



DON BOSCO **MIGRANT SERVICES**

2021 - 2022

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



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DON BOSCO MIGRANT SERVICES

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Don Bosco Migrant Services empowers migrant communities with rights, education, and practical support, ensuring dignity and security



The activities and initiatives undertaken by Don Bosco Migrant Services showcase a strong commitment to protecting the rights of migrant workers, advocating for their welfare, and providing them with practical support. The organization adopts a comprehensive approach to addressing the complex challenges faced by migrant communities across India. Programs focus on education, legal awareness, livelihood support, and emergency relief, ensuring that migrants are not only aware of their rights but are also equipped to secure them. Legal education empowers migrants with knowledge of labor laws, while targeted support helps them access healthcare, shelter, and educational opportunities, fostering dignity and security.

YEARLY IMPACT – 2021



Flood Relief

Total Beneficiaries: **4,840** families

- Drinking Water: **600** families (Chennai Kalaikuzhu)
- Candles: **3,000** houses lit (St. Mary's)
- Dry Rations: **400** families (Surabhi)
- Milk Packets: **600** families (Donors)
- Rice (5 kg each): **140** families (Chengelpet MSSS)
- Provisions (**Rs. 800** worth each): **100** physically challenged families (Egmore Don Bosco Past Pupils)



Migrant Support

Total Beneficiaries: Over **1,550** families

- Irular Community Support: **50** families received dry rations and clothes
- Irular Families Supported (Ponnamanmedu): **47** families

Building Collapse Relief Efforts – **24 families**

COVID-19 Lockdown Relief:

- **500** dry rations (Surabhi)
- **1,000** dry rations (YaR and Bosconet)
- **400** lunch meals + **100** dinner meals (**500** meals total for the aged and disabled)
- Vaccinations: **182** beneficiaries



Education and Skill Development

Total Beneficiaries: **655** children and **10** trainees

- Basic Scouting Course: **10** trainees (February)
- Evening Tuition Centres: **25 centres** for over **500** children in ten migrant habitations
- Study Centres: **30 centres** across Chennai for migrant children (2021)
- Summer Camp: **100** children from brick chambers (Arani, Vairanguppam, Puduvayil, Kilmudhallammedu)
- Irular Community Study Centre: **15** children regularly attending



Legal Help & Advocacy

- Legal Cases Assisted: **6** (including reunifications and wage theft cases)
- Legal Literacy Program: **60** migrant workers trained
- **42** workers (Sriperumbudur, Microtech Engineers)
- **11** workers (Dongsung Automotive India Pvt. Ltd.)
- **5** Female workers from NE India (Angel Spa and Godrej Palm Grove)
- Care and Assistance: **3** Migrants

Migrant Assistance and Information Network (MAIN) Consultation

The Migrant Assistance and Information Network (MAIN) consultation was held at DWF Hall, Chetpet, Chennai. This strategic meeting brought together Jesuits, NGOs, and community leaders to discuss establishing MAIN, a network designed to support distressed migrants. MAIN aims to offer a helpline for immediate support, coordinate with NGOs, and advocate for migrant rights. The consultation emphasized the importance of a collaborative approach to migrant welfare.

Legal Literacy Training for Migrant Workers

A Legal Literacy Training Program was conducted at Thirumudivakkam for 60 migrant workers from Assam, Odisha, Bihar, Manipur, and Jharkhand. The program focused on educating workers about their labor rights, including wage entitlements, working hours, medical benefits, and social security schemes like the One Nation One Ration program. Workers actively participated, expressing their grievances and gaining confidence in asserting their rights.

Construction Migrant Labour – Underpaid and Overworked

Bosco Migrant Services shed light on the harsh realities faced by migrant construction workers from Bihar, Odisha, UP, West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh.

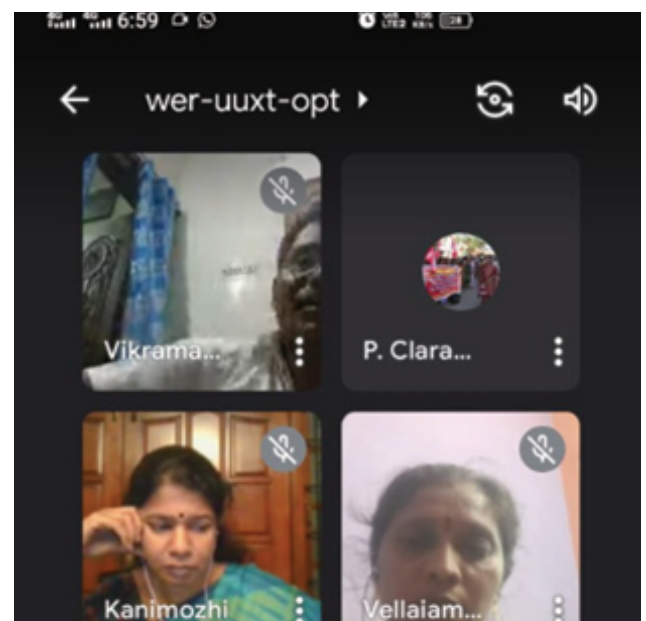


Key issues identified included:

- **Excessive Working Hours:** 12+ hours daily without overtime pay.
- **Poor Living Conditions:** Tin sheet shelters, overcrowded rooms (5-10 workers per room), mosquito infestations, and lack of fans.
- **Unhygienic Sanitation:** Dirty, poorly maintained toilets causing infections.
- **Water Shortages:** Inadequate bathing water and unsafe drinking water.

Joint Consultation Held Online Meeting on Labour Code Bills.

On July 13, 2021, the Unorganized Workers Federation of Tamil Nadu held an online meeting to discuss the impact of the newly consolidated central labor codes, which replace 29 existing laws. The meeting, led by Mrs. Geetha, included various representatives of unorganized workers, with MP Kanimozhi from Thoothukudi in attendance. Concerns were raised about the exclusion of manual workers from the new codes, the challenges of registering on online portals, and the limited financial aid reaching only 12 lakh out of 35 lakh construction workers in the state. Participants urged the state government to review the pros and cons of the new codes and ensure that welfare benefits, like marriage assistance and old-age pensions introduced during the tenure of the late CM Karunanidhi, are continued. Mrs. Kanimozhi promised her support in addressing the grievances of the unorganized labor sector.



Migrant Public Hearing at Sriperumbudur

In July 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) organized a Migrant Public Hearing at Sriperumbudur to address wage theft and denied provident funds (PF) for migrant workers. Mithlesh Choudhry from Bihar and his friends, who worked in Hyderabad's M+W Group, reported PF deductions without receiving benefits. Similarly, Ashok Choudhry and his colleagues, who worked at Goa Airport under PCI Foundation Group, faced unpaid wages.

DBMS responded swiftly, collecting necessary documents and providing legal mediation. Recognizing that several workers lacked ration access under the One Nation One Ration Card scheme, DBMS also distributed dry rations and clothes. This initiative highlighted DBMS's commitment to justice for migrant workers.

Pan India Multilingual Helpline for Migrants

Don Bosco for Migrants (DB4M) launched an all-India helpline (9642 372 372) to provide round-the-clock support for migrant workers. Inaugurated by Father Biju Michael, Regional Councillor of the Salesians for South Asia, the helpline offers assistance in multiple languages (Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, Odiya, Kannada, Bengali, Manipuri). Services include legal aid, minimum wage advocacy, help with accessing entitlements (Aadhaar, PDS, Health Insurance), and protection against child labor and trafficking. With 33 Migrants' Desks across India, the initiative connects migrants to essential services.

Tribal Empowerment and Land Rights

DBMS worked extensively with 47 Irular tribal families in Ponniamanmedu village, who were trapped in bonded labor in jasmine fields. After years of advocacy, ST certificates and voter IDs were secured, and petitions were submitted to the Tiruvalluvar District Collector for land rights. Similarly, in Sadayankuppam, DBMS supported 35 Irular fishing families with rations and initiated an evening study center for 15 children, ensuring education continuity during the pandemic.



DB4 Migrant Desks: Educational Support and Empowerment

BMS's DB4 Migrant Desks in Coimbatore, Tirupur, Dimapur, Vasco, Sudgatti, and Vadodara provided essential services:

- Conducting evening tuition to ensure education for migrant children.
- Providing legal education to raise awareness of workers' rights.
- Sudgatti's Mobile Anganwadi App to monitor child registration and educational progress.

A review meeting led by Fr. Francis Bosco highlighted region-specific initiatives, promoting best practices across desks.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR MIGRANT COMMUNITIES

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Unleashing Potential,
Transforming Futures

Migrants Move Towards Unionization

In September 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services organized an exposure trip for senior migrant labour representatives to consult trade union leaders at Erode and Tiruppur. This initiative aimed to help migrant workers understand the process of forming labour collectives and unions for their protection.

The team interacted with members of the TRLM Trade Union, gaining insights into its formation, structure, and strategies. The experience was an eye-opener, teaching migrant representatives about union registration, leadership roles, and the importance of raising collective voices for labor rights.

The initiative emphasized the need for collective action among migrant workers to secure fair wages, social security, and safe working conditions in destination states.



COUNSELING FOR STRESS MANAGEMENT FOR MIGRANTS

Supporting migrants suffering in silence

On October 3, 2021, forty migrants at Mambakkam participated in a stress management counselling session led by Mr. James, a certified psychology counselor at BMS. The session used therapeutic techniques to help migrants recall and release unresolved emotional memories, alleviating anxiety, guilt, and fear. Migrants, often burdened by chronic stress from family debts, wage exploitation, exhausting work conditions, and inadequate living facilities, found relief through this intervention. This initiative, supported by the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, aimed to offer a compassionate, holistic approach to support migrants suffering in silence.



DATA COLLECTION

(Google Form Data Collection)

DB4Migrants launched a new mobile-based Google Form for efficient data collection of migrant workers across 11 provinces in India. This app enables real-time data collection, analysis, and planning, providing an accurate and scalable method for understanding migrant demographics and needs. The initiative aimed to collect data on 2,000 migrants per province, supporting better planning and targeted interventions.

SPCSA PROJECT - MIGRANT SUPPORT INITIATIVE

The SPCSA Project was launched across 11 provinces of India to enhance migrant support through Don Bosco Network. Each migrant desk received a financial grant of ₹8.5 lakhs for one year, aimed at building a database of 2,000 migrant workers, providing direct support to 1,000 workers, and reaching 2,000 people with awareness programs. The initiative emphasized collaboration with NGOs, volunteer engagement, and advocacy for migrant rights, ensuring a structured approach to migrant welfare.



Leading
with
Love,
Delivering
Service.

Empowerment Through Unionization and Workers' Rights Advocacy (Awareness Prog)

Unfolding of Chennai Migrant Union

On October 10, 2021, thirty migrant workers from Bihar, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh, working in Ennore (Slum Clearance Board Construction) and Burma Nagar, participated in Chennai's first-ever migrant labor union membership drive. Led by Fr. Francis Bosco, the session included a live demonstration and video presentation on workers' rights violations, emphasizing the importance of unionizing for protection and benefits. Migrants shared grievances, including issues with PF, sickness, and wage disputes. This initiative by Don Bosco Migrants marked a significant step toward establishing a strong, cohesive migrant union in Chennai, aligned with a larger national federation.



ADVOCACY AGAINST INDIAN MARINE FISHERIES BILL 2021

On November 29, 2021, Fr. Bosco Francis, Director of Don Bosco Migrants Services, addressed hundreds of traditional fishermen at Kasimedu, Chennai, warning them about the adverse impact of the proposed Indian Marine Fisheries Bill 2021. The bill threatens the livelihoods of Tamil Nadu's fishermen along the 1,076 km Coromandel Coast, allowing only registered vessels to fish in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which benefits corporate entities over traditional fishermen. The event emphasized the need to protect local fishing communities from unfair regulations.



Migrant Source Help Desk – Villupuram and Kallakurichi

Don Bosco for Migrants (Db4M) established a migrant help desk in Villupuram and Kallakurichi to support vulnerable migrant workers from marginalized communities such as Thrumbars, Irulars, Dalits, and Scheduled Castes. These districts are prone to high migration due to lack of local employment opportunities. The help desk, led by Fr. Tamizhselvan and Mr. Aronald, along with three MSW volunteers, surveyed 100 migrant workers. It provides guidance on registration, renewal, and benefits under the Manual Welfare Board of Tamil Nadu.

An online portal for migrant profiles has also been launched to facilitate better tracking and support for these workers. This initiative ensures that migrant workers receive essential assistance, legal support, and welfare benefits.



Labour Welfare in Construction Sites at Vyasarpadi

In November 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) organized a welfare program for migrant workers at a Tamil Nadu Urban Housing Development Board (TNUHDB) construction site in Vyasarpadi, Chennai. The initiative addressed the harsh conditions faced by migrant laborers from states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Assam.

DBMS engaged over 100 migrant workers in recreational activities like music, dance, and games, providing them a platform to relieve stress. Educational sessions were also conducted on health, safety, and workers' rights. With 7 TNUHDB divisions in Chennai, each overseeing 5 to 10 construction sites, this initiative marked a crucial step toward ensuring better welfare and support for migrant workers.



UN Survey on Social Protection (Non-Take-Up Study)

In 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) participated in a global survey on social protection conducted under the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, Oliver De Schutter. The survey focused on "Non-Take-Up" of social protection benefits, exploring why vulnerable individuals, including migrants, fail to access government welfare schemes.

From Tamil Nadu, DBMS interviewed 10 migrant families, identifying issues such as lack of awareness, absence of documentation (Aadhaar, ration cards), and systemic barriers. The study aimed to recommend strategies to ensure that social protection benefits reach those who need them most, including orphans, elderly, disabled, and undocumented individuals.



Construction Migrant Workers Welfare Program – Mylapore

On January 29, 2022, Don Bosco Migrant Services conducted a welfare program for 50 migrant construction workers at the Balaji Construction site, RK Nagar, Mylapore—part of TNUHDB's ongoing projects. Fr. Paulraj emphasized the importance of education for migrant children and highlighted DBMS's efforts in this area. Mr. Augustine stressed the use of safety gear and maintaining hygiene to prevent infections. He urged proper waste disposal and requested site management to ensure dustbins and timely medical aid. TNUHDB officials Mr. Chitarasu (AEE) and Mr. Nagaraj (Project Manager) attended the session. The event concluded with games and prize distribution, promoting awareness and worker engagement.



PDS Data Collection of Migrant Labours in Sriperumbudur

A data survey was conducted in Sriperumbudur to enroll migrant laborers from villages like Mambakkam, Arneri, Pallanur, Katrambakkam, Killur, and Sendmangalam in the Public Distribution System (PDS) for ration rice. This initiative followed demands raised during International Migrants Day, as laborers were buying rice at inflated prices (₹10–20/kg). Despite challenges—such as reluctance to share Aadhaar/contact details due to distrust—300 laborers were registered. MLA Selveperunthagai supported the effort, which aims to secure fair food access for migrants.



Migrant Welfare Board Registration Initiative (Villupuram & Kallakurichi Districts)

Don Bosco Migrant Services collaborated with the Unorganised Workers Federation (UWF) to facilitate welfare board registrations for unorganized and construction laborers. Key actions included:

- **Meetings with Officials:** Discussions with UWF Secretary Mr. Charakarthavarthi (Villupuram) and Convenor Geetha (Purasaiwalkam) on registration procedures and mandatory documents (Aadhaar, ration card, bank details, community certificates, etc.).
- **Challenges:** Online registration is now mandatory; physical camps require state labor commissioner approval.
- **Outcome:** Staff trained in online processes, with emphasis on union membership for worker protection.

Purpose: Secure labor rights and welfare benefits through formal registration.



Sectoral Unorganised Trade Unions Consultation with Dr. John Derez

On January 12, 2022, trade union representatives and activists met with Dr. John Derez (Tamil Nadu Economic Advisory Committee) in Kotturpuram to discuss labor codes, migrant rights, slum evictions, and issues affecting Narikuravars, domestic workers, and farmers. Attendees included UWF's Geetha, activist Stephen, and others who submitted written demands. Dr. Derez pledged support to amplify marginalized voices in policymaking.



MIGRANT SOURCE DESK – BRICK CHAMBERS



On January 27, 2022, the Migrant Source Desks of Villupuram and Kallakurichi visited brick kilns in Peruvayal and Gnayiru (Tiruvalluvar district) to track migrant workers from their home regions and assess their condition. In Peruvayal, over 200 families from Tamil Nadu and 50 from Odisha were found working in kilns like TMD, SRM, Kalki, and SSB. Around 80 children, mostly school-age, had returned with their families due to school closures. In Gnayiru, visits to four of ten chambers revealed over 200 families living in poor conditions, many trapped by advance payments ranging from ₹70,000 to ₹1.5 lakh. The team noted a lack of basic facilities and the risk of exploitation. Don Bosco Migrant Services plans to work with kiln owners to ensure education for children, legal protection, and awareness programs to prevent abuse and support migrant rights.

SPORTS AND GAMES: A TOOL FOR SOCIAL BOND

In the first week of November 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) organized a volleyball tournament for migrant construction workers at NVN Nagar, Thirumangalam. Over 100 migrant workers, including site engineers and admin staff, participated in the event. The initiative, authorized by the Tamil Nadu Urban Housing Development Board, used sports as a tool for social bonding, mental well-being, and team spirit. Grounded in Don Bosco's Preventive System, the program fostered positive attitudes, emotional release, and community unity among migrant workers.

CONSTRUCTION MIGRANT WORKERS WELFARE PROGRAM

On January 29, 2022, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) conducted a welfare training program for over 40 migrant workers from Amudha Gopal and Pannusami Constructions at a Perumbakkam site. The session focused on workers' rights, responsibilities, safety, hygiene, and health awareness.

Key speakers included Fr. Paulraj (on migrant children's education), Augustine (on workplace safety gear), and Ms. Bharathi (on hygiene). In partnership with RCT TI-Migrants, health awareness on TB and HIV/AIDS was also shared by Ms. Neelam and Vijay Anand.

The event, attended by TNUHDB Officer Mr. Velmurugan, included interactive games and contests to engage and uplift workers. Mr. Velmurugan appreciated DBMS and RCT for their efforts and assured continued support.



Reaching out to the marginalized

Construction Migrant Worker's Training

27 Dec 2021: DBMS held a safety and health awareness event for migrant workers in Perumbakkam with talks on alcohol abuse, hygiene, and safety gear, along with cultural activities.

TRLM-CTU State Convention

26 Feb 2022: Over 500 rural workers demanded repeal of central labor codes and restoration of TN welfare schemes in Perambalur.

Labour Department Visit

29 Mar 2022: DBMS clarified with Kanchipuram officials that catering/hotel workers are under their office; construction issues go to Sriperumbudur.

Demand for Free Medical Treatment

3 Feb 2022: DBMS met the TN Labour Commissioner seeking free medical care and mobile clinics for migrants; coordination ensured five health vehicles for construction sites.

Rights Awareness at Pattinapakkam

16 Feb 2022: DBMS educated 150–200 migrant workers on child education, registration, HIV prevention, and labor rights at PSK Group sites.

Welfare Program at MS Nagar

22 Feb 2022: DBMS addressed lack of safety gear and school access for migrant workers, stressing rights and education in a BSR Group project.



Awareness at Manali New Town 2

(16 Mar 2022):

DBMS trained 150 workers on legal rights, safety, and HIV prevention with games, presentations, and support from housing officials.

Marginalized Groups Synodal

Event (24 Feb 2022)

St. Francis De Sales Parish hosted transgenders, disabled people, and migrants for inclusive discussions on livelihood and participation.

Murugampattu Labour Welfare Program

On 21 Mar 2022, DBMS trained migrant workers on safety, education, and legal rights at a site lacking basic facilities; session included games and prizes.

Christ College Student Field Visit:

Students found poor living conditions and exploitation among migrants; emphasized education, housing, and linking workers to support services.

Pudu Nagar Migrant Women

Meeting (12 Mar 2022):

DBMS met 11 women to discuss housing, water, documents, and plan for Women's Day; began help with documentation.

Kalyanapuram Welfare Program

(13 Mar 2022):

DBMS educated 120 migrant workers on labor laws and safety; event included games, gifts, and official support.

Vocational Training Camp

(10 Dec 2021):

TNUHDB and DBMS trained 100 youth in trades like tailoring and mobile repair, tackling unemployment and social issues in Ezhil Nagar.

Burma Nagar Women's Meeting

(13 Mar 2022):

Women planned Women's Day celebrations; some requested Aadhaar help and Hindi tutors for children.

Brick Kiln Workers Survey (Villupuram):

DBMS surveyed migrant kiln workers on welfare access; aided in registrations, rescue operations, and student training on survey tools.

Government Engagement and Advocacy for Migrant Welfare

Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board

The Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB) Managing Director, Shri Govinda Rao IAS, pledged support for Don Bosco Migrant Services (BMS) in enhancing migrant welfare. In a meeting with Fr. Francis Bosco, BMS submitted a petition requesting access to infrastructure, electricity, and other facilities to support education, counseling, and recreational programs for migrant communities. Currently, BMS operates over 25 evening tuition centers, benefiting more than 500 children across 10 migrant habitations. Highlighting the plight of migrants suffering under exploitative work conditions without basic amenities, BMS reaffirmed its commitment to holding the government accountable for migrant welfare.



Consultation on Basic Rights of Unorganized Workers with State Planning Commission

On January 7, 2022, a meeting on the basic rights of unorganized workers was held at the Tamil Nadu Planning Commission Office, Ezilagam, Chennai. Around 20 participants, including NGOs, unions, and rights activists, met with Dr. John Deres of the Tamil Nadu Economic Advisory Committee. The meeting, organized by Dr. Sundara Babu and Sr. Valar, aimed to address sustainable solutions for unorganized workers. Key points included criticism of the new labour codes and the E-Shram portal (Mrs. Geetha), the need for employer registration in welfare boards (Fr. Bosco), poor infrastructure in resettlement areas (Mrs. Esther), lack of land rights for long-time residents (Sr. Valar), and a proposal for legislative action (Prof. Jean Dreze).



On November 11, 2021, INM and INT provinces held a joint consultation at Tiruppur to discuss an integrated migrant outreach program in Tamil Nadu. Representatives from Trichy (Fr. Amal, Fr. Lawrence, Fr. Xavier Michael) and Chennai (Fr. Francis Bosco, Fr. Paulraj, Mr. Vivek Gandhi) shared their experiences in migrant support across Coimbatore, Salem, Namakkal, Chennai, and other districts. The meeting focused on future strategies, fundraising, and planning beyond the DB4M project, which ends in April 2022. This collaboration aims to strengthen migrant support across the state.



Community Empowerment and Social Responsibility

Maliga, a 60-year-old woman from the Irular colony in Manali, lived a life marked by isolation and neglect. Physically and mentally challenged, she had lost her husband years ago and had no children. Recently, paralysis of her hands and legs had rendered her entirely dependent on others for basic needs—bathing, using the restroom, and even eating. While a few neighbors occasionally provided food, most ignored her, leaving her to suffer in silence.



The turning point came when Don Bosco Migrant Services (BMS) intervened. A dedicated field coordinator, noticing Maliga's desperate condition, consulted the elders of the Irular community, suggesting that Maliga be admitted to a care home. The very idea struck a chord among the community members. Feeling a profound sense of guilt for neglecting one of their own, they rejected the notion of sending Maliga away. Instead, they chose to take collective responsibility for her well-being.

Elders and neighbors came together, organizing a system where Maliga would receive regular meals, assistance with daily tasks, and company. This decision transformed not just Maliga's life but also the community's spirit. What began as a suggestion for external support became a powerful example of social conscience and communal care.

For BMS, this was more than just a successful intervention—it was a moment of social awakening. The community, which once saw Maliga as a burden, now saw her as a shared responsibility. And Maliga, who had once been forgotten, now lived surrounded by the care and compassion of her people.

Protest Against 4 New Labour Codes – Unorganized and Migrants



The new labor codes introduced by the government have raised concerns among unorganized workers, including cobblers, handicraft artisans, weavers, auto drivers, construction laborers, and many others. These workers, who make up a vast majority of India's workforce, lack social security, job protection, minimum wages, paid leave, and safety measures. The protest highlighted the plight of these workers who face exploitation, poor working conditions, and neglect by the government. Despite various government schemes, low literacy and lack of awareness prevent these workers from benefiting. The protest demanded fair wages, safe working conditions, medical benefits, and pension rights for the unorganized sector.



Protest Against New Labour Code

Date: August 24, 2021

Location: Valluvar Kottam, Chennai

Theme: Defending Workers' Rights

Don Bosco Migrant Services joined workers from various organizations to protest against the central government's new labor codes, which consolidated 29 existing labor laws into four codes. These include:

1. Wages Code
2. Social Security Code
3. Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code
4. Industrial Relations Code



The protest highlighted the potential exploitation these codes could enable, such as:

- Employers' freedom to hire and fire without government approval.
- Weakening of workers' collective bargaining power.
- Lack of clear mechanisms for trade union recognition.

BMS emphasized the need for a balanced approach that protects both employers' interests and workers' rights.



Unorganized Workers Protest at Jantar Mantar, Delhi

On August 4, 2021, Don Bosco Migrants participated in a large-scale protest at Jantar Mantar, Delhi, alongside unorganized workers from various sectors, including domestic work, construction, street vending, and artisanal crafts. The protest aimed to highlight the exploitation of unorganized workers who suffer from low wages, lack of job security, inadequate social protection, and unsafe working conditions. Workers demanded fair wages, better working conditions, and social security benefits, arguing that their contributions to the economy are undervalued and that their rights are ignored. The protest also raised concerns over the absence of effective implementation of occupational safety laws and the lack of a central framework for social security. Don Bosco Migrants supported the protest, advocating for the dignity, security, and rights of unorganized workers across India.

Hundred Gypsy People Join Migrants Protest – Social Justice Day

On September 17, 2021, around 100 gypsy people (nomadic) participated in a Social Justice Day protest at HMS Hall, Egmore, Chennai. The protest honored Periyar, a social activist and reformer, and raised concerns about the challenges of unorganized workers under the new labor codes introduced by the central government. Leaders from various organizations highlighted the struggles of daily wage workers, including low wages and lack of social security.

Protest Against Indian Marine Fisheries Bill, 2021

On August 5, 2021, Don Bosco Migrants joined the fishing community at Jantar Mantar, Delhi, in a massive protest against the Indian Marine Fisheries Bill, 2021. Led by the Tamil Nadu Fish Workers Federation (affiliated with CITU), fishermen from various coastal regions voiced their opposition to the bill's licensing requirements for fishing in exclusive economic zones (EEZ) and high seas. Traditional fishermen argued that the bill would impose excessive bureaucratic barriers, threatening their livelihoods while favoring large commercial fishing companies. The protest highlighted the community's demand for the Union Government to withdraw the bill and respect the federal principles that allow state governments to regulate fishing in their territories. Don Bosco Migrants stood in solidarity with the fishermen, advocating for their right to sustainable livelihoods without unnecessary governmental interference.





Advocating for Stronger Construction Laws

Location: Jantar Mantar, Delhi

Bosco Migrant Services highlighted the need for stronger construction laws to protect workers. The organization participated in a protest at Jantar Mantar, Delhi, demanding better protection for construction workers.

Key Demands:

- Enforcement of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996.
- Introduction of stronger safety measures and training for workers.
- Timely wage payments and regulated working hours.
- Clear guidelines for worker benefits and entitlements.

The protest underscored the disparity between existing laws and their enforcement, which often leaves workers vulnerable to exploitation.

Rajaratnam Stadium, Egmore (Jan 8, 2022)

On January 8, 2022, a human chain protest was held at Rajarathinam Stadium, Egmore, demanding land holding rights and proper housing for slum dwellers from Annai Sathyavani Muthu Nagar. Participants from areas like Perumbakkam, Semmenchery, and Vyasarpadi, along with various organizations, joined the demonstration. Key demands included relocation sites within 5 km of the city, proper housing with a limit of 4 floors, and immediate issuance of land titles (pattas) to those who have not received them.



PROTEST RALLY MARCH TOWARDS RAJ BHAVAN

On 28th December 2021, a protest rally against new labor codes was planned to march from Rajiv Gandhi statue, Saidapet, to Raj Bhavan. Police restricted the rally, refusing permission to march to Raj Bhavan and limiting the protest to two hours. Various groups, including migrant workers, NGOs, trade unions, and slum residents, participated. Despite police warnings, protesters continued shouting slogans. Eventually, police dispersed the crowd, transporting them to Velachery's Kalayana Mandapam, where protest speeches were made and food was provided before release in the evening.



Rally at Egmore

On March 15, 2022, unorganized workers and unions held a rally from Rajaratnam Stadium, Egmore, to Chennai Fort, protesting the enactment of four new labor codes without parliamentary debate. They argued these codes undermine workers' rights and favor corporations. Led by MLA Selva Perumthagai and supported by the BMS team, the rally demanded repeal of the labor codes, protection of Tamil Nadu's Physical Labour Act (1982), and continuation of 36 welfare schemes. Key demands included GST allocation for worker welfare, separate schemes for salt workers and handicraftsmen, simplified online registration, mandatory factory registration, insurance coverage, rehabilitation from bonded and child labor, permanent employment, housing, transport benefits, land allocation for landless laborers, and provision of housing for homeless workers. The rally ended with a call for unity among unorganized workers to fight for their rights.



Migrant Young Workers Union Protest

7 Feb 2022: A protest at Valluvar Kottam demanded stronger labor laws, welfare access, voting rights, and better housing for migrant workers.



Protests & Mobilizations



Joint National Justice Demand Meeting (20 July 2021)

100 union leaders gathered to press for national labor policy reforms.



Statewide Protest (Aug 24, 2021)

Over 200 participants demanded protection of Tamil Nadu's welfare schemes and revocation of central labor codes.



Human Chain (Oct 7, 2021)

Organized on International Day for Decent Work at Marina; involved migrant workers, Loyola students, and social movements.



Hunger Strike (Oct 2021)

Multiple labor unions (construction, domestic, migrants) protested against exploitative labor laws.



State-Level Seminar (Sep 17, 2021):

Opposed central labor codes; featured leaders like Ms. Geetha Amma and participation from 10 unions and NGOs.

Migrant Support and Legal Assistance

Road Accident Assistance for Migrant Worker

Baongam Rongmei, a migrant worker from Assam, died in a road accident in Chennai on November 19, 2019. His family struggled to claim compensation due to documentation errors. Don Bosco Migrant Services (BMS) intervened, rectifying the errors through proper affidavits, ensuring a smooth claims process. The Rongmei community expressed gratitude for BMS's support.

Irular Community: Struggle for Identity and Rights

For decades, the Irular community in Thiruvallur lacked basic identity documents like Aadhaar, voter ID, and ration cards. Fr. Francis Bosco and BMS met with the District Collector, advocating for their recognition and initiated registration drives across Irular villages. This intervention aims to secure their rights as citizens.

“Just Tell Us Who Are We: Citizens or Refugees Or Aliens?”



Advocacy and Rights Awareness

Unorganized Workers Demand Fair Treatment
On October 7, 2021, over 500 unorganized workers protested at Chepauk, Chennai, demanding equal wages, medical benefits, job security, and pension parity with organized sector workers. Supported by BMS, the protest highlighted the struggles of 95% of India's workforce, pushing for justice and fair treatment.

Legal Advocacy: Safeguarding Workers Under the New Labour Code



On October 23, 2021, BMS consulted ILO Consultant Ramapriya Gopalakrishnan to address concerns with the new Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions Code (OSH Code), 2020. The consultation focused on extended work hours, discriminatory medical checks, and adverse impacts on women workers. BMS's advocacy aims to ensure fair labor rights.



LEGAL AID & RESCUE

Legal Intervention for Ruhul Amin's Family

On August 22, 2021, Don Bosco Migrants intervened in a tragic case involving Ruhul Amin, a migrant laborer from Assam who died due to a lack of medical care at his workplace in Tamil Nadu. Ruhul Amin and his two sons had come to Tamil Nadu under the supervision of a contractor named Zakhir. Despite falling seriously ill, Ruhul Amin did not receive proper treatment, leading to his death. His sons, left stranded and facing eviction, sought help from Don Bosco Migrants. The organization promptly provided legal support, mediated with the police and the contractor, and ensured that the family did not face further exploitation. Don Bosco Migrants resolved the case peacefully without any financial burden on the family and facilitated their safe return home. The incident highlighted the vulnerability of migrant workers and reinforced the need for strong legal and social support for them.



COVID-19 Compensation Assistance

Location: Semmencheri, Chozhinganallur Taluk, Chengalpattu District

Chitra, a sanitation worker residing in Semmencheri, lost her husband due to COVID-19, left to fate with her two sons:

- Madhesh (13 years old) – who has visual impairment
- Akash (9 years old)

Being unaware of the government compensation process for COVID-19 victims, Chitra struggled to claim the financial aid meant for her family. During a women workers' meeting in Semmencheri, she shared her difficulties with Premalatha, a community social worker.

Support from Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS)

Following the guidance of Rev. Fr. Francis Bosco, Director of the Migrant Workers' Welfare Center, the DBMS team assisted Chitra and her sons in completing the necessary procedures. They accompanied her to:

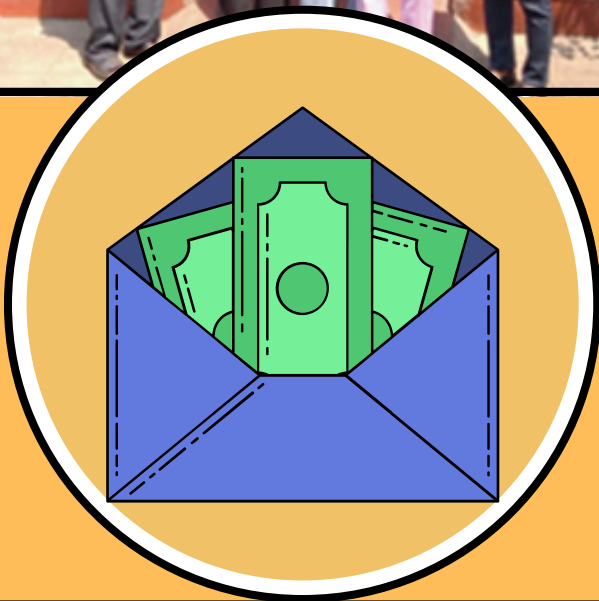
- Royapuram CWC (Child Welfare Committee)
- Relevant Government Offices

The team helped submit all required documents to secure the COVID-19 compensation for her family. Chitra expressed her heartfelt thanks to Rev. Fr. Francis Bosco for his crucial support in ensuring her family received the entitled relief funds.

This intervention provided much-needed financial assistance to a struggling family affected by the pandemic.



Wage Theft Among Female Migrant Laborers from North-East India



No Pay, No Justice



Migrant women from the North-East working in Tamil Nadu's hospitality and service sectors face severe exploitation. They are denied fair wages, job security, and basic labor rights.

Angel Spa, West Mambalam, Chennai
(Owner: Mr Mohan)

Three female workers from Manipur were employed at Angel Spa (9, Govindan Road, Moovender Colony, Chennai - 33) and were denied salaries and removed from work:

1. Martha P. – Joined on 30.03.2021, salary: ₹25,000 (never increased).
2. Roni Kamei – Joined on 04.03.2021, salary: ₹25,000 (unchanged).
3. Duanreiliu Rongmei (Rozi) – Joined on 15.08.2021, salary: ₹20,000; after 3 months increased to ₹23,000.

Housekeeping – Godrej Palm Grove Guest

House, Chembarambakkam (Owner: Mr. Parksonghyum)

Two women from Nagaland were employed as housekeepers and never received any payment:

1. Duanchuiliu (Lulu) – Worked 2 months and 7 days, salary: ₹15,000.
2. Ngauneikam (Liza) – Worked 1 month and 21 days, salary: ₹12,000.

Systemic Issues Noted:

- No ID cards or appointment letters
- Salaries paid in cash without records
- Manual attendance maintained by receptionists

Complaints were submitted to the Labor Commissioner, Nandanam Labor Inspector, and Enforcement Officer in Tiruvalluvar district. The case underscores the urgent need to enforce labor laws to protect vulnerable migrant workers in unregulated hospitality sectors.



Don Bosco Migrants Reunite Three Minor Girls with Their Parents in Maharashtra

In November 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) facilitated the safe return of three minor girls—A. Arvina Pawar (15), R. Karanna (16), and T. Amisha (10)—to their parents in Yavatmal, Maharashtra. The girls were rescued by Chennai police at Marina Beach and placed under the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in Chennai. Fr. Nirmal and Sr. Marita traveled 1,067 km to escort the girls, ensuring they were reunited with their families after police verification. This initiative showcased DBMS's commitment to child protection and family reunification.

DBMS Submits Complaint on Wage Theft of Mr. Debojit

Mr. Debojit Bora, a migrant worker from Assam employed as a supervisor at Microtech Engineers, Sriperumbudur, faced wage theft, with only half of his salary paid by the contractor. He and 41 other workers, including 13 from Assam, were denied their full wages.

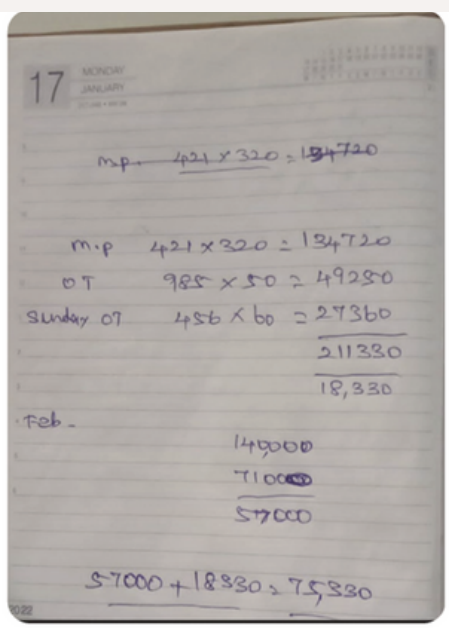
Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) intervened, helping Debojit file a complaint with the Joint Director of Industrial Safety and Health (DISH). The complaint highlighted exploitation, lack of identity cards, absence of safety gear, and wage irregularities. This action demonstrated DBMS's commitment to protecting migrant workers from labor exploitation.

Interventions



DBMS OFFERS IMMEDIATE CARE AND ASSISTANCE

On 19th February 2022, two migrant workers from Bihar, Mithilesh Das and Anand Das, employed at an iron ore factory in Manali, Chennai, were hospitalized due to acute breathlessness caused by high dust and pollution levels. DBMS provided immediate assistance, hospital support, and began an enquiry into pollution, safety gear usage, and working conditions.



MIGRANT LABOUR RIGHTS & WAGE DISPUTES

Salaries unpaid for eleven migrant workers from UP

Eleven migrant workers from Uttar Pradesh employed at Dongsung Automotive India Pvt. Ltd. in Kanchipuram faced non-payment of salaries from December 2021 to February 2022. The arrears, reportedly withheld by Supervisor Samarjit, led to severe financial distress, resulting in the suicide of one worker on 9th March 2022. In protest, the workers have halted work, and their rooms have been locked by the contractor. DBMS has intervened, initiating legal counsel and mediation to recover the unpaid wages.



MIGRANT WORKER FATALY HIT BY TRAIN AT MANALI

On 9th January 2022, Banamali Behera, a 57-year-old migrant worker from Orissa, was fatally hit by a train near VIMCO, Manali, Chennai, while accessing an open toilet area near the railway track. He had migrated with his wife and two sons for work at RCPL, leaving behind two daughters in Orissa. The accident highlights the lack of proper shelter, sanitation, and basic amenities for migrant workers, forcing them into unsafe conditions. Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) took up the case, coordinated with police and hospital authorities for documentation and post-mortem, and arranged cremation as per the family's wishes. DBMS also initiated steps to claim compensation from the contractor/employer.

■ Relief work & support system

TNUHDB Building Collapse Relief Efforts

On December 27, 2021, a residential building under the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB) collapsed in Tiruvottiyur, Chennai, leaving 24 families homeless and burying all their household possessions under the debris.

In response to this disaster, Don Bosco Migrant Services organized a relief distribution on January 20, 2022 at the alternate shelters provided by TNUHDB in Ernavoor. Director Fr. Bosco led the initiative, distributing essential household items and utensils to the affected families.

The distribution was attended by key TNUHDB officials from the North Zone Division, including Community Development Officer Suvekan, Assistant Executive Engineer Nakiran, Junior Engineer Kavitha, Supervisor of Schemes Karunekaran, and Technical Assistant Surya Prakash.



Location

TNUHDB Building Collapse Relief Efforts

Date: 20 January 2022

Location: Ernavoor, Tiruvottiyur, Chennai



Sponsors

Don Bosco 90's Past Pupils batch.



Reach

24 Families



■ Relief work & support system



FSJ Sisters Aid 100 Flood-Hit Families

During the severe Chennai floods in November 2021, hundreds of migrant workers in Burma Nagar, including those from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Assam, were left stranded, losing their belongings and unable to access government relief due to a lack of ration cards. Responding to an appeal from Fr. Francis Bosco, the FSJ Sisters provided dry rations to 100 flood-affected migrant families, ensuring they received essential supplies during the crisis. This intervention highlighted the vulnerability of migrants during natural disasters and the urgent need for inclusive relief measures.

Flood Relief in Perumbakkam

In November 2021, severe flooding affected 28,000 families in Semencherry and Perumbakkam, Chennai. Families in low-lying areas experienced waterlogging, power outages, and contamination of water supplies, leading to fears of disease outbreaks. Many homes were flooded, especially those on the ground floor, and residents were left without access to basic necessities like food, milk, drinking water, and electricity for an entire week.

Relief Measures by Don Bosco Migrant Services (BMS):



BMS, in collaboration with various partners, provided critical relief to affected families:

- 3,000 Houses Lit with Candles: In partnership with St. Mary's.
- 400 Families Received Dry Rations: Distributed with the support of Surabhi.
- 600 Families Supplied with Milk Packets: Provided by generous donors.
- 600 Families Given Drinking Water Cans: Supplied by Chennai Kalaikuzhu.



- 140 Families Provided with 5 kg Rice Each: Sponsored by Chengelpet MSSS.
- 100 Physically Challenged Families Received Provisions Worth ₹800 Each: Supported by Egmore Don Bosco Past Pupils.



Chennai Floods: Irulars of Sadayankuppam

During the Chennai floods, over 50 Irular families in Sadayankuppam, Manali, were displaced as floodwaters from the Ennore Creek and nearby industries inundated their homes. Most of these families, who live in thatched huts without pattas (land ownership documents), lost their belongings.

Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) provided immediate relief, distributing food, dry rations, and clothes. The organization is also advocating for patta rights, enabling the Irular community to secure their homes legally. This effort showcased DBMS's commitment to supporting vulnerable communities during crises.

COVID-19 Relief Efforts (Second Wave - April-May 2021)

During the devastating second wave, DBMS provided:

- Emergency medical aid (Remdesivir distribution, oxygen support).
- 400 meals daily during lockdown for the elderly and disabled.
- 1,500 dry ration kits in collaboration with Surabhi, YaR, and Action Aid.
- Funeral support for unclaimed COVID-19 victims.
- Vaccination drives (182 beneficiaries vaccinated).



Lighting the Path for Children

Spiritual Well-being and Community Bonding

On October 15, Don Bosco Migrant Services celebrated Ayudha Puja, a traditional festival of gratitude and devotion, with migrant workers and their children across Sadayankuppam, Ennore, Burma Nagar, and Ambattur. Ayudha Puja, which honors tools and instruments used for livelihood, holds special significance for migrant workers who rely on machinery and tools for their daily work. The celebration included prayers for safety, sustenance, and protection. Children prayed for their parents' safety, while parents sought blessings for their children working with dangerous machinery. The event fostered a sense of spiritual connection, gratitude, and divine protection.



Perumbakkam U-Block – Teachers' Day Celebration

On September 11, 2021, the U-Block Study Centre at Perumbakkam was filled with joy as children celebrated Teacher's Day to honor their teacher, Mrs. Manimegalai. Master Murali delivered an inspiring speech, quoting various authors to praise teachers. Students performed a skit highlighting their teacher's qualities, while Miss Bharathi, the coordinator, emphasized the importance of teachers in a child's life.

As a token of gratitude, students and the coordinator presented a gift to Mrs. Manimegalai. The celebration concluded with sweets distributed among the children, leaving them with a sense of happiness and appreciation for their teacher's efforts.

Celebrating Freedom with Awareness – Burma Nagar

On August 15, 2021, Bosco Migrant Services organized an Independence Day celebration for migrant children at Burma Nagar, Manali, Tiruvallur District. The event featured a flag hoisting by Mr. Ravi Swami, the local temple priest, and an inspiring talk by Bro. Rosan Tirkey. During the interactive session, a 12-year-old migrant child, Murmu, raised a thought-provoking question:

"What does independence mean for us when I see my parents struggle for survival amidst extreme exploitation, suffering, and powerlessness?"

Highlights: motivational speeches, games, cultural performances, and a talk on the importance of Independence Day by Mrs. Rekha, a teacher for migrant children.





Speech Competition – Empowering Children with English Skills

On September 25, 2021, Bosco Migrant Service organized an inter-study center speech competition on education and human rights through an online platform. 62 students from various centers participated across three categories: Classes I-V, Classes VI-VIII, Classes IX-XII

Educational and Recreational Initiatives

From April to July 2021, Don Bosco Migrant Services (DBMS) conducted multiple programs for underprivileged children, particularly those from migrant and tribal communities. On 24th April 2021, an Online WhatsApp Drawing Competition on the theme "Beauty of Nature" was organized, engaging over 80 children from evening study centers in Perumbakkam, Navallur, Panathoppu, and Kudapakkam. The competition nurtured creativity and environmental awareness, with winners receiving gifts and recognition.

Additionally, summer camps were held for over 100 children of brick kiln workers in Arani, Vairanguppam, Pudukkottai, and Kilmudhallammedu. These camps, filled with sports like kabaddi, throwball, and music-based games, helped restore childhood joy and self-esteem among migrant children. Another online singing competition on "Social Awareness on Nature" was held on 17th April 2021, featuring 15 solo and 8 group performances, where children expressed their deep connection with nature through original lyrics.

24th April 2021

17th April 2021

Inter-Study Center Folk Dance Competition

The Inter-Study Center Folk Dance Competition was held across various study centers, including OMR Office, Mettupalayam, Navalur, Ponniamedu, and Gudapakkam. The event was organized to promote Tamil folk dances among children, celebrating cultural heritage and creativity. Over a two-month period, children from multiple centers participated, showcasing their talents and learning the importance of teamwork, cultural expression, and confidence. The program was well-received, with local leaders appreciating the children's performances, further strengthening community bonds.

75th Independence Day – Aug 15, 2021

- **Perumbakkam:** Cultural events, flag hoisting at F Block with 100 children.
- **Panathur, Medavakkam, Kannagi Nagar:** Patriotic performances, games, speeches. Quiz competitions and prize distribution.

Children's Day (20 Nov 2021): Celebrated with dance, drama, and songs. Postponed from Nov 14 due to rain.



Children Singing Competition

An online singing competition was held on April 17, 2021, with the theme of "Social Awareness on Nature." The competition, conducted across multiple study centers, saw 15 children participate individually and 8 centers in group performances. Children wrote and sang lyrics that emphasized their connection with nature. The event was judged by Rev. Bro. Francis, Mr. Deepak, and Mr. Sunder, with coordination by Ms. Bharathi.

Initiatives for Children

New Study Centre -

Perumbakkam (U Block): Opened on 21 July 2021, the centre supports 185 families; started with 16 children, now benefitting 28.

Evening Tuition Centres:

Over 25 centres in 10 migrant localities benefitting 500 children.

Nutritious Food Exhibition -

Kanna ji Nagar: Held on 29th, focused on health education. Students displayed models; experts evaluated and appreciated their efforts.

Mental Health Session (Oct 9,

2021): Held in 30th Block, Perumbakkam for 30 children, addressing pandemic-related anxiety.

Semmancheri Study Support:

Local NGOs & DBMS support children with evening classes, anganwadis, and Rainbow Centers.

STUDY CENTER DEMAND – AMBATTUR MIGRANT CHILDREN

Date: August 20, 2021

Location: Ambattur, Chennai

Theme: Right to Education for Migrant Children
Bosco Migrant Services facilitated a meeting with migrant parents in Ambattur to address their concerns about their children's education. Migrant parents from Bihar, Jharkhand, UP, Odisha, and Assam expressed the need for a dedicated study center.

Bro. Rosan of BMS negotiated with the local area leader, securing approval to use the community building as a study center. This initiative added to the 30 existing study centers for migrant children managed by BMS in Chennai. The study center aimed to provide a safe and supportive space for children's education, ensuring they do not miss out due to their parents' migrant work.



REAWAKEN STUDY CENTRE – ANNA NAGAR (IRULAR CHILDREN)

Bosco Migrants Service revived the study center for Irular children in Anna Nagar on September 28, 2021. The area has over 360 families with nearly 100 children, most from impoverished, illiterate backgrounds. The center, initially launched in 2018, was revived with community support, including village ward member Mrs. Shanthi, Fr. Arul Anand, and Mr. Samuel Saktivel. Miss Saranya volunteered to guide the children. The center focuses on educational support, summer camps, and extracurricular activities like drawing, singing, and storytelling, ensuring a brighter future for the children.

Classroom without borders

Fr. Bosco's Interaction with Migrant Laborers' Children

Fr. Bosco (Director, Don Bosco Migrant Services) visited evening study centers in Kanniyankuppam (25), Pavanzhangudi (45), and Kovilanur (60), assessing children's awareness of their families' socio-economic challenges. He emphasized maintaining parental profiles (contact details, work locations) for legal support. At Nachiyarpettai migrant village, he conducted awareness sessions, urging women to document their husbands' occupation/work details and educating them on e-Shram portal, TN labor welfare boards, and migrant services.

Irular Fishing Tribal Children - Study Centre

To address educational deprivation among Irular fishing tribal children in Sadayankuppam, a study center was established. It serves 15 children, providing basic education in Tamil, English, Math, and extracurricular activities, aiming to build foundational skills and interest in learning.

Inter Study Centers Quiz

On 25th November 2021, BMS organized an inter-study center quiz contest for Bosco Migrant Service students from eight centers in Tamil Nadu slums (Kannagi Nagar, Semancherry, Perumbakkam), covering 3rd to 12th grades. The quiz focused on science, math, social science, and general knowledge, emphasizing critical thinking and problem-solving over rote memory. Preparatory coaching was given for two months. The event aimed to activate midbrain skills for higher-order thinking and intuitive awareness, helping students face competitive challenges. Judges Mrs. Kannagi (Women Development Corporation) and Mrs. Devi (Slum Clearance Board) highlighted that personal excellence results from self-selection and consistent choices, not external conditions.



Child Empowerment and Leadership Development

Bosco Migrant Services (BMS) organized a two-day Children's Parliament Training Program on October 2-3, 2021, at Don Bosco Polytechnic College, Thirukalukundram. The program aimed at empowering 60 children from BMS learning centers with essential life skills, leadership qualities, and knowledge of their rights. Led by Life Skills Chief Coach Mr. Krishna from Coimbatore, the training focused on self-awareness, goal setting, teamwork, communication, and understanding constitutional rights.

Children were engaged in interactive activities that encouraged them to voice their opinions, participate in decision-making, and develop self-discipline. The experience also included a fun excursion to Mahabalipuram, where they visited the beach and famous monuments.

The children expressed gratitude for the learning experience, excellent hospitality, and care provided by the organizers. This initiative aimed to nurture responsible, self-aware, and confident young leaders who could advocate for their rights and contribute to their communities.



”

Empowering
Young
Voices.
Leadership
Begins
Here

Educational Assistance to Odiya Brick Kiln Children, Tiruvalluvar

Odiya migrant families working in Tiruvalluvar's brick kilns often involve children in labor. COVID-19 halted schooling until 2022, when efforts helped resume education by convincing owners.

Don Bosco Migrant Services supports 5 schools and 10 kiln sites with Odiya-speaking volunteers, teacher training, uniforms, and meals. However, textbooks and some materials remain insufficient.

Key needs include Odiya textbooks, learning aids, continued teacher training, uniforms, and temporary classrooms to ensure effective education for these children.

Educational Assistance to Odiya Brick Kiln Children, Tiruvalluvar

Migrant Children Tuition Center at Mambakkam

Started in March 2022 near the migrant office, the free tuition center serves 24 migrant and local children from 4 to 5:30 PM daily. Volunteers visited the village to encourage parents to enroll their children and explained the support provided by Don Bosco Migrant Services.

Children, eager and happy, learn basics like reading and writing, with patient teaching for those who need extra help. Homework is assigned and completed regularly. The center also provides notebooks, bags, and writing materials. Interactive activities like songs and games create a joyful learning environment, fostering both education and happiness.



Republic Day – Burma Colony & Sadayankuppam

Children celebrated with flag hoisting, performances, and a pledge for unity and growth.



Christmas – Perumbakkam (18 Dec 2021)

350+ attendees enjoyed dances, skits, gifts, and lunch at DBMS's Christmas event.



Christmas – Burma Nagar & Sadayankuppam

Post-flood Christmas event featured performances and gifts for migrant children.



Christmas – Irular Tribe, Ponniamanmedu

45 Irular families celebrated with carols, dance, and sweets, led by Fr. Paulraj.



Saraswati Puja – Sadayankuppam (5 Feb 2022)

30+ children celebrated with devotion and joy at the local tuition center.



Holi – Sadayankuppam (18 Mar)

100+ participants celebrated with colors, food, and festive cheer.



Irular Pongal – Manali (13 Jan 2022)

30 Irular families celebrated Pongal with traditional events and children's activities supported by DBMS.