

Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

Happenings of July 2009

Dear Well-wishers,
Greetings from RTU.

Thank you very much for all your appreciation for the previous letter. It helped all to understand quantitatively to what an extent RTU has extended its wings in service of the poorest of the poor. Of course you all know that RTU in no way compromises for its quality in all its doing. I am very proud of associating myself with it and I am very happy and thankful for such a chance that is given to me.

As an annual feature we had Executive Board Meeting and Annual General Body Meeting. General Body Meeting was well attended. Thanks to all the members for taking so much trouble to come over for the meeting. The departmental managers also participated in it and explained various activities for the past one year.

Rev. Br. Thomas Johnson, the vicar general of De La Salle congregation visited us. He was extremely happy to meet our Brother and see all the programmes. He said that he has heard so much about RTU and he was very happy that he had a good opportunity to witness all these with his own eyes. Thank you very much for your visit brother.

A week long IDC (Interdepartmental Committee) meetings were held. Here a senior staff evaluates the running of another department by meeting the staff, beneficiaries and going through the records that are maintained. Even though it is very tiresome but to sit with the departmental key members and to see the whole programme through an eye of an evaluator is very interesting. Here both the staff and the beneficiaries were very spontaneous in expressing their views and needs.

Child Care:

These days we have more number of students our children who have completed their academic studies. Child care department is taking extreme care to know their aptitude, ability and to put them into various technical and paramedical institutions. Thus this year mostly all were settled in different institutions. Now there are 94 students who are doing professional courses.

General Nursing Course	30	Polytechnic	14
Ancillary Nursing	10	ITI Technical course	22
Physiotherapy	02	Teacher's Training	10
Pharmacy	03	Bachelor's Degree (B.A)	01
Engineering (B.E.)	02		

The new mothers had a day of seminar given by Mrs. Sujatha from 'Hands to Hearts International' Chennai on cognitive skills development and massage therapy for the under five group children. Also there was day of orientation for the new mothers to make them aware of their new role, CV's regulations, sharing of their experiences and expectations etc. Three of Anbu Illam mothers were learning little school mathematics to help the middle school children in their learning. Congratulations to them for their boldness to come forward and we appreciate their dedication to help the children.

Dr. Rajasekaran, the Director of National Aids Control Organisation (NACO), New Delhi, Dr. Suresh and his team visited Sirumalar Children's Village and interacted with HIV affected children and expressed his contentment and appreciation for what we are doing for the children infected by HIV. They are very good support for our children all along in getting ART (Anti Retroviral Treatment) medication from the government side.

Education:



Birthday of Mr. Kamaraj, one of the late chief ministers of Tamilnadu and who had done a lot for the education of the children in the state, is declared by the government as the 'Education Development Day'. On this day number competitions were held in order to encourage the children to study well and prizes were distributed. Annual inspection of St. Peter Higher Secondary School was conducted by the governmental educational authorities. They were very much taken up by the running of the school. A circus programme was organised for the children just as entertainment. All our schools assembled and enjoyed the event. Regular parents meet was organised to discuss the programmes of the year.

After the vacation our mobile science labs have started their routine rounds from July. Now we have taken up new schools and altogether they are visiting 68 schools in this area. A batch of tailoring students was given certificate after their 6 months training in tailoring and embroidery.



Community Health

A team headed by Mr. Wangchuk Gyalpo from SOIR-IM visited our projects and were satisfied. They visited all the projects especially rural health and community organisation. They were very happy and satisfied with our running. We sincerely thank them for taking time to visit us.



Community Development:



There is considerable increase in the number of SHGs these days. We have crossed 90 and still there is scope to increase. We remain open and encourage the people to form themselves into a SHG. Trainings were given to the new SHG accountants.

There is growing demand for our supplementary schools (Evening study centres). This month we have introduced little nutritious snacks for the children in the study centres. This has been started on a trial basis in 5 centres and if it works well it will be extended to all the 11 centres. It was introduced by the SOIR-IM team.

Medical Department:



For the great services of this team here is a story of beneficiary:

"I am Mahendran. I am 23 years old. I am married and have a two years old girl. I am a mason by profession and my earning was sufficient for my family. But one day as I was working on a house-top I had a electric shock and fell down from above and had a heavy injury on my right leg that led to amputation. Now I could not go for any work. RTU is taking care of my daughter in a day care centre and get weekly assistance from RTU."

This kind of story of relief and comfort are many everyday and we are happy to serve such.

Rural Housing:



With the coming 12 volunteers from UK the site of construction of houses became international. In five weeks time they built 14 full houses and other small finishing works at Kakanji Nagar. They identified

themselves with the people so much that the leave taking became very difficult and heartbreaking. 45 houses have been built and waiting to be declared opened. We want to get an appointment of our district collector for this auspicious ceremony. We hope to have it this month. Our building project continues with the same vigour in the other areas. Another area for a group housing has been selected near Bodi about which I shall give details next month.

Water:



This monsoon has disappointed us and as a result there drought all over. There is water scarcity as level of water has gone down. Last month alone we have drilled 42 bore wells in Bodi area where we have our Nirmala Children's village. Among them are 4 bore-wells with motor pumps, water tank with all accessories in the schools and in the rest hand pumps have been installed.

With your support, wishes and encouragement we are happy to restore the joy back in the lives many needy. May God bless you!

Yours fraternally

Fr. J. Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap.

Director.