



Bharti Airtel
Foundation

Bharti Airtel Foundation & Directorate of School Education, Kashmir

Scale Up Teacher's Professional Development Program

Complete Phase 1; Unveil Phase 2 at SCERT Srinagar

Srinagar, 16 February 2026: Bharti Airtel Foundation, in collaboration with the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir (DSEK), today, announced the launch of Phase 2 of the Teachers' Professional Development Program at State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) Srinagar, following the successful completion of Phase 1. The program is delivered through Bharti Airtel Foundation's *TheTeacherApp*, a free-for-life digital platform, which offers field-tested content, collaborative spaces, and practical tools for building teacher capacity to enhance classroom impact and drive sustainable learning outcomes.

The event was graced by Chief Guest - Sh. Syed Shabir Ahmad, JKAS, Joint Director (Central) Kashmir, DSEK; Sh. Jan Mudasir Gul, OSD CEW – DSEK; Sh. Anil Bhat, Regional Head and Ms. Veena Tyagi, Lead: Partnerships and Implementation from Bharti Airtel Foundation along with other representatives from the Foundation.

Phase 1, launched on 14 November 2024, focused on three core learning themes: **Enhancing Teaching through Effective Learning Materials, Cultivating Foundations for Literacy Success, and Building Blocks of Numeracy**. It saw participation across the region, with 27K+ teachers onboarded onto *TheTeacherApp* and more than 24K+ certificates issued upon successful completion of the assessments.

On this occasion, Bharti Airtel Foundation, in collaboration with DSEK, felicitated outstanding teachers who emerged as top achievers in the TLM Competition launched through *TheTeacherApp*. Teachers demonstrating a strong growth mindset and proactive engagement throughout the program were recognised and appreciated for their commitment to continuous professional development. The top-performing districts, with the highest percentage of teachers successfully completing courses on *TheTeacherApp*, were also acknowledged, and their District Nodal Officers were presented Certificates of Appreciation by Sh. Syed Shabir Ahmad.

In the initial phase, the program witnessed strong participation, sustained engagement, and measurable completion of outcomes across the region. The structured modules, assessments,

and collaborative learning approach enabled teachers to effectively translate learning into improved classroom practices, laying a strong foundation for the next phase.

Building on this momentum, the Phase 2, formally launched at the occasion, will have an expanded focus on technology integration and future-ready teaching practices, covering **Technological Skills, Sustainability and Life Skills**, and **Pedagogy and Mentoring Strategies**. The new phase will include advanced AI-enabled learning through AI Samarth courses and webinars, equipping teachers with digital tools to enhance classroom engagement and instructional effectiveness.

Speaking at the launch event, **Sh. Syed Shabir Ahmad, JKAS, Joint Director (Central) Kashmir, DSEK**, said, *“The Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, is fully committed to empowering our teachers as change-makers in education. Our partnership with Bharti Airtel Foundation through TheTeacherApp is truly transformative, and we believe that Phase 2's focus on AI and technology will revolutionise teaching practices across the region of Kashmir, sparking innovation and bridging gaps for sustainable progress.”*

Anil Bhat, Regional Head – Bharti Airtel Foundation, said, *“The overwhelming participation in Phase 1 underscores Kashmir's growing embrace of structured digital professional development. With Phase 2, we are deepening our focus on technology integration and AI-enabled learning to equip educators for an evolving education landscape. The dedication shown by teachers across the region has been truly inspiring, and this next phase will further strengthen their technological skills and mentoring capabilities, driving sustained improvements in classroom practice.”*

The continued partnership between Bharti Airtel Foundation and the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir reaffirms their shared commitment to improving education quality through scalable, technology-driven teacher empowerment.

About Bharti Airtel Foundation:

Bharti Airtel Foundation was established in 2000 as the philanthropic arm of Bharti Enterprises. The Foundation works in the space of holistic, quality education in rural India, with a special focus on the girl child, and supports higher education programs in partnership with premier institutions. Since 2006, the flagship **Satya Bharti School Program** has been providing quality education to thousands of underprivileged children in rural India. Currently, over 36,000

children are enrolled in 155 Satya Bharti Schools, of which 51% are girls. The impact of quality education has been further extended through the **Quality Support Program (QSP)**, which has transferred the learnings and best practices of the Satya Bharti School Program to over 4.35 lakh students in approximately 1,100 partner government schools across 12 States/UTs since 2013. The Foundation's digital platform, **TheTeacherApp**, one of the country's most innovative technology solutions for educators, has over 1.9 lakh registered users. Through various scholarship programs, including the **Bharti Airtel Scholarship**, the Foundation has supported over 2,000 scholars (44% of them girls) since its inception, creating higher education opportunities for children from underserved communities.

Since its inception, Bharti Airtel Foundation has positively impacted over 3.7 million children and more than 7 million individuals through its various programs.

For more information, please visit: <https://bhartiairtelfoundation.org/>