



Press Release

Pantaloons Femina Miss India (PFMI) Winners play their role as goodwill ambassadors to perfection at Lavasa

-Inaugurate the 'Resource Centre' at Christel House, Lavasa for underprivileged children-

Lavasa, April 30, 2011: Underprivileged children from local villages studying at Christel House, Lavasa, today cheered the PFMI winners for empowering them with educational aids like computers, a projector and books. PFMI – 2011 Contest winners, Ms. Kanishtha Dhankhar - PFMI World, Miss Hasleen Kaur - PFMI Earth and Miss Ankita Shorey - PFMI International, started their two day tour of Lavasa by inaugurating the 'Resource Centre' at the school which provides quality education to the children, most of whom are first generation learners.

Christel House School at Lavasa has currently enrolled 180 students for grades from kindergarten up to the second. The school focuses on providing the students holistic education with nutritious meals, regular health care, life skills training and character development, as well as parent and community outreach. The children at Christel House are also provided free uniforms, books, healthcare, meals amongst other facilities to ensure complete nurturing and well being of each student.

Commenting on the initiative, **Mr. Rajgopal Nogja, President, Lavasa Corporation Limited**, said, "I personally believe that education is paramount in bringing about social and economic transformation. Therefore, while developing Lavasa City, one of our efforts was to set up the Christel House School to empower the underprivileged sections of the local community. The Resource Centre launched today, with modern education tools similar to those available in leading city schools will make learning interesting for these children and make learning an interesting process."

Speaking during the launch, **Ms. Nalini Garg, Principal, Christel House, Lavasa** said, "Today, due to the technological advances it is important to include the use of computers in educational programs. Learning should be an enjoyable and enriching process and children can benefit greatly from early exposure to computers. We look forward to students and teachers deriving maximum benefits from this new facility."

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About Lavasa

Lavasa is free India's first hill city being developed by HCC (Hindustan Construction Company) where people can Live, Work, Learn and Play in harmony with nature. An inclusive city, based on the principles of New Urbanism, it is fast being developed over 23,000 acres of land. It is a 3 hours drive from Mumbai and 1 hour from Pune. Lavasa will host a complement of global leaders in hospitality, tourism, education, healthcare, business research and industry. The hill city provides contemporary yet timeless architectural designs, multiple options for housing like rental housing, apartments and villas. With state of the art infrastructure and amenities, it will enable people to live life in full.

For more information, visit www.lavasa.com

About Christel House, Lavasa

Christel House School at Lavasa was inaugurated on November 12, 2010 by the school's founder, Ms. Christel Dehaan. The school at Lavasa has enrolled 180 students for grades from kindergarten up to 2nd standard and provides education, nutrition and healthcare to children from the villages at Lavasa. The students also have access to a free school bus service.

Businesswoman turned social entrepreneur Christel DeHaan founded Christel House International in 1998 by to provide quality education to economically disadvantaged children. The objective was to help children around the world break the cycle of poverty and become self sufficient, contributing members of their societies. She believed that to do so, the systemic causes of poverty—lack of essentials like education, health care, opportunity, skills, self-confidence and human dignity should be addressed. Christel House International builds and operates high social-impact learning centres in impoverished neighbourhoods and currently runs 'Learning Centers' in Mexico, Venezuela, South Africa, Indianapolis and India.

Christel House International opened its first learning center in India at Bangalore in 2001 and has witnessed outstanding achievements by the students at international levels.

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