

NEWS RELEASE

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ING Vysya employees contribute Rs 70 Lakhs to UNICEF

-Contribution made for children to graduate to mainstream schools from bridge schools

Bangalore 4th September 2008:

Employees of ING Group's businesses in India, including ING Vysya Bank, ING Vysya Life and ING Investment Management, through its CSR arm - **ING Vysya Foundation**, announced a contribution of Rs.70 Lakhs towards UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. The funds were raised towards the Annual fund raising initiative, meant to help children from the UNICEF supported bridge schools to graduate into mainstream schools.

ING Group worldwide runs its CSR campaign, called Chances for Children (CFC). In countries including India, Ethiopia and Brazil, the Chances for Children programme is associated with UNICEF to promote primary education to children who were child labourers earlier.

In India, the Chances for Children programme supports **200 schools** in the districts of Dharampuri and Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu. Children attending these schools were bonded laborers earlier. The programme has given them a chance to break the cycle of poverty and supported them through three years of education and learning at Bridge Schools. These children will now graduate to mainstream schools. The programme has been running for the last 3 years and has reached out to more than 5,000 deserving underprivileged children.

ING Vysya Foundation on behalf of ING Vysya presented a cheque of Rs. 70 lakhs to Mr Thomas George, Director - UNICEF India. On the occasion, the underprivileged children presented a musical-skit on the exciting journey of a child from being a child labour to a student.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Vaughn Richtor, MD & CEO of ING Vysya Bank who is also an Ambassador of the ING CFC programme, stated: *"I'm delighted that our employees have participated enthusiastically to raise Rupees 70 lakhs for UNICEF. In the last three years, the Chances for Children programme has grown with the support of UNICEF, and today has made positive contribution towards one of the world's largest social cause, child labour. The foundation will continue to work towards the upliftment of underprivileged children"*.

Mr. Kshitij Jain, MD & CEO, ING Vysya Life stated *"The Chances for Children program should help existing children complete their third year, and thereby graduate from a bridge school to a mainstream school. It is heartening to know that*

we have already reached out to more than 5000 underprivileged children, and prevented them from child labour. ING Vysya Foundation and UNICEF have brought about a change in the lives of these children.”

The first fund raising campaign was called '**Back to School**', followed by '**I Love My School**'. This year, the campaign is called “**Class of 2008**”, which assures continuity in education for the third year.

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About ING Group

ING is a global financial institution of Dutch origin providing banking, investments, life insurance and retirement services to over 75 million customers in Europe, the United States, Canada, Latin America, Asia and Australia. ING Group is the world's 7th largest* company and the only financial institution in the world's top 10 corporations. ING employs around 125,000 people in more than 50 countries. The ING brand ranks # 81 in the Interbrand top-100. ING is also title sponsor of the ING Renault Formula One team.

About ING in India

ING operates through three businesses in India, ING Vysya Life Insurance, ING Vysya Bank and ING Investment Management. ING Vysya Bank is a premier private sector bank with over 76-year heritage and 1.5 million satisfied customers. ING Investment Management comprises of two operations: ING Fund is a mid sized asset management company with a retail investor focus and Optimix is a fund of funds business.

About ING Chances for Children

ING Chances for Children is an ING corporate program in partnership with UNICEF that aims to give 50,000 children in India, Brazil and Ethiopia access to education before the end of 2007 and to improve the quality of education in the local communities in which ING businesses are active. The key objective of the ING Chances for Children program is to improve the well-being of children aged 4-12 worldwide by giving them access to free, basic schooling that aims to develop each child's ability to the fullest. ING Chances for Children will be doing this by giving children access to education, providing the necessary skills and through investment in educational organizations. For more information visit www.ingchancesforchildren.com