

THE GUNTUR DIOCESE SOCIAL SERVICE & WELFARE SOCIETY
JYOTHI NILAYAM, 6/9 BRODIPET, GUNTUR 522 002

ANNUAL REPORT

The “**Guntur Diocese Social Service & Welfare Society**” had always made massive strides to stem the cycle of poverty and to create ample opportunities for the poor and under-privileged members of society. All this was accomplished through well-planned, comprehensive and systematically organized programmes. The last five years witnessed a paradigm shift in GDSS&WS activities with the primary focus to encourage education among children of the deprived classes. To develop school infrastructure, this was badly neglected down the years. Educational infrastructure was developed in all the schools of the diocese through the installation of computers, digital classrooms, science laboratories and libraries to the children who need them most to fulfill the primary purpose of education to cultivate a better society. This has brought out monumental changes infusing technology in learning and teaching practices.

Unemployment is a burning issue in India and poor rural youth lack employability skills that put them on the back foot. The livelihoods of many of our rural youth school and college dropouts are badly affected. GDSS&WS felt the urgent need to equip youth with employability skills. Vocational training in computers, medical laboratory technology, tailoring and bedside nursing care was embarked upon to make the youth employment ready.

The schools lack health, hygiene and sanitation facilities that affected the health of the children consequently their educational progress suffers. GDSS&WS took up “School Health Programme” in all the schools of the diocese to generate health awareness among the children and their parents. Clean drinking water, hygiene and sanitation are essentials to promote health which was badly lacking in the schools. Mineral water plants were set up to provide clean drinking water to the children in the schools and villages around and water closets were constructed to discourage open defecation followed by appropriate lessons to the children on the consumption of clean water and usage of toilets to keep diseases at bay for good health.

True to its ideology GDSSWS involved all the sections of the community from headmasters, teachers, school children, youth, parents, women groups, youth groups, villagers, village elder’s groups, and the village officers in all these social interventions to make it a participatory exercise and the project outcomes permeate to the lowest level.

A BOUQUET OF SOCIAL ACTIONS

I. SUVIDYA

a) Educational support for poor children to access quality education.

2650 children benefit from our educational scholarship support. There are two categories of support:

- i) 150 children are assisted through school fees, note books, two pairs of school uniforms, school bags and shoes.
- ii) 1500 children are supplied only note books, two pairs of school uniforms, school bag and shoes.
- iii) Over 1000 other children from different villages are being assisted by different priests working abroad through GDSS&WS. The names of the priests are given hereunder:

- 1. Fr. Allam Chinnapa Reddy (Jr.)
- 2. Fr. Thumma Karunakar
- 3. Fr. S. Thomas Reddy
- 4. Fr. Marri Anil Kumar
- 5. Fr. K. Inna Reddy
- 6. Fr. TR Suresh Reddy
- 7. Fr. Kanapala Kiran
- 8. Fr. Dasari Kiran
- 9. Fr. Yamarthi Suresh
- 10. Fr. P.M. Dasaiah
- 11. Fr. Thumma Marreddy

All the assisted children are from the SC and ST communities, whose parents are farm coolies socially and economically marginalized and unable to educate their children. The children take to child labor losing their chances of education and the joys of childhood. Our educational support is a boon for these children as they get an opportunity to join school, better their lives, their villages, society and country at large. We get reports from the schools that the sponsored children are regular to their classes, show great enthusiasm to study and excel. We are encouraged as our efforts are bearing ample fruit.

b) Educational Infrastructure in Schools

Equipping Schools with Computers to train children in Computer Technology

Forty-eight schools including two colleges have been equipped with computer systems. Each institution was allotted 10 computer systems with a printer and inbuilt scanner and copying machine during the reporting period.

Parish, school, colleges and number of students avail computer education:

S. N.	Parish	Name of the School	School Strength
1.	Pedaparimi	St. Mary's High School	1261
2.	Attaluru	St. Thomas High School	139
3.	Mutlur	St. Xavier's High School	210
4.	Pedavadlapudi	ATPM High School	285
5.	Sattenapalli	SSS High School	280
6.	Phirangipuram	St. Paul's High School	560
7.	Rentachinthala	St. Joseph's High School	900
8.	Macherla	St. Francis Xavier's High School	150
9.	Rayavaram	Jubilee High School	163
10.	Ravipadu	Nirmala High School	120
11.	Bongaralabeedu	Lourdes High School	297
12.	Dachepalli	Fathima B. Ed. College	150
13.	Kollipara	Holy Cross High School	450
14.	Narasraopet	St. Ann's High School	700
15.	Rentachintala	St. Ann's High School	800
16.	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's High School (E.M.)	1100
17.	Bharatpet	St. Ann's High School	1400
18.	Piduguralla	RCM High School (T.M)	250
19.	Thallacheruvu	St. Ann's High School	140
20.	Patibanda	RCM High School	301
21.	Peddakurapadu	RCM High School	500
22.	Krosuru	RCM High School	500
23.	Arundelpet	RCM High School (E.M.)	1100
24.	Dachepalli	St. Ann's High School	100
25.	Ravipadu	RCM High School (St. Ann's)	250
26.	Siripuram	RCM High School	400
27.	Macherla	RCM High School (T.M.)	270
28.	Nagarjuna Sagar	RCM High School	350
29.	Rentachintala	Sagar Matha College	150
30.	Nagaram	Bala Yesu EM High School	650
31.	Chilakaluripet	St. Charles EM High School	625
32.	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's TM School	650
33.	Macherla	St. Ann's EM High School	680
34.	Arundelpet	St. Ignatius TM High School	500
35.	P.T.Parru	Don Bosco EM School	620
36.	Dachepalli	Fathima TM High School	240

37	Sattenappalli	Holy Family High School	700
38	Patibandla	RCM High School	354
39	Ravipadu	St. Ann's High School	340
40	Guntur	St. Joseph's TM School	800
41	Gurazala	Good News School	1200
42	Vinukonda	Nirmala School	1400
43	Repalle	NSM High School	343
44	Piduguralla	St. Ann's EM School	480
45	Amaravathi	St. Augustine School	250
46	Bapatla	Holy Cross School	1200
47	Chebrolu	Assisi School	547
48	Nambur	St. Joseph's School	900
		TOTAL	25,755

The computer training centres will improve the computer-related skills of the students. It contributes to the student's learning experience and academic achievement. The teaching abilities of the teachers will be enhanced. There is increased student achievement as well as more active teacher leadership in school environments where computer systems assist. The resources computer training centers provide and the values they reinforce make children better human beings. The computers are wise and silent teachers, the best in the world. 25,755 students in 48 schools stand to benefit by computer education.

c) Digital class rooms in high schools of the Diocese

Forty-eight schools including two colleges in the diocese have been equipped with Digital Class systems.

The names of the schools with the parishes to which they belong along with the strength of the students are indicated here below:

S. N.	Parish	Name of the School	School Strength
1.	Pedaparimi	St. Mary's High School	1261
2.	Attaluru	St. Thomas High School	139
3.	Mature	St. Xavier's High School	210
4.	Pedavadlapudi	ATPM High School	285
5.	Sattenapalli	SSS High School	280
6.	Phirangipuram	St. Paul's High School	560
7.	Rentachinthala	St. Joseph's High School	900

8.	Macherla	St. Francis Xavier's High School	150
9.	Rayavaram	Jubilee High School	163
10.	Ravipadu	Nirmala High School	120
11.	Bongaralabeedu	Lourdes High School	297
12.	Dachepalli	Fathima B. Ed. College	150
13.	Kollipara	Holy Cross High School	450
14.	Narasraopet	St. Ann's High School	700
15.	Rentachintala	St. Ann's High School	800
16.	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's High School (E.M.)	1100
17.	Bharatpet	St. Ann's High School	1400
18.	Piduguralla	RCM High School (T.M)	250
19.	Thallacheruvu	St. Ann's High School	140
20.	Patibanda	RCM High School	301
21.	Peddakurapadu	RCM High School	500
22.	Krosuru	RCM High School	500
23.	Arundelpet	RCM High School (E.M.)	1100
24.	Dachepalli	St. Ann's High School	100
25.	Ravipadu	RCM High School (St. Ann's)	250
26.	Siripuram	RCM High School	400
27.	Macherla	RCM High School (T.M.)	270
28.	Nagarjuna Sagar	RCM High School	350
29.	Rentachintala	Sagar Matha College	150
30.	Nagaram	Bala Yesu EM High School	650
31.	Chilakaluripet	St. Charles EM High School	625
32.	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's TM School	650
33.	Macherla	St. Ann's EM High School	680
34.	Arundelpet	St. Ignatius TM High School	500
35.	P.T.Parru	Don Bosco EM School	620
36.	Dachepalli	Fathima TM High School	240
37.	Sattenappalli	Holy Family High School	700
38.	Patibandla	RCM High School	354
39.	Ravipadu	St. Ann's High School	340
40.	Guntur	St. Joseph's TM School	800
41.	Gurazala	Good News School	1200
42.	Vinukonda	Nirmala School	1400
43.	Repalle	NSM High School	343
44.	Piduguralla	St. Ann's EM School	480
45.	Amaravathi	St. Augustine School	250
46.	Bapatla	Holy Cross School	1200

47	Chebrolu	Assisi School	547
48	Nambur	St. Joseph's School	900
		TOTAL	25,755

Smart class rooms will improve the academic performance of 25,755 students and the teaching effectiveness of the teachers alike in the schools bringing about complete transformation in the classrooms. The Digital Class Rooms improve the skills of the students and contributes to the student's learning experience and academic achievement. There is increased student achievement as well as more active teacher leadership in school environments where digital class rooms assist. The resources Digital Class Rooms provide and the values they reinforce make children better human beings. The children are exposed to other places, cultures and way of living. The Digital Class Rooms are wise and silent teachers, the best in the world. They are social transformer, bringing peace, ideas and education in the broadest sense of the term into the lives of the people.

d) Science Laboratories in Schools

Thirty-nine diocesan high schools were furnished with science laboratories, essential instruments and relevant apparatus in order to combine classroom teaching with laboratory experiments to ensure that the students develop deep understanding of the science content, as well as an understanding of the nature of science, the attitudes of science and the skills of scientific reasoning.

The names of the schools and parishes where science labs were installed:

S. No.	Parish	Name of the School	Student Strength
1	Pedaparimi	St. Mary's High School	700
2	Attaluru	St. Thomas High School	730
3	Mutluru	St. Xavier's High School	725
4	Pedavadlapudi	ATPM High School	920
5	Sattenapalli	SSS High School	750
6	Phirangipuram	St. Paul's High School	1000
7	Rentachinthala	St. Joseph's High School	1000
8	Macherla	St. Francis Xavier's High School	560
9	Rayavaram	Jubilee High School	540
10	Ravipadu	Nirmala High School	540
11	Bongaralabeedu	Lourdes High School	550
12	Guntur	Little Flower School	1250
13	Karempudi	St. John's High School	950
14	Cherukupalli	Mary Rose Buds School	700

15	Siripuram	Vijaya Mary High School	920
16	Pamidipadu	St. John's High School	450
17	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's (CEM) High School	1000
18	Kollipara	Holy Cross High School	450
19	Narsaraopet	St. Ann's High School	560
20	Rentachintala	St. Ann's High School	540
21	Bharatpet	St. Ann's High School	540
22	Piduguralla	RCM High School	550
23	Thallacheruvu	St. Ann's School	1250
24	Pedda Kurapadu	St. Ann's High School	950
25	Krosuru	St. Ann's High School	560
26	Nagarjuna Sagar	RCM High School	450
27	Repalle	NSM High School	650
28	Arundelpet	St. Ignatius TM High School	800
29	Macherla	St. Ann's EM High School	650
30	Ravipadu	St. Ann's High School	350
31	Patibandla	RCM High School	420
32	Kolakalur	Jubilee High School	450
33	Nagaram	Bala Yesu EM High School	540
34	Chilakaluripet	St. Charles EM High School	780
35	Guntur	St. Joseph's High School	1000
36	P.T.Parru	Don Bosco EM School	500
37	Dachepalli	Fathima TM High School	450
38	Sattenappalli	Holy Family High School	750
		TOTAL	26,475

26,475 students improve their knowledge of science through the performance of various science experiments in the science labs. They will interact directly with the data gathered, engage in scientific reasoning, handle equipment, record data, analyze results and discuss their finding that would help the students understand different scientific theories and concepts. This will broaden their outlook, enlighten and enrich the minds of the youth to learn, understand and grow, giving them a glimpse of science that would contribute towards their intellectual growth.

e) Libraries in Schools:

Libraries were set up in the 39 schools of the difference parishes in the Diocese of Guntur, the names of the parish, schools and their strength are furnished below:

S. No.	Parish	Name of the School	School Strength
1.	Cherukupalli	1 Mary Rose Buds School	700
2.	Siripuram	Vijaya Mary High School	920
3.	Pamidipadu	St. John's High School	450
4.	Phirangipuram	St. Ann's (CEM) High School	1000
5.	Kollipara	Holy Cross High School	450
6.	Narsaraopet	St. Ann's High School	560
7.	Rentachintala	St. Ann's High School	540
8.	Bharatpet	St. Ann's High School	540
9.	Piduguralla	RCM High School	550
10.	Thallacheruvu	St. Ann's School	1250
11.	Pedda Kurapadu	St. Ann's High School	950
12.	Krosuru	St. Ann's High School	560
13.	Nagrjuna Sagar	RCM High School	450
14.	Repalle	NSM High School	650
15.	Arundelpet	St. Ignatius TM High School	800
16.	Macherla	St. Ann's EM High School	650
17.	Ravipadu	St. Ann's High School	350
18.	Patibandla	RCM High School	420
19.	Kolakalur	Jubilee High School	450
20.	Nagaram	Bala Yesu EM High School	540
21.	Chilakaluripet	St. Charles EM High School	780
22.	Guntur	St. Joseph's High School	1000
23.	P.T.Parru	Don Bosco EM School	500
24.	Dachepalli	Fathima TM High School	450
25.	Sattenappalli	Holy Family High School	750
26.	Pedaparimi	St. Mary's High School	700
27.	Attaluru	St. Thomas High School	730
28.	Mutluru	St. Xavier's High School	725
29.	Pedavadlapudi	ATPM High School	920
30.	Sattenapalli	SSS High School	750
31.	Phirangipuram	St. Paul's High School	1000
32.	Rentachinthala	St. Joseph's High School	1000
33.	Macherla	St. Francis Xavier's High School	560
34.	Rayavaram	Jubilee High School	540
35.	Ravipadu	Nirmala High School	540
36.	Bongaralabeedu	Lourdes High School	550
37.	Guntur	Little Flower School	1250

38.	Karempudi	St. John's High School	950
	Total Number of Children		26,475

A library is a valuable asset in a school that improve the reading, writing skills of 26,475 the students and the generation next. It contributes to the student's learning experience and academic achievement. The teaching abilities of the teachers will be enhanced. There is increased student achievement as well as more active teacher leadership in school environments where school libraries assist. The resources libraries provide and the values they reinforce make children better human beings. The library exposes children to other places, cultures and way of living. The libraries are wise and silent teachers, the best in the world. The library is a social transformer, bringing peace, ideas and education in the broadest sense of the term into the lives of the children, who will benefit most from them. The school libraries share information among students and enhance the learning of students and teachers as well. The school library is a co-teacher that helps in sharing information in the class room.

II. SRAMIKA VIDYA - Livelihood Skill Training Projects

a) Vocational Training in Computers, Medical Lab Technology, Bed-side Nursing Care, Tailoring:

Vocational training in computers, medical lab technology, bedside nursing care and tailoring were offered to 250 students during the year. Many of our poor rural youth deprived of livelihood skills are deprived of employment opportunities become wayward and lead miserable lives. They have become a great concern and financial burden to their parents. Vocational training will equip the youth with a skill for gainful employment. Hence, vocational skill training was started for youth in Computers, Medical Lab Technology and Tailoring and Bedside Nursing Care. During this year of report a total number of 250 youth are being trained in vocational skills: 50 in computer education; 50 Medical Lab Technology, 50 in Bedside Nursing and 100 in Tailoring. These courses are immensely impacting the youth to build their employability skills. We are making all efforts to help the youth take advantage of these courses. Our students trained in these skills in the past years are well placed working in various companies, commercial centres and offices around the city. A few of them have set up their own units and flourishing besides providing employment opportunities for others. Over 800 students have been trained over the past eight years.

b) Employment Generation for Empowerment of Widows

- (i) 100 widows in the village of Rentachintala, where finding it hard to cope emotionally and financially and unable to sustain themselves and their children. These poor widows were given a six-month tailoring course and at the conclusion of the course were provided with tailoring machines to make a living. Now there are able to produce clothes designed for woman and children that has a good marketing outlet at Rentachintala and the neighbouring villages. The widows lead a happy lives taking care of the essentials needs of their children.
- (ii) 20 widows at Rentachintala village were assisted with 20 Milch animals to earn their living through the sale of milk and bye products of the buffaloes. The widows make an income of Rs. 200/-per day and Rs. 6000/- per month. They make a decent living looking after the welfare of their children.
- (iii) Widow Empowerment –Buffaloes at Allamvaripalem Village (Phirangipuram)
12 widows at Allamvaripalem village of Phirangipuram were extended help to embark upon milch animal programme. This important programme enabled the women to make brisk business through the sale of the buffaloes milk and its bye-products such as dung of the cattle and other milk products so useful for the village house-holds.

III. DIOCESE CHEYUTHA - Projects for the Differently-Abled

i) Rehabilitation of cured leprosy patients

“Leprosy Eradication Programme” had been implemented in three phases, first phase in 30 villages, second phase in 70 villages and third in 90 villages.

In the third phase in 70 villages, Rs. 10,30,000/- have been distributed among 95 members. The leprosy patients have taken up milch animal and sheep rearing, petty shops, vegetable vending, power spray etc. to generate income. The repayment schedule is regular.

ii) Micro enterprises for Physically Challenged:

3 physically challenged persons were assisted to set up petty shops with confectionary items like biscuits, small cakes, chocolates besides other small commodities for households. The disabled are able to earn Rs. 200/- per day. The wares at the petty shops are brought from the wholesale market at low-priced rates.

iii) Hostel for HIV/Aids Children at Dhulipalla:

The construction of a hostel for HIV/AIDs affected children is under way at Dhulipalla at Sattenapalli Mandal. Rev.Fr. YL Marreddy (Sr.) is straining every nerve to see the project is successfully completed and to reach out to the unfortunate children.

IV. AROGYA SURAKSHA - Health Projects

i) Early Diagnosis, Prevention and Treatment of Leprosy and Buruli Ulcer – 90 Coastal Villages

Leprosy Eradication Programme assisted by Basler Lepra-Hilfe, Switzerland was implemented in the 90 villages from the 8 coastal Mandals of: 1) Bapatla 2) Karlapalem 3) Kollipara 4) Kolluru 5) Nagaram 6) Nizampatnam 7) Pittalivanipalem (P.V.Palem) and 8) Repalle. The project was implemented with the help of a doctor, two coordinators and 30 health workers. Door-to-door survey in the 90 villages to identify cases, skin tests, confirmation of cases and referral to the leprosy hospital, health camps, campaigns and rallies in the villages to build awareness among the village population about leprosy were the salient features of the programme. 163 genuine leprosy cases were unearthed, referred to the doctors and treated. The project which was started on 1st October, 2016, closed on 1st October 2018.

ii) Early Diagnosis, Prevention and Treatment of Leprosy and Buruli Ulcer – 103 Villages

Leprosy Eradication Programme in 103 villages of the Mandals of Amravati, Thullur, Pedakurapadu, Tadikonda, Mangalagiri, Krosur, and Atchempet, with an overall goal to prevent, control, and treat leprosy, which was inaugurated on March 1, 2018, is in full steam with a doctor, two coordinators and 30 health workers working proactively. The coordinators along with the health workers are consistently holding door-to-door survey in the villages and so far identified 31 cases. These cases have been referred to the government hospital for treatment. Health education camps, rallies, campaigns, street plays with leprosy elimination as a theme are being conducted in the villages. The children in the schools in the target leprosy villages are also being conscientized on leprosy and the measures they should take to prevent the spread of the scourge. The people in the villages and the children in the schools are also formed into special task force to identify leprosy and refer the cases to government hospitals for treatment so that leprosy eradication programme continues and leprosy rooted out from the villages.

V. SWATCHA DIOCESE - Health, Hygiene & Sanitation Projects

i) Sanitary Blocks in the Schools:

Toilet blocks were constructed for students in the schools at Mutlur, Phirangipuram, Athallur, Krosur, Mangalagiri, Pedavadlapudi, K.C.Works, Vaddamanu, (Vykuntapuram Parish), Korrapadu, (Sattenapalli Parish), Siripuram, Mandapadu (Siripuram Parish), Narasaraopet at St. Ann's School, St. John's School, Karempudi; STEM School, Guntur; and at Jallalapalem and Pamidipadu of Vinukonda. A total number of 35 were constructed in all.

Prior to the implementation the beneficiaries were educated on the importance of health, hygiene and sanitation to safeguard their families and children from water related diseases. They were also instructed on the proper use and maintenance of the toilets. The project coordinator is keeping a follow up of the programme.

ii) Construction of 10 Toilets at Rayavaram Parish

Rev. Fr. Kommareddy Sandeep Reddy, the Parish Priest at Rayavaram constructed 10 toilets in the outstations of Rayavaram Parish. This helped the poor people to shun open defecation and improve their health and hygiene.

iii) Toilets at Prathipadu –

Rev. Fr. Nudurupati Chandra Shekar constructed 10 toilets in his parish at Prathipadu

iv) Mallayapalem – Fr. Yeruva Rajesh Reddy

Rev. Fr. Yeruva Rajesh Reddy sunk a bore well and constructed 10 toilets at Mallayapalem village of Kanaparru Parish

VI. JEEVA JALADARA - Drinking Water

MINERAL WATER PLANTS

Mineral Water Plants have been set up in: i) Phirangipuram Parish House ii) Don Bosco School, Mangalagiri, iii) Mary Rose Buds High School, Cherukupalli, iv) St. Augustine High School, Amaravathi v) St. Antony's Church, Nagarampalem vi) St. Ignatius High School, Arundelpet, Guntur vii) St. Joseph's High School, Peda Kakani viii) Holy Family English Medium School, Sattenapalli ix) St. Ann's English Medium School, Macherla. All these water plants have been set up efficiently seriously taking into account the technical aspects of the machinery. The water plants are functioning effectively providing the school children and the parishioners with clean drinking water free from water-borne diseases.

Water Plants set up by individual Priests

-Rev. Fr. Vunnam Kiran installed a mineral water plant at Endrapragada of Pedavadlapudi Parish

- Rev.Fr. Manda Anthony Raju Parish Priest at Chiluvuru set up a drinking water facility at Chiluvuru.

DRILLING OF BORE WELLS

3 bore wells in each village of Vinukonda and Nagaram were drilled. 5 bore wells were sunk in different villages. This helped the villages with abundant water for their domestic needs.

Bishop Bali Drinking Water Scheme

Safe protected water is supplied through a mobile tanker to the slum dwellers and the rural poor on the outskirts of Guntur city under the banner “Bishop Bali Drinking Water Scheme” on daily basis in collaboration with the Guntur Municipal Corporation. 500 families access clean drinking water at their doorsteps. The onset of summer will be challenging as the city and its suburbs will experience acute scarcity of water. Our services will be crucial during the dog days of summer.

VII. APATHKALA SAHAYATHA

DREAM –“Disaster Response through Empowerment and Action and Management” is in progress in the 20 coastal villages of the Mandals of Bapatla, Karlapalem and Nizampatnam managed by a coordinator and animator. Baseline survey, training for programme staff, orientation of the target group, formation of task force committee and training programme for selected volunteers are the chief activities of the programme. The main thrust of the project is to prepare the fishermen communities from the coastal villages to manage calamities appropriately while empowering themselves accessing government resources.

OTHER WORKS

i) Church Construction at Varagani, Siripuram

Rev. Fr. Aduri Thomas Reddy is constructing a Church at Varagani village in the parish of Siripuram. The church when completed will spiritually serve 100 families. It will fortify the faith of the Catholic communities in the area.

ii) Bicycles at Nagaram

Fr. Ganji Bala Swamy Reddy provided 20 students with a bicycle each. The bicycles helped the students to reach school on time as many students arrive late to school due to the lack of transportation facilities. They also made good progress in their studies.

KOLPING ACTIVITIES:

1. Seminars

The Women Self Help Groups (WSHG) from different villages affiliated to the Regional Kolping Centre attended 45 seminars during the past year organized at the Regional Kolping Centre. The main theme of the seminars was: Leadership development, social skills, communication, interpersonal relationship, awareness building of social welfare schemes of the Government, its utilization and reporting etc., Group discussion, brain-storming, action - reflection, reporting threw ample light encouraging the women to march forward in the path of development. The programme attracted women in large numbers.

2. Vocation Training Programme

10 adolescent girls belonging to socially marginalized communities from different villages were assisted to be trained in desktop publishing, medical lab Technology, tailoring, and ANM nursing. All of them have successfully completed their trainings and employed in different institutes and earn their living independently and also support their parents.

3. Milch Animal Programme

14 families have been assisted by milch animal programme. Milch animal breeding enabled these families to generate income through the sale of the milk of the animals and improve their livelihoods. They were able to meet the essential needs of their children particularly in the areas of nutrition, education and health care. The scheme was a morale booster and enhanced their confidence to meet their financial challenges.

4. Affordable Housing

Ten strong houses were constructed for the ten families from the Scheduled Caste communities. The house has a living room, kitchen, bathing room and water closet. The beneficiaries are farm laborers on small daily wages. The houses were a blessing for these families as it offered shelter during fair and foul weather above all it enhanced their social status in the society.

5. Toilets for Poor Families

Forty toilets were constructed for the 40 poor families. Without toilets these families defecated in the open creating health hazards. The women particularly were greatly inconvenienced without privacy. They used to control themselves till it turns dark, which is an unhealthy trend that causes kidney infections. Now with toilets in their houses puts to an end open defecation and incidences of water WASH diseases. There will be improvement in the health, hygiene and sanitation among the families. This will be a motivation for other families in the neighborhood to go in for toilet construction.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN (CDSS)

Mr. Charles Câmara, Project Coordinator, Roman Catholic Diocese of Stockholm, Sweden, (CDSS), conducted an “**Evaluation Review Workshop**” from February 5 – 8, 2019, on the campus of GDSS&WS. A month prior to the workshop an evaluation questionnaire was sent for completion by individual institutions which received funds from CDSS.

February 5, 2019, an interactive session was held for the GDSS&WS functionaries through whom the CDSS Project Coordinator termed the workshop as an in-depth sharing and review process rather than evaluation. He elaborately dealt upon the requirements of CDSS and the back donors for the funds made available to GDSS&WS.

The Guiding Hand of God

The hand of God is guiding and supporting the activities of GDSS&WS to live up to its Vision & Mission. In the face of its various challenges GDSS&WS is marching ahead trusting in the Lord and His Blessed Mother.

His Lordship Most Rev. Ch. Bhagyaiah, Bishop of Guntur, and the members on the Executive Board had been a groundswell of inspiration to all of us at GDSS&WS. We are deeply indebted to them and assure to continue in our good work among the poor with full gusto.

Fr. Govindu Rayanna
Executive Director, GDSS&WS