

Reaching The Unreached

G. Kallupatti, Near Batlagundu, Theni Dt. 625203

Happenings of May 2010

Dear Well-wishers,
Greetings from RTU.



On May 23rd we celebrated the birthday of our Brother. The celebration started with the wishing of staff at 8.30 A.M. Even though it was a Sunday many staff were there to wish Brother. At 10.00 A.M. all the children were greeting Brother "Happy Birthday" with colourful dances. New mothers and new children were introduced and this itself is a big birthday gift to Brother as he is always happy to see the joyful faces of the new children. It was followed by a common lunch. At the end of cultural programme around 30 past students were here from various parts of Tamilnadu to express their gratitude. All these celebrations went on well expressing children's appreciation and gratefulness for Brother. In the evening we had Eucharistic Celebration where we prayed for good health and long life of Brother.



Mr. Paul Abbot from Manchester, UK reached RTU on 19th May by bicycle. He was working here as a volunteer from 1978 for about three years. He was here as a birthday gift to Brother as he is celebrating his 85th birthday on 23rd May. He rode the bicycle more than 4,000 kilometres and flew a short

distance from Istanbul (Turkey) to Mumbai (India). By his adventures journey he has raised funds for RTU. I was really moved by his sacrifices and his love for our children. May God bless him!



Now there are three priests staying here. In order to give room for the guests and to have regular community living, a small residence was built near our guest rooms. This is named as "James Kimpton Illam". On 19th a small function was organised to inaugurate. Brother opened while Fr. Charles, our Provincial blessed the house.



On May 24th we had a day of planning meeting at Jeevan Joythi for the forthcoming academic year. Here each department shared about their planned activities for the year more precisely.

Child Care:

The children and mothers who went for home holidays came back refreshed. Even though some came back miserable they recuperated within no time once they are in our CVs. Every one had the joy of being with their relatives for few days. The children who were remaining with us without going for holidays were taken out for small picnics. They went to NCV for three days.



Till now 86 children were newly admitted. Together with the admission of the new children the Child Care department is busy with settling the students who have completed schooling in various professional training institutions. It was earnest wish of the children to have one of the mothers as warden so that the motherly care that they had in the CVs could continue in the hostel also. Therefore one of the mothers was made as warden of a hostel (Velanganni Girls' Hostel).

As there are more boys who are to go to the hostel, the Dominic Boys' Hostel was reopened. Now it accommodates 10 boys.

Education:



We received the results of 10th and 12th classes Government exams. As usual in 10th standard, all 74 have passed with good marks. Out of 500 marks 7 students have scored above 450, 13 between 400-449, 43 between 300-399 and 11 between 245-299. In the 12th class 93% have passed (out of 41 students 38 have passed). In the LaSalle Open school, in the 12th class out of 14 students 9 have passed and in class 10 out of 26 students 16 have passed. This is an excellent result as the open schools dealing

with the drop outs and slow learners. We appreciate the students and the teachers who worked very hard to bring out these results.

The students were on holidays last month. All the maintenance works were carried out and each class room is fitted with a fan in order to reduce the heat of the scorching sun.



The concluding day of the summer course was admirable. The students exhibited all their learning from the summer course in the form of dialogue and dances. It was interesting and the hard work of the teachers is to be appreciated.

Medical:

Organising the village health animators was brought under the medical department as they are directly dealing with the rural health concerns. Hereafter they will function under the leadership of Mrs. Rani the head of the Medical department.

HSP and AHSP



HSP and AHSP children's day was celebrated. More than 800 were present together with parents. It went on well with variety cultural programme. It was followed by lunch. Even though it was tough to organise

these children, the staff have done wonderful work of organising them systematically.

Community Development:



There was three days of visit from SOIR from Sweden to RTU. They went around the target area to visit all the projects that were sponsored by them. They visited AHSP programme, Self Help Groups, Cultural programme, took part in the SHG Federation meetings. SHGs of A. Vadipatti celebrated their annual day.

Housing and Water:



The group housing in Nirmala Nagar and Rajiv Gandhi Nagar is nearing its completion. Due to heavy drought there had lot of demand for drinking water. 33 bore wells had been drilled, hand pumps were installed. As the water table is going down now, we are going to try out heavier hand-pumps which could take water from 200 feet.

Next month I shall come with updated statistics of RTU's beneficiaries. I sincerely appreciate all your support and concern for us. Expecting your continual cooperation,

Yours fraternally

Fr. J. Antony Paulsamy, OFM Cap.
Director.