

# Senior citizens help make Domlur govt school smart

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** A group of senior citizens — aged between 62 and 94 — left over 175 high school students smiling after the inauguration of five smart classrooms in Karnataka Public School, Domlur, on Wednesday.

Senior Citizens Bangalore, which has adopted the school, initiated different projects, including building lunch rooms, bathrooms, providing water filters and furniture, at a cost of Rs 25 lakh over the last eight years. Last year, the group helped install three smart classrooms by a charitable trust. After having found it to be effective, they prompted Larsen and Turbo to fund five other classrooms.

The school, with classes 1 to 12, has 529 students and 25 teachers. The smart classrooms, provided by Ebix Classroom, will cater to classes 8 to 12 students.

“Smart classes are extremely helpful in getting con-



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cepts cleared. They help students visualise and reduce the burden on the teacher to explain the concepts. However, we are yet to analyse its impact on our results,” said Sheela Bhatt, a mathematics teacher at the school. The school has achieved 80% pass percentage in SSLC exam.

“During our regular tea meetings, we retirees would discuss about doing good and giving back to society. Suddenly, we saw children passing by in crumpled uniform and barefoot. So, we thought of pro-

viding shoes to them. When we talked to these kids, we realised they are from the lower strata of society but with big aspirations. That’s when we decided to do something for them,” VA Sastry, former director of Infosys and secretary of Senior Citizens Bangalore, pointed out.

Senior Citizens Bangalore has 48 members from all walks of life and now works with seven urban and rural schools impacting 3,000 students, while also providing scholarships and helping destitute homes.

An excited group of children interacted with IPS officer Seemant Kumar Singh, who inaugurated the smart classrooms. “If you want to become a police officer, or do well in any career, you must study well and listen to your teachers and parents. If you work hard in the first 25 years of your life, the next phase will be taken care of,” he told the students.