

Fr Rubin Mathew sdb
Executive Director, BREADS

Director's Message

In September, we honour our teachers with the celebration of Teacher's Day in India, when we offer them our gratitude and appreciation for their services. Teachers play a vital role, not only in the development of a child, but also in that of the nation, as education is a universally-acknowledged key factor in combating poverty and achieving sustainable development. In this Slice, we salute our teachers, who, especially through BREADS' programmes, contribute immensely to the noble effort of nation building.

Shri. Shivasharanayya S Biradar, Social Sciences Teacher

"I always look at the overall development of the child. It is important that other than academic requirements, students develop a thought for the promotion and protection of child rights. I see that the Child Rights Club (CRC) in the school offers the best opportunities for the students to exercise their Right to Participation. It will help them develop their characters and grow up as responsible citizens."

Spoken indeed, like a true teacher! Shri Shivasharanyya's words sum up the goals of the educative process of a child: literacy, personality and character development, training as citizens towards the establishment of a harmonious, equitable society.

BREADS' Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM) promotes children's rights through education, advocacy, networking, and children's participation and representation in formal constituencies where children can present their issues and exercise their competencies and rights. Children practise these behaviours through Child Rights Clubs in their schools, guided by teachers like Shri. Shivasharanayya.

BREADS also promotes literacy and education among children and youth, especially through the following activities:

• Integral development of child labourers street presence, rescue, rehabilitation, bridge school, school reenrolment



- Supplementary education
- Education sponsorship
- Prevention of school dropouts and education promotion for children on/of the streets and slums

Teacher- Student Workshops - Learning to Dialogue

Learning usually takes place in a context. Children and adults cannot be taught about freedom of expression and participation as well as respectful dialogue with others, in a vacuum. CREAM III, therefore, conducted joint workshops for teachers and students to foster meaningful interactions and positive bonds between them. The workshops were intended to help teachers contextualise the rights of children in broader contexts beyond the academic, while reflecting on how they could be promoted in the school setting. Children also explored their duties and responsibilities towards themselves and others, as extensions of their rights.

One of the important outcomes of the workshops was that **506** CRCs were formed in the various dis-



tricts by the school authorities themselves. The teachers appreciated CREAM's resources—the Child Rights modules and the handbook on formation of child rights clubs in schools—as valuable aids to the promotion of CRCs.

Teacher-Student Workshops							
Year	Programmes	Participation					
		Students			Teachers		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Male	Female	Total
2021	32	636	432	1068	598	334	932
2022	21	414	285	699	431	175	606
Total	53	1050	717	1767	1029	509	1538

Master Anil Kumar, CRC Leader GHS Devikera

I was privileged to learn about Child Rights through the CRC. This knowledge has become part of my life, developing in me, an urge to stand for the rights of the children. I am proud that every small act we do at the local level through the CRC, contributes to the larger scene of children's rights.

A Rainbow that colours Hopes—the CRC of Devikera GHS

The Child Rights Club (CRC) of the Government High School in Devikera, Shorapur taluk, Yadagiri, is making strides under the able leadership of Shri. Shivasharanayya S Biradar, the school Social Sciences teacher. Facilitated by Don Bosco Social Work Centre (DBSWC) Yadagiri, Shri. Shivasharanayya and the students had participated in the Children's Special Grama Sabhas in 2018 and 2019. Through their effective advocacy in these forums, they successfully mobilised separate toilets

for girls, the levelling of the school playground, a school compound wall, and clean drinking water facilities.

Formed in February 2021, after the introduction of the child rights education in the school by DBSWC Yadagiri, the school CRC was further galvanised by participation in the teacher-student workshops in October 2021. Working unitedly, the CRC has been creating ripples of child rights awareness locally.

Slice

- Shri. Shivasharanayya conceptualised a street play based on the song "Ishtu Bega Maduve Yakavva" (why marriage so early?), which was enacted by the CRC children locally, capturing and directing the attention of the general public to the issue of child marriage.
- The CRC members visited school dropouts working on farms, as well as their parents at home, successfully motivating and counselling nine children to return to school.
- Concerned for their environment and the preservation of trees and environmental cleanliness, the CRC planted 50 saplings in their school and panchayat surroundings on Environmental Day in June 2021, and continued to nurture all the saplings responsibly.



the CRC members initiated "Makkala Kamanabillu" (children's rainbow), an innovative approach wherein, club members acted as Child Protection Officers, highlighting for their fellow students, the responsibilities of different government departments towards the safeguarding of children and their rights. With the intent of helping children understand where and how they could seek help in times of need, the CRC members introduced the roles of the: Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Child Development and Protection Unit (CDPU), District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), Pancha-



yat Development Officer (PDO), Child Marriage Prohibition Officer (CMPO) and CHILDLINE.

- Every Saturday for an hour, the CRC members conduct various activities such as quizzes, essay writing, and group discussions, in order to promote students' awareness on child rights.
- The school CRC receives enormous support from its Headmaster, Shri. RK. Kodihal, who ensures his participation and support in every CRC meeting. Additionally, Shri. Mahadevappa. R, President of the School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC), is also a pillar of strength for the school and its CRC members.
- Shri. Shivasharanayya, not only guides his school CRC efforts, he inspires 169 other teachers in the district through a WhatsApp group he started, to motivate and guide them towards the promotion of Child Rights. Truly, he's a champion of child rights!



Honouring Teachers

Educators like Shri. Shivasharanayya and Shri. RK. Kodihal are instrumental to the work of child safeguarding and BREADS. In a meaningful celebration of Teacher's Day 2022, under the CREAM programme, Don Bosco Bidar honoured **ten** such teachers in the district, for their great dedication and contribution to building our nation:

- Shri. Abdulla, Govt HS Rekulgi
- Smt. Mrs. Renuka, Govt HS Mangalgi, Humnabad
- Shri. Basavaraj, Govt HS Ranjolkheni
- Smt. Archana, Govt HS Chawardapka, Kamalnagar
- Smt. Sugandha, Govt HS Changlera, Humnabad

- Smt. Dattatri Giri, Govt HS, Aurad
- Smt. Mahananda Gunavantrao Govt HS Torna Kamalnagar
- Shri. Rajkumkar, Govt HS Ekkamba, Aurad
- Shri. Chennaveerappa Chakra Saali, Govt HS Bhatambra, Bhalki
- Shri. Marutirao, Govt HS Handikera, Humnabad



Choose life. Not Drugs — a DREAM Campaign

The Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring (DREAM) programme has initiated a month-long campaign 'Choose life. Not Drugs,' across 10 districts in Kerala, starting 11 October to 14 November 2022.

The campaign is aimed at creating awareness among people about drug abuse, ensuring their participation towards this cause, and raising resources. The campaign was launched online by Fr Shalbin Kalanchery SDB (Vice Provincial, Salesian Province of Bangalore) through a video presentation, outlining the various activities of the campaign. In the presentation, Shri. Rishiraj Singh IPS (Retd. Excise Commissioner, Kerala) exhorted everyone to participate actively to prevent substance abuse. Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB (Economer, Salesian Province of Bangalore), Fr Rubin Mathew SDB (Executive Director, BREADS), DREAM District Directors and programme staff, along with the BREADS staff also attended the online launch.

The campaign is a golden opportunity to educate young people and the public on healthy life choices, while allowing various important stakeholders: school and college students, volunteers, youth, teach-

ers, and professionals to showcase their talents through multiple competitions.





Calendar

September 2022

- Teacher's Day celebrations in DB houses
- BREADS' funding partner visits
- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects
- Arrival of volunteer from Austria
- CREAM III review with Programme Directors

October 2022

- Gandhi Jayanthi observation
- Monitoring and evaluation of BREADS' projects
- DREAM campaign across Kerala

33EAD2 NEWS



Review of CREAM III with the Programme Directors

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS) conducted a two-day review meeting for the programme directors of the Child Rights Education and Action Movement (CREAM III) on 22 and 23 September...more...



<u>Laying the Foundation of a New Social Work Centre — Don Bosco Veedu, Thiruvananthapuram</u>

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success", this is what we experience at Don Bosco institutions. On 20 September 2022, the foundation stone of the proposed building of Don Bosco Veedu...more...



Leadership Training for School Children- DREAM Kottayam

The Drug Rehabilitation Education and Mentoring (DREAM) programme team in Kottayam organised a two-day residential leadership training for school students, in collaboration with...more...



WELivE entrepreneurs "Ona-chantha" (Onam Market)

As the whole state of Kerala gets ready to celebrate its favourite harvest festival Onam, the women entrepreneurs of the BREADS' Women Empowerment through Livelihood and Entrepreneurship (WELivE) programme...more...

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