

## EVENTS

### December 2017

- ☞ Special Gram Sabhas exclusively for children in all CREAM projects
- ☞ Intern from Azim Premji University
- ☞ Blessing and inauguration of the first floor of Savio Bhavan, Tumkur
- ☞ Monitoring and evaluation visits to the projects
- ☞ Christmas celebrations in BREADS
- ☞ Participated in Daan Utsav at SLK Global Solutions and KPMG Private Limited
- ☞ BREADS partners with Aspect Technology for SSG Bangalore

### January 2017

- ☞ Completion of the 4th batch and commencing of the 5th batch of skill training at DB BEST Academy
- ☞ Intern from St. Joseph's College of Law, Bangalore
- ☞ Canonical Visitation by Fr. Provincial
- ☞ Fr. Joy attends Don Bosco Forum Meet in Bonn, Germany
- ☞ Feast of St. John Bosco (31<sup>st</sup>)

Since the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, the emphasis on giving children an opportunity to express their opinions on matters of their concern has gained momentum across the world. In India, several civil society organisations are working for the active engagement of children in urban and rural governance and children's grama sabha is an effective organ for the same. BREADS through its CREAM project has facilitated children's gramasabhas in the ten districts where we are operating. In these sabhas, not only problems relating child labour, child marriage, and discrimination of girl child were also discussed; but also regarding the veracious infrastructure and facilities of the school and the community. And major decisions were taken to combat the problems within their villages with the help of police and related departments.

In this issue of SLICE, we will include the various children's grama sabhas organized in the months of November/December 2017.

Wish you all a very Happy New Year 2018!

*With best wishes,*

*Fr. Joy Nedumparambil SDB  
Executive Director  
BREADS Bangalore*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE



## NEWS



### Workshop on Human Rights

Chithra Don Bosco, Chitradurga organised the workshop on Human Rights for the Government High School teachers under the CREAM project on 05/12/2017. The programme was inaugurated by Mr. Revana Siddappa, DDPI, Chitradurga. Ms. T.R.Venkatalakshmi, CDPU, Chitradurga, Fr. Maria Julian, Director, Chithra... [more](#)



### Training on marketing and finance linkages in Hospet

Don Bosco Hospet conducted two days training on marketing and finance linkages. The training was organized on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 for 40 members from various villages. In the inaugural address, Fr. Lawrence, Director, Don Bosco Hospet talked about developing the marketing, planning and business management ... [more](#)



### Empowering women through income generation programme

The Social Service Guild in collaboration with BREADS Bangalore organized an animation programme for the women from Priyankanagar and K.R. Puram on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 at Don Bosco Community Center. As part of the animation programme a health camp was organized by the medical team from Shanthi Nilaya Clinic and... [more](#)



Gram Sabhas are considered the most rudimentary expression of local self-government, enabling the active and direct participation of all people at the village level; in planning, administration, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all economic, social, cultural, and environmental development initiatives. The 73<sup>rd</sup> amendment of the constitution stresses that Gram Sabhas are the foundation for democratic decentralization in India. The effective and vibrant functioning of Gram Sabhas at the panchayat level encourages transparency,

accountability, direct participation of citizens in governance and self-government. In the year 2007, the Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj through its circular, made it mandatory for all the panchayats to create a forum for children to exercise their right to participation and to convey their issues and concerns to the elected representatives of the government.

The meaningful and creative participation of children in the special Gram Sabhas teaches them to be proactive, have a say in decision making, to analyse and point out critical issues, grooming them into responsible citizens. The elders and duty bearers have the prime responsibility to make sure that the issues addressed by the children are heard, responded to, and materialised. Young minds can lead the village to prosperity and power, making our nation advanced and empowered. The grievances of children are powerful and strong enough to change the future of a village.

The Don Bosco projects in ten districts of Karnataka made conscious efforts to organise the special Gram Sabhas for children, establishing the platform for them to assert their expectations, concerns, questions, issues. The details of Gram Sabhas organised in the districts are given below:

Special Gram Sabhas for Children Organised in Karnataka - 2017				
District	Panchayats	Children	Adults	Stakeholders
Bangalore	1	42	15	5
Bellary	45	10000	435	617
Bidar	24	5372	257	616
Chitradurga	19	2633	377	378
Davangere	16	1386	219	322
Gulbarga	1	500	140	42
Mysore	5	371	50	85
Raichur	18	1640	250	252
Ramanagara	3	95	32	32
Yadagiri	20	4600	347	385
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>26639</b>	<b>2122</b>	<b>2734</b>



**School Infrastructure-** spacious and sufficient class rooms, renovation of dilapidated buildings, drinking water facilities, toilets, electricity, protection and maintenance of school properties, defecation in the school compound, first aid boxes in schools, stopping of immoral activity and anti-social behaviours at night in the school campus.

**Education** - quality of education, absence of teachers, timely distribution of text books, libraries, computer and science labs, mid-day meals.

**Child Rights** - child labour, school dropouts, child marriage, nutrition, sale of tobacco products in the school vicinity, eve teasing.

**Transportation** - maintenance of roads adjacent to schools, speed breakers in front of schools, adequate transportation to distant villages according to the school timings, sanction of bus stops near the schools.

**Sports and Games** - play grounds, supply of jerseys and materials for games.

**Village Development-** requirement for veterinary hospital in the village, new Anganwadi, street lights, maintenance of drainage systems, health camps.



