World Student's Day @ Don Bosco Navajeevan Vizag

DBNJ, Vizag: One of the few persons who inspired the students and the nation at large in different walks of life is none other than Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He became a role model and stood always as an extraordinary individual whose incredible life serves as the brilliant inspiration to many. Dr. APJ Kalam was surely one such grand human being whose achievements, humility, sincerity, hard work, positivity and never-give-up outlook had and would always impart a great moral fillip for all, at every stage of life. In the year 2010, the United Nations decided to honor this ‘great scientist’ on his birth anniversary and declared his birthday on October 15 as ‘World Students’ Day’. Even Dr. Kalam always expressed his wish to be remembered as a teacher by the people.

Remembering Dr. Kalam, Don Bosco Navajeevan Bala Bhavan, celebrated the Students’ day in Beach Blossom School premises. Highlighting the role of Dr. Kalam in the lives of students, Fr. George sdb addressed the students, instilling in them the desire to fly high into the new skies. When students were asked about their dream of life, many little voices popped up, to be a Doctor, Engineer, Fisherman, next Bill Gates, fly to mars and the list was too big to roll it up. Fr. George encouraged the students to achieve ones dreams by quoting T.E Lawrence, “All dream, but not equally. Those who dream by night in the dusty recesses of their minds, wake in the day to find that it was a vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous persons, for they may act on their dreams with open eyes, to make them possible.” Fr. George concluded his words urging the students to face the black board to make their faces bright, and not the Facebook, to bury their faces behind a screen.

It was an occasion for students to deliberate on issues that concern students and the country, share new ideas and to suggest new ways of moving forward. Students were provided with a platform to voice their concerns and expectations for more effective initiatives in education. The event came to a conclusion with delicious snacks.
DBTech, Ongole: Mr. A.S.N. Prashanth, an Assistant Lineman with a Diploma in E.E.E and 10 years of experience was invited to take a session for the trainees of Electrical course at DB Tech Ongole. He shared about his interest in the Electrical field that turned him into one of the best Electricians in the region. Apart from his regular work he also goes to colleges and other institutions to give lectures on related topics.

On the designated day, 05 October, 2016, Mr. Prashanth started his lecture saying, “If the students have the desire in the Electrical field only can they be proven as the best in terms of gaining the subject knowledge”. In the process of explaining about the significance of this particular domain he compared it with the medical field as the students of medicine soon after finishing the theory would immediately get into the practical sessions in the same way this Electrical domain also needs the practical sessions to gain thorough hold on the subject.

Speaking about job opportunities in this industry, he proved that there is a demand for the electricians in the market with suitable examples. Major concepts explained in the class were winding, rewinding, basic wiring, 2 BHK wiring, types of transformers etc.

In a first, he assigned the trainees with a task - to watch a couple of important modules on electricity. It was a good experience for the students –they were motivated by his placid and soothing words. The trainees made up their minds and felt confident in the work they are doing. They agreed Electrical as the best domain ever.

DBTech, Chinthapalli: Don Bosco Tech in collaboration with APSSDC and ITDA is successfully conducted job-oriented technical courses in Automobile repair, Electrical fitting, BPO, Computer Assistant and Masonry. Since inception, the team carried out mobilization drives on a war footing, bringing the centre into focus of the entire region. Each of these courses is now running with full capacity. Young boys and girls from the neighboring tribal communities have enrolled in the various courses offered.

On 5th October, 2016, parents of the trainees were invited into DB Tech Chintapalli Centre for an interface with the trainers and centre head. The parents felt assured that their wards were at the right place and were on a certain path of progress. Resistance to the idea of youth moving away from home to find a living in faraway places was very strong among the parents. The DB Tech team explained the advantages of being flexible in terms of relocation. There is constant threat of the youth getting lured into the naraxal movement. Acquiring the requisite skills and finding dignified employment in towns or cities would be a better option, the parents concurred by the end of the day. However, they preferred girls to work within the vicinity.

The staff explained them about the importance of attending the training program for various reasons such as this program will inculcate discipline in students which in turn will improve their habits, & changes their life style.

DBTech, Kurnool: Having completed an intensive course in Electrical fitting and wiring at DB Tech, Kurnool, K Rajesh started looking out for jobs.

Dhisha gave an orientation on the soft skills he must have in order to do well in any workplace. Electricians are also expected to have good communication & presentation skills so as to service clients well.

With renewed confidence Rajesh faced interviews and found success at UDAY NETWORK TECHNOLOGIES. He is employed as a Technician Trainee with a stipend of Rs.8,000/- per month and Rs 1500/- extra money for food expenses. He will become a regular employee after 3 months.

Rajesh shares his experience at work place as “I enjoy my work every minute and I am no more a candidate with backlogs. Now I am in a position to look after my family and my brothers.”
**Poultry Farming: returns**

**MACS:** Ganti Papayamma is a member Grace SHG of Bosco Swalambana MACS. Her husband Krishna Mohan is a Tractor Driver. “Inspired by my neighbor’s progress, I joined the SHG and started making small monthly savings. When I got my first loan, I paid fees for my daughter’s college and bought a couple of country chicken. The eggs were left for hatching. Encouraged by this progress, I decided to continue poultry farming. I invested the subsequent loans also in this enterprise and now have over 30 birds. Each bird can fetch me around 250-300 rupees. This is enough for my small household. My son is doing a course at ITI and my daughter is doing her Engineering course. I am very happy with the way things are changing for the better. Thank you, Swalambana MACS!”

**Inauguration of Nalgonda PG Hostel**

**DB Academy, Nalgonda:** On 20 October 2016, a new PG Hostel for men was inaugurated at Don Bosco Academy, Nalgonda. Fr. Thathireddy Vijaya Bhaskar, Provincial of Salesian Province of Hyderabad blessed and inaugurated the new building that has a capacity of housing 150. Fr. G. Anand, the Rector of Don Bosco Academy expressed his gratitude to God, benefactors and others for helping to construct the hostel. Fr. Provincial appreciated Fr. Anand for his commitment, hard work for well being of the Children and Youth. He too appreciated Fr. Vatti Balashowry for his systematic work in following up the work. Fr. P. Arul Das, Director, Bosco Seva Kendra, congratulated the community for carrying out the project in systematic manner.

**38 children prepared for mainstreaming**

**DBNJ Warangal:** Midterm Assessment for DBS (Day Bridge School) Children at Don Bosco Navajeevan, Warangal was done during the month of October. A test was conducted to assess the children’s readiness for mainstreaming. This year 38 children have been identified to join the academics in 2017.

The individual care plan developed during the registration of the children is the baseline against which the result of these tests will be compared to assess the progress made by each child. The regularity of the attendance, their performances is added to the individual care plan.

**MACS Coordinators' Review**

The periodic review of Coordinators of all the MACS was held at BIRD Guntur on 08 October, 2016. The meeting was convened by Director Fr. P. Arul Das and animated by the coordinators Mr. S Chandrasekhar and Mr. G. Ratna Raju.

The discussions brought to light some of the issues like members seeking loans against security, etc. The director took up concerns related to functioning of the MACS like reporting and documentation, infrastructural issues etc. It was emphasized that all norms must be strictly followed. The clear distinction between a Micro-finance company and MACS was made as also between DWCRA and MACS loans.
BSK Project Development: On October 15-17, 2016 Fr. P. Arul Das, sdb, Director, Bosco Seva Kendra attended the Workshop on Impact Oriented Project Planning Monitoring Training at Karl Kubel Institute for Development Education (KKID) Coimbatore. The themes addressed were Rising Importance of Impact in Development Cooperation, Project Cycle Management, Impact orientation and Impact Chains, Qualitative and Quantitative Indicators, tools for Data collection to verify the Indicators and Impact Oriented Monitoring and Components of monitoring systems. Methods used were Input, Case study, Small group work, Presentations, Reflections. There were 24 participants from different countries and from different organizations. Ms. Beate Hothusen from Germany and Ms. Malathi from KKID were the resource persons.

MACS: The Kranthi Guntur Urban MACS, Nirmal Guntur Rural MACS and Mother Teresa MACS of Tadikonda 30 board of directors had exposure visit to Sangam Milk Dairy in Vudlapudi, Guntur. The main objective of the visit was to provide the right space for the BODs to gain first hand knowledge of how a dairy co-operative works. It gave them an understanding of how they can optimise the returns from the income generating activities the women are involved in. The women had interaction with management and staff of Sangam Dairy regarding the formation of cooperative society, marketing, funding process, recruitment and many other aspects of dairy farming.

In the evening all of them went to Suryalanka Beach in Bapatla. State co-ordinators and staff guided them.

DBNJ, Kurnool: Children of the bridge school for Shikari Tribes in Kurnool went for a picnic to the nearby hillock. The day was filled with fun and entertainment. The children got to play in the lush green grass and had food and snacks to whet their appetite.

20 children were accompanied by the school teacher – Mr. Yohan. An enterprising person with a love for children, he transformed himself into a driver and tour guide for the day.

Training & Development: An intensive workshop was organised for the students of Philosophy at Vishwa Jyothi Don Bosco College in October. The workshop included a session on Social Analysis that took the students to into the lives of the people in and around the village of P.T.Parru. The students' exposure to this aspect brought about many new perspectives whereby they understood the various struggles people went through to eke out a healthy and respectable living.

Fr. P. Arul Das-Director BSK co-ordinated the Programme. Fr. Santiagu Thomas, Fr. Michael Alex, Fr. L. Ashok, Mr. Chandra sekhar & Ms. Nalini had important input sessions on different topics.

BOSCO SEVA KENDRA
(Development office of the Salesian Province of St. Joseph, Hyderabad)
Don Bosco Nagar Post, Himayatsagar Road, Bandlaguda Jagir, Hyderabad - 500 086, Telangana, INDIA.
Office: 83339 81701 | Director: 94400 53219 | Email: bskhyd1993@gmail.com | Website: www.boscosevakendra.org