# Bharti Foundation announces 10 year celebrations of the Satya Bharti School Program

- Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal flags off 10 year celebrations during a Head Teachers' Meeting in Satya Bharti School, Bhojpur, Uttar Pradesh

**Bhojpur, 5th August 2015:** Bharti Foundation, the development arm of Bharti Enterprises, today announced the 10 year celebrations of its flagship education initiative – the Satya Bharti School program at a school in Bhojpur, Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Co-Chairman, Bharti Foundation visited Satya Bharti School Bhojpur for a Head Teachers' Meeting. During this visit he was accompanied by the CEO of Bharti Foundation, Mr. Vijay Chadda and other key officials from the organisation to kick off the celebrations along with the students, teachers and community members. On this special occasion, Mr Mittal launched the *Saksharta Bharti Abhiyan,* under this program, all the students of our schools will make sure that their parents and family members become literate by teaching them at home. The school will honour such students and parents, once a year with certificates. The intent is to spread our mission of education and to bring the joy of reading to many more people.

254 Satya Bharti Schools across six states in India will celebrate this milestone with year-long celebrations including special programs, rewards and recognitions, events and several school activities to commemorate 10 years of quality education. The Foundation intends to celebrate this landmark achievement by effectively engaging and honouring all its stakeholders for their consistent support.

The Satya Bharti School Program provides free quality education to underprivileged children, with a special focus on the girl child. In Uttar Pradesh, the Foundation runs 16 schools that impart quality education to close to 4000 underprivileged children absolutely free of cost through 86 well trained teachers selected by a well formulated process from the surrounding communities. Bharti Foundation also supports students with welfare schemes such as free uniforms, education materials, nutritious mid-day meals among other facilities, in addition to charging absolutely no fees.

The Satya Bharti School Program envisions transforming students into educated, confident, responsible and self-reliant employable citizens of India with a deep sense of commitment to their society. The program's reach is multi-pronged, encouraging active involvement of the rural community, parents of students and like-minded organizations working in the field of education in India. Making a lasting and sustainable impact in the community where schools are present and finding innovative solutions to create replicable and scalable components in the program, ensures delivery of quality education. The Satya Bharti School program is being implemented with the intent to arrive at replicable and scalable components of quality education which may be adapted by the Government and other like-minded organizations. Reaching out to thousands of underprivileged children, the program, through its focus on holistic development, aims to bring forth a new generation of citizens eager to usher in positive change. Currently 249 primary/elementary Schools and five senior secondary schools are operational across Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal reaching out to around 40,000

children and employing 1,631 teachers. Focusing on the girl child [49% girl students] and the weaker sections of society [75% of children from SC/ST/OBC Communities], the program is one of the largest end-to-end education initiatives by a corporate group in the country.

**Some of the other initiatives of Bharti Foundation include:**

➢ **Satya Bharti Learning Centres:**

Bharti Foundation has introduced the remedial/bridge courses program in close partnership with 'Educate A Child' - a global initiative. The program aims at bridging the education gap of out of school children and mainstream them into regular schools. The first phase of the program was deployed in partnership with the Government of Rajasthan, and has now been extended to the Government of Madhya Pradesh. Currently, 259 Education Volunteers are engaged in teaching 6,619 out of school children, of which 52% are girls, enrolled at 378 Satya Bharti Learning Centres. Till now, 8,171children have been mainstreamed, with the total impact reaching up to 15,565 children.

➢ **Quality Support Program:**

This initiative envisages working with the government system and improving the quality of schools through need-based interventions. Bharti Foundation has taken learnings and best practices from Satya Bharti Schools to the Government schools for improving the overall quality of the schooling experience. The program aims to partner with Government schools and work along with its leadership and teachers to support them in their journey towards excellence. Currently, 12 schools are under active implementation reaching out to 3,709 students and 190 teachers.

➢ **Satya Bharti Abhiyan:**

Bharti Foundation has undertaken a major initiative – 'Satya Bharti Abhiyan' - to improve rural household sanitation facilities in Punjab. Inspired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister's call to the corporate sector in his 2014 Independence Day speech to strengthen Government's initiative on this score, the Foundation has decided to adopt Ludhiana district – home district of the Founders - as its focus area for improvement of rural sanitation. As part of this program, the Foundation has committed an investment of INR 100 Crores over the next three years for constructing toilets in rural households lacking such facilities in over 900 villages across the district. In addition to rural household sanitation, 'Satya Bharti Abhiyan' will also invest in improving sanitation facilities in Government schools in rural Ludhiana by building new toilets for girls, where no such facilities exist.

ೞ೮ಐ

**For further information, please contact:**
Ms. Sherry Bhawsar Malhotra
Head – Communication, Bharti Foundation
Mobile: +91 991001 9052; sherry.malhotra@bhartifoundation.org