

# Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625 203.

## Happenings of October 2008



On 9<sup>th</sup> October was a great day for RTU's extended services called Satellite programme. On this day "Pushparani Children's Centre" - a day care centre for the handicapped children run by RUADT was declared opened. RTU was well represented in the function. There were also a number of government officials and a member of Tamilnadu Assembly. On this day RTU's well-wishers were gratefully remembered. It is housing around 60 children now and they can

cater for the needs of 150 children. As Br. James would describe "It is one of the best RTU's satellite programme".

One of the biggest feasts of Hindu religion is *Deepawali*. This is a feast of light celebrated in remembrance of victory of God over an evil force. This was celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> September. It was a homely feast. This was celebrated in a grand manner in RTU. All the children who are under our care were given new dresses. All the mothers prepared lots of sweets and eatables for the children. They were also given a few fire-crackers. It was a very colourful event in and out of RTU. Each village had cultural programme on this day. Like Christmas, greeting cards are also sent to exchange wishes. The senior girls, who were in the hostels, were invited by the CV families for a lunch.



We had SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) analysis of RTU. In this process all the staff participated and on 30<sup>th</sup> the senior staff gathered for a day of discussion over the points that came out of this analysis. It was a wonderful and rejuvenating event, like a master health check up of RTU's programme.

### CVs

We have two new staff for the children's programme: Mr. Mukesh, who was a teacher, is appointed as in charge of professional courses and Miss. Maria Jeyam as warden of Josephine Girls' hostel. We wish them a success and a fruitful experience in RTU. Mrs. Grace Pappa who was a mother has retired from her service owing to her ill health. A small function was organised to bid farewell to her. While thanking her for all her tireless services in RTU, we wish good health and speedy recovery from her ailment.



Sirumalar Children's Village celebrated its 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October, 01, 2008. There were also people from the local village to join the function. Evening there was variety entertainment given by the children and prizes were given to the children and the mothers and there was a common dinner for all the children and mothers.

On 8<sup>th</sup> was the *Saraswathi* and *Aautha Pooja* holidays. These feasts are celebrated in honour of Goddess of education and instruments respectively. As May 1<sup>st</sup> is celebrated in the west as Workers' Day, *Aautha pooja* is celebrated much jubilation in the industrial circle. We had this function in the RTU campus in common and then each CV had their own with all the children.

Children had a week of break from the school routine called quarterly holidays. The school reopened on 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. with renewed spirit and vigour.

A special seminar for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> students who are going to appear school final exams, was arranged. It was mainly focused on the techniques of learning. It was well appreciated by the students. Fr. Arul who animated the seminar gave all his time in teaching, listening and counselling. He also conducted a seminar for all the mothers on how to handle the children and to know their psychology.

Dr. James from U.K. came for two weeks stay here in RTU. His presence was very useful. He went around the children's villages and checked each individual child. We are greatly indebted to him for his availability for our children.



Miriam Children's Village looks anew after the annual maintenance work.

### **Education:**

After the quarterly holidays the school reopened on 03<sup>rd</sup> October. The exam results were given to the students and also made known to the parents. It was a good chance for the teachers to identify the weaker students and to concentrate on them more. Recently our students participated in the swimming competitions and out of 9, 8 won the prizes and they are going to the state level competition. More training was given to the teachers on Activity Based Learning Method. Our teachers are doing well in this regard they are able to pay more attention on the individual students. 13 more schools were added to our mobile science lab. There is always growing demand for the mobile science lab.

### **Housing:**

This month 9 new houses were built. The people who occupied these house were very happy to have them just before the great festival "Deepawali". They are very grateful to RTU and its well-wishers. A bore hole has been drilled in a school in Bodi for water.

### **Medical:**

Deepawali dress materials were given to the old aged people who receive regular monetary assistance.

### **Community Health:**



Home sponsorship children were given Deepawali gifts and they were here in RTU campus and it was for them a picnic. We organised a youth convention at Theni and 280 were participating in it.

Till we meet again next month I say "Good bye".

Yours fraternally

Fr. J. Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap.

Director.