

SLICE



BREADS
Bangalore Rural Educational
and Development Society

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03 Why is Education so Important?

05 BREADS' Education
Sponsorship Programme

08 Would You like to be a Multiplier?

09 TCS World 10k Bengaluru 2025

10 News

START 

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BREADS Bangalore/   



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

FR GEORGE PS

Executive Director
BREADS

Today, we believe that it is normal and obvious for children to go to school. It was not always the case, and unfortunately it is still not the case for many children in India. In December 2024, the union government reported in parliament that the out of school children (OoSC) across India for 2024-25 numbered around 1.17 million children. This is an improvement on the 2022-23 period when 1.25 million OoSC were reported. We also need to consider that in these cases, official statistics are usually lower than the real situation.

In this Slice, we present BREADS' work towards the enrollment and retention of children in school, especially through our Education Sponsorship Programme. This programme is fully dependent on the generosity of individuals and institutions, who take it on themselves to ensure that a child gets a shot at a better future through an education. On behalf of the 555 children who are currently sponsored through this programme, I thank you for your kind and generous support. I wish and pray that many more will join our efforts to brighten the lives of poor children.

WHY IS EDUCATION SO IMPORTANT?

Many of the parents of the children who are rescued from child labour/ child marriage do not consider education relevant in their socioeconomic context, which demands that everyone, including the children, earns a living to meet their survival needs. Other needs and aspirations are not considered attainable and therefore, unnecessary for them.

However, we all know that education is the way out of several societal problems and therefore, the need to ensure that children get educated. Education plays a vital role in a democracy, which depends on an informed and aware public, capable of critical thinking and making choices, able to participate in the process of self-governance. Education is also the best way to neutralise age-old dysfunctional and oppressive socioeconomic structures and systems based on gender, caste, community and class, and promote a cohesive society.

By the 86th amendment and the enactment of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) 2009, article 21-A was added to the Constitution of India, declaring free and compulsory education for all children between 6-14 years, as a



fundamental right aligned with the right to life. However, education is free only in government-run schools.

Yet, there are hundreds of thousands of children who are not in school, especially girls after the age of fourteen. The onset of puberty impacts the education of girls and boys differently. Depending on multiple factors, in many families, the boy can be

sent off to work and the girl can be held back from schooling because of the risk of travelling to distant high schools, lack of separate toilets with water, early marriage and household chores.

BREADS intervenes in numerous ways to promote education:

- **formal schools and boarding facilities** in rural and underserved areas, for rural girls and boys to access high quality affordable education
- **residential education (bridge courses)** for children rescued from difficult situations to prepare them for re-enrollment to schools
- **supplementary education** centres in slums and villages to facilitate children's retention in school, offering a supportive safe space for their homework and study
- **open school programmes** to prepare children who dropped out of school, for certification exams and further study
- **education sponsorships** to educate vulnerable children in quality schools, to promote their holistic development without burdening their families





BREADS' EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME

The best place for a child would be his or her home and family, if it were a safe and conducive space for the child. Therefore, wherever possible, BREADS tries to reintegrate the child with the family and offer support to ensure that the child receives the fundamental care that s/he needs.

The education sponsorship programme is one of BREADS' support systems for families that are facing crises in their lives: of health, finances, death, disability, natural disasters etc. If families are unsuitable for the child's growth and education, sponsorship support is granted to the school and hostel where the child studies. BREADS supports a sizeable number of children staying in hostels to attend school, as there are no good schools in their own neighbourhoods.

Empowers and Includes

Lakshmi lost both her parents when she was just five years old and was brought to the Don Bosco Child Labour School, where she grew up. Lakshmi has always excelled in her studies and is a talented singer and dancer. BREADS sponsored her education from grade 5 until date, as she studies in the first year of her three-year Bachelor of Arts programme. Having crossed the official threshold of childhood, Lakshmi no longer lives in the Don Bosco institutions but continues to receive educational and moral support from them. Currently, she lives with her brother, who is employed in a petrol bunk in Hospet, Karnataka. They live in a thatched hut but are managing their lives and working towards a better future, in which Lakshmi hopes to become a teacher.

Lakshmi says, "Heartfelt thanks to BREADS for recognising my commitment to academics and for helping me to continue my studies. I am deeply grateful and honoured to have been

chosen. Your generosity means the world to me. I know that not every place has an organisation like yours, and the work that you do is what makes many lives special. This sponsorship has inspired me to work even harder and remain focused on my dreams.”

Educational sponsorship empowers people like Lakshmi to look forward to a future of greater opportunities than one restricted by the circumstances into which they were born, allowing us to shape a more inclusive society together.

Opens Doors

Harisha, from Bellary district in Karnataka, is the youngest of five children. Tragically, he lost both his parents when he was just two years old, and the orphaned siblings were on the streets with no one to care for them. Don Bosco Hospet intervened in their lives, training his two elder brothers in carpentry and providing shelter for the other two at Savio Bhavan. Harisha, who had initially dropped out of school, was placed in Don Bosco Snehalaya, where he learned basic reading and writing. After the preparatory bridge course, Harisha was enrolled into grade 4 at a mainstream school. He has progressed steadily and is now in grade 7. Harisha is an exceptionally motivated student and dreams of becoming a doctor.

BREADS has supported his schooling from the very beginning. In gratitude, Harisha says, “The scholarship means that an entire group of people believes in me and my future. It fuels my passion to excel in life, pursue my career, and serve my community.”



Promotes Social Integration

Jasmine S. lives in Anandapura, Bangalore. Her parents are migrants to the city for employment; her father Saji is from Thrissur in Kerala and her mother Jacintha is from Kodagu in Karnataka. Saji is a plumber but does not have regular work for lack of professional qualifications. Jacintha, who has completed only her pre-university studies is employed in a small private firm.

Jasmine is the elder of their two children. She is currently in Grade 7. She is deeply committed to her studies and loves her school. Not surprisingly, her dream is to become a teacher. She also enjoys playing badminton, running races, and

drawing. Jasmine has been receiving a scholarship from BREADS since 2019, for which the family is grateful, as education in Bangalore is very expensive. Despite the economic challenges faced by her migrant family, Jasmine believes she can achieve her dream because there are progressive people who care about the education of all underprivileged children in society.

Multiplies Opportunities

Janice completed her MSc in Biochemistry from Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore. Her father was unable to work and provide for the family as he was being treated for a heart problem. Her mother is a homemaker and her elder sister is a teacher. Janice wanted to pursue her education, but the family could not support her due to their financial situation. BREADS helped her complete her master's through the Dr. Hauber Scholarship for higher education. After completion, Janice started working as a teacher at the Maple Bear Canadian School.

Janice says, "Growing up in a less privileged community not only presented financial and academic challenges but made me realise the value of college education. Your generosity encouraged me to be hopeful through the toughest of times, and to continue my academic path as a future educator. Your sponsorship made my career possible! I am so grateful. After getting my job, I started making repayments that will help other deserving and struggling students like me."

Similarly, Shinju, from an agricultural family in rural Kasargod in Kerala, could not dream of anything different for herself until she began to receive the BREADS education sponsorship. BREADS supported her for 12 years until she completed her BSc in Nursing in Mangalore. She now works in the reputed KAHM Hospital in Kasaragod, living her dream of nursing elderly people in remote villages. She credits BREADS for achieving her dream.

When youngsters like Janice and Shinju choose to give back to society and others in need, we see the multiplier effect of education in action.



Would You like to be a Multiplier?

Influence your community and society by supporting a child's education through BREADS. You not only support a child and its family to climb out of difficult circumstances, but also make a solid investment in the future of society, with long-term benefits for everyone.

It's really simple



You decide to educate a child, and BREADS will share a child's profile and photo with you.



Pay according to your convenience:
INR 1500 monthly or INR 18000 annually.

<https://breadsdonations.com/year/donate.php>



You will receive financial receipts for your donation from BREADS. **Donations to BREADS are exempt up to 50% of the amount under 80G of the IT Act 1961.**



You will receive a letter from your sponsored child bi-annually along with BREADS' updates on the child's academic progress.



You can also meet with your sponsored child if you wish.

The start of the new academic year is a great time to begin your journey of being a change maker. Do think about it and take a child to school.

TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2025

BREADS tries various ways to mobilise education sponsorships for students in need, both institutional and individual. Last year, through its participation in the TCS Marathon, BREADS could send 39 girls to school. Help us send many more this year!

Thank you for Shaping Her Education (SHE)!

[Click to Donate](#)



Let's Shape Her Education
together with BREADS



BREADS

Bangalore Rural Educational
and Development Society

At the TCS World 10K, 2025 ,
our target is to raise

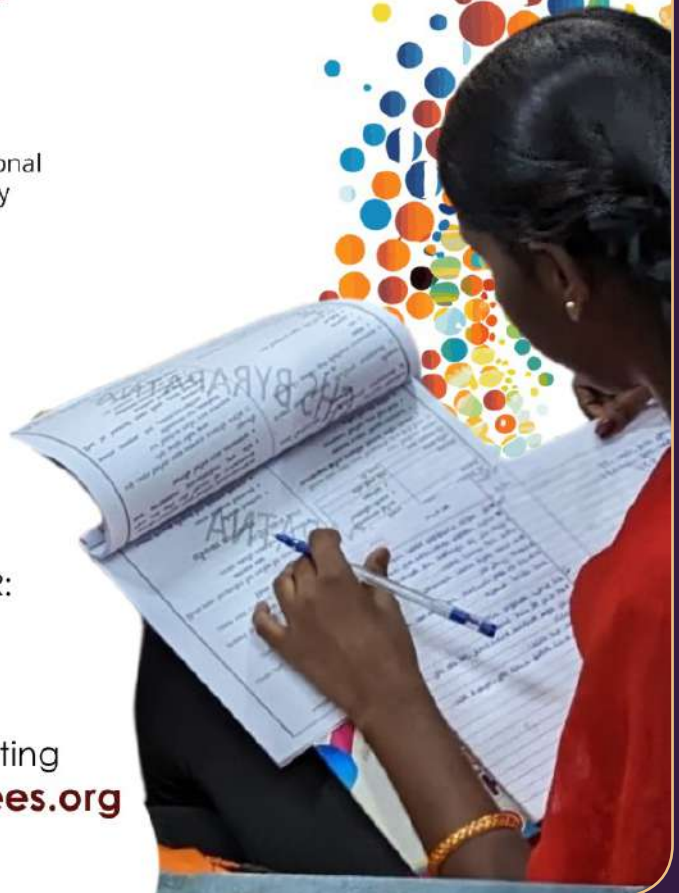
₹15 Lakhs

to sponsor education for girl
children from poor &
marginalized communities

Donate Now by scanning the QR:



Become a
Fundraiser by visiting
tcs10k.aidbees.org





Facilitating Conversations about Disaster Responses in Eco-sensitive Wayanad

BREADS was pleased to support a National Conference on Innovations in

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DREAM Review Meet

Drug Rehabilitation Education And Mentoring (DREAM) is a rights-based mental health initiative of BREADS that empowers lakhs of children and youth...

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A New Hub for Services to the Children, Young at Risk and other Vulnerable Categories of People

A beautiful, modern and well-equipped Social Work Coordination Centre for the

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From Bricks to Books

Per the 2020 estimates of the International Labour Organisation, 160 million children in the age group of 5-17 years were engaged in child labour...

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Nurturing Visions of an Equal World among the Young

BREADS' initiatives for marginalised young people and women help them unlock equal rights, power and opportunities for all, and a feminist future where no one is left behind.

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Child Safeguarding – Topmost Concern of the Community

On 18 February, the Child Safety Net (a BREADS programme) team of DBCLM Davanagere organised an empowering training session for municipal sanitation workers in collaboration

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Child Rights on Wheels – Awareness Campaign

Don Bosco Makkalalaya, BREADS partner in Mysuru, in collaboration with the District Administration, District Legal Services Authority, Labour Department, and District Child

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Breaking the Chains of Modern Slavery

On 20 February 2025, under the BREADS Child Safety Net initiative, Don Bosco PYaR, Kalaburagi, in a joint operation with the Labour Department, District Child Labour

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Don Bosco Network unites with NCPDR to combat Child Labour

A familiar sight in Devadurga, Karnataka, are transport vehicles loaded with adults and children, being taken to the fields for labour. Children especially, are used as seasonal

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Child Rights Kiosks

On 28 February 2025, the Child Safety Net (CSN) team of Don Bosco Makkalalaya, Mysore, set up two child rights awareness kiosks at Rajendranagar Circle and in front of the bus stand at Rajendranagar Arch. Inaugurated by

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BREADS NEWS

MARCH 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2025

- Visit by the Bavarian Chief Minister to BOSCO Bangalore
- RISE workshop- Enabling BREADS' Programme Coordinators
- Visit by the DAAV team, Belgium
- Visit by the Management of JEW Austria
- BREADS monitoring of projects
- Visit of SOL Foundation
- Launch of Sports for Change programme in Kerala



Healthier Choices, Strong future – Prevention starts with you.

Cancer continues to be a major global health concern, with 20 million new cases

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Her Journey, Our Mission

This year's International Women's Day, celebrated on March 8, carries the powerful theme: "For ALL Women and

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Nasha Mukth Bharat Abhiyan Launched in Thrissur

In a significant step towards creating a drug-free India, BREADS' DREAM

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Farewells in DB BEST Academy

BREADS' DB BEST Academy in Bangalore bid farewell to its 26th batch of trainees on 22 March 2025.

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Foster care: An alternative approach to safeguarding children at risk

Foster care is an alternative child-centric

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DREAM Initiative Recognised as a Key Intervention by the Kerala State

On 30 March 2025, a crucial stakehold-

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Your Thoughts on Slice

It is important for us to understand whether we are reporting on BREADS' work in a manner that is useful and interesting to you. Please tell us what you think through this quick survey. Thanks so much for your feedback!

<https://forms.gle/n6GtfJ4fHPbFC82NA>



BREADS
Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society



Don Bosco, #75 North Road,
St Thomas Town Post, Bangalore - 560 084



+91-80-25463476



www.breadsbangalore.org

