

VOLUME 9

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# E – STREET VOICE

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM BOSCO BENGALURU

## EMPOWERING CHILDREN ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

This issue captures BOSCO's dynamic presence across streets, child care institutions and training platforms. From frontline outreach to fostering dialogue and skill-building, June has been a month of powerful engagements and impactful actions.

### ARTICLES IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Street Presence
- Components
- Child Care Institutions
- Certification Ceremony
- World Environment Day
- World Day Against Child Labour
- Session on Career Goal Setting and Planning
- Value Education on 'Cooperation'
- International Yoga Day
- General Health Check-ups
- Inauguration of the Two-Wheeler Mechanic Section
- International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking
- Annual Evaluation at BOSCO

# EDITORIAL.....

## TAKING A STAND AGAINST CHILD LABOUR: A CALL TO ACTION

World Day Against Child Labour is observed every year on June 12th with a powerful mandate: to raise awareness about child exploitation and mobilize decisive efforts to eradicate it. Launched by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2002, this day serves as a clarion call for a world where children can grow, learn, and live in dignity instead of being forced into labour. The goal is clear: eliminate child labour in all its forms by 2025, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Yet, millions of children around the world remain trapped in child labour, enduring hazardous conditions that threaten their health and safety, as highlighted by the United Nations. The 2025 theme is unmistakable: "Progress is clear, but there's more to do: let's speed up efforts!" This theme underscores both the strides we've made and the urgent need to intensify our actions to meet global targets.

The ILO and UNICEF have released a critical report titled "Child Labour: Global Estimates 2024, Trends and the Road Forward," revealing that nearly 138 million children were engaged in child labour in 2024, including around 54 million in dangerous work that jeopardizes their well-being. While we have seen a total reduction of over 22 million children since 2020—reversing an alarming spike observed between 2016 and 2020—this issue demands our immediate attention.

Over 1 in 5 children in the world's most impoverished countries are engaged in child labour, and both girls and boys are equally affected. The latest data unequivocally show that 53 million out of the 160 million children in child labour are not attending school. Among those excluded from education, 28% are aged 5 to 11, and 35% are aged 12 to 14. UNICEF's findings highlight that child labour is disproportionately concentrated in rural areas, predominantly within the agricultural sector.

World Day Against Child Labour demands unwavering action from governments, organizations, and individuals to defend children's rights and guarantee their access to education and safe environments. Education equips children with the vital skills they need to secure quality employment as adults, empowering them to break free from the cycle of poverty. We have the responsibility to act now...

**Fr. K.J. Joseph SDB**  
**Director, BNRD**

# STREET PRESENCE



Nivas  
Inauguration of the Nau Bahar Study Centre



Nilaya  
Awareness to the Shopkeepers



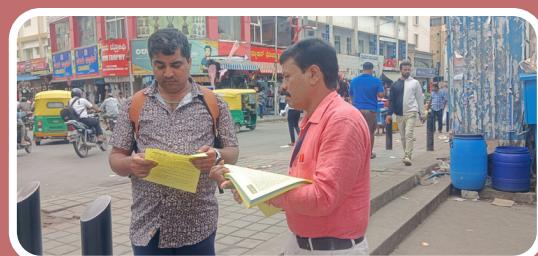
ARSP  
SAATHI survey



Bus Stand  
Rescues



Magadi Road  
Piggy Bank Savings



Gandhi Nagar Area  
Public Awareness

# COMPONENTS

Various activities were conducted by different components of BOSCO: School Awareness by CSN, Foster Care Placement by Foster Care, Visit of AXA Volunteers to BOSCO Mane by Resource Mobilization team, Eye Screening Camp by Health Care Programme, Restoring children to their families by Family Restoration and After Care, Survey in the migrant communities by Migrants Help Desk.



# CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS



**BOSCO Mane**  
Makkala Shaba



**BOSCO Vikas**  
Celebration of International Games Day



**BOSCO Rainbow Home**  
Participation in the workshop on Mental Health organized by the DCPU Unit



**BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan**  
Parents'/Guardians' Meeting



**BOSCO Sumanahalli**  
Axa CSR volunteers work at the BOSCO Life Skill Training Centre



**BOSCO Yuvakendra**  
Certification Ceremony

## CERTIFICATION CEREMONY

BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan held a Certification Ceremony on June 4, 2025, to honour the trainees who completed their training in the tailoring and beautician trades. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, the Executive Director of BOSCO Bengaluru, addressed the students, emphasizing the importance of obtaining a certificate in today's world. He explained that a certificate not only brings recognition but also helps individuals maintain their self-respect and achieve self-reliance. He congratulated the students for their consistency and determination in pursuing their dreams and provided a brief overview of BOSCO's various activities, encouraging the students to join BOSCO's mission to support children in need.

Ms. Sheeba Thomas, Director of BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan, also congratulated the students and urged them to continue striving toward their goals. She inspired them to encourage other young women to seek similar support and to always express gratitude to their teachers and the organization. Some students shared their experiences, particularly highlighting the assistance they received from the Skill Training Unit. The programme concluded with the distribution of certificates, and forty trainees received their course completion certificates.



## INAUGURATION OF THE TWO-WHEELER MECHANIC SECTION

The Two-Wheeler Mechanic section at BOSCO Sumanahalli underwent a significant refurbishment to enhance the working environment for trainees. The inauguration took place on June 24, 2025, with Fr. Jerome Gonsalves Anugraha, Director of the Sumanahalli Society, and Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director of BOSCO Bengaluru, officiating the ceremony by cutting the ribbon. Fr. Varghese Pallipuram also blessed the new Two-Wheeler Mechanic section. This upgraded facility is expected to inspire students to approach their training with greater dedication. The event was attended by directors from other BOSCO centres, brothers, staff, and twenty-seven students from BOSCO Sumanahalli.



# WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

BOSCO Vikas, Mane, Sumanahalli, Nilaya, Nivas, Vatsalya Bhavan, Rainbow Home, Yuvakendra and BOSCO ARSP, Magadi Road Project celebrated World Environment Day at their centres and areas and Government schools on the theme, “End Plastic Pollution” on June 5, 2025. The Directors inaugurated the programme at the respective centres and spoke about the importance of the day and highlighted the crucial role we play in protecting the earth. They highlighted the importance of cultivating eco-friendly practices from a young age and encouraged daily actions that contribute to environmental preservation. The children and the youth were told to grow trees and save the earth. They were exhorted to be more nature-friendly and sensitive.

Skits, street plays, songs, and drawing competitions were held for the children. Posters and slogans were displayed, and saplings were planted to help children realize the importance of protecting Mother Earth. Through short videos and stories, children and youth were told that necessary steps were taken towards preserving nature and greenery. The sessions led to thoughtful discussions among students about their role in protecting the environment. Ideas such as organizing clean-up drives, reducing waste in school, and creating eco-clubs were shared. Children also expressed interest in nurturing the saplings planted and spreading awareness in their families and neighborhoods.

The program concluded with a collective pledge, where each participant committed to mindful usage of water and electricity, and to adopting proper waste segregation methods. This oath symbolized a personal promise to uphold sustainable practices in daily life. Centre, area and school children, along with the staff and volunteers participated in the programme in the different centres and areas.



# WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

BOSCO Bengaluru took a strong stand on World Day Against Child Labour, observed on June 12, 2025, under the assertive theme "Progress is clear, but there's more to do, let's speed up efforts!" The event, organized by the Department of Labour, was held on MG Road in Bengaluru, featuring a formal inauguration by Mr. Santosh Lad, Minister of the Labour Department, Government of Karnataka. The highlight of the day was a rally launched by Ms. Aditi Prabhudeva, a prominent actor in the Kannada film industry.

The rally confidently marched from MG Road through Corporation and Cubbon Park, culminating at KSCEA. Participants stood united in raising powerful slogans against child labour, making a significant impact on public awareness. Attendance included key figures such as the Labour Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, Joint Labour Commissioner, government officials, college students, Scouts and Guides, and Directors from BOSCO. In total, 170 children from BOSCO Child Care Centres, along with 50 dedicated staff and volunteers led by Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director of BOSCO Bengaluru, actively participated in the campaign.

On this pivotal occasion, BOSCO's Child Safety Network (CSN) Project executed an awareness initiative in front of Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru. BOSCO Nivas organized a commanding rally from Shivajinagar Bus Stand to St. Xavier's School, joined by enthusiastic students from St. Xavier's School. Meanwhile, the ARSP team conducted an impactful awareness campaign at the Cantonment Railway Station, collaborating effectively with the GRP police, with 103 members stepping up to participate. The Bus Stand Team held a vital awareness session at BMTC and KSRTC platforms, educating 125 individuals about the critical significance of World Day Against Child Labour and shedding light on the pressing issues related to child labour. They also ensured that essential information about child helpline numbers, 1098 and 112, reached the public. BOSCO Mane took the initiative by organizing a focused session on the importance of the day for the inmates of the centre. BOSCO Yuvakendra Youths and the Study centre children participated in a rally on Magadi Road and sensitized the community on the importance of eliminating child labour and took a pledge reaffirming their collective commitment to this cause. In total, several hundred children, stakeholders, community members, and the public were actively engaged and informed during this event.



## SESSION ON CAREER GOAL SETTING AND PLANNING

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized a session on Career Goal Setting and Planning in collaboration with Neravu - UNICEF for the centre boys on June 18, 2025. The session was led by Ms. Ivitha and Ms. Priyanka from CCI Transformation, Neravu - UNICEF. They utilized group discussions, interactive activities, role play, visual aids, and a pledge-taking ceremony to engage the participants. The session aimed to empower youth with essential life skills, guide them in setting their career goals, and promote awareness of their constitutional rights and civic responsibilities. It also enhanced communication and participation through group discussions, encouraging a sense of civic responsibility grounded in the Indian Constitution.



## VALUE EDUCATION ON 'COOPERATION'

Value Education session on 'Cooperation' was organized for the trainees of BOSCO Sumanahalli on June 21, 2025, to impart the knowledge and skills required to collaborate towards common goals, nurture positive relationships, and promote social responsibility. Sr. Joseph Mary Shamala, Counsellor of BOSCO Sumanahalli, highlighted the significance of collaborating to achieve a common objective, cultivating respect for one another, and appreciating the contributions of everyone through group activities. She explained the core principles of cooperation-mutual respect, a positive attitude, tolerance and empathy, shared responsibilities, encouragement, thoughtfulness, caring, and sharing. Twenty-six trainees participated in the session.



# INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

BOSCO Yuvakendra, Mane, Rainbow Home, and Sumanahalli organized International Yoga Day for the children and youth at their respective centres on June 21, 2025. Aligned with the official theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health,” the initiative aimed to promote physical well-being, mental harmony, and environmental awareness. The event emphasized the importance of adopting yoga as a holistic practice that nurtures both individual health and the health of our planet.



The coordinators explained the importance, benefits, and advantages of practicing yoga daily. Youth were told that yoga could be considered a disciplined method for attaining a goal, and a method for mastering the body and the mind through meditation. Breathing exercises (pranayama) and meditation sessions tailored to their age and abilities were included to promote relaxation and mindfulness. Educational talks and demonstrations highlighted the benefits of regular yoga practice for physical and mental well-being. The event concluded with a pledge to incorporate yoga into daily life and maintain a healthy lifestyle. The centre directors and staff were present during the event. Children and youth of the centres attended the sessions.



# GENERAL HEALTH CHECK-UPS

BOSCO Yuvakendra organized the health camp in coordination with the Health Care Department of BOSCO at the centre on June 22, 2025. Dr. Sr. Niveditha, TCM Royan Hospital, Bengaluru, and her team conducted the camp. The children's height and weight were measured, and a general examination was performed. The doctor administered deworming tablets and vitamin A supplements to the children. The team checked the BP and blood sugar of the adults attending the camp. Most of the adults were diabetic and had high blood pressure. Fifty-five children and one hundred and six adults benefited from the camp.



BOSCO Health Care Department organized a health check-up camp in association with TCM Royan Hospital, dental screening in association with VS Dental College and Hospital, eye screening and blood checkup with the support Muthoot Snehashraya, for children of BOSCO Rainbow Home on June 24, 2025. Dr. Niveditha, TCM Royan Hospital, Bengaluru, and Dr. Priyanka, Bangalore Medical College, checked the height, weight, BMI, temperature, oxygen levels, BP, etc. of the children in the centre. One girl was referred to the hospital for a severe anaemic condition, and three were prescribed medicines for skin problems, cough and tiredness. Ten girls require spectacles and were referred to the eye hospital for further checkups. Twenty girls were referred for tooth extraction, root canal procedure and cleaning to the hospital. Girls above sixteen years of age, teachers and parents were checked for blood sugar, cholesterol, Creatinine, and Hepatitis B. Fifty girls from the centre, sixty-four teachers at the Government school, and parents availed of the services of the camp.



# INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING

BOSCO Juvenile Advocacy Team, Adjacent Railway Street Presence (ARSP) team, BOSCO Yuvakendra, Nivas and Sumanahalli organized awareness programmes on 'International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking,' to create awareness about drug abuse, illegal trafficking, child rights, child protection, and prevention of child labour for the children, public and different stakeholders at the BBMP School, Urban Primary Health Centre, SMVT, study centres and various communities on June 26, 2025. The theme was, "Break the Cycle. #StopOrganizedCrime". Fr. Johnson, Director, ARSP Project, Fr. Anand, Director, BOSCO Sumanahalli, Ramaswamy, Coordinator, Juvenile Advocacy Project, Nivas team and Yuvakendra team explained the harmful effects of drug abuse, signs of drug abuse, the role of parents and teachers, and how they must be vigilant towards the behaviour of the children. Dr. Thejaswini S. B., Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC), Chamarajpete, Bengaluru, Mr. Harish, ASI, GRP, Mr. Vijay Kumar, SI, BNC, fifty-eight RPF and GRP staff were present on the occasion. Six health workers, fourteen coolie porters, sixteen teachers, forty-two public, BBMP School children, children of study centres, children and youth of BOSCO centres and community youth children attended the awareness programme.

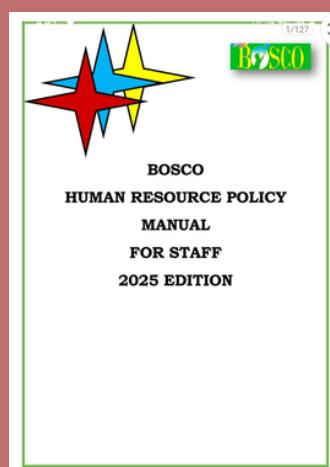
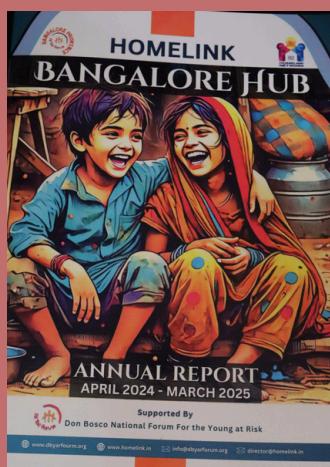
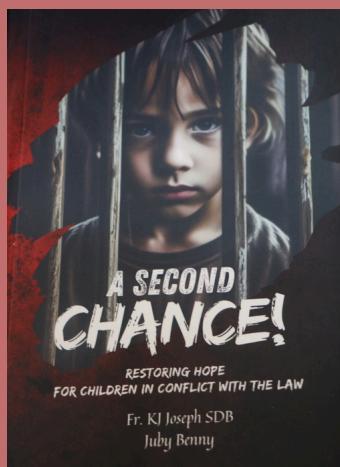


# ANNUAL EVALUATION AT BOSCO

The Annual Evaluation of BOSCO Bengaluru was held at BOSCO Mane on June 19 and 20, 2025. The meeting was inaugurated by a distinguished panel of guests, including Fr. George Kollashany, Founder of BOSCO Bengaluru; Fr. Francis Bosco, National Director of the Migrant Help Desk; and Fr. Varghese Pallipuram, Executive Director of BOSCO Bengaluru, by lighting the lamp.

In his keynote address, Fr. Varghese Pallipuram asserted that the Annual Evaluation is not just a meeting but a celebration. It is a critical moment to review all our activities and achievements while assessing BOSCO's growth, including our personal development. In his address to the group, Fr. George Kollashany emphasized the importance of child-centric approaches, focusing on being present in the streets, in the community, and in the digital space. He described BOSCO as a societal transformer and a child of destiny. Fr. Francis Bosco asserted the need to confront the issues affecting children by leveraging six crucial pillars: the Legislative, Judiciary, Executive, Media, Movements, and NGOs.

During this significant event, three pivotal BOSCO publications were released in the presence of the esteemed guests and dedicated BOSCO staff: a research study titled "A Second Chance: Restoring Hope for Children in Conflict with the Law," the Annual Report of HLK Bangalore Province, and a revised HR Policy of our organization along with the monthly newsletter – E Street Voice of May 2025 edition.



New fathers, Fr. Devaraj and Fr. Augustine; brothers, Br. Sam, Br. Christy and Br. Jubin; Sr. Lima, and new staff Abhishek and Asha were introduced to the group. The activities of twenty-nine departments were evaluated based on the reports presented. Major events, campaigns, and activities to be organized during the year were planned. There was a discussion regarding the way forward. The birthdays of some of the staff were celebrated on the occasion. All the managing directors of BOSCO, coordinators, and staff were present for the programme.



**BOSCO: Homelink Child MISS**  
**Monthly Report**  
**June 2025**

	Male	Female	Total
Children rescued	57	27	84
Service provided	55	09	64
Grand Total	112	36	148

**New Children Data of Contact Center/Area:**

Contact Point	Fresh		Repeated		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Railway Station DCPU staff	00	01	00	00	01
Bus Stand BMTC	15	02	00	00	17
Bus Stand KSRTC	10	04	00	00	14
BOSCO Yuvakendra	01	00	00	00	01
BOSCO Sumanahalli	09	00	00	00	09
BOSCO Rainbow Home	00	04	00	00	04
BOSCO Vatsalya Bhavan	00	09	00	00	09
CSN	09	03	00	00	12
ARSP	13	04	00	00	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>00</b>	<b>84</b>



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