

Press Release

**International Paper launches 2 programs aimed to enable quality education to underprivileged students in 6 Districts of Andhra Pradesh**

- Launches Project Saathi and IP India Foundation Scholarship program for deserving students
- Initiative reaches out to Vizag, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Vijayanagaram and Prakasham

Hyderabad/Rajahmundry, India 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 – International Paper APPM Limited (IP-APPM), today announced the launch of 2 programs - **Project Saathi** and **IP India Foundation Scholarship**, to ensure continued education to the meritorious students of underserved families. Overall around 60 school students will benefit from these 2 programs initially, in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

**IP India Foundation (IPIF) Scholarship** is aimed to attract and retain a growing body of diverse, qualified, accomplished and ambitious students. IPIF Scholarship will support 28 students, from 6 districts of Andhra Pradesh (Vizag, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, and Prakasham), who despite the adversity still secured excellent marks in their 10<sup>th</sup> standard exams. These students were also provided solar lamps by IP-APPM under its **Project kSitija** last year to prepare for their board exams. These students were selected from a total of 185 applications from 70 Zilla Parishad High School. The criterion for the application was the student should score minimum of 10 percentile in at least 3 subjects - Mathematics, Social Studies and Science. Under the 2 year scholarship, an amount of INR 7000 would be awarded each year by IP-APPM to the selected students to complete their intermediate studies. In addition to this, a dedicated teacher from their school will also be mentoring the students.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> initiative - **Project Saathi** is a wholly employee owned project, wherein significant contributions were made by over 100 IP employees to support 32 meritorious students. The Project Saathi will support educational fee and other basic study material for these children to aid their education. The children otherwise would have been supporting their family to earn a living. These children are now studying at APPM Model School in Rajahmundry and doing well in their studies.

While launching these programs, **Mr. Rampraveen Swaminathan, President, International Paper - India and Chairman and Managing Director – IP-APPM** said, *“Education has been one of the key*

*pillars of our CSR initiatives. We feel proud even if a fraction of deserving students could excel in their career with our small support. We are also encouraged to see that our employees share the same vision and have generously come forward to support the cause.”*

IP-APPM has been continuously working towards creating better infrastructure for the school students under its corporate social responsibility program. In addition to running APPM Model School since 5 decades which was the 1<sup>st</sup> English medium school in Rajahmundry (Andhra Pradesh), IP-APPM also provided benches, drinking water, toilets, schools bags, shoes, etc. to the schools in rural areas. IP-APPM has also provided over 4500 solar lamps to the students of 10<sup>th</sup> standard to ensure that they could prepare for board exams during electricity cuts in villages. The lamps provided 4.5 lakh study hours to the students last year.

#### **About International Paper APPM Limited**

International Paper APPM Limited (IPAPPM), a group company of International Paper in India, is a leading manufacturer of pulp and paper products and caters to both domestic and foreign markets. IPAPPM produces writing, printing and copier papers at its two manufacturing units in Andhra Pradesh, which have a total paper production capacity of 240,000 metric tons per year. The company is becoming a driving force in sustainability in the paper manufacturing arena in the world economy with sales of approximately US \$182 million, focused social and community programs including its own pioneering work in raw material generation through social farm forestry and a very strong strategic growth focus. International Paper owns a majority shareholding interest in IPAPPM and the remaining shares are publicly traded on the Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange in India. For more information on IPAPPM, please visit [ipappm.com](http://ipappm.com).

#### **About International Paper**

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a global leader in packaging and paper with manufacturing operations in North America, Europe, Latin America, Russia, Asia and North Africa. Its businesses include industrial and consumer packaging and uncoated papers. Headquartered in Memphis, Tenn., the company employs approximately 65,000 people and is strategically located in more than 24 countries serving customers worldwide. International Paper net sales for 2013 were \$29 billion (which included our now divested xpedx business). For more information about International Paper, its products and stewardship efforts, visit [internationalpaper.com](http://internationalpaper.com).

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