From the Director’s Desk...

International Women’s Day 2017 Theme

Engaging Corporates for Social Transformation

BoscoNet: Fifty Four CSR representatives from the thirty corporate companies - including Accenture, Artemis, Apollo, DLF, Agro foods, Sahara India, Ernest and Young, Siemens, National Skill foundation, V-Mart, Tech Mahendra, Tata Group and Hyatt Group Hotels - attended the Don Bosco India CSR Partnership Venture, entitled 'Empower Youth for Nation Building', that was organised by BoscoNet at the Hyatt Regency, New Delhi on February 17.

The programme commenced at 11.30 am with the lighting of the lamp and a prayer dance. PM Mathew, manager-public relations, invited the participants to utilise the platform as a means to explore and collaborate with Don Bosco India.

The directors and assistant directors from seven Provincial Development Offices (PDOs) of Caveri - Tiruchy, KDS-Panjim, BSK-Hyderabad, SURABI-Chennai, BOSCO-New Delhi, BREADS-Bangalore, BRO-Guwahati and Don Bosco Youth Centre (DBYC) - Itanagar were present at the event. They addressed the gathering about the projects undertaken by each province with the vision to create a better tomorrow, through the empowerment of the marginalised.

“Service for the marginalised youth is the prime focus of Don Bosco Mission in India contrary to public opinion that they run schools for elite society.” Father Noel Maddichetty said. There were also presentations of Don Bosco and CSR. The participant corporates were largely impressed with various other key value based, life transforming interventions of Don Bosco apart from skill training program.

Happy Women’s Day

- Fr P Arul Das sdb
Executive Director
DHISA: CG Seminar for all the students of 9th and 10th was held in De Paul High School, Bhimadolu with the support of the Principal Rev. Fr. Santosh. The Resource persons were Mr. Solomon from Dhisha and Mr. Raj Paul from DB Tech.

The Seminar started with Fr. Santosh, Principal introducing the resource team to the students – 50 boys and 46 girls. Topics like Goal Setting, Procrastination and Time Management were taken up using multimedia presentations and inspiring videos about Inner Talents. Activities like action song perked up the students in the post lunch session. This was followed by Mr. Raj Paul’s sessions on Importance of Career, Career Planning and How to Achieve Career Success in Life.

Small group activity was given – to draw a picture of Prime Minister Modi congratulating American President Trump. Each student was given 30 secs. So the entire group was given 5 mins to complete the diagram. All the students participated and enjoyed it. Finally they principal had been judge to see the best out of all the groups.

At the conclusion of the seminar, two students Kiran and Pavani gave their feedback. Kiran said that the seminar was very interesting and useful for them, with Pavani adding that she will use all the aspects that were spoken about to take up a good career in life. All the students were very happy with the seminar.

Lastly the Principal thanking the resource persons, promised to organise a seminar for parents by this month end and requested Dhisha to conduct the same.

DB Tech, Bengaluru: On 10 February, a Don Bosco Tech Convention was held in Bengaluru on the theme: “Emerging Trends in skill Development”. The inaugural session had Fr. Maria Arokia Kanaga SDB, Regional Superior for South Asia exhorting the gathering to “focus on Agriculture, to cultivate honesty and that training is not only for career but for life.” Many other corporate CEOs were present for the convention. Fr. A.M. Jose, Don Bosco Tech National Executive Director presented the Plans, Projects and Programmes of Don Bosco Tech. There were many panel discussions held on that day. Few Success stories were shared by the alumnus of DB Tech.

Children Parliament: Children of all the tuition centres are preparing for their final exams. The students of Rajeev Nagar Centre also conducted their Children’s Parliament session. During the session concern of the education minister on the issue of children not being allowed adequate time to prepare for their exams due to daily chores and loud music from weddings taking place was raised. The children decided to speak to the community leader to intervene in the latter matter. They requested that the loudspeakers should not be allowed beyond 10 pm at night as not only the school-going children but also elders were getting disturbed.
Harvesting Vegetables for Self Sustenance

MACS: Kappala Chittemma is a resident of Pittalavani Palem Village in Guntur District. Her life with her husband, two school-going children and mother-in-law. The family was in debt due to loans taken from private money lenders for high rates of interest.

Chittemma joined Chaitanya Group and deposited the regular amounts in the bank as per the group norms. With low-interest loans received from MACS, she managed to clear all the family debts. Thereafter, with a clear mind, she started to think about improving the household income. When she received the fourth term loan amount of Rs.20,000/-, she invested the same in vegetable farming. She expected returns of Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- per year. She cultivated a fresh crop every three months, re-investing returns from each yield into improving the next crop.

At the end of the first year, she earned a net profit of Rs.60,000/-. “This amount is quite sufficient to run my family. At present I am happy and self-sustained. I am very grateful to Chaithanya MACS. In my group everybody got benefit from the Chaithanya MACS and all are happy. It strengthened the cooperation among the group members.”

VRO visit

Kadapa: At the Council Meeting held on 27th January, 2017 at the Don Bosco Provincial House, a 2-member team was appointed to conduct due diligence of a proposal made by Village Reconstruction Organisation (VRO), Kadapa. VRO has proposed a collaboration or take-over of their work in Kadapa.

Don Bosco Film Festival for Youth @ Gagillapur

DB Tech, Gagillapur: Don Bosco Short Film Festival was held on 12th February at Don Bosco Human Resource Development Centre, Gagillapur. Fr. P. Arul Das, sdb introduced the importance of value-based Short Films and their role in motivating the rising young generations. 105 youth viewed the films.

DB Tech, Ongole: Thirteen Don Bosco Tech Centres of Andhra Pradesh had review on 22 and 23 February in Don Bosco, Ongole. Fr. George Matthew, National Don Bosco Tech Assistant Director, Fr. P. Arul Das sdb, Province Don Bosco Tech Incharge and National, State and Centre staff participated in the review.