



Press Release

## Emotions run high at the inauguration of Christel House Lavasa

*“We never thought our kids will be able to speak English and study at a good educational facility” say villagers*

**Lavasa, November 11, 2010:** Representatives of the 18 villages within Lavasa were emotionally charged up during the inauguration of Christel House School’s Lavasa facility, when they heard their children recite poems and songs in English and Hindi at a function held to felicitate Ms. Christel DeHann, the founder of Christel House International, an organization that focuses on empowering underprivileged kids through education.

Ms. Christel DeHann was at Lavasa to formally inaugurate Christel House Lavasa, a school jointly started with Lavasa Corporation Limited for providing education to underprivileged kids from local villages in Lavasa.

Felicitating Ms. Christel DeHaan and Mr. Ajit Gulabchand, Chairman, Lavasa Corporation Ltd. (LCL), villagers thanked both for starting the educational facility. Mr. Anukush Shedge from Mugaon village in his speech said, “We were initially skeptical when the school authorities approached us to admit our wards in the school. Today hearing our kids recite poems in English and Hindi makes us feel that we have made the right decision. When we were young we did not have access to good education facilities. Our kids will now have a better quality of life as they will benefit immensely from the education provided by Christel House Lavasa.”

Mr. Swapan More villager from Dasve said, ‘The inauguration of a education facility like Christel House Lavasa was akin to getting the holy river Ganga, in this case the river of knowledge to the region which will empower our children.’



Mr. Laxman Pasalkar, Head, Mose Khore Vikas Sangh, speaking extempore said, “I am lost for words while expressing my gratitude to Christel House and Lavasa for starting such a good facility for our children. We will extend all our support and not let any villager withdraw their wards from the school till they complete their education.”

Christel House School at Lavasa commenced its academic year in July 2010. The formal inauguration was done on November 12, 2010 by the school’s founder, Ms. Christel Dehaan. The school at Lavasa has enrolled 180 students for grades Kindergarten up to 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Christel De Haan, Founder, Christel House International said, “After many years of running a successful business creating marketing capital, I decided to focus on developing human capital. Empowering these young wonderful kids through education ensures that they and their forthcoming generations will lead a quality life. Christel House Lavasa is our second school for the underprivileged in India and with active support from Lavasa Corporation we will take this initiative to greater heights.”

Mr. Ajit Gulabchand, Chairman, Lavasa Corporation Limited, said, “We are happy to see the support that Christel House Lavasa has received from the local villagers and are committed to supporting the school over the long term.”

Adding further he said, “We had filed a legal suit against The Sunday Times (London) for inaccurate reporting and distortion of facts in a story on Lavasa about a year ago. The publication has tendered an apology and has offered to settle the suit for a consideration of £30,000, which we will be donating to Christel House Lavasa.”



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. Students from Bangalore school participated in various activities like Summer Football Camp in Dubai, organized by the Transguard Elite Sporting Academy (TESA), Dubai in June 2010, participated in The First Annual Global Adobe Youth Voices Summit – Summer 2009 that was held at Stanford University, California, USA, Rakshitha's Story, a documentary film made by students was also selected for the International Kids for Kids Film Festival in Naples, Italy in November, 2007.

### **About Christel House International**

Christel House International was founded in 1998 by businesswoman turned social entrepreneur Christel DeHaan 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 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.

### **About Lavasa:**

Lavasa is a hill city being developed by Lavasa Corporation Limited where people can live, work, learn and play in harmony with nature. Based on the principles of New Urbanism, it is being developed over 9,460 acres of land, 3 hours' drive from Mumbai and an hours' drive from Pune. Lavasa will host a complement of industry leaders in hospitality, tourism, education and healthcare. The hill city provides multiple options for housing like rental housing, apartments and villas. It will thus enable people to live life in full.

### **Working with local community**



Lavasa Corporation Limited since inception has initiated a number of development and empowerment programs for the local community at Lavasa. Key initiatives include:

- **Creche**

Creche is a day care centre for the children of labour at site run by Lavasa Corporation Limited. The centre is managed by Tara Mobile Creches (Pune) – an organization that has been setting up a day care centre for children of unprivileged working mothers at construction sites for last 40 years. They have centers spread all over the country.

**Disclaimer:**

Lavasa Corporation Limited is proposing, subject to receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, a public issue of its equity shares and has filed a Draft Red Herring Prospectus with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (“SEBI”) which is available on the website of SEBI at <http://www.sebi.gov.in> and the websites of the Book Running Lead Managers at, <http://www.icicisecurities.com>; <http://www.kmcc.co.in>; <http://www.morganstanley.com/indiaofferdocuments> ; and <http://www.axisbank.com> .

Potential investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and should refer to the section “Risk Factors” in the Draft Red Herring Prospectus. These materials are not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into United States (including its territories and possessions, any state of the United States and the District of Columbia). These materials are not an offer of securities for sale into the United States, Canada or Japan. The securities referred to herein have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and may not be offered or sold in the United States, except pursuant to an applicable exemption from registration.

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