From the Director’s Desk...

We thank all the benefactors who have supported us through all these years to make this possible. The success of the SHGs are a reinforcement of our belief that women can change the world!

- Fr P Arul Das sdb
Executive Director

New Avenues for High School Students

DB Tech, Vizag: Don Bosco Tech is the training partner of the National Skill Development Corporation. It is now implementing the RMSA central scheme for secondary education - Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The RMSA scheme was initiated in 2009, by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India to increase the enrolment rate to 90% at secondary and 75% at higher secondary stage, by providing a secondary school within reasonable distance of every home. The revised scheme aims at integrating Vocational Education at the Secondary level was introduced, seeking to integrate Vocational Education with general education and provide horizontal and vertical mobility to the students.

Govt. of Andhra Pradesh plans to introduce a course in Media and Entertainment for Classes 9-12 in 126 government schools across the state. DB Tech will partner in this initiative by conducting the course for students of Class 9 in 26 schools of Guntur, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts.

The first Media and Entertainment Lab was inaugurated on 31 January, 2017 at A.P. Model School, Chirumamillli, Guntur by Hon’ble Minister of State for HRD Mr.Ganta Srinivas Rao along with Ms. Sandhya (Commissioner) and Ms. Aparna (CEO, APSSDC).
MACS: Bharathi lives in David Colony, Pezzonipet, Krishna District with her children. Her husband died after the second child’s birth. He used to work in a Barber Shop.

As a young widow she was shunned by her in-laws. Realizing that she had to make a living for herself and her two children, she started working as a domestic help in a few houses. She managed in this manner to send her children to the local Govt. run schools. After 11.00 AM every day, she would have a lot of leisure time that she wanted to use constructively but couldn’t think of good ideas.

When Bharathi was on the look-out for a secondary occupation, she came across a meeting of members of Swashakthi Mahila Sangham at the RCM Church. They explained about the thrift policies and credit management. They said the loan amount is useful for initiation of new business or for strengthening of existing business. “I immediately set-off on this mission and gathered 10 women in my colony and formed Varunya Self Help Group. I received Rs 5,000/- as 1st term loan in the seventh month. I am good at Henna designs so I started offering my services to women, making different designs using good quality henna.”

Bharathi’s henna designs attracted college going youth, teens, and married youngsters in the colony. She became popular and was called for marriages, celebrations and festival occasions to draw henna designs. Further, she puts up stalls at exhibitions and other fests. Thus her household income has increased two folds. She is able to repay her loan effectively in time.

“I am happy with my earnings. I am able to utilize my time effectively. I am grateful for the assistance given by Swashakthi MACS and I wish that it should help other women who are in distress” says a beaming Bharathi.

Job Orientation for College Drop-outs

DHISHA: St. John’s Residential School, Anantapur organised a seminar for its past pupils and drop-out students to bring them together for Orientation to various career options. The event was part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Bishop of Kurnool Most Rev.Poola Antony.

The team from Bosco Seva Kendra successfully conducted sessions for the 90 youth present for the occasion. They were given orientation to the various vocational training courses available for those seeking to join the workforce. The team also reiterated to the youth the vital role they have in nation-building and the need for them to be productively employed.

Exposure Visit to JUGEND EINE WELT

YaR, Warangal: Mr.P.Santosh, Program Manager, Don Bosco Navajeevan, Warangal was invited by JUGEND EINE WELT to visit the organization from 15-31st January in Austria as part of the Annual Campaign “Day for the Streets”. He participated in interactions and lectures with the children in various schools and colleges in Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Austria. He also actively participated in several meetings with high ranking state officials like Governors of Upper Austria and Catholic Bishops. He highlighted the situation of street children in India.

It was a mutually enriching experience. Mr.Santosh returned with international perspective on diversity of culture, homelessness and deprivation. He was able to present the situation of the Young at Risk in India, with special focus on street children and the various forms of exploitation children go through, highlighting DBNJ’s interventions to rehabilitate the children.
DISHA: Dhisha team was invited to conduct Career Guidance seminar in 7 different Government Schools between 5th and 10th Jan, 2017. The seminars were co-ordinated by APSA organization.

Each of the seminars followed a set pattern and was carried out successfully. The Dhisha team comprising of Mr. Solomon and Mr. Raj Paul were introduced to the students by the school and APSA member.

In the 1st session a brief introduction to Dhisha and Don Bosco activities was followed by interactive discussion on Goal Setting, Importance of Career in Life. 2nd session dealt with Career, Difference in Personal life and Professional Life, Inner Talent, How to choose and achieve a Right Career in Life. Many real life examples were used to illustrate the importance of positive outlook and career. The resource persons used all 3 languages Hindi, Telugu and English to ensure each child understood all that was being said.

A slide presentation illustrated how they can choose their courses which are necessary to reach or achieve their Goals.

Sudheer a student of Class 10 said, “This seminar was very useful to me as I was in total dilemma as to what to do after 10th but after these sessions, I would be able to choose right subjects for my career. I will make sure that my family also understands these things.”

Headmasters of all the schools thanked Dhisha team for coming forward to help youngsters in this wonderful manner by taking up seminars and giving Job Placements. They said that they will ensure that every batch of outgoing students would henceforth be given this opportunity. They wished that Dhisha would continue these seminars every year.

DB Tech: DB Tech Visakhapatnam has successfully completed the first batch training for the two trades i.e., Plumbing and Welding in Skill Development Institute (SDI) under CSR Scheme. SDI is set up in Visakhapatnam as an initiative of major oil companies like Bharat Petroleum, ONGC, EIL etc to provide skill training to the marginalized unemployed youth in the state.

The batch started on 26th Nov 2016 and ended on 24th Dec 2016. The corporate partner for the project is Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited that has taken all the necessary steps to ensure their first initiative is a success. The program is aimed at giving the students equal opportunity for learning and development, sending them as SDI Brand ambassadors into society.

DB Tech as the training partner has executed the first round of training in its customary manner with total dedication towards skilling a total of 54 unemployed, underprivileged youth. On 09th Jan 2017 course-completion certificates were given to the successful Plumbing and Welding students. Jaquar presented a free tool kit to each of the 30 students of Plumbing batch.

10 plumbers and 13 welders have already been job placed in reputed companies Tapp Me, Vizag and Kay Bouvet, Satara respectively.
**DB Tech Kurnool:**

S. Dastagiri comes from a financially poor family that managed to educate him up to Intermediate and his sister up to the 10th grade. Thereafter, she was married off. His father is a daily wage worker and struggled hard to sustain his family and the debts he incurred for the marriage.

He had to end his education after Intermediate (plus two). This made him unhappy. He also knew it was time for him to shoulder some responsibility with his father who had incurred debts. What made him depressed was the fear that with a poor qualification, he would have to settle for a low paying, probably menial job.

Dastagiri had always dreamt of working in a reputed organization, which would add to his self confidence and improve his self-esteem. When DB Tech’s mobilization team started interacting with the youth in his town in Kurnool, his interest perked up. He felt that this must be a God-sent opportunity, like his mother would always assure him. He gathered all information and visited the DB Tech Centre. He gave an aptitude test and joined the Hospitality Course.

A willing learner with keen interest in discovering new ways of doing things, Dastagiri won accolades for his performance in classroom and lab activities. He learnt to speak in English and also use computers.

At the end of the training course, he got an opportunity with Westside – a TATA group company. Work at the store he says is like a dream come true. He is sure he will grow well. He earns Rs. 9,000/- per month along with other perks. He is thankful to the entire DB Tech team that played different roles – each important in training, grooming and guiding him towards success.

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**Out-of School Children Prepped For Admission**

DBNJ, Warangal is working to help children living in slums enroll in schools. On 18th January the staff conducted an exam for the children in writing alphabets and drawing. Support will be provided to ensure these children gain admission in nearby schools.

**Sensitisation on Individual Social Responsibility of Students**

BoscoNet: Students of Army Public School Golconda, St. Ann’s Degree College for Women, Mehdipatnam and Don Bosco Rehab Centre, Ramantapur were sensitized to the concept of Individual Social Responsibility.

Fr. Noel Maddichetty, Director BoscoNet and National Secretary Don Bosco India was invited to St. Ann’s College for Women to speak to their students as part of the program on the theme ‘Educate the Girl Child’.

The programs are pre-cursor that urge the student community to contribute in small ways to make the world a better place to live in. Educating the girl child is a primary theme of this program. Ms. Rashmi Murmu from Bosco Net conducted the program in other schools of Hyderabad.