



THE 8TH EDITION OF TEXT BOOK LENDING PROGRAMME BY EMAMI FOUNDATION COVERS 346 UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS ACROSS 3 CENTRES IN WEST BENGAL IN ONE DAY

The CSR scheme under “Padho India Padho” programme reaches out with the light of education to a total number of 1657 students since its inception

Kolkata / Hooghly, July 30, 2016: Emami Foundation, the CSR and philanthropic arm of **Emami Group of Companies**, has organised text book lending programme covering 346 students of standard XI and XII from 16 schools across 3 centres in Kolkata & Hooghly today. This is the **8th edition** of this programme under the Foundation’s educational CSR scheme “*Padho India Padho*”.

Janab Javed Ahmed Khan, Minister in Charge, Depts. of Disaster Management & Civil Defence, Govt. of West Bengal, graced the function which was held in Kolkata as the Chief Guest. Other eminent personalities & guests were present at the functions that were held at BT Road and Haripal on the same day. Around 154 students of standard XI and XII were distributed with free text books in Kolkata, while 153 and 39 students of the same standards were also brought under the scheme at the BT Road and Haripal centres simultaneously.

Emami Foundation initiated the Text Book Lending programme with 71 underprivileged students in 2013. Since its inception, the ambit of the programme gradually widened and today Emami Foundation has successfully reached out to a total of around 1657 students of class IX, X, XI & XII in schools of Kolkata & its suburbs and in the state of Assam over 8 editions of this programme.

Speaking on this occasion, **Mr. R.S. Agarwal and Mr. R.S. Goenka, Founders and Joint Chairmen, Emami Group**, said, “We at Emami Foundation believe that a strong India is only possible with an educated and aware India. Our journey started with a handful of students and till date we have been successful to cover a handsome number of 1657 students through this programme. Apart from Bengal, we have been able to take our efforts to other states like Assam also. We aspire to extend the coverage of these programmes in the coming days to a larger number of beneficiaries across the State of West Bengal as well as to many other states of the country.”

Mr. Sushil Goenka of Emami Foundation also said, “In India, school dropout is one of the biggest challenges in spreading of education. Most of the time, affording textbooks poses as one of the major obstacles for students coming from underprivileged sections of the society. The text book lending programme is thus a small endeavour by Emami Foundation to address this problem effectively. We are receiving encouraging response from teachers, students and their parents and more and more schools are approaching us to be a part of this initiative. Today we have organised the programme across 3 centres in Anandadham, Kolkata, BT Road (Kamarhati) and Haripal (Hooghly) on one single day covering 346



students. In future, we are planning to spread our connect further through print advertisements in major dailies so that needy students from the entire state and subsequently from the entire country can avail the benefit of this project.”

Apart from this, Emami Foundation, recently, has also felicitated 330 students from 15 schools of Haripal block in Hooghly for an overall excellence by securing 75% aggregate marks in their recent 10th and 12th standard exams of West Bengal Board, CBSE and ICSE board or for exhibiting proficiency in English language by securing 75% marks on the subject and pass marks in all other subjects in the same exams. The endeavour was undertaken to acknowledge the success of the rural students, recognise their achievement which otherwise remain unnoticed and to motivate them for future success.

Earlier, Emami Foundation has also awarded scholarships and certificates to B. tech students from Calcutta University to pursue their higher education and students pursuing vocational training for their skill development respectively. The Foundation also supports some schools through infrastructural donations of Fans, School Benches, and Water Purifier etc. In this financial year the Foundation is also going to construct Toilets in some of the schools.

About Emami Group:

Emami Group, is a diversified business conglomerate enjoying a market valuation of about Rs 45,000 cr. Generating employment for over 25,000 employees, the Group has significant presence with leadership positions in diversified industries such as **FMCG – Emami Ltd.**, the flagship company of the Group & one of the leading FMCG companies in the country engaged in manufacturing & marketing of personal care and healthcare products like Navratna, BoroPlus, Zandu Balm, Fair & Handsome, Menthoplus Balm and Kesh King; **Bio Diesel and Edible Oil - Emami Agrotech Ltd.** –3rd largest edible oil company in India. It is also the only Bio-diesel manufacturer in Eastern India; **Paper - Emami Paper Mills**, India’s largest newsprint manufacturer; **Writing Instrument - CRI Tips**, world’s 3rd largest ball point tip manufacturer; **Realty - Emami Realty**, a leading real estate company; **Healthcare - AMRI Hospitals**, Eastern India’s largest chain of private hospitals; **Retail –Frank Ross and Starmark**, largest pharmacy retail chain in the East & one of the largest leisure-cum-book store chains in India and **Contemporary Art - Emami Chisel Art**, one of the largest art galleries in India. The Group is setting up a **Cement operation** with a combined capacity of 5 MTPA with a state-of-the-art integrated plant of 1.5 MTPA at Chattisgarh and split grinding units of 2.0 MTPA in West Bengal and 1.5 MTPA in Odisha at a total investment of around Rs.3000 cr. The Group also has around 70 MW Solar Power Generation projects in hand in Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand.

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