

## Construction/ Renovation of 20 Houses for the Victims of Floods in Kerala

### Building dreams in brick to recoup from the deluge

August 2018! History can never erase the scars brought on people, nature and the environment. The frightening memories of the rain and landslides are still alive in the minds of people, irrespective of the impact it directly or indirectly poured out on each of us. While the incessant rain and landslides drowned people, houses, fields and animals, Kerala witnessed the magnanimity of man people of goodwill, irrespective of differences. At the onset of the destruction and throughout the time of the calamity, BREADS extended its support through the various Don Bosco centres in the state; in the form of relief camps and distribution of flood relief materials. BREADS also visited the affected areas and offered support services in every possible way hoping to rebuild lives.



### Director's Note

Kerala witnessed the worst flooding in nearly a century, beginning on 15 August 2018, due to unusually high rainfall during the monsoon season. Over 483 people died, 14 were missing. At least a million people were evacuated. 20000 houses were destroyed and 40000 hectares of farm land were submerged.

BREADS through its Don Bosco partners was engaged in rescue and relief and now we are on a mission to build houses for the most deserving. We are still looking for partners who can join hands with us to construct houses so that people can reconstruct their lives. In this issue of slice, we will look at the progress of this construction project.

*Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB  
Executive Director  
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### Events

#### February 2019

- Organised half-yearly review meeting of KISMAT at Vaduthala, Kochi on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2019
- Participated in the national PDO Meet in Goa on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2019
- Participated in the DB Tech National Convention in Bangalore from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2019
- The MSW students from WMO Arts and Science College, Don Bosco College Sultan Bathery visited BREADS as part of their NGO orientation
- Mentoring workshop for BREADS staff was conducted by Deloitte on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- The new project, 'HSBS Skills for Life' was inaugurated at the three districts- Bidar, Davangere and Hospet
- The inauguration of Batch 8 and certification of Batch 7 was organised at DB BEST Academy, Bangalore on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019

#### March 2019

- The Child Safety enhancement workshop for the CPC members of Don Bosco Institutions in Kerala on 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th March 2019
- The arrival of interns from WMO Arts and Science College, Wayanad, Kerala
- Completion of volunteering by Mr. Amadeus and Ms. Sofia from Germany at the Davangere project
- Visit of SLK CSR team to Don Bosco Ajjanahalli in connection with the 'Village Adoption for development' project on 14th March 2019

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The reality of the calamity was terrifying beyond the images projected through the frames of the mass media; many lost their houses, properties, and livestock, putting a pause to the source of income of many families. While those who lost houses wondered how to revive, BREADS realising the intensity of the situation, decided to construct/renovate the houses of some families. Certain criteria were specified to avoid duplication and to ensure that the right individuals or the families received the benefits. Families who had lost their houses completely but owned the land and possessed legal document were selected. Thus, the reconstruction project ensured that those poor families who could not afford to rebuild their lives without a helping hand were extended a hand of empathy. The widows and destitute, single-income families, socially backward classes/ castes, families whose houses, household assets and lands were totally destroyed by the flood, were supported by BREADS to construct their houses.

The deserving families were selected through the Don Bosco partners in Kerala and in consultation with the local government, district administration and other NGOs to avoid the duplication of benefits. As of now, we are glad to have selected 16 families to support with new houses, and another 4 families for partial support in renovating their damaged houses. The plinth area of each house varies from 500 to 650 sq. feet taking into consideration the landscape and feasibility of construction. We are grateful to all the good souls who joined hands in this mission to support the families affected by the flood and help make their dream a reality.



Name of Don Bosco Project	Number of Houses Allotted	Status of the Construction
Don Bosco Sultan Bathery	5	4 houses completed 1 house – 80% completed
Don Bosco Vaduthala	2	Work in progress
Don Bosco Irinjalakuda	3	Work in Progress
Don Bosco Mannuthy Bhavan	1	Work in progress
Don Bosco Angadikadavu	1	Construction completed
Don Bosco Vennala	1	Work in progress
Don Bosco Chullikara	1	Work in progress
Don Bosco Aluva	1	Work in progress
Don Bosco Trivandrum	1	Work in progress
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>Renovation Support for Partially damaged houses</b>		
Don Bosco Padivayal	1	Completed
Don Bosco Aluva	2	Completed
Don Bosco Angamaly	1	Completed



## Story of Mr. Eliyas

Flooded with a new beginning



Landslides triggered by the rains and floods, crippled road connectivity to many parts and wreaked Wayanad district. Many families in the area were severely affected by the devastating flood and lost their houses, households and livelihoods. 53 year old Mr. Eliyas, who lived in Noolpuzha at Wayanad also, got affected by the flood. He was living in the area for many years with his two children where the elder son is studying in 9<sup>th</sup> and younger son in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. His wife had expired few years back as she suffered from mental illness. He suffers from various physical illnesses, asthma and also depression which obstruct him from attending work regularly.

During the flood happened in July-August 2018, water entered their small house made up of bamboo and remained flooded for few days. The devastation brought on the hutted house by the flood can be thought of and hence the Salesians of Don Bosco Bathery identified

this family and supported them by providing household items at the primary stage. And also the livelihood support of Rs.50,000/- helped the family to buy a cow, which has turned to be the main source of earning now, in addition to the coolie work. Since Eliyas suffer lot of physical ailments, he is not able to even complete the household works and his children are managing all the work including cooking in spite of their regular schooling and studies. Though many promises were offered to the family from government and parish after the devastating incident, they have not received any support so far. BREADS have decided to construct a house for the family and the formalities are completed through Don Bosco Sultan Bathery.



### Inauguration of the "HSBC Skills for Life Programme" at Bidar on 8th Feb 2019

Don Bosco ITI Bidar has been committed to the empowerment of the marginalized and the less privileged youth since 2011. Ever since its inception it has paid keen attention to raise the life of the youth through skill development, empowerment and trainings in various HSBC domains of Formal and Non formal Skill training. Don Bosco ITI Bidar has inaugurated a new project named "HSBC skills for life" supported by BREADS Bangalore ... [more](#)



### Vesting the supremacy over child rights on to children

Our most adored project, CREAM II has been able to achieve lot beyond the expectations to secure the rights of children which justifies the commitment we have towards children. Over the years, the children have taken the lead through their advocacy actions and making realistic demands for their rights. On 12 February and 18 February 2019 the CREAM staff conducted trainings for children with the prime aim of advocating... [more](#)



### Children advocating to make agendas for the elected representatives

The time has played its role to mould the children as the decision makers to make a better country. The children from the Child Rights Club of Chitradurga district, from the villages of M.D Kote, D.S Halli and Mallurahalli have taken an active step forward with the support of the CREAM staff (Child Rights Education and Action Movement). 23rd February 2019 will remain an unforgettable day in the memories of these children... [more](#)



### Training the workforce to fit the frame of competency

On 20th February 2019, 74 students were graduated while the new set of 91 is enrolled to be skilled to professionalism by the Don Bosco BEST Academy, Bangalore. By 2030 it is expected that a third of the world's working age population (between 15 – 59 years) will be from India. This makes for a very large target population for skills training and the skills and knowledge are driving forces of economic growth and social ... [more](#)

