

**NEWS RELEASE****Fullerton India launches its 'GURUKUL' centre in Coimbatore**

*Partners with SSJFT to train youth on the basic skills required for entry level jobs*

**Coimbatore, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2018:** Fullerton India, a leading non-banking financial company in India with a strong pan-India presence, has joined hands with Shree Sarita Jain Foundation Trust (SSJFT), an NGO, to launch 'GURUKUL' – a skill development centre aimed at empowering youth in and around Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The programme, which will be managed by Laurus Edutech, the sister concern of SSJFT, will be conducted at the centre located at Vadavalli in Coimbatore.

The GURUKUL project rests on multiple pillars which include skill building, social entrepreneurship and training, weaved into a 180 hour residential program. The initiative has been conceptualised with the aim to train youth on basic skills for entry level jobs in the banking and finance sector. The curriculum covers modules on BFSI. The new centre in Coimbatore, aims to support the training of around 300 youth from the region in its first year of operations.

Commenting on the launch, **Mr. Vishal Wadhwa, Head of Rural Business, Fullerton India** said, *"India has one of the youngest populations in the world and a bulk of this labour force is largely untouched by any kind of formal training. As part of the Corporate Social Responsibility at Fullerton India we are committed to bridge this skill gap and have initiated this exclusive project for 'Skill Development for Youth'. Fullerton India already has a presence of five GURUKUL centres across Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat and is committed to advance the livelihoods of the rural community through skill development and capacity building initiatives."*

In the past around 2000 candidates were trained through Gurukul programme, out of which, 70% have been successfully employed. The new centre in Coimbatore will not only prepare the youth in the region for entry level jobs, but will also help improve their standard of living in the years to come.

This project has been introduced under the CSR arm of Fullerton India – UDAY, which focuses on three keys aspects of development, namely social, economic, and the environment. Some of the other CSR initiatives by Fullerton India include Jeevika – vocational training programme for women, Jyoti – vision care initiatives, Pashu Vikas – cattle care programmes, Akshar – English-speaking and personality development courses, Niramaya – general health check-up camps for women and children and Krishi Mitra – organic farming and bee keeping programmes amongst others. Over the past two years, Fullerton India has also been working closely with various partners to provide mid-day meals in government schools for over 10,000 children across the country.

**About Fullerton India Credit Company Limited:**

Fullerton India Credit Company Limited (Fullerton India) is one of India's leading Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC). The total standalone revenue of the company for the fiscal year ending March 2018 stood at Rs. 2,749 crore. As on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018, the standalone AUM of the company stood at Rs. 15,776 crore, serving over 19.50 lakhs customers through a widespread network of 559 branches spread across 22 states and 3 union territories, reaching out to 600 towns and over 55,000 villages in the country. Fullerton India offers several retail finance products for varying needs of customers ranging from rural households to SMEs, in the locations it serves. In December 2015, Fullerton India launched its housing finance company – Grihashakti. The company is headquartered in Mumbai and operates through 62 branches spread across 9 states – Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan,



Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and West Bengal. Fullerton India is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fullerton Financial Holdings, Singapore, which is again a subsidiary of Temasek Holdings, Singapore.

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