



Don Bosco

Director's Note

The story of women's struggle in the world and particularly in India is not unknown. Women have come a long way by breaking barriers and stereotypes in society. In line with the worldwide phenomenon, educated Indian women have acquired an extraordinary fervor to secure their 'lost rights'. Women no longer want to be silent perceivers, but want to be individuals with agency in the dynamic world situation. However, there are areas which still need attention and more emphasis on like education, public opinion and thinking patterns of people. This would lead women to be closer to the pinnacle of success and they do not have to 'fight' for parity.

This SLICE will talk about the status of women and how BREADS is helping them to celebrate their rights and achieve greater heights and move towards social progress.

With best wishes,

Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB

Executive Director

BREADS Bangalore



News



Training under-privileged young hands for the biggest two-wheeler industry in the world

As Fr. George, former BREADS director for 12 years, very poignantly expressed: India is producing a staggering 19.91 million two-wheelers per year. Furthermore, it contributes to 7% of the country's GDP and provides a steady job to some 29 million Indian people! Knowing that this industry is predicted to grow by 9%, and thus the employment opportunities are only going to rise... [more](#)



Women from rural India break stereotypes against all odds

A bitter part about rural India is filled up with stories of oppression, gender bias and social neglect faced by women. Yet this year, more than any other time before, it seems that society is on the brink of change. While the women of the world were gearing up to fight against their malaise, women hailing from the small city of Hospet were shattering their own glass ceiling. This 8th of March, Don Bosco ... [more](#)



Me & My Vote are NOT for SALE

On 27th March 2018, Ms. Kavita Ratna and Mr. Arjun Rajan from CWC (The Concerned for Working Children), visited BREADS and discussed their campaign "Me & My Vote are NOT for SALE" (launched in 2007). This campaign is mainly organized by Hakkottaya Andolana (Movement for Self-determination of Local Governments). Consisting of representatives from the gram panchayats and... [more](#)

Events

MARCH 2018

- ▶ Celebrated Women's Day across Don Bosco projects (8th March)
- ▶ Conducted regional staff training for the CREAM staff at Chitradurga
- ▶ Field/industrial exposure for the students of skill training at DB BEST Academy
- ▶ PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) organized the Walkathon to support BREADS project "the education of girl children"
- ▶ Lemken Company representative visited BREADS' project at DB Ajjanahalli

APRIL 2018

- ▶ Leadership training for the leaders of child rights clubs under the CREAM project
- ▶ Being part of "Me and my vote are not for sale" campaign
- ▶ NGO stalls at Accenture, Aegis, Quess Corp
- ▶ BREADS participates in the international PDO meet in Nairobi, Kenya.

International Women's Day - 2018

From “bread and peace” women today have reached far ahead



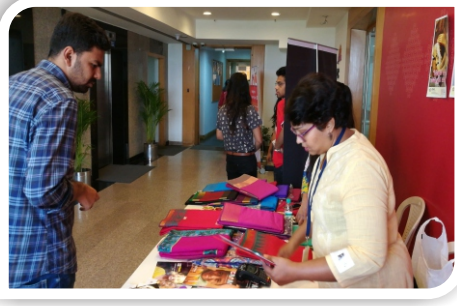
The world celebrates Women's Day on 8th of March, which in silence commemorates the enlightened women of the past who fought for their rights and justice, from the ultimate realisation for equality and self-dignity. The story of women's struggle for equality cannot be confined to a single individual, feminist, activist or organization, rather it is the result of a collective force and effort by those who paid attention to the dignity and contributions of women in society. The day reminds us to pause and honour the achievements and power of women. Similarly, the year 2018 recognised and respected women with the theme #PressforProgress

India has been raised to a higher platform by the achievements of many women in various fields, breaking the stereotypes of society that restricted women to certain industries and occupations. India has a long list of women who have made the country proud, but to name a few at the forefront of achievements we give honourable mentions to Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Kiran Bedi, Chanda Kochhar, Bachendri Pal, Indira Gandhi etc. These are the known personalities, but there are many more in the most remote corners of India, in villages, who have achieved their best, beating every challenge and odds the society had laid on them. Yet, there lies the need to focus more on the areas where change is mandatory, as women are still considered a subject to domination by men. This year witnessed the celebration of womanhood, by honouring every woman who has made remarkable contributions to their society by breaking all barriers and reaching the pinnacle of success. Since years, women activists and scholars have systematically tried to bring to light the oppression, exploitation and marginalization of Indian women from all walks of life. These achievements are the result of empowerment of women from rural and grassroot levels. The united will eventually put a stop to the incredible hardship and tragedy of women in society, where gender parity is no more a debate.

The projects at BREADS, hence directed towards empowering women in rural Karnataka, have begun structuring from the bottom level to attain the goals. The Don Bosco projects in Kerala and Karnataka took the initiative to celebrate womanhood through its multipronged interventions.



We run to win the race, but here they have run to win a cause taking giant strides to change the lives of rescued girls. The world shows its respect to women in different ways and Women's Day is one of the platforms. This year, BREADS was privileged to collaborate with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) who have committed their will to join us in support of educating rescued girl children. In collaboration with the CSR team of PWC, BREADS have got the chance to organise a two-day event on 9th and 10th of March as part of International Women's Day celebration.



A positive action is the result of a positive vision, and the initiative by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) clearly indicates the positive vision of the organization towards philanthropy. The right attitude and planning has resulted in the success of Walkathon organized by the company for raising funds for the education of rescued girls. The Walkathon was organized on 9th of March by the management and employees of PWC, and the event was successful as the purpose was met.

The organization also provided BREADS the privilege to sell the products made by the Self-Help Groups (SHG) through the 2 days NGO stall set-up in the company's main office. The event intended to motivate the SHG women who have toiled their efforts and to raise fund, which will be completely utilised for the education of less privileged girl children who have been rescued from different scenarios. The programme was organised in connection with women's day for two consecutive days. These events are a great milestone of success in the history of BREADS and we are proud of the impact it could lay on the lives of many girl children.

A leader and an agent of social transformation

Ms. Sujatha faced more and more financial crunches and turmoil after the death of her husband. She was a domestic worker, striving to find the livelihood to bring up her two children. To find additional income, she also sold vegetables to local households in the village, earning only minimal profit. After attending the entrepreneurship training at Chithra Don Bosco she was motivated to start a new business venture. She secured loans and started a small restaurant by the road-side along with a vegetable stall. Eventually she started catering services and served food at various functions with the savings she earned. She appointed another eight women to support her in the process.



She was then able to make reasonable profits and hence she bought a facility to cook all the food. Though she has least educational background, she is now able to maintain accounting and bank transfers. Adding to the achievement, one of the group members was elected as the ward councillor. Ms. Sujatha and her team is happy and content that they are able to meet the needs of their family and children. She was empowered as a leader and an agent of social transformation in her village in supporting and uplifting other poor women.

