

Support for Child Labour Rehabilitation Programme Don Bosco Child Labour Mission - Davangere

Interim Report
(JANUARY TO MAY 2008)

Presented to



by



BREADS

Bangalore Rural Educational
And Development Society

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Introduction

Don Bosco Child Labour Mission (DBCLM) has been trying to bring up the neglected children through out the years by incorporating many programmes and activities. We are trying to convey the message that every child is important and they have to be handled with utmost care, loving concern. To attain a good result we need to provide an unfailing and constant support to the children and the society. In this circumstance, DBCLM has organised many activities, especially in this reporting period such as camps, training programmes, awareness programmes for the children in the center and for the community. The descriptions of the activities are as follows.

Boarding centre –Sujoyothi and Suprabha



The main objective of the project is to provide boarding and education facilities for the rescued child labours from Davangere district. At present 200 children are staying in the boarding centres. We are giving proper care, guidance and education to the children through various activities and programmes. We have good and committed staff who take care to address the needs of the children especially the educational improvement in them..

Besides the boarding DBCLM reaches out to the community with well designed plan and activities for empowering the community to prevent child labour and school drop outs.

Community reach out programmes

▪ Task force

In order to strengthen and expand the activities through Task Force we have formed Child Rights Protection and Child Labour Prevention Committees in the following Gram Panchayat in the Ragimasalawada Panchayat. The details of the committee formation are following here.

SI	Date	Place	No.of Participants
1	27-02-2008	Telagi	45
2	10-03-2008	Anajigere	66
3	25-03-2008	Ragimasalwada (follow up meeting and Training of Task Force)	40

School Development Monitoring Committee

Training for the members and youths

As a part of SDMC programme, we provided training for the members of SDMC and for the youth in the villages. By giving this training youth can also be a member in the committees of Child Rights Protection. In Many villages, we managed to form them into groups that will work as catalyst for the better running of the village, prevent Child Labour and protect Child Rights. As a result of the training the main suggestions come up from the members are

- Give importance to the development of the schools
- Make strategies for the ways and means to attract children to schools
- Plan the possibilities to reduce child labour and dropouts from the schools
- The new policies to incorporate the community and to make them actively participate in the process of education.

The particulars of the training programme are as follows.

SI	Date	Village	No. of participants
1	08-2-2008	Singrihalli	33
2	16-2-2008	Kanchikere	54
3	18-2-2008	Towdur	42
4	22-2-2008	Chatnihalli	39
5	25-2-2008	Hiremegalager	41
Total			209

Impact

- Through Task Force and SDMC programmes, we could incorporate 249 members and it oriented in a social perspective.
- All the participants agreed to participate in the management of school activity regularly and compulsorily to take initiative in the enrolment of their own children in the schools.

Women's Empowerment

Training to the SHG Members

Trainings were given to the members of the SHG in Harpanahalli Taluk. We organized various training programmes not only for the members but to involve new and more members into Self Help Groups. The details are given below.

SI	Name of the place	Date	Topics covered	No. of Participants
1	Kammattahalli, Punabagatta GP	04-02-08	SHG concept and Formation	138
2	Srinivaspura, Anagigere GP	07-02-08	Concepts of the SHG	65
3	Hunasekatte, Anagigere GP	08-02-08	Finance management Savings	67
4	Gadigudalu, Anagigere GP	12-02-08	Bank Linkages	87
Total No. of Participants				357

Formation of New SHGs

During the reporting period, we formed 5 new Self Help Groups. Details are given below

Sl.	SHG name	Number	Name of the Village	Total Savings
1	Sneha Mahila SHG	14	Guledahatti Tanda	1800.00
2	Sharad SHG	15	Kanchikere	1650.00
3	Sri Annapurneshwari SHG	15	Kyarakatte	2050.00
4	Sri Kariyamma SHG	15	Yaraballi	1700.00
5	Fathima Mahila SHG	12	Hanumagondanahalli	1480.00
	Total	71	Total	8680.00

Impacts

- In this reporting period, we could train 357 members of SHG in the Harpanahalli Taluk
- We could mobilize 71 new members in the SHGS through the help of senior members of the SHGs
- Through this programme, we could enhance the knowledge of the SHG members, increase their savings and income etc.

Women's Day Celebration

Every year Don Bosco Child Labour Mission organizes Women's Day as we work for the empowerment of the women through the SHGs, which would in turn curb the problem of child labour and school dropouts. This year we decided not to have the conventional way of organizing by having a public function with lots of speeches and entertainment programme but focused on addressing women's problems and give them a training programme on various issues. Women's Day was celebrated in Don Bosco Suprabha on 27th March 2008 and in Uchangidurga on 29th March 2008. There were 165 and 255 participants for the programme in Davangere and Uchangidurga respectively. The contents of the training are as follows



- Training on government schemes reserved for women from the Department of Women and Child Development
- Training on **Bhagya Lakshmi** Scheme of the Government of Karnataka. The scheme focuses on girl children and their education. If the first two children in a family are girl children, then Rs 10000 will be deposited in their name and will have access to it at the age of 18. The bond will be given to the mother and interest will be added to it.
- The **Domestic Violence Act 2006** was explained to the women and the procedure to deal with the cases of their husbands harassing them and creating problems at home. K.S. Rekha, an advocate led the class and explained about the Minimum Wages Act and Child Marriage Act.
- In Uchangidurga an additional training was given on the NREGS (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) of the Government of India. Under this scheme, everyone family member who is above 18 should be given 100 days of work in a year by the Government. They can approach the Gram Panchayat for the job. After

fulfilling the various formalities, and after receiving the applications the Gram Panchayat should give them work in 15 days. The wage is Rs 74 and 60% of the wage will be given as cash while 40% will be in given in kind.

The issues addressed

- A Woman raised the issue of not getting the *Bhagya Lakshmi* scheme, even though she has only two girl children and the problem was solved immediately as the officials were present in the function.
- Bhagyamma raised the issue of her husband pouring kerosene on her face and burning her. In fact, DBCLM had met all her medical expenses to do the operation to save her. She was promised due compensation from the department officials.
- Many women raised different issues and most of them were answered on the day itself, as the officials were present for the function.
- The women who participated became more aware of their rights, the benefits from the government and the various schemes that would help their group and their family.
- The media present for the function did a good coverage and the news was covered in all the papers giving the project and the issue sufficient publicity.
- It was a great awareness programme for all the people who were present, as they were made aware of the various Government Acts, which are pertaining to their life.

Adoption of Government School

Don Bosco Child Labour Mission Davangere has adopted Government Primary School at Alurhatti, which is very close to Don Bosco Sujoyothi. We have appointed a teacher for the government school. He organizes different programmes in the school for the children so that the school becomes an attractive place for the children. He conducts extra curricular activities like games and sports so that it is a big boost for the children and for the teachers. He takes care to see that children do not bunk classes and meets the parents of the school dropouts and child labourers. Following are the main roles carried out by DBCLM for the adoption of school.

- DBCLM appointed a teacher who will be full time in the school as an additional help in various ways to help the running of the school.
- DBCLM sponsored all the prizes to be given on the parents' day for all the competitions
- In the beginning of the scholastic year DBCLM had sponsored steel, plates and tumblers for all the children for the mid day meal.
- DBCLM provided all the support for all the cultural and sports programmes of the school.
- DBCLM put up a science lab in the school.

Parents meeting

DBCLM conducted three parents meeting in this reporting period. The meeting had the focus on mainstreaming and admitting the children to regular schools after their programme in the project. So the discussions were to motivate the parents adequately for taking up the responsibility for supporting their children's education. We conducted the meeting in different villages so that more of them could participate.

Meeting -1		Meeting-2	Meeting -3
Name of the village where the meeting conducted	Harapanahalli	Davangere	Harpanahalli
No of children participated	53	61	51
Number of parents participated	35	42	37
Date of the programme conducted	20-02-2008	19-05-2008	20-05-0-2008

The meeting had the following structure.

Orientation for the parents conducted in the meeting for parents. It highlighted the value of education and role of parents in educating the children.



Discussion session was held with the parents. In this session, we asked the parents about the cause of child labour and the measures they could do to eradicate this evil from the society. It was surprising to note that many parents accepted the responsibility for sending their children to work. Majority of the parents accepted that their attitudes and bad habits are the cause of child labour.

Provided information about various schemes existing in the Government for the education of children

The action plan of education for each child was discussed with the parents and the child, and thus together the course of future education for the child was planned. Participation of the child and the parent was ensured in the meeting.

Cultural Activities performed by the children thrilled the parents and they were impressed by their performance and the remarkable improvement in them. This is also a motivating factor for the parents to support their child.

Impacts

- Parents understood the value of education.
- Parents and children were involved and participated in the decision making process of the child's education.
- Motivated and encouraged the parents to support the child's education.

Formation and follow up of Child Rights Club

Being a member of Child Rights Clubs, each child have not only a feeling of worth, responsibility towards society and self-confidence but makes him/her aware of his/her duties. Keeping this in mind, we formed more CRCs especially in Harapanahalli Taluk.



Details are given below:

Sl	Date	Name of the Place	Subjects dealt with	No. of participants
1	05-02-2008	Kammattahalli (C.R.C Formation)	Child Rights Importance of Education	218
2	20-02-2008	Satturu (C.R.C-Follow up)	Preparation for the examination	19
3	08-04-2008	Kanchikere (C.R.C Follow up)	Summer Camp	21
Total				258

Impacts

- The activity helped more than 200 children besides 10 school masters and more than 48 community members to understand about Child Rights, Laws and new schemes of the Government.
- School level meetings were conducted at regular intervals, which helped the children to improve their own leadership qualities.
- The entire programme helped the children to come out of their stage fear and to come forward to participate in open discussion together with their masters and their own parents.
- Children received greater awareness about the various Government schemes like, Free & Compulsory Education, Bicycle schemes, Scholarships, Midday meals, Child Labour Elimination Project, C.R.C. Circulars from the Govt etc.
- The programme also insisted on the fact that all the children should get into "Child Friendly Schools" and the need for basic facilities in the schools.

Summer Camps

This year we had two different types of camps conducted aiming at the curative and preventive approaches. There were two camps for the students who passed out from Don Bosco Residential Bridge Course and are continuing their studies; one for the high school students in various other schools and the other for post metric (I & II PUC) students.

For High school students the residential camp was started on 8th April. 2008. The main objective of the camp was to motivate the child to continue his or her studies. We had conducted different sessions and lot of activities aimed at achieving this objective. The sessions were included practical study method, time management, friendship, building relationships etc. The children were shown some motivational movies. Camp also gave importance for the improvement of Spoken English and Mathematics of the students. They were also given General Knowledge Quiz papers having a set of 200 questions. The following table shows the total number



of children attended the camp from high school.

Class	Number of children
8 th	16
9 th	23
10 th	24
Total	63

The camp concluded on 18th April with the talk of Mr. A. H. Umesh, Asst. Labour Commissioner, Davangere and Labour Inspector.

For the PUC Students camp aimed to motivate the participants in various aspects, like meditation, to learn the art of concentration; personality development sessions solving problems, improving the self confidence, the value of time and time management and coping methods of stress and frustration, and a few tips through questioning and analysing what they hear and watch through the media. It had also the entertainment moments in the evenings after supper through movie, party games, singing, dancing and cultural activities.



Camp in the villages. There were short 5 day camps conducted in 13 villages in Harapanahalli Taluk. This was meant for school going as well as out of school children. The camp was more preventive in nature in as much as it was meant to prevent school going children from being dropouts, make schooling attractive, create awareness among parents and village leaders the value of education and sending children to school and evils of child labour. These camps were organized during the summer of 2008, from April 2nd to 31st May

08m. The camp was named "**Chinnarigagi Chithana Shibira**" meaning 'Camp to enable and empower children to think'. For this camp the target group is school going children, school drop out and child labourers. The detailed list of participants in the village camp is listed below.

SI	Date	Name of the Village	No. of participants
1.	02/4/08 to 06/4/08	Ragimasalwada	103
2.	10/4/08 to 14/4/08	Punabhagatta	54
3.	10/4/08 to 14/4/08	Kammathalli	57
4.	17/4/08 to 21/4/08	Jangamthumbigere	68
5.	24/4/08 to 28/4/08	Jambulinganahalli	53
6.	24/4/08 to 29/4/08	Arebasapura & Srikantapura	77
7.	02/5/08 to 06/5/08	Satturu	57
8.	06/5/08 to 10/5/08	Singrihalli	93
9.	19/5/08 to 23/5/08	Hallikere	54
10.	19/5/08 to 23/5/08	Chikkamegalagere	56
11.	26/5/08 to 30/5/08	Hanumagondanahalli	68
12.	27/5/08 to 31/5/08	Hiremegalagere	64
Total			804

Impacts

- The summer camps for the High School and PUC have really strengthened the resolve of the rescued child labourers, who are already into mainstream schooling.
- For the village camp, we could reach out 804 children. Among them many of them are school drop outs, school going children but they are at high risk to discontinue their education. For most children this was the first opportunity they had of camp life.
- A few school dropouts who came for the camp promised that they would be regular to school henceforth. Most children promised that they would work as catalyst to bring more and more children back to school.
- The participation of stakeholders ensured their responsibility on the children in their education and learning.
- We are very positive that the summer camp for village children has motivated not only the children, who were participants but also the leaders of the village and teachers, who were involved in organising the camps, to make sure that all children from the village is educated.

SSLC and PUC Results - 2008

Out of forty-seven children who wrote SSLC, 32 and among the 11 who wrote PUC, 5 passed. Those who passed SSLC in first class are:1] L.Manikanta 2] M.Rakesh 3] Hanumantha.C 4]Somakka 5]Yasen 6]G.D Vasantha 7]Annappa Naik & Those who passed PUC in first class 1]Mahantesh Naik 2]A.Mhantesh 3] H.Nagaraj 4] C.Ramu

SSLC Results:-

SI	Division	SSLC		Total
		Boys	Girls	
1	1 st Class	5	2	7
2	2 nd Class	6	9	15
3	3 rd Class	7	3	10
4	Failed	3	12	15
Total No.of Students				47

PUC Results:-

SI	Division	PUC		Total
		Boys	Girls	
1	1 st Class	4	-	4
2	2 nd Class	-	-	-
3	3 rd Class	-	1	1
4	Failed	5	1	6
Total Number of Students				11

Local, regional and national Dailies (News Paper) highlighted the achievement of these students.

- THE HINDU, a leading National English Daily of May 7 2008 reported with an attractive heading "Former child labourers shine in SSLC, PU exams" that: 'six children (should have been 11; only we did not have all the results when the press news was given), who had discontinued to become child labourers some years ago owing to adverse family circumstances, have passed the SSLC and PU examinations this year in Davangere district with first class marks.
- THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS, another English National Daily too, carries a similar report on 7th May 2008.

- KANNADA PRABHA, a Kannada Daily titles its report on 7th May thus "Annana Oothigegi... `Jayasali`" (The boy who was pledged-sold as bonded labourer- for his elder brother's education is a success). Other Kannada dailies like PRAJAVANI, SANJE VANI etc. also published similar reports.

Child Labour Day

Don Bosco Child labour Mission, Davangere in collaboration with Child Labour Eradication Special Action Plan, Self-Help groups' federation, UNICEF, District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Municipal Corporation, Labour and police departments made an awareness programme on 12th June 2008 in Bapuji auditorium which was filled with children. Over 2500 child labourers who were rescued from different places, their parents, SHG members, youth and the past students took part in the function. Speaking on the occasion MLA Shamanur Shivashankarappa opined that child labour system could not be stamped out unless poverty was eradicated from the society. He also requested the government to provide incentive to the poor and work out a plan to use the money for the education of the children.

A large number of child labourers who were working in garages, puffed rice mills and hotels gathered there. In that occasion the children who got high marks in the SSLC examination was awarded and prizes were distributed for them. Among them 32 SSLC students and 5 PUC students of Don Bosco Child Labour Mission, Davangere were also awarded. The awareness programme gave importance to the following facts.

- o Employing children for domestic work is a crime that will be looked after by the police department vigilantly.
- o In the meeting the Zilla panchayat or labour department they are to report any instance of noticed child labour in the area.
- o The Assistant labour commissioner A H Umesh brought to the notice of the gathering that around 10,000 child labourers were brought into the main stream of education by the department with the help of different NGOs from 2002 to until date.

Various cultural programmes from different NGOs added much colour to the function. The students of Don Bosco Child labour Mission put up a heart throbbing dance. The organizers commented about the service rendered by Don Bosco Child labour Mission in Davangere and for the welfare of the child labourers at large.



Financial Statements

From January 2008 to May 2008

No.	Head	Expense
1	Staff Salary	112,000.00
2	Food expense	290,779.00
3	Building Maintenance, Water & Electricity	23,000.00

4	Teaching Materials	9,051.96
5	Miscellaneous	4,350.00
6	Clothes/uniform	16,656.00
7	Medical expense	642.04
Total		456479.00

Conclusion

We are happy to state that our effort of giving a new life to many deprived children is bearing fruits as seen in the performance children in various exams and the number of children we were able to educate. We are grateful to all our various donors.