

# Alegalu

By Rev Fr Richard Pais



'Alegalu' E-newsletter is being made more creative and a source of knowledge to the collaborators and our partners. There have been appreciations expressed as it is relevant to the times with information and success stories. You may find a well-informed write up on women empowerment, which is a community led programme for the marginal women. The present phase has definitive objectives to achieve and the whole team is making strenuous efforts to reach this goal.

The success story on the income generating activities by a marginal and economically poor women will inspire you to venture into entrepreneurship with little opportunity and excel in life. The life of the marginal is full of struggles and powerlessness. But the positive action towards life prospectus turns their lives sustainable. It makes a great reading.

'Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all'. Sustainability is the strength of social action in the focused areas. The impacted result confirms to it and it is the indicator of long-term result. I congratulate the documentation team for bringing out the creative issue 'ALEGALU'. I wish all the readers a pleasant and resourceful reading.



*"If we don't change we don't grow; if we don't grow, we aren't really living"*  
- Gail Sheehy





## Orienting the SHGs on SAMRUDI and EAP training

KROSS team along with the Director Fr. Richard Pais organized an orientation session held at the Bishop's house at JVSSS Mandya on SAMRUDI and EAP training for all the SHG members. The session began at 10.45 am with a welcome speech delivered by Bharathi SHG representative. The session was interactive and bore fruit as the purpose of the orientation was served. The session concluded at 1:45 p.m.



## Samrudi Review Meeting

On 23rd May 2023, a Review Meeting and Training on Women in Micro Enterprises- SAMRUDI was conducted for all the coordinators at KROSS Resource Center, Bangalore. The meeting commenced at 10:00 am with a Prayer by Ms. Cecelia Tauro followed by Welcome and Introduction of the program by Mr. Chinnappa Coordinator Samrudi, KROSS. Rev. Fr. Richard Pais, Director of KROSS, addressed the participants on Samrudi, expected deliverables, and accomplishments. He also highlighted the need for training in boosting entrepreneurship. All the DSSSs coordinators presented the report of the Samrudi program which was discussed in-depth and feedback was provided. Post lunch Fr. Richard Pais provided a session on economic literacy to the members present and all the coordinators presented the achievements, challenges and opportunities of their respective DSSSs. Thereafter had a group discussion on the Action Plan for the year. End of the session participants clarified their doubts and appreciated the presentation.

The Training program concluded at 4:45 pm with a Vote of thanks by Ms. Koushalya - coordinator of Samrudi, JVSSS-Mandya.





## CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT OF FEDERATION MEMBERS IN VIEW OF FORMING STATE LEVEL WOMEN FEDERATION

A successful Capacity Enhancement Workshop was held on July 19, 2023, at CMSSS, Hassan. Attended by 28 participants from BMSSS-Bengaluru, JVSSS-Mandy-ODP-Mysuru, and CMSSS-Hassan, the workshop aimed at enhancing the importance of state-level women's federation. The event included sessions on solving community issues, goal-setting, and understanding federation by laws. Participants found the workshop insightful and inspiring. The program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr. Ramesh, Coordinator of BMSSS.



## FEDERATION CAPACITY BUILDING AT SHIVAMOGGA

On July 20th, 2023, a Capacity Enhancement Program was held at Chaitanya, SMSSS, Shivamogga, aiming to form a state-level women's federation. The event had 53 participants from partner organizations- BDDS Ballari, BDSSS Belagavi, ORBIT Kalaburgi, MSSS Bhadravathi, and SMSSS Shivamogga. The program included a prayer, welcome speech by Ms. Vathsala, and experiences shared by representatives from five DSSSs. Rev. Fr. Richard Pais conducted a valuable session on goal-setting and women empowerment, appreciated by the participants. Mr. Jagadeesh explained SHGs, GRFs, TLFs, and DLFs' concepts, emphasizing the importance of strengthening federations and networks. Sr. Nancy Lobo assigned group activities on state-level federation bye-laws, followed by interactive discussions. The program concluded with representatives sharing their experiences, and Fr. Richard Pais and Mr. Jagadeesh expressed gratitude to all stakeholders.



# CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

A CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMME WAS ORGANISED ON JULY 21ST, 2023 AT ANUGRAHA PASTORAL CENTRE UDUPI SAMPADA, WITH THE GOAL OF ESTABLISHING A STATE-LEVEL WOMEN'S FEDERATION. CODP MANGALURU, KIDS PUTTUR, DKRDS BELTHANGADY, KDDC KARWAR, AND SAMPADA UDUPI WERE AMONG THE 39 PARTICIPANTS IN THE EVENT. THE PROGRAM INCLUDED PRAYER, A WELCOME SPEECH, EXPERIENCES SHARED BY ARPANA FEDERATION UDUPI, GOAL-SETTING INSIGHTS BY REV. FR. RICHARD PAIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF KROSS, AND EXPLANATIONS ON SHGS, GRFS, TLFS, AND DLFS BY MR. STANLEY AND MR. HARISH. SR. NANCY LOBO ORGANISED GROUP ACTIVITIES ON STATE-LEVEL FEDERATION BYE-LAWS, WITH FR. RICHARD PAIS LEADING INTERACTIVE CONVERSATIONS. THE PROGRAMME CONCLUDED WITH REPRESENTATIVES SHARING THEIR EXPERIENCES AND THANKING ALL PARTICIPANTS AND ORGANISERS.



## ORIENTATION ON SAFEGUARDING POLICY TO 14DSSSS PARTNERS

KROSS conducted a virtual meeting on July 25th to orient all 14DSSSS partners on the significance of safeguarding policy. The session began on time at 10 a.m. and ended at 12 p.m., giving all participants with a thorough comprehension of the subject. The facilitators Ms. Janet and Mr. Varghese, were instrumental in achieving the meeting's purpose. Participants gained valuable insights into the subject of safeguarding and actively engaged, seeking clarifications on various aspects. As we navigate the complexities of our work, it is imperative to recognize that safeguarding is not merely a policy but a guiding principle that shapes our actions and decisions. Taking up safeguarding policy will not only ensure the well-being of those we serve but also but it will also enhance our relationships as partners in this obligation.



## AGBM

**THIS YEAR IS THE 40TH YEAR OF THE FOUNDATION OF KROSS AND THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY OF KROSS 22-23 WAS HELD ON AUGUST 28, 2023 AT KROSS RESOURCE CENTRE BENGALURU. THE 40 YEARS OF ITS PRESENCE, KROSS HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARGINALISED IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES, MAINLY THE PROGRAMS FOR SOCIO ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL UPLIFT OF THE MOST MARGINAL. THE FOCUS GROUP IS SIGNIFICANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY. IN THIS CONTEXT THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEET ON AUGUST 28, 2023 TO DISCUSS AND DELIBERATE ON VARIOUS PROGRAMS.**

**THE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY THE PRESIDENT DR. FRANCIS SERRAO S.J, BISHOP OF SHIMOGGA AND THE 14 DIRECTORS OF THE DSSSS AND OTHER MEMBERS. THE KROSS TEAM PRESENTED THE REPORTS OF THE PROJECTS AND RECEIVED FEEDBACK & SUGGESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS.**

**THE ANNUAL REPORT WAS RELEASED BY PROFESSOR RITA NORONHA AND HANDED OVER TO THE PRESIDENT DR. FRANCIS SERRAO S.J. THE REPORTS WERE APPRECIATED AS DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION AND RESULTS WERE QUANTIFIED. RESULTS OF SOME PROJECTS WERE TO BE SPECIFIC.**

**THE PRESIDENT IN HIS MESSAGE THANKED THE KROSS TEAM WHO WORKED STRENUOUSLY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE RESULTS. HE ALSO THANKED THE SECRETARY OF KROSS, FOR THE METICULOUS REPORTING FEEDBACK OF THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECTS. THE PRESIDENT APPRECIATED THE DIRECTORS OF THE DIOCESAN SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY (DSSS) FOR THEIR COLLABORATION WITH KROSS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECTS MORE EFFECTIVELY. HE ALSO THANKED DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. LET THE SOCIAL ACTION OF KROSS TURN AS A LEGACY IN THE REGION OF KARNATAKA.**



## CRS India Partners Meet, New Delhi August 28th and 29th, 2023

**Catholic Relief Service (CRS) organised a two days' partners meet at New Delhi on August 28th & 29th, 2023 to discuss on the current context in India and common priorities for NGO's. Scale and sustainability of social impact. The Partners had discussed on the opportunities available for the development agencies in the current socio-economic environment and the way forward. To understand the current challenges, emerging trends policy changes that impact, the role of CSOs today. Strategies its responses and adaptations to the changing context and prioritise the objectives. What strategies are best to make the populations we work with to cope with these changes and adapt? Compliances / precautionary measures at NGO level as per new FCRA amendment. Understand the strength and expertise, knowledge and skills of partners and establish collaborative network. How to engage ourselves meaningfully as a collective force to empower the marginalised communities and promote peace and Justice, resource mobilising. There were discussions on the conceptualisation of partner's forum - ideating, on the modus operand etc., There were about 29 partners from across the country, had met and held fruitful discussions. KROSS also participated and shared its views.**



# Inspirational Narrative

## FROM PETTY SHOP TO PROSPERITY: AMBAMMA'S JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE

In the village of Ankushadoddi, a woman named Smt. Ambamma embodied the spirit of resilience. Despite her family's financial struggles, she saw an opportunity to change her life. With a small loan and unwavering determination, she started a tiny petty shop. But Ambamma's vision didn't stop there. She dreamt big, striving to uplift her family from poverty's clutches. She attended EAP/EDP training, absorbing every bit of knowledge that came her way. When others hesitated, she fearlessly applied for an IG loan from the Samrudi Foundation. With the loan in hand, Ambamma's tiny shop underwent a magical transformation. It bloomed into a vibrant grocery store, welcoming customers with a warm smile. Not only that, she added a delightful book stall and introduced fresh milk and tea sales from her own cows. Her efforts bore fruit, and soon her little store became a hub of the village. Every month, her turnover soared to a staggering Rs.1,00,000! But more importantly, she earned not just money but respect and admiration from her community. Ambamma's success story spread like wildfire, inspiring many others to pursue their dreams. She became a beacon of hope, a living testament that no dream is too big, no goal too distant. Today, as Ambamma looks back on her journey, she is grateful to BDDS and Samrudi Foundation for believing in her potential. Their support and guidance became the wings that helped her soar high above the hardships. In the heart of Ankushadoddi, Ambamma's story continues to shine as a symbol of determination, courage, and the remarkable power of dreams.

