

HDFC and H T Parekh Foundation celebrate a collaborative effort for the completion and handover of 75 disaster resilient homes

On December 19, 2019, the **H T Parekh Foundation and HDFC Kerala branch offices** held an inauguration event in Kochi to commemorate the strength and resilience of the families affected by the 2018 floods and to appreciate the efforts of various stakeholders who were instrumental in the successful completion of **75 disaster resilient homes**.

The inaugural event was attended by over **250 people** including beneficiary families, our NGO partners, HDFC staff from Kochi and Trivandrum branches and representatives from the Panchayat, District and State Government of Kerala.

Keynote speakers included **our Chairman, Mr. Deepak S. Parekh** and **Dr. Vishwas Mehta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala**. An interactive session by Salil Kumar (HDFC, Trivandrum) was moderated for all stakeholders to share their experience and learnings on the project.



“ I greatly appreciate the efforts of HDFC to make a difference in the lives of these 75 families present here today. I look forward to the continuous support from HDFC for its corporate philanthropic activities for the state of Kerala. ”

Dr. Vishwas Mehta, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala

Takeaways

- HDFC Kerala had participated in early relief activities and proactively reached out to the Foundation during the rehabilitation phase for support.
- The Foundation team provided financial support and led the strategy and operational plan for the project.
- HDFC Kerala brought in their design and technical expertise and led monitoring for the project.
- Partnering with two NGOs with over 50 years of grassroot experience helped in mobilising the community and implement the project effectively.
- Our collaborative efforts in bringing different stakeholders together created a platform where everyone was able to share knowledge and bring in fresh perspectives enabling the project to be completed on time.



[Click here to watch the video presented at the event](#)

Event Gallery



Kerala Floods 2018: Building Shelters for the Homeless

On 16 August 2018, Kerala woke up to a one of the worst floods in nearly a century. Over a million people were affected due to this unprecedented disaster. **North Paravur in Ernakulam district** and **Kuttanad in Alleppey district** were two of the worst affected regions, forcing hundreds of people to leave their homes that were destroyed due to the floods and move to relief camps and temporary shelters.

HDFC teams from Kochi and Trivandrum and the H T Parekh Foundation stepped in to support 75 families rebuild their homes. Our objective was to support the most distressed families that needed long term rehabilitation; hence we focused on **single women households, senior citizens and families having persons with disabilities**.

We also partnered with two NGOs - **Ernakulam Social Service Society (ESSS)** and **Changanacherry Social Service Society (CHASSS)**, local Panchayat members and the District Administration to select beneficiaries, provide all approvals on legal matters and work together to avoid duplication of efforts.

HDFC Kerala's in-house expertise gave us the comparative advantage to rebuild and closely monitor the construction of the disaster resilient homes. The team conducted monthly visits to ensure timely completion of the project. Each constructed house is **420 square feet** and has a **toilet, kitchen, concrete roofing, living room** and **two bedrooms**. To make these homes disaster resilient, various technical aspects were taken into consideration such raising the plinth by a total of 5 feet to prevent rainwater from coming into the house, setting the foundation bed at 3 feet width to keep it sturdy and aluminium sun shades were put up on the doors and windows of the houses.

Important Milestones

November 2018

On ground assessment of the damage was conducted in two of the worst affected regions:
 1. Paravur in Ernakulam District
 2. Kuttanad in Alleppey District

December 2018

Consultations were held between the affected communities, Panchayat members and technical experts.

 A total of 75 families were selected to rebuild their homes
 • 25 families in two villages of Ernakulam district by ESSS
 • 50 families in four villages of Alleppey district by CHASSS

January 2019

All legal permissions were completed.

 Construction of 25 homes begin in Ernakulam by ESSS

February 2019

Construction of 50 homes begin in Alleppey by CHASSS

June 2019

Construction of 25 homes completed in Ernakulam.

November 2019

Construction of all 75 homes are completed

Flood Damaged Homes



New Disaster Resilient Homes



Completed Disaster Resilient Homes in Ernakulam District





HT Parekh
FOUNDATION

An Initiative by
HDFC
WITH YOU, RIGHT THROUGH

Completed Disaster Resilient Homes in Alleppey District



Completed Disaster Resilient Homes in Alleppey District



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