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Director's Page

India is home to the largest child population in the world. The Government of India in the month of April adopted the National Policy for Children, 2013. It has its basis in the Constitution of India, the Directive Principles of State Policy, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Universal Declara-



tion of Human Rights and other Covenants. The key priorities of this policy are survival, health, nutrition, development, education, protection and participation of children. Don Bosco YaR Forum India has also come out with a child policy which again is based on the above mentioned documents.

Recently, BREADS participated in the POCSO Act and Rules 2012 (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012) workshop organized by Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR) at the Karnataka Judicial Academy in Bangalore. Upon receiving firsthand knowledge on the topic from magistrates, police personnel, district collectors and NCPCR representatives, BREADS has taken up the responsibility of disseminating this information to all the YaR centres to enable them to take informed decisions/actions when confronted with such a situation. BREADS has also equipped each of its project partners with a copy of the National Policy for Children 2013, POCSO and other relevant documents related to children.

In this issue of "SLICE" we would like to present the Charter of Demands from the Consultations on MDGs organized by BREADS in Karnataka.

Best Wishes,

Fr Joy Nedumparambil sdb

Executive Director

Major events in July

1st – Consultation on "Children and Health" in Raichur

19th – Students from Mount Carmel college visited BREADS

25th – 26th – Participation in the Workshop on practical guidance for BMZ project proposals, Coimbatore

27th – Participation in the POCSO workshop at Karnataka Judicial Academy, organized by KSCPCR

 27^{th} – Accenture volunteers visited BREADS to interact with the students of Hospitality Management

Upcoming events in August

Between 2^{nd} and 22^{nd} - CREAM Project monitoring visits to all the 10 districts

 7^{th} – 8^{th} – Out bound training for DB Tech trainers in Southern States

16th – 17th – Training programme for ITI sophomores, Vaduthala

22nd - Induction programme for ITI batch, KGF

23rd – Participation in the 'Sustainable development and collective responsibility forum' organized by Only4Cause

News ...



Building Future - Field Visit

The first batch trainees of construction – under TATA Housing project had a field visit on 6th July to one of the TATA construction sites. The trainees were first oriented on safety induction before going to the work place. More...



Free Eye camp at Karimadom Colony, Trivandrum

On 28th July, 2013 Trivandrum Don Bosco Veedu society conducted a free eye camp in collaboration with Chaithanya Sight Foundation at Karimadom colony near Manacaud, Trivandrum. More...



Accenture Volunteers visit BREADS

Volunteers from Accenture visited BREADS on 27th July to have an interaction with the students of Hospitality Course here. BREADS played host to 30 volunteers, who also came forward to facilitate sessions on specific topics. More...

LISTENING TO THE PEOPLE - Consultation on MDGs POST 2015



BREADS organized three consultations in Karnataka, in collaboration with district NGO networks to provide a platform for people from different walks, allowing them to reflect on the existing development approaches against the framework of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The consultations were organized as under:

Children: Governance and Equity, Bangalore Children and Education, Davangere Children and Health, Raichur

In the process, the participants were facilitated to recognize and articulate their priorities that have to be addressed in the new framework being developed by world leaders. Children's participation has been the most appreciated part in these programmes.

The following charter was prepared considering the issues and concerns raised during these consultations. To ensure that children's participation is respected, their set of demands is also presented separately.

CHARTER OF DEMANDS FROM CHILDREN

State must not discriminate between children studying in private & government schools; must initiate steps to ensure the same quality of education in all schools, with the requisite opportunities & facilities.

Authorities in institutions dealing directly with children (schools, hospitals, police department, Children's Homes, etc) must be child friendly and approachable, giving the space for children to express their concerns and apprehensions. Care takers who turn abusers must be punished immediately and severely.

State must provide free health care services for all, without any compromise on the quality (whether it is in rural/ urban area or government/private institutions); must ensure equitable access to clean drinking water and enforce ban on vices like smoking, drinking and substance abuse.





CHARTER OF DEMANDS FROM ADULTS

HEALTH - Universalise health care services based on an integrated planning exercise – that will look into promoting awareness on nutrition, breast feeding, superstitions, safe sanitation practices, standardized vaccinations and consumption of local food grains. In the long run, the departments of agriculture and health must promote organic farming (with due support systems), in view of the conflating interests in health. (e.g. 30% of arable land must be brought under organic farming by 2030).

EDUCATION - The state must progressively introduce a universal system of education with a common fee structure and syllabus, ensuring support for the children from marginalized communities. English must be taught as a compulsory language in all the schools. No child must be discriminated on any grounds (social/economic differences, types of schools, administrative reasons like lack of personnel, etc) in accessing good quality education.

GOVERNANCE & EQUITY - Child care and protection systems must be strengthened to function optimally. Interdepartmental coordination and accountability must be ensured at all levels of administration so that the beneficiaries of various schemes/incentives are not affected. Systems must promote children's participation in decisions concerning them. Local self government institutions must be strengthened and capacitated to monitor schemes at the grass root level, in collusion with the communities.