

**BOSCO
REACH OUT**



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Ambulance and Mobile Eye Clinic Inauguration



UPCOMING PROGRAMMES OF BRO

- Orientation Programme for Teachers – CARE
- Children's Parliament/ Club Formation Meeting/Parents Orientation-CARE
- Train Teachers and Parents to Provide Support – CARE
- Support in VHND and Immunization Days – ECBI
- Sensitization and Orientation and Awareness on COVID-19 - ECBI
- Website Development Maintenance – SFURTI
- Engagement of Designers – SFURTI
- Exposure for the Artisans – SFURTI
- Training on Gardening (Horticultural, Floricultural & Medicinal Plants) – PHA&ST
- Awareness Programme on Village Electrification/Installation of Solar System – Green Skill
- Awareness Programme and Training cum Demonstration on Mitigation Measures to Reduce GHG emission in Agriculture – Green Skill
- Sensitization Programme on Inclusive Education – CBR
- Training for CBR Staff at Field Level – CBR
- Facilitate Awareness Programme on Early Intervention – CBR
- Skill Training for PwDs – CBR
- Promotion and Strengthening of Children's Clubs – CBR
- Promotion of IGA – TDF
- Farmers' Training / Demonstration – TDF
- Evening School for Elderly People in Project Target Village – TDF
- Training for Board Members of FPO, Goalpara District – FPO
- Closure Programme for TDF BOLGRIM Project- TDF

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Director's Message

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Bosco Reach Out!

These days we are bombarded with the words like Corona Phase I, Phase II, Vaccination, Masks, Social Distancing, Sanitizers, Inhaling, etc., that creates panic, tension, worry, anxiety and above all fear in all of us. But at the same time, we also comforted with the phrases like God's Love, Trusting in God, Divine Providence, Hoping in God, Believing in God, Helping One Another, Loving Our Neighbour, Being a Good Samaritan, etc. Amidst the chaos and confusions, we do find God's love, God's grace, God's protection and His Divine intervention in the lives of many human beings. As we are experiencing this pandemic let us encourage one another to play the role of a Good Samaritan. Like him we are called to help the strangers who are in need of our help, because they too are our neighbours, and they too are our brothers and sisters. We all belong to one single human family. Let us ask God to give us the strength to stand firm and strong to reach out to many people, especially those who need our service.

The first quarter of our *Focus Magazine* brings to you our report of the activities and achievements. For us in Bosco Reach Out, the year started with a day-long programme and project planning to enable the staff to work together, united as one team and effectively achieve the project goals. We also had the training on report writing and media communication for our staff.

We inaugurated the First Mobile Eye Clinic in North East India which will provide all facilities of OPD to the poor in the remote parts of Assam. Sensitisation and Orientation of Community Based Organisation programme conducted in Udalguri district was to discuss the importance of timely vaccination of children to avoid drop-outs, vaccination for pregnant women, nutrition and care during pregnancy, and awareness on COVID-19 and its vaccine. The Migrant Desk of the Salesian Province of Guwahati, "Don Bosco Bharosa" was inaugurated in Bosco Reach Out campus, which will provide support and safe migration to the youth of North East India. For the first time, Children at Risk Education Annual Sports Day was organised for the enthusiastic 1070 students of CARE project, Kokrajhar district of Assam and was witnessed by 2000 guardians/parents. Three Months Crash Course Coaching for Class X Students was organised at Chirang district to reduce the prevailing high school children from dropping out of school or failing in their board examinations and thus bring a holistic development to society. We had also Sanitation Literacy Campaign to bring in attitudinal changes in the rural folk regarding sanitation and cleanliness. The Children Sponsorship Programme has come up with innovative steps to spread the importance of education. The Nursery School without Uniforms and textbooks is slowly gaining popularity among the poor of our villages of Rongjeng Centre.

The programme on Management and Strengthening of Community Organisation has been held regularly through various CBOs in order to improve and strengthen community living in the society. In Goalpara district, the rubber plantation has matured for latex harvesting. Farmers Producer Organisations have been capacitated through various training programmes for collective rubber sheet marketing. The Green Skill project has effectively started creating awareness on Climate Change, Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation Measures to Reduce GHG Emission in Agriculture and Training on Disaster Preparedness for Task Forces in six regions of Assam and Meghalaya.

We thank God for all that we were able to achieve in the preceding months. As I conclude my message, I would like to implore God's Blessings on all of us for our Safety and Security, Peace and Harmony. Let us be Good Samaritans at this time of need. God Bless us All.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, SDB
Executive Director, Bosco Reach Out

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Management and Strengthening of Community Organisation

The programme on management and strengthening of community organisation was conducted on 18th February 2021 at Sovapur, Sidli block, Chirang district of Assam. It was organised under the NABARD supported project 'Integrated Tribal Development Programme - BAGAN Project for Sidli Block, district Chirang, Assam'. Mr Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO animated the programme. A total of 21 wadi beneficiaries attended the programme.

During the programme, the resource person discussed the benefits of participating in various community organizations namely Village Planning Committees (VPC), Joint Liability Group (JLG), Self Help Group (SHG), and Farmer Producers Organisation (FPO). He also emphasised the proper maintenance of organisation or group record books. It will enhance the transparency within the group members. The SHG leaders decided to conduct a monthly group meeting, collect the saving, disbursed loan to the members to start income-generating activities, repaying the loan, and properly documented it.

Under the project, 20 VPCs are formed covering 22 project villages consisting of 400 wadi members. The VPC aims to identify convergent solutions to address issues of the wadi beneficiaries and farmers. It will help them in accessing economic opportunities and farming activities. Each VPC has decided to conduct a monthly meeting and open a saving bank account. VPCs will help the two newly formed FPOs – one from Malivita VCDC and another from Janata VCDC in the later stage. Malivita VCDC consists of 13 VPCs and Janata VCDC consists of 7 VPCs.





Umrangso Centre: Learn, Work and Earn

Ms Wesi Hansepi born on 22nd November 1953. She studied only till Class III due to poverty. She grew up working in her family field jhum cultivation at Borolobang village, Umrangso, Dima Hasao district in Assam. At the early age of 18 years old she was married to Mr Men Teron. They were blessed with nine children (one son and eight daughters). Unfortunately, in 2000, her husband passed away.

In April 2017, she was one of the eight women selected by Bosco Reach Out (BRO) for a six months course on assembling, maintenance and management of solar equipment. She attended the course at Barefoot College based in Tilonia, Rajasthan and received the name 'solar mama'. In 2018, she and her friends installed a solar system for 204 families of non-electrified villages in the Umrangso region. In 2019, she and her four friends attended another three months of skill up-gradation training at Barefoot College based in Tilonia, Rajasthan.

Now, she is busy providing skilful solar technical assistance to the surrounding villages from REW (Rural electric workshop) at Borolobang. She is known for her hard work and dedication within her village and its surrounding villages. She is earning extra income. She is venturing a new life through her “learning, working and earning”. She is always grateful to BRO and Barefoot College based at Tilonia, Rajasthan. The solar system demand increases among the non-electrified villages.



24th February 2021 was the inauguration of the first **Ambulance and Mobile Eye Clinic** of North East India. The function was attended by many dignitaries and staff of Bosco Reach Out. Dr C. K. Barua, Rtd. Director of Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Guwahati, inaugurated the mobile unit and Fr. Januarius Sangma, Provincial of the Salesian Province of Guwahati, blessed the unit. Dr C. K. Barua in his impassioned speech exclaimed, “This Mobile Eye Clinic is a new beginning, as this is the first mobile eye unit that provides such range of services”. During the Occasion, Mr Probal S.G, Programme Coordinator – Health, Bosco Reach Out, expressed “This Mobile Eye Clinic was a result of a culmination of experience that BRO gained in community ophthalmology, by providing eye services to the marginalised in the interior parts of Assam over the last 10 years. This Mobile Eye Clinic will be able to provide all facilities of OPD to the poor in the remote parts of Assam.” Fr Jayaprakash, the executive Director of Bosco Reach Out, thanked the collaboration of the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Guwahati, over the last 10 years and said that this model of Public-Private partnership in providing medical services to the poor is a model that can be replicated all across the country. He thanked the benefactors who have been instrumental in providing the van and related equipment.





Sanitation Literacy Campaign

Bosco Reach Out in collaboration with DDM, NABARD, Chirang district organised the Sanitation Literacy Campaign at Tilapara, Sidli block, Chirang district of Assam on 26th January 2021. The resource person was Mr Ala Ram Deury, District Development Manager (DDM), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Chirang district. Mr Jion Narzary, Project Field Coordinator of BRO felicitated the programme. The programme was assisted by Mr Jual Muchahary and Mr Kanin Basumatary, Field Project Extension Workers of BRO, and Mr Pribal Narzary, Field Community Mobiliser of BRO. A total of 14 wadi beneficiaries attended the programme.

The objective of the programme is to bring in behavioural/attitudinal changes in the rural folk regarding sanitation and cleanliness, create awareness among the rural masses for promotion and acceptance of water and sanitation programme, address concerns of lending institutions regarding lending to WASH activities, address the demand-side issues, collect the data of prospective beneficiaries, creating a database, promote credit models and institutional lending for WASH products, improve Health of Rural Population, saving of lost man-days due to ill health and saving on health expenditure for families, and protect people from COVID 19 with increasing awareness of sanitation.

Mr Ala Ram Deury, DDM, NABARD spoke on the available government schemes related to WASH activities. He reviewed the households still left out or incomplete with toilet construction. The BRO field staff are entrusted to collect the database. The wadi beneficiaries showed their interest in solar pump installation at their field and poultry for family income generating activities.



Bosco Reach Out



Sensitisation and Orientation of CBOs

During this quarter, January to March 2021, Bosco Reach Out, conducted 'Sensitization and Orientation of PRI (Panchayati Raj Institution), VHSNC (Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee) Members, Anganwadi Workers, Tribal Leaders, and Other Influencers' at Orang block (seven villages of Balipara, Gorbasti, Hatimara, Niz-Rangapani, Rowtagaon, Roatamuk, and Khagrabil) and Udalguri block (three villages of Sastrapara, 1 No. Bagantola, and Sapkaity) of Udalguri district of Assam. It has been organised under the project 'Empowering Community-Based Institutions to Increase Vaccine Confidence and Routine Immunization Demand, and Prevention of COVID-19'. The meeting was based on immunization and COVID-19 awareness.

It was participated by 9 ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activist), 8 AWWs (Anganwadi Worker), 62 SHGs (Self Help Groups), 62 Influencers, 1 Religious Leader, 2 NGO Members. ASHA and AWW took an active part during the programme. They created awareness on sensitisation and demonstrated hand washing. They also talk about the importance of timely vaccination of children to avoid drop-out, vaccination for pregnant women, nutrition and care during pregnancy, and awareness on COVID-19 and its vaccine. SHG and Influencers helped in disseminating the information to the community. Religious leaders play an important role in providing timely information to the community during their religious gathering. The NGO members also create awareness in their respective project implementing areas.





Thematic Visit and Felicitation of the Staff

On 23rd February 2021, Mr Kempaiah (Director of Caritas India, Bangalore) and Mr Francis (Programming Manager of CBRF) visited the villages in the Boko region where the project 'Community Based Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities' is been implemented. They interacted with the Community Based Rehabilitation Project staff and Persons with Disability (PwDs). Mr Kempaiah encouraged and informed them of the various Govt. Schemes for PwDs.

They interacted with two Disability People's Groups *viz*, Runjun DPO and Amarjyoti DPO. They visited Mr Guptumoni Boro, 18 years old with a locomotor disability. They interacted with the family. They motivated and encouraged him to take up some livelihood activities and keep himself busy. He is interested to take up some small business. The team also visited Mr Lachit Boro (Mental illness) and Mr Niskar Rabha (other disability).

At the end of the visit, the team had a meeting with the staff. Mr Kempaiah and Mr Francis thanked and appreciated the staff for their wonderful work. They encouraged the staff to continue focusing more on the community.





Children At Risk Education Annual Sports Day

CARE Saralpara Cluster, Kokrajhar district of Assam celebrated its Annual Sports Meet on February 23, 2021. It was a sunny winter day. It was the most awaited event by the CARE children who love to play and learn. The school field was decorated with flags, festoons and bunting. The chief guests, Mr Pradip Kumar Goyary (Block Elementary Education Officer, Kokrajhar) and Mr Lachit Basumatary (Accountant, SSA Kokrajhar) were delighted with the warm welcoming traditional dance of villagers and smiling faces of children. Fr Thomas Lakra SDB (Parish Priest, Dotma) delivered his welcome speech. The sports meet opened with a grand march by the children from five CARE centres. The children enjoyed the various events of races for different distances and categories, three-legged race, slow cycling, and sack races. The chief guest distributed the prizes to the winners. Fr Ignatius Gari SDB (Principal of Don Bosco Amguri) declared the sport meet closed. Mr Habil Kindo (Chairman of School Managing Committee) delivered the vote of thanks. All the people present were served with khisdry (mixed dish of rice, dal and vegetables). A total of 350 students and 200 guardians witnessed the sports day.

On 25th of February 2021, the second Annual Sports Day was organised at Lungsung Care Centers where 720 student and above one thousand people gathered in the event. Mr Jahangir Hussain, DPO of Kokrajhar was the Guest of Honour. He was over whelmed to see the innocent village students doing the March Past. Fr. A. Jayaprakash, the Executive Director of BRO witnessed the Sports day. He encouraged the students to have strong determination, big dreams, achieve them and assured his support. He appreciated and thanked the coordinators: Mr. Romeo D'monte and Ms. Grace Guria, field coordinators: Mr. Pabithra Musahary, Mr. Daud Soren, Mr. Keshab Ekka and Mr. Simon Kisku, and the CARE teachers of all the schools for conducting the Sports Day. Prizes were distributed to the winners. Best football team and best March Past were also honoured with Trophy.





Fostering Inclusive Education in Don Bosco Schools of ING

A workshop titled “Fostering Inclusive Education in Don Bosco Schools of ING” was organised at BRO from 22nd to 24th March 2021. The main theme of the workshop was financial planning and Budgeting. Ms Neena George and Mr Jochim from Save Foundation, Belgium, were the resource persons for the workshop. A total of 15 participants from the five schools attended the programme. The participants included Principals, Headmasters, Headmistress, Teacher's representatives, and staff members of Bosco Reach Out. Fr. G. P. Amalraj, Deputy Secretary cum Regional Secretary (Education) of North East India Regional Bishop's Council was the chief guest of the inaugural function organised on the 22nd March 2021. During the inaugural function, he mentioned, 'this is the first step that will show the path to many other schools in the future.' On behalf of all the participants Fr. Saju, principal of D. B. School Sashipur, expressed deep gratitude to Bosco Reach Out for organising the workshop and taking the lead to include children with disabilities in our schools.

The Salesian Province of Guwahati has entrusted Bosco Reach Out to implement Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in the Don Bosco Schools of the province. For this pilot intervention, the provincial council selected five Don Bosco Schools of Boko, Sashipur, Damra, Sojong and Umswai.



Bosco Reach Out



Three Months Crash Course Coaching for Class X Student

Bosco Reach Out (BRO) under the project 'Integrated Tribal Development Programme - BAGAN Project for Sidli Block, district Chirang, Assam' is conducting a three months crash course coaching for Class X students at its project implementing area. The project is supported by NABARD, Assam. BRO through this crash course coaching aims to bring holistic development to society. The course will shape up the fundamentals of Mathematics, Science and English for the upcoming HSLC examination. It will reduce the prevailing high school children from dropping out of school or failing in their board examinations.

The class began on 1st February 2021 and will conclude on 30th April 2021. It is conducted for two hours every three days a week on core subjects of Mathematics, Science and English at Malivita Province High School, Chirang district. There are 30 students (18 boys and 12 girls) of Class X attending the course. They will be appearing HSLC Examination in 2021. The three subject teachers are appointed to take the classes. Mr Sanjith Basumatary, B.Sc. for Mathematics, Mr Biku Basumatary, B.Sc. for Science, and Lwitw Basumatary, M.A. for English. BRO's Field Project Extension Workers Mr Jual Muchahary and Mr Kanin Basumatary are monitoring the classes.

The Crash Course Coaching provides a platform where they can discuss and clear their doubts. It occupies the free time to study. It helps in creating awareness of the importance of education. The students are very regular in attending the class. They show enthusiasm in learning. They assured of a good result, further continue their studies and excel in life.





Children Sponsorship Programme

Bosco Reach Out together with the support of Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy and some of the benefactors has been supporting the most vulnerable poor children to pursue their schooling through Children Sponsorship Programme.

Rongjeng Centre-in-charge, Fr. Uttam Molsom mentioned, 'We are extremely grateful to God and our generous benefactors who came to our aid in relieving during their difficulty. With the help of our benefactors and local resources, we have opened few Nursery schools without textbooks and uniforms with just a bare minimum collection just to pay the salary of one teacher who is stationed there in the village. This idea of a Nursery School without Uniforms, textbooks, etc. is slowly gaining popularity among the poor of our villages. From the centre, this effort we are trying to multiply in other areas as well, so that many more can enter in the Nursery school with good basic foundation.'

Amkachi Centre-in-charge, Fr. Quirinius Syiemlieh mentioned his gratefulness to benefactors and Fondazione Fratelli Dimenticati Onlus, Italy for their support. The centre had blessed and inaugurated a beautiful new school building with additional classrooms and a school hall during March 2021.





Hybrid Summer Maize Production as IGA

On 13th February 2021, at Malivita and No.2 Balajhar Janata, Bosco Reach Out in association with District Agriculture Department, Kajalgaon, Chirang district conducted farmers' training and demonstration on the topic – Hybrid Summer Maize Production. It was organised under project 'Integrated Tribal Development Programme - BAGAN Project for Sidli Block, district Chirang, Assam'. The resource persons of the programme were Mr Amrit Lal Narzary, District Agriculture Officer, Chirang district and Mr Haradev Brahma, Agriculture Development Officer, Sidli block, Chirang district. A total of 53 farmers attended the training.

Mr Amrit Lal Narzary explained the details of Single Cross Hybrid Maize Seed Production which includes isolation distance, male and female ratio, time of sowing, method of sowing and layout, seed rate, removal of off-type plants and thinning, **detasseling**, harvesting, stages of crop inspection, drying and sorting of seed parent cobs, shelling, seed processing, storage and marketing, and value addition. Mr Haradev Brahma delivered on the benefit of growing hybrid maize.

The Agriculture Development Officers shared the various schemes which the farmers obtained from the Agriculture Department. The farmers expressed their appreciation to the Agriculture Development Officers for sharing their valuable knowledge. They also discussed issues related to crops like paddy and chilli the coming season. The farmers are delighted to associate with the concerned government department to seek guidance and help in the due course of agriculture farming.





Village Level Programme on Bank Credit Linkage for FPO Member

On 11th January 2021, BRO organised a village level programme on bank credit linkage for Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) members at Kachubari, Mariampur, Goalpara district of Assam. Mr Rajkumar Y Meitei, DDM, Goalpara was the resource person. A total of 20 FPO members attended the programme.

The resource person explained the importance and procedure of successful bank credit linkage. He emphasized transparency and accountability. He mentioned that the bank will be impressed to give loan to FPOs when there is transparency in operation. There should be a proper system, audit, business rules, efficient operation, etc. FPO should establish an accounting system. At the end of each financial year, printed annual financial statements should be presented to the FPO members. These will include receipts and payments statement for the financial year, an income and expenditure statement for the year and the balance sheet showing the assets and liabilities of the FPO. These statements should be prepared by the accountant/secretary/treasurer, checked and approved by the Board. Then they should be given to the auditor appointed by the General Body to check them against books of accounts of the FPO. Once the FPO has the audit report they can approach the bank for credit linkage. The FPO board member should check defaulter among FPO members and encourage them for regular repayment if any.



Training to FPO Board Members

BRO conducted a two days residential programme on 'Training to FPO Board Members' on 4th and 5th February 2021 at Bosco Reach Out head Office, Guwahati for the members of Nabajyoti Anchalik Krishak Shramik Co-operative Society, Rongjuli block, Goalpara district of Assam. A total of 20 FPO members, consisting of board and general body attended the programme. The resource agency was EKGGAON Consulting Services (P) Ltd, Guwahati. The resource persons from the resource agency EKGGAON Consulting Services (P) Ltd, Guwahati include Mr K. Karthikeyen the COO, Mr T. K. Hazarika the ED, Mr R. Baruah the VP, Mr Abedar Rahman the Project Coordinator, and Mr Utpal Goswami the Consultant. The objectives of the programme were to understand the need for collective action and key features of FPO, understand the need for registration under different legal forms, sensitized on the values and principles of Cooperation/Mutual Assistance Principles for FPOs, and maintenance of transparent accounting systems.

The resource persons explained in details the basic concepts of an FPO – Formation and Functions of FIG and FPOs, Board of Directors and Management – specific and shared responsibilities of the BoDs and CEO (Group Task), Managing FPOs – the importance of share capital - statutory compliances – certification and licenses for trading – compliances under Companies Act of 1956/2013, introduction to basics of finance in an FPO – importance and essentials of bookkeeping, FPO Operations - need for understanding and planning various resources - budgeting, working capital and raising of funds, Business Plan and its importance for FPO and how to attempt preparation of a business plan, and Analysis of Current Market Practices - buying and selling of produce; assessment of potential by an FPO; aspirations of farmers versus market realities. The FPO members gained the knowledge and confidence to take up their responsibilities. They were also motivated to prepare proper business planning and market their agricultural produces.



Rubber Sheet Marketing

On 19th March 2021, Bosco Reach Out organised a Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) meeting on rubber sheet marketing at Kachubari, Mariampur, Goalpara district of Assam. A total of 25 FPO members attended the programme. Ms Minku Das, Project Coordinator of BRO facilitated the programme. Mr Rajkumar Y Meitei, DDM, Goalpara was present in the programme. Mr Abdul Wahab, Project Coordinator of Ajar Social Circle, Goalpara was the resource person.

The resource person explained the quality of the rubber sheet and marketing. He said that the natural rubber processing standards in the country are under its domestic requirements. The processing processes need to be standardized, which of course can be accomplished through FPOs. The situation calls for the empowerment of stakeholders to face the challenges of the market needs. Appropriate infrastructure will have to be developed in the rural areas for cost-effective rubber production, quality processing by imparting required training and here FPO has to play the important role in providing services for input delivery, processing and marketing of natural rubber to the needy. For capacity building of small rubber growers in processing and marketing, the Rubber Board has a massive programme. FPO should build good relation with Regional Rubber Board. The natural rubber marketing system represents the entire activities aiding the movement of rubber from the primary producers to the end-consumers. It has evolved through the process of undergoing changes and modifications in the structural features of production and consumption, market orientation.

This programme was very important and eye-opening for the FPO members under the project Integrated Tribal Development Programme–Bolgrim, Goalpara district of Assam supported by NABARD. The rubber plants of the wadi beneficiaries have mature for tapping. Collective marketing of their rubber sheet is a great concern for wadi beneficiaries through FPO.





Awareness Programme on Climate Change and Disaster Preparedness

Awareness Programme on Climate Change for CLF and SHG Leaders was conducted in five regions of Goalpara, Kumarikata, Tezpur, and Karbi Anglong of Assam and Mendal of Meghalaya. A total of 563 Cluster Level Federations and Self Help Group members attended the programme. The objective of the programme was to create awareness of the causes and impact of climate change. During the programme, more emphasis was given to the agricultural sector, where agriculture is already threatened by existing stresses due to Climate Change. Mitigation and adaptation measures where the agricultural sector can undertake to cope with future consequences was imparted.

Awareness Programme on Disaster Preparedness for CLF and SHG Leaders was conducted in the six regions of Assam and Meghalaya. A total of 633 CLF and SHG members attended the programme. The objective of the programme was to impart preventive and preparedness measures to minimize the risk factors and to be prepared for immediate response including rescue and rehabilitation. It emphasised the topic of natural and man-made disaster. It was organised under the project 'Contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable improvement of living conditions of marginalized population groups in Joropara and surrounding, Northeast India.'

The awareness programmes were organised under the project 'Contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable improvement of living conditions of marginalized population groups in Joropara and surrounding, Northeast India.' supported by Don Bosco Mondo, Germany.





Training on Disaster Preparedness for Task Force

BRO conducted Training on Disaster Preparedness for Task Force under the project 'Contribution to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and sustainable improvement of living conditions of marginalized population groups in Joropara and surrounding, Northeast India' in six regions of Goalpara, Kumarikata, Tezpur, Karbi Anglong and Boko of Assam and Mendal of Meghalaya during January to March 2021. A total of 630 CLF and SHG members attended the training.

Disaster preparedness training is to build the capacity of the task force and volunteers. To improve preparedness and response at all levels before, during and after disasters and the means to work together in a coordinated manner. The focus of disaster management training is generally on improving the technical/improvised skills of the participants, but also on personnel and team management. It aims to encourage an exchange of experience and knowledge and the creation of networks amongst the District Disaster Management Authority.





Inauguration of Don Bosco Bharosa

On 24th February 2021, the Migrant Desk of the Salesian Province of Guwahati was inaugurated with the name Don Bosco Bharosa. The office space dedicated to Don Bosco Bharosa was inaugurated by Fr. Sebastian Kuricheal, SDB, Rector and Principal of Don Bosco School Guwahati. Fr. Joseph Teron, SDB, Vice Provincial of the Salesian Province of Guwahati, prayed over and blessed the office. During the inaugural programme, Fr. A. Jayapraksh, the director of Don Bosco Bharosa, explained, “Our North Eastern desks will network with similar desks in other parts of the country. As the migrant youth from North East India are spread out in all major cities of India, the main objective of Don Bosco Bharosa will be to provide safe migration to the youth of North East India. If the migrant youth of our region face any problem in any part of the country they will be assisted by the nearest Migrant Desk of the Don Bosco Society.”

Migrant Desks set up by the Don Bosco Society are in all the major cities in India. North East has three centres at Dimapur, Guwahati and Shillong with many more sub-centres. The migrant desk at Guwahati will have 5 sub-centres, located at Kamrup Metro district of Assam, Assam Plains, Karbi Linguistics region of Assam, Bodo Linguistics region of Assam, and Garo Hills districts of Meghalaya. The desk will at the moment be collecting data. A placement cell will be based at Guwahati and will help the youth to get safe jobs.





Staff Training Programme

The New Year, 2021 just begun. The BRO staff have returned to the office after their winter break holiday. Two days of a training programme and project planning for staff was organised on January 5 and 6, 2021 at its head office Guwahati.

The session began with a welcome speech of Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director of BRO. He introduced the new staff Mr Ghanashyam Pathak, Ms Grace Guaria, and Mr Prabhat. He appreciated with gratitude for their hard work in 2020. He encouraged enthusiasm in work, a friendly dialogue, sharing of team vision, appreciating and encouraging each other, a positive mindset, and flexibility at work. He said that it was amazing reaching out to the large COVID-19 pandemic victims with relief material kits.

Mr Probal SG, Programme Coordinator of BRO shared his knowledge on team building and 'Goal Setting'. At the onset of his session, he enthralled the staff with a beautiful video clip song 'Power of a Dream'. He conducted a team-building exercise. It was observed that team member coordination was very important in completing work successfully. He inculcated the team spirit amidst staff in the workplace. Mr Prakash Borah, Consultant of BRO discussed the Project Planning. He assisted and guided the staff in preparing their respective yearly planning, time frame according to Project level, Regional level, Village level, and its consolidation. He conducted a project wise pattern of making requisitions - Local Contribution and Fund Contribution. The staff revived their spirit to work. The programme concluded with a thanks giving mass at 3.30 pm.





BRO Annual Staff Picnic 2021: Ukiam

The BRO staff organized their annual picnic to Ukiam located at Kamrup rural district, Assam on January 22, 2021. Ukiam, a beautiful picnic spot attract many people. The river water is clean and can be used for cooking. We reached the picnic spot within two and half hours of drive from Guwahati. All refreshed with tea. Each one started preparing their speciality of food items. Every one enjoyed boating. A few of the staff had fun swimming in the fresh and clean river water.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, Executive Director led a thanks giving prayer before food. The picnic speciality includes rice, dal curry, fish fry, mutton curry, pork curry, salad and pappad. Post lunch the entire groups met again for games. Mr Probal organised a very interesting three types of game. He divided us into four groups and played to their best effort. We concluded the picnic with a group photograph. We had the joyous picnic ever. We had lots of fun. The day seemed very short. We departed for home at 4.30 pm. We thanked Fr. A. Jayaprakash and Br. Michael Kindo for organising and accompanying us.





Training on Report Writing and Media Communication

A one-day training on report writing and media communication for the staff was organised at Bosco Reach Out, Guwahati on January 29, 2021. Fr A. Jayaprakash (Executive Director of BRO) welcomed Fr Paul Kuttala (Co-Founder of BRO), the resource persons - Dr Jacob Islary (Assam Don Bosco University Guwahati) and Mr Jaikishan SG (Assam Don Bosco University Guwahati), and the BRO staff.

Fr Paul Kuttala shared his previous experience of working for the people. He said that people have some problem which they can solve. He spoke of Self Help Group (SHG) involvement in community development. He highlighted the CSR of various organisations. He encouraged maintaining good records. Dr Jacob Islary, ADBU Guwahati took sessions on documentation and reporting; writing for newspapers, magazines and academic publications. He discussed the importance of reporting and documentation for programme/project/ activity management and communication; for audit and reviews; to guide own progress/activity path; for reporting to the funding agencies; to endorse own work; monitoring and control mechanism; to validate own organization and work, evidence of own work; and to highlight the hard work and good you have done. He shared tips on writing a good article for newspapers and magazines. Mr Jaikishan SG, ADBU Guwahati covered sessions on development photography. The topics include basics of mobile photography, know your camera, what is Photography, hold the camera still, the two-second rule, rule of thirds, tell a story, and capture the mood.

Fr. A. Jayaprakash, the Executive Director concluded the training with a vote of thanks. The training programme was interesting. All enjoyed the new tips for taking photographs. The staffs extend their gratitude to the Board of Directors for organising such an important training programme. Everyone felt that the knowledge gained will surely help in the progress of the organisation.





Commemorating the Feast Day of Don Bosco

The staff of Bosco Reach Out organised a prayerful service to pay homage to Don Bosco at its head office on January 30, 2021. Bro Michael Kindo (Administrator of BRO) welcomed and felicitated His Grace the Most Reverend Fr. Thomas Menampampil (Apostolic Administrator of Jowai, and Archbishop Emeritus of Guwahati), and Fr. Paul Kuttala (Co-Founder of BRO). The prayer service began with the lighting of the lamp by His Grace, Fr. Paul Kutalla, Fr A. Jayaprakash, Br. Michael Kindo, Ms Judistira Marak, Mr Amir Toppo, and Mr Kesab Ekka. Everyone offered prayer with a candle near Don Bosco. Prayers and offerings for various intention were intersected viz. a book for knowledge and wisdom, a ball for educators especially the Salesian family, flowers for young people that they may continue to strive for betterment each day and bloom their lives to be channels of peace, joy and hope, National Flag for respecting one another and honouring the country, chain to experience unity in the family, community, society and the world at large, dove for peace in the troubled world), and globe for the world. A floral homage was paid to Don Bosco.

His Grace The Most Reverend Thomas Menampampil delivered a beautiful message on the life of Don Bosco. He was honoured to release the BRO Annual Report 2019-2020 and represented the first copy to Fr Paul Kuttala, and Mr Prakash Borah (Consultant of BRO). Then a dove released as a sign of peace. The prayer service concluded with a thanks giving hymn to Don Bosco 'We thank You Oh Lord for Don Bosco' and a vote of thanks by Ms Manashi Thakuria. After lunch, Mr Probal organised games which everyone enjoyed.





Visitation of Salesian Provincial of Guwahati Province

Rev Fr Januarius S. Sangma, Salesian Provincial of Guwahati was warmly welcomed by the Bosco Reach Out community during his official visitation on March 09, 2021. Delightfully, he interacted with the staff during the very short meeting. He reviewed a few of the points discussed during his last visitation meeting. He put forth a few more initiatives in the coming years. He appreciated Fr A. Jayaprakash the Executive Director and his team for reaching out to victims of the COVID-19 pandemic. He thanked everyone for their great contribution to implementing various projects. The staff also shared some new areas of development. The meeting was informative and fruitful. It concluded with tea and snack.





Awareness Programme on Mitigation to Reduce GHG Emission in Agriculture

Soil and Water Management



**Free Support
to the Covid-19 Positive
&
in Home Quarantine**

**We reach out
to the most
vulnerables
combatting
with Covid**



Phase 1

**Area Cover Within 5 km Radius
From Bosco Reach Out**

- ◆ Dry Ration Kits
- ◆ Cooked Food
- ◆ Nutrition & Medical Kits
- ◆ Health & Hygiene Kits



BOSCO REACH OUT

Development Through Empowerment

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