



Don Bosco

Director's Note

Kerala witnessed the worst flooding in nearly a century. Over 483 people died, 14 are missing. At least a million people were evacuated. All 14 districts of the state were placed on red alert. According to the Kerala government, one-sixth of the total population of Kerala has been directly affected by the floods and related incidents. 20000 houses were destroyed and 40000 hectares of farm land were submerged. Whose fault was this? Was it man-made or a natural calamity? A review is imperative so that this does not happen again; at least, in the way it happened.

The province of Bangalore and its Don Bosco institutions rose to the occasion in rescue and relief operations, and this issue of Slice has the details. BREADS is grateful to Don Bosco Network, the mission offices, agencies, other provinces, salesian communities in Karnataka, past pupils in Mumbai and Bangalore, and volunteers for joining us in supporting the relief operations in our various DB centres in Kerala. We have a dream to build houses for those who have become homeless. Let's join together in building their future together.

With best wishes,

Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB
Executive Director
BREADS Bangalore



News



Training on waste management, vermicomposting and organic farming

Environment and ecology, the two concepts being embraced and high on agenda at the present time among the vast majority of people. The increasing frequency and intensity of natural calamities/disasters regionally and globally are the warning signs to pay attention to the cause. The time to resume from the pause of thoughts has crossed and it's the time to evolve and act as environmentally responsible ... [more](#)



Training for teachers on Child Rights

Chithra Don Bosco in collaboration with Nisarga Child Rights Club Federation organized two days training and interaction programme for the high school teachers of various Government higher primary schools of Chitradurga district on 27th and 28th of August 2018. The whole programme evolved as a result of the hardwork and efforts of the CREAM staff under the able guidance of Ms. Veena, CREAM ... [more](#)



The unbeatable spirit of unity ignited at the moment of crisis

Kerala is battling the greatest devastation seen nearly in a century due to the unprecedented floods. The damage created on lives, property, agriculture and plants are huge. The massive hit by the rain triggered fear, havoc and chaos where over 350 have lost life, thousands are missing and more than 350000 have been displaced from their homes. In addition, the government estimates a loss of about one lakh... [more](#)

Events

August 2018

- Independence Day celebrations in the Don Bosco projects
- Training on waste management, vermicomposting and organic farming at DB provincial house, Bangalore
- Monitoring and evaluation of the BREADS projects at BOSCO Bangalore
- Awareness session at CMR College, Bangalore
- Arrival of volunteers from Austria
- Interns from Holy Cross College, Kozhikode
- Flood relief activities by Don Bosco Projects in Kerala

September 2018

- Training for the coordinators of KISMAT in DB Vaduthala
- Training for Gram Panchayati members under the CREAM project
- Flood relief and rehabilitation activities in flood-affected areas, Kerala
- Arrival of volunteer from the Czech Republic
- Interns from Don Bosco College, Angadikadavu
- Official inauguration of the YES Centre in Hospet
- Survey on child marriage under the CREAM project
- World clean-up day across Don Bosco Projects

Surviving THE Calamity



Kerala, the southern state of India witnessed its greatest disaster in century during August 2018 with unprecedented rains, floods and landslides. The bordering districts of Karnataka also experienced heavy rain, leading to landslides and flooding, drawing national /international attention to these states for weeks. Admitting that the path to recovery can be long and arduous, maximum efforts were made with quick relief activities and people from all over the state and nation extending their full consent and support, which is praiseworthy.

BREADS and Don Bosco Projects have reached out to 39818 people through rescue and relief works in the flood-affected areas to help the survivors. Among these, 89% people were assisted with food, 64% were given clothes and sleeping kits, 24% received medicines, 56% were supported with toiletries and 13% received emergency household articles. The Don Bosco institutions in Kerala namely, Don Bosco Vaduthala and Don Bosco Vennala in Ernakulam district, Don Bosco Irinjalakuda and Don Bosco Bhavan Mannuthy in Thrissur district and Don Bosco Mangalam in Alappuzha district were opened to the flood-affected people as relief camps, where 8099 people were sheltered collectively.

Reach-out of Don Bosco Communities in relief operations

Don Bosco Community	No. of affected villages reached out	No. of houses cleaned	Total people reached out
Don Bosco FCDP Kollam	2	27	4800
Don Bosco Trivandrum	5	101	3055
Don Bosco Vennala	1	4	1555
Don Bosco Bhavan Mannuthy	1	200	992
Don Bosco College Mannuthy	1	5	1450
Don Bosco Irinjalakuda	1	5	703
Don Bosco Kottiyam	2	10	920
Don Bosco Sultan Bathery	5	10	6472
Don Bosco Puthupally	1	8	4450
Don Bosco Alappuzha	9	-	1555
Don Bosco Angadikadavu	1	15	138
Don Bosco Aluva	1	3	2102
Don Bosco Mampetta	5	-	1872
Don Bosco Vaduthala	3	20	9754
Total	38	408	39818





Surviving THE Calamity

The post-relief activities are a great challenge as the repercussions of the flood are beyond imagination. In addition to the direct relief works, we have also carried out other programmes to help the flood victims restore their life and livelihood.

#DoForKerala Campaign



BREADS initiated an extensive campaign in Bangalore city named “#DoForKerala” and mobilized large quantities of packaged foods, medicines, clothes, sleeping kits, hygienic items, health drinks, drinking water, protein supplements, etc. We collected 3 truckloads of materials which were transported to the different relief camps across Kerala where the floods had swiped away the livelihood of majority of people and huge destruction was caused on houses, buildings, properties, plantations and agriculture. The people who took shelter in relief camps were in immediate need

of basic items for sustaining life. In response to the emergency situation, the supplies were collected and dispatched to the affected people in Irinjalakuda in Thrissur district, Vaduthala and Angamaly in Ernakulam district and Kuttanadu in Alappuzha district.

#RebuildKerala Campaign

In order to help restore the affected areas BREADS planned the #RebuildKerala campaign where Don Bosco Projects have extensively used the human resources of Don Bosco institutions to clean up houses, public institutions and neighborhood areas. Don Bosco formation houses (seminarians), colleges and high schools were engaged in the cleaning campaign. BREADS has formed volunteer groups of youth, students and staff of Don Bosco institutions and youth centres for the #RebuildKerala venture. As of now, we have cleaned **406** houses and three government offices/Panchayth Raj Institutions, one church and one retreat centre.



Immediate Rehabilitation Support

The relief activities are being continued on need-based assessment of the situation and BREADS entered into the second phase of immediate rehabilitation. We have started the immediate rehabilitation support for the people whose houses, household assets and lands are totally destroyed. BREADS envisages helping **1500** most deserving families to acquire minimum household articles and another 100 families to revive their livelihood assets in the initial stage. The household materials and livelihood assets were directly purchased by Don Bosco Projects and distributed to the selected families. Until now **1237** people have been reached with household items such as, mixer grinder, utensils, stove, tables, chairs, mattress, etc., to support the distressed families.



Student to student campaign

A new campaign is initiated in Mumbai and Bangalore cities to evoke the social commitment of students to support flood-affected students in Kerala. An awareness campaign was organized in schools through social media where students are motivated to support a flood-affected child to get back to school by donating notebooks, school bags or other study materials.



Electrification of temporary shelter and electrical repair of homes at Wayanad/Kottiyam

The district administration at Wayanad district has initiated the construction of 500 temporary shelters for the families who were evacuated from their houses due to flood and landslides and have no possibility to return to them. Don Bosco Sultan Bathery took up the responsibility of the electrification of a minimum of 100 houses with the help of the students studying in ITI. The work has already started.

Don Bosco Technical School Kottiyam has also started similar electrification work in damaged houses in Kollam and Pathanamthitta districts.

BREADS does not intend to limit the relief activities to material support alone; rather it's concerned about the psychosocial support and rehabilitation of individuals whose lives are affected by the mass calamity. Don Bosco College Mannuthy and Don Bosco Sultan Bathery realized the need and provided special support and medical help for the cancer patients sheltered in the relief camps. The psychologically impacted people and children were also provided psychosocial support through counselling.

