

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Policy

Philosophy

The socially and environmentally responsible approach of Ion Foundation is enshrined in the vision statement of its parent Company Ion Exchange (I) Ltd: 'To be the leader in our business which is so vital to people's lives and the environment.'

While Ion Exchange has implemented various CSR Initiatives in the past – be it providing 'Zero B' drinking water purifiers free/at subsidized cost to institutions that cater to the lower economic strata or development of technology for rural India for removal of iron, nitrates, fluoride and arsenic contaminants from water or sending our mobile disaster management unit to flood affected sites, these initiatives will now be taken up by Ion Foundation, specifically set up for CSR activities.

Vision

To empower the economically disadvantaged towards social equality and to refresh our environment.

Objective

To ensure economic development of communities, enabling the disadvantaged to realize their potential and move towards a better tomorrow.

Focus Areas

Education, Health & Hygiene, Environment

Education

Our goal is to facilitate learning and knowledge among the young through:

- Balwadis / schools
- Remedial education
- Special needs education
- Vocational training

Health & Hygiene:

Our goal is to support health care by providing :

- Pure drinking water

- Sanitation facilities
- Health awareness programs
- Medical assistance

Environment:

Our goal is to refresh the environment through :

- Plantation of trees
- Rain Water harvesting
- Environment Awareness programs/ campaigns

PROCESS

1. Project Identification

All projects are identified in a participatory manner, in consultation with respective location employee-volunteers /NGOs/communities. In all cases, the participatory rural mapping process is followed.

NGOs/Project Partner Identification: Should have proven track record and credibility; ensure that projects are selected on `need-basis`, time-bound and have long-term impact allowing for employee involvement.

2. Project Implementation

All CSR initiatives under the Ion Exchange umbrella will be implemented by Ion Foundation.

Our focus will be on projects near our manufacturing operations/Envirofarm sites, besides other locations. A study will be made by the location employee in charge of CSR to identify felt-needs relating to our focus areas.

A meeting will then be scheduled with the competent authority of the School/Institute/NGO/Zilla Parishad /Municipal Corporation, to assist in identifying the right beneficiaries and project.

From the proposals received, only projects that meet our criteria will be presented to the Ion Foundation Board for their approval.

3. Project Monitoring

NGOs/Institutions are required to submit progress/annual reports on a regular basis.

Employees are required to make periodic visits and monitor the effectiveness and impact of the project. The Board will be updated on the progress of the project on a regular basis and will provide the necessary guidelines.

Budget & Expenditure

2% Net Profit Before Tax of Ion Exchange (India) Ltd.

The annual budget will include project based budgets of both new and ongoing projects.

Allocation of funds for specific projects will be need-based and expenditure for post secondary education not to exceed 20% of the total budget. Recommendations are to be supported with academic progress of the student and proof of admission.

Payment

Payment for projects approved by the board, to be made by cheque along with supporting documents and utilization for the purpose for which it is identified, as certified by the CSR committee.

Quarterly/half yearly payment would depend on the activity / project undertaken.

Documentation

All information pertaining to CSR activity to be tabled during the CSR review meetings. The information to be captured into a Software package.

CSR employee at location to be responsible for documenting & tracking activities at respective location.

A copy of all reports to be maintained at Corporate Office.

Information Dissemination

A brief note on the CSR Policy approved by the Board will be shared with the stakeholders.

Management Commitment

Our Management is fully committed to implementing this policy in its true spirit.

We will maintain principles of transparency and openness, with integrity and fairness.