, football ground, cricket ground, and volleyball/basketball courts.

Project goal / objectives:

To complete a world-class sports complex where students can play and practice safely under the guidance of trained professionals.

k) <u>Donation of 50 student's Desks & a Water Cooler to Govt. Primary School Aman Vihar, New Delhi.</u>

Location: New Delhi

Beneficiaries: Students

Under the CSR initiative of the Muthoot Group, 50 Student's Desks & a Water Cooler were donated to the Govt. Primary School Aman Vihar, New Delhi on 21st June 2022.









Project outcomes

 Desks and benches provide students with a comfortable and conducive learning environment, allowing them to focus on their studies. With the help of the water cooler, students will be able to get clean and fresh drinking water throughout the day, which will boost their health and wellness.

1) Muthoot-Stem- Science Lab

Location: Nagercoil, Kanyakumari District

Funding: Rs.548800/-

Target group:

Direct beneficiaries-1383 girls Students

Indirect Beneficiaries-5000 students

Project description: STEM Learning was created to teach fundamental science, technology, engineering, and math principles at school, encouraging children to pursue science and technology. STEM models help students see and apply textbook topics. STEM thinks pupils should touch and feel items at school. STEM created 80 models based on 250+ science and math ideas to improve learning and comprehension. Its science models boost learning, especially for underprivileged kids. STEM Learning Pvt Ltd. conducted the Muthoot scientific centre programme at Nagercoil government school.

Project goal / objectives:

- To Promote education through Science experiment
- To Provide under privileged students communities access quality science education
- To Provide training to govt school teachers and students
- To create enabling learning environment to govt school students
- To build Sustainable Development Learning Center

Implementation: Through STEM learning Pvt Ltd., the project planned and executed a programme for the Muthoot Science Centre located at the Government School in Nagercoil. The government school has a total enrolment of 1343 female students, and there are many more government schools in the surrounding area. the project that would create a Science Centre in the vicinity of the town of Nagercoil.

Outcomes: This science centre will be beneficial to more than 10,000 students attending government schools.



Conclusion

Muthoot Finance is sowing the seeds of change and unleashing the potential of innumerable young minds by investing in education and providing schools with the required infrastructure. The company hopes that this project will help create a future that is more inclusive, where every child may achieve their educational goals, and where people can prosper in their communities via education, empowerment, and growth.

4. MMG Higher Education Scholarships

The Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarship, an esteemed initiative by the Muthoot M George Foundation, the CSR division of The Muthoot Group, proved to be a commendable effort in recognizing and supporting meritorious students in their pursuit of professional education. The scholarship was extended to students in four professional courses - Medicine, Engineering, Nursing, and Commerce. From the outset, the program demonstrated a genuine commitment to empowering talented individuals to achieve their educational aspirations.

Throughout its implementation, the Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarship positively impacted the lives of numerous deserving students across various fields. The scholarship provided essential financial assistance, enabling students to focus on their studies and excel in their chosen fields of expertise. The support extended till the completion of the course further solidified the foundation's dedication to nurturing the academic growth of the recipients.

The successful execution of this CSR initiative showcased the Muthoot Group's steadfast commitment to uplifting communities and promoting education. By empowering students through the Higher Education Scholarship, the foundation played a vital role in fostering a skilled and qualified workforce for the nation.

Furthermore, the emphasis on professional courses like Medicine, Engineering, Nursing, and Commerce exemplified the foundation's strategic approach towards supporting disciplines that have a profound impact on societal development and economic growth. The scholarship not only acknowledged academic excellence but also contributed to the holistic development of the recipients.

As the program evolved, the foundation maintained a transparent and fair selection process, ensuring that the scholarship reached those students who truly deserved the recognition and financial assistance. This approach not only enhanced the credibility of the initiative but also instilled a sense of pride and gratitude among the beneficiaries.

The Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarship remains a shining example of the Muthoot Group's commitment to transforming lives through education. Through this noble CSR initiative, the foundation honored the academic achievements of deserving students and provided them with a pathway to success in their chosen professions. The impact of the scholarship extended far beyond financial assistance, as it instilled confidence and encouraged academic excellence in the minds of the recipients. The Muthoot M George Foundation's dedication to promoting education through such initiatives reflects its sincere efforts to contribute to the growth and progress of society.

Stakeholders Voice:

Receiving the Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarship has been a life-changing experience for me. It provided me with the financial support I needed to pursue my dream of becoming an engineer. This scholarship has not only lightened my financial burden but also motivated me to excel in my studies and make the most of this opportunity."- A student who received the scholarship

As a teacher, witnessing my students receive the Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarships fills me with immense pride. The scholarships have opened doors of opportunity for these deserving students, enabling them to pursue their professional education without worries. I am confident that they will go on to achieve great success in their respective fields, thanks to this support." – A teacher

The distribution of the Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarships for the academic year 2022-23 in Hyderabad, Telangana, was a momentous occasion that exemplified the Muthoot Group's commitment to empowering and supporting talented students in pursuing their professional education. As a part of its CSR initiatives, the Muthoot M George Foundation facilitated grants to deserving students, enabling them to access quality education and excel in their chosen fields.

The scholarships were specifically designed to assist students in professional courses, encompassing disciplines like Medicine, Engineering, Nursing, and Commerce. By focusing on these fields, the foundation aimed to nurture a skilled and competent workforce that would contribute significantly to the region's growth and development.

The distribution ceremony in Hyderabad served as a testament to the foundation's dedication to promoting education and fostering academic excellence. Deserving students who had displayed exceptional merit and commitment to their studies were recognized and rewarded with financial support, empowering them to focus on their education without financial constraints

The transparent and merit-based selection process ensured that the scholarships reached those who truly deserved the recognition and assistance. This approach not only bolstered the credibility of the initiative but also motivated the recipients to strive for academic excellence and make a positive impact in their respective fields.

The Muthoot M George Foundation's role in facilitating these scholarships showcased the Group's unwavering commitment to giving back to society and uplifting communities through education. By providing deserving students with the opportunity to pursue their dreams and aspirations, the foundation contributed significantly to shaping a brighter and more promising future for the youth of Hyderabad.

In short, the distribution of the Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarships for the academic year 2022-23 in Hyderabad, Telangana, reflected the foundation's dedication to empowering deserving students and promoting education as a catalyst for individual and societal growth. The initiative served as a shining example of the Muthoot Group's CSR efforts, fostering academic excellence and creating a positive impact in the lives of the scholarship recipients and the community as a whole.



Scholarship to MITS Students

The scholarship program extended to Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS) students is a testament to the Muthoot Group's unwavering commitment to nurturing academic excellence and empowering the future generation of engineers. By providing financial assistance to deserving students pursuing professional course in Engineering the Muthoot M George Foundation, the CSR arm of Muthoot Finance Ltd., has not only promotes financial support but motivate the young ones to pursue their education in Engineering.

The impacts: The scholarships have created a positive impact on the lives of the recipients, opening doors of opportunity and fostering a sense of pride and achievement in their academic pursuits at MITS.

Fellowship to Students in CUSAT

Muthoot Finance's distribution of Muthoot M George Fellowships to five girl students from various departments of Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) is a remarkable initiative that showcases the company's commitment to empowering young women in higher education. The fellowships provide much-needed financial support to these talented students, allowing them to focus on their academic pursuits without financial constraints. This thoughtful gesture not only encourages gender equality in education but also promotes diversity and inclusivity within the academic community.



The recipients of the scholarship were from the departments of Dept of Oceanography, International School of Photonics, DDU Kaushal Kendra, Ship Technology, and Marine Geology & Geo Physics, in CUSAT.

5. Muthoot Vivahasammanam - Madurai, Jaipur and Delhi

The Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project stands as a significant and compassionate CSR initiative undertaken by the company. Initiated in Kerala in 2015 and subsequently expanded to states such as Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Delhi, the project aims to extend support to widowed mothers in fulfilling the matrimonial needs of their daughters. Through this heartfelt endeavor, Muthoot Finance Ltd. demonstrates its commitment to uplifting disadvantaged families, empowering women, and fostering social cohesion by ensuring that deserving daughters receive the dignity and assistance they need for their wedding ceremonies. The young girls of widowed mothers were supported with Rs. 2 lakh, 1 lakh and Rs. 50000, based on the necessity of the region for their matrimonial needs.

Objectives: The objective of the initiative was to assist widowed mothers to meet their daughter's matrimonial finance and overcome financial limitations.

Process: The process followed is very transparent system after calling for applications. The applications were scrutinised by a team and then identified the deserving stakeholders for the support.

Muthoot Finance Organizes Vivahasanmanam in Madurai:

Under the Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project, Muthoot Finance Ltd. extended a heartwarming gesture by providing Rs. 1 Lakh each in financial assistance to 18 newly married girls, all daughters of widows in Madurai. This noble initiative not only celebrates the joyous occasion of their weddings but also empowers and supports the widowed mothers in fulfilling the matrimonial needs of their daughters. By bestowing this financial aid, Muthoot Finance Ltd. not only upholds its commitment to social responsibility but also plays a crucial role in promoting gender equality and uplifting disadvantaged families in the community. The Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project serves as a beacon of hope and compassion, exemplifying the company's dedication to creating a positive impact on the lives of those in need.



Number of people received support: 18 girls from the Madurai has received the support and it significantly impacts 18 families.

Impacts: Providing Financial Aid for Marriage of 18 Girls, not only a financial support, rather the implications are far reaching. A group of socially committed people become part of the marriages, and developing inclusive practices in the society. The project also awakens the gender-focused intervention in the community. The widows stand strong for their daughter's marriage with confidence.

It meant so much more than just financial assistance; it symbolized hope, respect, and empowerment for us. I am grateful to Muthoot Finance for recognizing and supporting daughters of widowed mothers like me.- A young woman who received the support

This generous financial assistance has not only made my daughter's wedding possible but has also given me the strength and hope to face life's challenges with renewed optimism. I am overwhelmed by the company's compassion and support, which has empowered me to be an active participant in my daughter's happiness.-A mother

Vivaha Sammanam Project in New Delhi

The Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project's significance lies in its commitment to supporting and uplifting widowed mothers and their daughters during one of life's most significant milestones. By providing financial assistance of Rs. 1,00,000/-daughters of widowed mothers, the project acknowledges the challenges faced by these families and extends a helping hand to ensure that the daughters' weddings are celebrated with dignity and happiness. This initiative exemplifies the Muthoot Group's dedication to social responsibility, empowering vulnerable families, and promoting gender equality by supporting the education and well-being of young women.

Number of beneficiaries: The project impacted directly 10 newly married girls, however, the project has brought in various NGOs, Social Workers and a community as the support to these girls' families.

Impacts: The impacts of the Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project have been transformative, leaving a positive and lasting impression on the lives of the beneficiaries. The financial assistance provided has alleviated the financial burden associated with wedding expenses, easing the stress on the widowed mothers and enabling them to participate wholeheartedly in their daughters' weddings. For the young women, the project has instilled a sense of empowerment, pride, and hope, giving them the opportunity to cherish their special day without any financial worries. Beyond the financial support, the project has had a far-reaching impact on the wider community by fostering a sense of inclusivity, respect, and support for widowed mothers and their daughters, setting a precedent for social upliftment and compassion.

The Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project not only provides financial assistance but also offers invaluable emotional and social support to the families involved. The support and recognition offered to widowed mothers and their daughters create a sense of belonging and worthiness, reinforcing their role in society as resilient individuals deserving of respect and care. The project's holistic approach emphasizes the importance of family and community support in celebrating life's special moments,

strengthening the bonds between widowed mothers and their daughters, and encouraging a collective sense of responsibility towards one another. Through the Muthoot Vivaha Sammanam Project, The Muthoot Group exemplifies how corporate social responsibility can make a significant difference in the lives of individuals and families, fostering a more compassionate and equitable society.

Date - 27th August 2022 - Muthoot Finance Organizes Vivahasanmanam in Madurai; Provides Financial Aid for Marriage of 18 Girls





Financial Assistance of Rs.1000000 to 10 Beneficiaries under the Vivaha Sammanam Project at Corporate Office North, Alaknanda, New Delhi on 21st Jan 2023





General Observations

- 1. Muthoot finance ltd has significantly contributed to many thrust areas in their CS initiatives such as education, infrastructural development, empowerment of women etc.
- 2. The project Vivahasammanam contributed to the lives of many young men and women in fulfilling their needs of marriage and a happy post-marital life.
- 3. The scholarships offered to higher education and school students helped them to pursue their dreams in life. This was also an appreciation for their merit in academics.
- 4. The infrastructure development support for educational and other institutions has contributed to the enhancement of the quality of education as well as extracurricular activities in those institutions.
- 5. The sports facility developed in the Sanskara School is a model facility for schools in the country and would contribute to the overall development of the children.
- 6. The Smart Anganwadi in Moolampilly is a model facility for the ICDS system in the country.
- 7. The Cup of Life campaign was a unique initiative to address a social cause.

 This has resulted in popularising menstrual cups in order to initiate a major behaviour change among young women.
- 8. The participation of local political leaders in various projects is commendable.

Recommendations

Some of the recommendations based on the observations are as follows

- The MFL shall continue to focus on the infrastructural development of educational institutions. There shall be some focus on infrastructural developments of institutions in underdeveloped regions such as tribal and rural villages.
- 2. Some of the facilities developed through the CSR funds shall be made available to the local public with proper monitoring, while they are not being used by the students in the institutions.
- 3. The scholarships provided to meritorious students are commendable. There shall be some find earmarked from merit-cum-means scholarships in order to support students from economically weaker sections.