



# FASCE India

Fransaliam Agency for Social Care and Education in India

## FASCE India Newsletter

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### Happy Pentecost



#### FASCE India

MSFS Provincialate

Satgaon – Narengi, Udayan Vihar P.O.  
Guwahati – 781 171, Assam, India  
Tel.: 0361-2647867

### From the Director's Desk



Fransaliam Agency for Social Care and Education in India (FASCE India), the social action initiative of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales of Northeast India Province, has over the years totally committed to serving the poor and the marginalized in various ways.

Today, its networking capacity has increased; and with the assistance of many more collaborators and partners, FASCE India continues to touch the lives of numerous people by bringing hope, solace, and joy to children, youth, women and the marginalized sections of the society through Promotion of Child and Human Rights, Vocational Skill Development of School Dropout Youth, Empowerment of Women through Self Help Groups, Values Education, Community Based Rehabilitation of the Persons with Disabilities, Promotion of Family, Community and Personal Health etc.

I consider it as my rare but great privilege to assume the office of the Executive Director of FASCE India to commit myself in sharing to 'promote progress'. I thank Rev. Fr. George Panthanmackel, the Provincial Superior of the MSFS in Northeast India, and his administration for entrusting me this responsibility by placing their trust and confidence in me.

I am also indebted to Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, the former Director of FASCE India and the new Regional Superior of Dibrugarh Region of the MSFS, for his commendable contributions to FASCE India and the people of Northeast India in his capacity as the Executive Director. In his tenure as the Executive Director (July 2011 to February 2016), he has given a well-organized and structured face to FASCE India and has taken it to greater heights with his unassuming personality, able leadership, hard work, dedication and commitment. As I thank Fr. Emmanuel for all his services, may I take this opportunity to wish him all the best and God's abundant blessings as he assumes his office as the Regional Superior of Dibrugarh Region of the MSFS.

I thank all our benefactors, well wishers, friends and stakeholders for their support, encouragement and prayers and FASCE India look forward to their continued collaboration and cooperation.

May I humbly request all of you to support me and FASCE India with your valuable prayers. Let us join our hands together and 'promote progress' and make the world a better place to live. May the Risen Christ continue to fill us with his lasting peace, joy and happiness and accompany us with his Spirit of joy and service in our humble efforts to serve the poor, the needy and the marginalized. May God Bless and Reward You!

**Fr. Saji George Puthiyakulangara MSFS**  
Executive Director, FASCE India

## FAsCE India Celebrates International Women's Day



International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th March all over the world. It has marked the plight and achievements of women for more than a century - but is now looking ahead to the world's gender equality goals. In order to appreciate and acknowledge the contributions of women in the society and above all to felicitate SHG women, FAsCE India along with its Self Help Groups celebrated the International Women's Day on March 6, 2016 at the premises of SFS Higher Secondary School, Satgaon, Narengi. The celebration was anticipated to ensure and facilitate good participation of all the SHG members keeping in mind their convenience and availability as

the purpose was to celebrate womanhood, their indispensable contributions to the society and their achievements. 250 women participants of 24 SHGs from Patharquarry, Hatishila, Geetamandir and Amsing Jorabat areas of Guwahati came together to participate in the event.

The felicitation programme began at 11.00 am at the SFS Higher Secondary School Auditorium. The members of Rashmi SHG led the opening prayer song which was followed by the introduction and the felicitation ceremony of the Chief Guest, Guests of Honour and esteemed guests by Miss Chaya Kalita, Women's Coordinator of FAsCE India. Mrs. Jahnabi Goswami, President of Assam Network of Positive People, an eminent HIV /AIDS activist and defender of women's rights, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

In his words of welcome Fr. Saji George, the new Director of FAsCE India expressed his joy to welcome the esteemed guests and all the participants. He spoke on the significance of the day which had brought the gathering together for the celebration, and appreciated the contributions of women at home and in the socio-cultural-economic spheres of lives. In his speech, the Director also highlighted women's rights and the need for their empowerment.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest, Mrs. Jahnabi Goswami, shared about her life and the challenges she had faced as an HIV positive person. She urged the women of FAsCE India Self Help Groups to stand up for their rights and to be the catalyst of positive change in the society. The members were touched by her inspiring life-experience and her optimistic outlook in and zeal towards life.



On this occasion, the trophies for the best SHGs were presented. Deepika and Mohini Self Help Groups are the award winners of the year 2016. They received their trophies from the Chief Guest.

The hour-long felicitation programme was marked by scintillating performances comprising of traditional Goalporiya, Tiva Bihu, Jeng Bihu, Nepali, Wangala and modern Hindi dances by the members of the various SHGs. A thought provoking and inspiring skit on domestic violence was presented by the members of Mohini and Jonaki groups. At the end of the felicitation programme, Mrs. Regina Sereng, the Chief Programme Coordinator, proposed the vote of thanks. The formal function was followed by a round of Kabaddi game at SFS School ground. Six teams participated in the concluding event of the day. It was very thrilling and entertaining as the teams competed with each other with all their energy and technique of the game. The match referee also made a commendable contribution to the smooth running of the games. Mohini SHG was adjudged the winner. Fr. Saji George awarded prizes to the winning team members.



## Training Programme on Entrepreneurship Skills at Gogamukh

The cluster level federations of Gogamukh, Jonai and Telam in Dhemaji District of Assam have been progressing in a steady pace since the formation of 157 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in 2013. At present the SHGs at the cluster level federations have been followed up with strengthened programmes for sustainability thereby ensuring empowerment and holistic development through entrepreneurship and skill development activities. The training for income generating programme is given to the members of the federations which is then followed by grading and assessment under the criteria of FAsCE India. During this year four SHGs were selected and received Income Generation Programme (IGP) support for improving their livelihood. Hence, Entrepreneurship programme was conducted for Legasung and Gogamukh federations on January 2, 2016 at Gogamukh. Mr. Michael Tanti, MSW Project Coordinator of Peoples Action for Development (PAD), was the resource person for the day. Mr. Tanti explained about the importance and relevance of seasonal business. The resource person also highlighted different aspects of entrepreneurship in his exposition.



## Legal Awareness Programme on Women's Right at Bahalpur

Legal awareness among women for their rights is a concern today. In India women are placed high during the various socio-cultural and religious practices since early era. Nevertheless, the birth of a girl child is not everywhere and always gladly welcomed. Today girls and women are making their mark in every walk of life, equally partaking with their male counterparts in this fast changing and developing socio-economic and political scenario of our country. However, according to the traditional customs and social practices, greater value is mostly placed on the sons than on the daughters, who are often viewed as economic liabilities for the family. Girls and

women too are precious human beings with enormous potentialities. But we come across in our society many instances where women are the last to have their basic needs fulfilled and the first one to have their basic rights denied.

In order to provide awareness to the women about their rights and entitlements on the basis of gender equality, a legal awareness camp was held on February 14, 2016 in Chappar Pacca Line. The major objective of the program was to enable women and girls to know their legal rights and to help them understand the procedure and method of access to the legal systems.





Mrs. Mridula Borah LLB, a lawyer of Bongaigaon District Court, was the resource person. The SHG members were enlightened about their rights, entitlements and related topics with suitable examples and through interactive sessions. After the programme the participants expressed that they are now aware of the different regulatory Acts like the Dowry Act, Domestic Violence Act, Labor Act, Minimum Wage Act, and Child Marriage Act and that they now feel more confident and better equipped to stand against the atrocities against them and safeguard their rights.

### Awareness on De-addiction and Ill-Effect of Alcoholism at Telam



Alcoholism is one of the major social evils in our society and more so in the rural communities. The menace of alcohol abusers has grown over the last few years. In keeping with the sustainable and holistic development perspective, a training program on de-addiction and ill-effects of alcohol was conducted on March 6, 2016 for Telam Federation and Dekapam Federation in Telam centre. Dr. Ramanando Regan, Medical Officer of Simenchapori, Primary Health Centre was the resource person for the awareness programme. The programme aimed at sensitizing and empowering individuals to live an addiction free life. The resource person focused mainly on creating

awareness on addictions and their long term ill-effects on their health, family and society at large.

### Workshop on New Avenues of Income Generation at Dhemaji

A one-day training on mushroom cultivation and candle making was organized by FASCE India at SFS School, Dhemaji on March 12, 2016. It witnessed by a massive participation; eighty women from 10 Self Help Groups from two villages of Dhemaji attended the workshop. In his introduction and welcome speech Fr. Vintu Augustine, Zonal Director of FASCE India, Upper Assam, urged the women to actively participate and benefit the maximum out of the workshop.



Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobilizer and Miss Chaya Kalita, Women Coordinator of FASCE India conducted the workshop with animated sessions through PowerPoint presentations, video clippings and hands-on trainings on mushroom cultivation and candle making. The sessions highlighted on innovative ways of improving income and standard of living. At the end of the

workshop the participants expressed, "the workshop and the experience of learning innovative skills was marvelous and it is going to be immensely beneficial for our better living".



## Beneficiaries of Revolving Fund under Mukhya Mantri Yojana

The FAsCE SHGs from Panikhaiti and Amsing Jorabat areas received an amount of ₹ 5000/- each from the Chandrapur Development Block under the scheme Mukhya Mantri Yojana. The beneficiary SHGs were Asha, Jyoti, Deepika, Rupali, Shristy and Ekta Atma.

The FAsCE India SHGs have successfully registered their respective groups in the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) office with constant support and guidance from Miss Chaya Kalita, Women Coordinator and Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobilizer.

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## Uniform T-Shirt for the FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre at Narengi



It was a moment of joy and pride for the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi to get their first uniform T-Shirts on February 26, 2016. The children received their uniform T-shirt from Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, Director of FAsCE India and Rev. Fr. George Poovathunkal, Principal of SFS Higher Secondary School, Narengi. The teachers and the staff of FAsCE India, along with the 120 enrolled children of the Supplementary Education Centre were present at this unique moment.

## Free Medical Camp for FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre



A free medical camp was organized for the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre on February 27, 2016 in collaboration with the Institution of Child Health and Mother Welfare (ICHMW), Guwahati.

Around 120 children, accompanied by their parents and guardians, were present for the medical camp. A short but sweet inaugural function, which was begun with a prayer followed by welcome speech by the Associate Director, Fr. Clean Areng and colorful dances performed by the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre were also part of the camp.

The Medical team consisting of three doctors from ICHMW, Guwahati, was ably supported by the staff of FAsCE India, FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, and SFS Hr. Sec. School. Dr Garima Saikia, the Child Specialist and Vice President of Indian Academy of Pediatrics, Eastern Zone, the main speaker during the camp, was highly appreciative of the noble ventures of FAsCE India, especially their intervention into the social situation of the poor and their great contribution for the health welfare of the children coming from economically challenged backgrounds.



## Children's Day Out to the Regional Science Centre

A day-out to the Regional Science Centre, Guwahati was organized for the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre on 28th March 2016. The group of 99 children was accompanied by 6 volunteers and staff members along with the encouraging presence of Fr. Saji George and Fr. Clean Areng, the Director and the Associate Director of FAsCE India respectively. At 10:30 a.m. the group arrived at the centre. The children were thrilled to experience the world of science with variety of objects at display for information and amusements. A sumptuous lunch was served for the group at the cafeteria in the centre which was followed by an exciting 3D show on existence of life on earth; which became the spotlight of the day. It was indeed a day of enrichment and enjoyment. FAsCE India is indebted to Rev. Fr. George Thomas, Principal of SFS Hr. Sec. School for making all the arrangements for the outing.



## Project Orientation and Staff Training

FAsCE India is initiating yet another project: 'Integrated Sustainable Community Development (ISCD) through Formation and Strengthening of SHGs for Improved Livelihood at Somanpara in West Garo Hills'. In order to capacitate the newly recruited SHG staff and leaders, a Project Orientation cum Staff Training was organized from 10th to 12th February, 2016 at FAsCE India Head Office, Guwahati. Miss Kapila Marak (Popi), the Training Coordinator of Mahila Shakti Kendra (MASK) Balipara, was the resource person. The main objective of the program was to build the capacities of the new staff in promoting and managing SHGs.



During the inaugural session, Fr. Clean Areng, the Associate Director of FAsCE India, welcomed all the participants and introduced briefly the project as well as the background of the training program. Miss Kapila Marak dealt with a variety of topics like Social Analysis, Concept of SHG, Bylaws of SHG, Record Keeping and Books of Accounts, Leadership Qualities, etc. with the help of games, video clips and group discussions.



## Awareness Programme on Inclusion of PwDs at Basar



An awareness programme to raise social inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) was organized by the FAsCE India CBR staff at Basar, Arunachal Pradesh, for the people of Pagi I and Pagi II villages. The programme was held on February 14, 2016 with an aim of sensitizing the village heads and the people of the villages on issues and rights of PwDs. The focus of the event was to make the people aware and responsible towards the PwDs of their communities by accepting them as members of their own community, by showing love and concern towards them and by supporting the families with PwDs. During the discourse the emphasis was laid upon creating a cordial environment for the PwDs to live a better life by assisting them to achieve their dream, by encouraging the CwDs to continue with their studies and the PwDs to live a happy life by supporting them in their economic endeavors through skill and vocation trainings. The programme ended with a pledge: "Let us help them to achieve their goals".

## FAsCE Community Facilitation Centre

The foundation for FAsCE India Community Facilitation Centre was blessed on March 19, 2016 by Rev. Fr. George Panthanmackel, the Provincial Superior of Northeast India and the President of FAsCE India, in the presence of Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparmbil, Regional Superior of Dibrugarh Region and former Director of FAsCE India, Fr. Saji George, Director, MSFS Fathers from Upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The proposed Community Facilitation Centre would facilitate the Self Help Groups, Disabled Peoples Organizations, Children, Youth and School Drop Outs in Dhemaji District and



Arunachal Pradesh, who will benefit more through various capacity building and skill training programmes. It will empower the target groups and FAsCE India to be recipients and provider of quality services that will result in the overall sustainable development. This centre would serve FAsCE India to organize its training and capacity building initiatives for its development partners, staff and other NGOs with whom networking relationship is established. FAsCE India thanks its former Director Rev. Fr. Emmanuel for initiating the process and raising the funds for the first phase of this project.

## New Executive Director of FAsCE India assumes Office



On 4th March 2016, Fr. Saji George Puthiyakulangara, the designated Executive Director of FAsCE India, assumed the office as its new Executive Director. The handing over and taking over ceremony began with a prayer led by Fr. Clean Areng. After the prayer Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, the former Executive Director gave an overview of the projects and the statements of account. The handing over and taking over ceremony took place in the presence of Rev. Fr. George Panthanmackel, the President and Rev. Fr.

Joseph K.P, the Treasurer of FAsCE India respectively. The President expressed his deep sense of gratitude to Rev. Fr. Emmanuel for his leadership, hard work and commitment, and for the enormous contributions he has made to FAsCE India in his capacity as the Executive Director. He also wished all the very best and God's blessings to the new Director and his team. Fr. Saji George was formerly the Associate Director of CBCI Society for Medical Education at Ranchi. FAsCE India family wholeheartedly welcomes you and wishes you all the best dear Fr. Saji George as you assume your new office.



*Many Many thanks dear Fr. Emmanuel,  
the outgoing Director of FAsCE India.  
Prayers and best wishes from FAsCE India*

*Hearty Welcome*



FAsCE India wholeheartedly welcomes Mrs. Regina Sereng as its Chief Programme Coordinator. She joined the organization on February 15, 2016.

## Placement of MSW Student with FAsCE India

**E n h a n c i n g expertise through exposure:** Kivisheli H Yepthomi, an MSW student from NEF College of Management and Technology, Guwahati has joined FAsCE India for her internship from 21st January to 9th February 2016. She



engaged herself in the grading of Self Help Groups across Hatishila, Ekrabari, Amayapur, Amsing Jorabat and Patherquary respectively. She also extended her help as a volunteer at FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi.

**Practical experience is the key to success:** "It was indeed a wonderful experience for me to work as an intern at FAsCE India. The organization gave me an opportunity to interact with the SHGs as well as with the Children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre", said Kivisheli H Yepthomi.





# FAsCE India

Fransalians Agency for Social Care and Education in India

## FAsCE India Newsletter

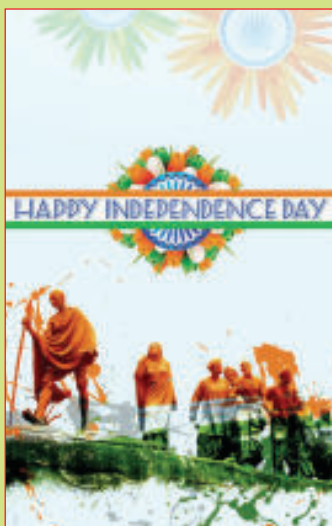
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### FAsCE India

MSFS Provincialate

Satgaon – Narengi, Udayan Vihar P.O.  
Guwahati – 781 171, Assam, India  
Tel.: 0361-2647867

## Project for Improved Livelihood at Somanpara

A new project was inaugurated on 3rd April 2016 with a goal of sustainable and improved socio-economic, education and healthy living conditions for people of Somanpara under the aegis of FAsCE India. At the very outset of the inaugural programme, Rev. Fr. John Kelamkuzhackal MSFS, the Parish Priest and the Local Director of FAsCE India at Somanpara, accorded a



cordial welcome to all present and thanked them for their gracious presence. Rev. Fr. K. P. Joseph, Provincial Bursar of Northeast India Province, officially inaugurated the project. In his inaugural address, he exhorted everyone to join hands to make their living through mutual cooperation and collaboration. Fr. Clean Arengh, Associate Director of FAsCE India, in his speech

highlighted the implication and importance of such a project for the people of Somanpara. Fr. Saji George, Executive Director, dedicated the project to the people of Somanpara, especially for the poor and the marginalized and their development and upliftment. The inaugural function was very festive with cultural programmes and attended by around 250 people from villages near and far.

### Project Analysis Meeting

The Executive Director along with the Associate Director of FAsCE India met the Local Director, the Coordinator and the Animators on 3rd April, 2016 at 1. 30 p.m. at SFS School, Somanpara to discuss and analyze in detail the newly



started project and its nuances. The team chocked out the monthly plan with time line and planned ways and means of the effective execution and implementation of the project.

### **Awareness Programme on Rules and Regulations of SHGs**

On 3rd June 2016 a one day awareness programme on Rules and Regulations of the SHGs was organized at the Zonal Office at Somanpara. The programme began with a prayer led by Thirsty Marak, Animator of FAsCE India Somanpara. Rev. Fr. John Kelamkuzhakal, the Local Director, welcomed the gathering. The resource person, Mr. Pa Benjamin, Coordinator of FAsCE India at Somanpara enlightened the gathering with his impulse on the given topic. There were 30 participants, who benefited from this one day event.



### **Training on Book Keeping**



In its effort to strengthen the FAsCE India SHGs at Somanpara, a training program was organized on Book Keeping to 90 selected Women Self Help Group members on 27th and 28th June 2016 at Somanpara. Rev. Fr. John Kelamkuzhakal MSFS, the Zonal Director of FAsCE India, Somanpara, briefly highlighted the background of the training programme and encouraged the participants to make the best use of the programme to empower themselves. Miss Chaya Kalita, Women Coordinator and Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobilizer were the resource persons. In their expositions they dealt with Record Keeping and Books of Accounts. To make the sessions more interesting, active and alive some group games were conducted. The two days

programme came to an end with the vote of thanks by Mr. Benjamin Rema, Coordinator of FAsCE India at Somanpara. The participants profited immensely from the training.

## **Orientation and Staff Training Programme on Formation of Children's Club at Aalo**

An orientation and staff training programme was held from 8th to 10th April 2016 at SFS College, Aalo, West Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh. The orientation was on the concept of a new project "Formation of Children's Clubs in 6 Centers of Siang Districts of Arunachal Pradesh" and its goal of inclusive and holistic development of children with an aim to further educational support, social and emotional development, as well as to provide healthy recreational pursuit.

The participants for the programme were local Directors and Animators from Pasighat, Yingkiong, Aalo, Kaying, Tato and Basar. During the training sessions different topics, like Formation of Children's Club with its Aims, Objectives, Methodology, Planning and preparation of road map for one year, with an emphasis to effective implementation and on-time formation of Children's Club were dealt with and discussed. The resource persons were Fr. Clean Arengh, Associate Director, Fr. Lukose Kavungal, Local Director and Ms. Regina Sereng, Programme Coordinator. At the conclusion of the orientation and training programme, the participants were given certificates of participation by Rev. Fr. George Vettukattil MSFS, Superior of SFS College, Aalo. FAsCE India expresses its deep felt gratitude to SFS College Community at Aalo, especially to Rev. Fr. Thomas Edakahzickal, Principal, for organizing the training programme.





## Inauguration of Children's Club in Siang Districts of Arunachal Pradesh



Children's Club, Pasighat



Children's Club, Aalo

Children's Clubs were inaugurated in Pasighat, Aalo, Basar, Yingkiong, Kaying and Tato. The objective of having Children's Club in these places is to provide better opportunities for the needy children of these areas, which are secluded from the mainstream due to its difficult terrain with poor road conditions and lack of proper communication system. As a consequence it makes almost impossible to reach the place and people. Children's Club would provide the much needed opportunity for personal development of the children and young people of these places through various activities and events. The active participation of the children and the constant guidance of the coordinators and local directors of each respective centre prepare the children for a better future. As a result, children are empowered and their creative capacities promoted paving a way for their inclusion in the mainstream and enabling them to contribute to positive changes in their communities.

## Skill Building Programmes for the Leaders of Children's Parliament

The second phase of Children's Parliament in Telam, Jonai and Hamren centres in Assam has been initiated with a focus to skill-building of Children's Parliament leaders. Various activities were conducted during the second quarter. In the month-wise activities, the various topics taken up were Communication Skills, Soft skills, Leadership skills and Time Management. The attendance in these programmes was overwhelming as the leaders of the Children's Parliament were enthusiastic about the opportunity to develop their innate qualities and to equip themselves with new skills to involve meaningfully in the creative construction of their communities.



## Fransalian Kids Meet at Chandrapur



To draw young people to be responsible participators in the community, society, and nation building and make them competent and mature in the various spheres of life, Fransalian Kids Camp was conducted for the children of Narengi, Panishali and Chandrapur from 15 to 18 April 2016 at Chandrapur. The resource persons were Sr. Mary Sangma, Fr. Clean Areng, Sr. Anupama Kerketta and Fr. Jose Thekkel. The resource persons, through their active input sessions, enlightened the students with various relevant and apt topics pertaining to them and their empowerment. The sessions were enriched with various group activities and entertainments. 260 Fransalian Kids participated in the camp.

## We Love You Dear Mothers

In order to honour, respect and esteem the mothers and to thank them for their untiring, selfless sacrifices and services, FAsCE India observed the Mother's Day with much fervor and joy at its Head Office, Guwahati, on 8th May, 2016. Rev. Fr. Varghese Chettupuzhakaren, the Superior of the MSFS Provincialate Community, Narengi graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and inaugurated the day by unveiling the theme. In his address, the Chief Guest, highlighted the immense role the mothers play in the lives of each individual and the tremendous, unconditional sacrifice they make in various spheres for the well being of their families. Fr. Varghese also exhorted everyone to love, honour and respect their



mothers without any condition. The Children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre put up different colorful activities expressing their love for the mothers. A well-staged skit portrayed the significance of the presence of the mother in every individual's life.

"Mothers have always played a special role in each of our lives. Their unconditional love, support and the feeling of a security blanket around us is unmatched and keeping this in mind, we organized this warm and affectionate morning especially for them", stated Hafija Kahatun a student from FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre Children.

## Farmers' Clubs for Holistic and Sustainable Agriculture

Integrated Community Development Programme at Thingba Khullen and Thingba Khunou villages of Senapati District in Manipur came up with the concept of forming Farmer's Club in these two villages. A year back Farmer's Club was formed in each village under the coordination of Rev. Sr. Liseena HC. A training programme on holistic approach to sustainable agriculture was organized for the members of the Farmer's Club. 45 members from the clubs participated in the training programme held on 20 April 2016. The resource persons were from Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Senapati the topics were on Organic Farming Practices, Weeds and Pest Management and Soil Health. At the end of the training the farmers received seeds of different vegetables and sapling of Yongchak, an indigenous plant and favourite among the people of Manipur were distributed. In an earlier occasion an inter-district exposure was conducted by NABARD to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Toubal in Imphal district in which 22 members of the Farmers Club took part in this informative programme.





## Legal Awareness Programme on Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence

Legal Awareness programme on Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence was held on 8th May 2016 in the premises of St. Xavier's mission, Bashbari. Mr. Sirdul Hussain, an advocate from Dhubri District Court was the resource person. Besides the given topic, the resource person in his talk included also the Child Rights and Divorce cases. The participants were enlightened about the laws and legal procedures. It was the first time that a legal awareness programme was conducted in this area. There were seventy participants, who benefited from this programme. It was an informative programme which would help the people to protect and prevent themselves from exploitation and to stand up for their rights.



## FasCE India Joins the Race to Make the World a Better Place



FasCE India, in collaboration with the Centre for Environment Education (CEE), celebrated World Environment Day (WED) on 5th June, 2016. Two main events: an Awareness Rally and Planting and Distribution of Saplings marked this occasion. The Awareness Rally was flagged off from Narengi near LG Tower by Mr. Madan Chandra Kalita, the Officer In-charge of Satgaon Police Station, and culminated in the SFS Higher Secondary School premises. Children from the FasCE Supplementary Education Centre and members of the FasCE India Self Help Groups actively participated in the rally.

During the concluding ceremony Rev. Fr. Dr. George Panthanmackel MSFS, Provincial of MSFS Northeast India Province and President of FasCE India addressed the gathering and planted a sapling at the SFS campus, as a symbolic gesture to commemorate the day. Ms. Himashree Bhattacharya, Programme Officer and Ms. Rajshree Saikia, Project Associate from Centre for Environment Education attended the programme. Ms. Himashree Bhattacharya, in her address, highlighted the significance of the day which was followed by distribution of saplings to the participants by Rev. Fr. Provincial and Fr Saji George, Director of FasCE India. Over the years, FasCE India has encouraged its Self Help Groups and has initiated activities that protect environment and create awareness on climate change and threats to the environment, as protection of environment is one of the focus area of its work.





## Free Medical Camp at Panikhaiti

In order to screen the common and seasonal diseases and to promote health care and awareness among the people, FAsCE India, in collaboration with the Mini Primary Health Centre of Chandrapur, Guwahati, organized a free medical camp at Panikhaiti L.P. School on 7th May 2016. Around 200 people from Hatishila, Ekrabari and Bonda villages turned out and benefited from the same. The well-attended camp officially started off with a prayer led by Fr. Clean Areng, the Associate Director, followed by the welcome speech of the Chief Program Coordinator, Ms Regina Sereng.

A team of two doctors, Dr. Bayan Moni Deka, a Pediatrician from Pratiksha Hospital and Dr. Utpal



Barman from St. John's Hospital, were the resource persons for the camp. They were ably assisted by 5 nurses, volunteers from Down Town University and the staff of FAsCE India. The villagers appreciated the well-organized camp and the love, care and concern of FAsCE India towards them. "We have a high regard for FAsCE India and we thank the organization for all its timely intervention in promoting progress in our interior villages, especially for taking care of the health related issues of the area at the appropriate time by organizing this medical camp", said Mrs Maria Marak, a beneficiary from Hatishila village.

## Farewell to the Former Executive Director of FAsCE India

The FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi and FAsCE Self Help Groups along with staff members of FAsCE India head-office and the Provincialate community bid farewell to Rev. Fr. Dr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil the former Executive Director of FAsCE India on 11th June 2016. The children of the Supplementary Education Centre stole the show on the occasion with their mesmerizing performances of dances, songs and skit. The SHGs and the Staff Members of FAsCE expressed their gratefulness through various performances and words of appreciation. Fr. Saji George, the new Director of FAsCE India, appreciated Rev. Fr. Emmanuel, the new Regional Superior of MSFS Dibrugarh Region, for his hard work, dedication and commitment and thanked him for the 5 years of commendable service to the poor, marginalized, disabled, children, youth and women of Northeast India in his capacity as the Executive Director of FAsCE India. Fr. Emmanuel, in his farewell message, expressed deep sense of gratitude to all present. He said that it was a God-given privilege for him to serve the poor, children, youth, disabled, women and the marginalized through the implementation and execution of various projects in his capacity as the Executive Director of FAsCE India.





## North East Region CBR Coordinators and CBR Workers Workshop

All the CBR Coordinators and CBR workers from the North East states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura came together for the regional level workshop held on 15th and 16th June 2016 at Social Forum, Guwahati. The programme was organized by CBR Forum Bangalore. Around 100 participants attended the workshop. One CBR Coordinator and four CBR workers of FAsCE India, Basar, Arunachal Pradesh were also among the participants. The two days workshop was an opportunity for all the CBR coordinators and workers to share their field experiences, achievements and to learn from their counter-parts at the workshop. The workshop dealt with topics to boost confidence and skill to enhance performance of the workers in order to strengthen the community in terms of making disabled peoples' organizations functional and effective at village, block and district levels.



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## Rev. Fr. Provincial Meets FAsCE India Staff



Rev. Fr. George Panthanmackel MSFS, Provincial Superior of MSFS North East India Province and President of FAsCE India, held a meeting with the staff of FAsCE India Head Office on 24th June 2016. The programmes and activities of FAsCE India were presented by Fr. Saji George, Executive Director. The staff also had an opportunity to share about their work. Fr. Provincial made useful suggestions for taking FAsCE India forward and reaching out to the poor and the needy.

## Empowering Women for a Better Tomorrow

### New Avenues of Earnings for SHGs at Panbari

A two days training on mushroom cultivation and candle making was organized by FAsCE India at Panbari on 16th to 17th May 2016. It was witnessed by a huge gathering. Fifty members from 15 Self Help Groups from 5 villages benefited from the same. Fr. Ronesh Narzary, the Local Director welcomed the women groups and exhorted them to actively participate and benefit the most out of the programme.

Miss Chaya Kalita, Women Coordinator and Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobilizer of FAsCE India conducted the programme with video clippings, PowerPoint presentation and hands-on-training on mushroom cultivation and candle making. The sessions also focused on modern ways of improving income generating skills and standard of living.



### Women friendly, Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs at Bashbari



As a means to empower the women of Bashbari economically, FAsCE India had initiated many women friendly livelihood activities, which would enhance their income for a better standard of living and resulting to strength for their families. In order to help them taking up mushroom cultivation and candle making training as livelihood options, they were given training in respective areas on 14th to 15th May, 2016 at Bashbari Centre by Miss Chaya Kalita, the Women Coordinator and Sr. Margaret MPV, the Community Mobilizer of FAsCE India Head Quarters. A

sizable gathering of 90 SHG members from twenty SHGs were present for the workshop.

In an effort to promote alternative livelihoods and entrepreneurship among the women to enhance their employability and income sources, a combine training programme on detergent making was also organized at Bashbari on the last day. The resource person, Rev. Sr. Irene UFS, during the input session vividly explained the different types of detergents and its use such as; detergent for washing clothes, bathing, hand wash etc. This was followed by stage-wise demonstration of preparation of the detergents; the participants had shown interest in this training and actively took part on hands-on sessions.



### Livelihood Support to Deserving SHGs at Narengi

Endowing the women of SHGs and heightening their livelihood activities, FAsCE India rendered an extended helping hand to its 15 eligible Women Self Help Groups of Satgaon - Narengi by distributing livelihood support fund on May 08, 2016. Rev. Fr. Varghese Chettupuhakaran, Superior of MSFS Provincialate, distributed the funds in the presence Fr. Saji George MSFS, the Executive Director of FAsCE India and the staff of FAsCE India. The donee groups were chosen on account of their stable level of savings and good performance in terms of other indicators. Each group has been given 10 months' time to repay the loan. Mrs. Niroboti Roy, president of Nabajagruti Federation, Geetmandir appreciated the organization for its well-timed back up and assistance.



### Monitoring Visit by FAsCE India Team

**Basar:** The Community Based Rehabilitation programme in Basar, Arunachal Pradesh is in its 5th year reaching out to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) for medical assistance, social inclusion and their rights and entitlement. The 29 villages of Basar are under this programme and have 259 beneficiaries. During the monitoring visit on 7th April 2016, the monitoring team Fr. Clean Areng, Associate Director and Ms. Regina Sereng, Chief Programme Coordinator held a meeting with the project staff at Holy Rosary Mission, Basar. During the meeting the CBR Coordinator updated the team of the activities and programmes undertaken by them. The monitoring team made recommendations in line with the objectives of the community based rehabilitation to make it effective and fruitful by seeking collaboration and cooperation of the civil society and the stakeholders of the programme.

**Upper Assam:** The FAsCE India team, Fr. Saji George, the Director and Fr Clean Areng, the Associate Director carried out a monitoring visit to the 5 centres of Upper Assam: Jonai, Telam, Silapathar, Dhemaji and Gogamukh, from 21 to 23 June 2016. The team assessed and evaluated the various running projects in these centers along with the local directors, coordinators and animators. The participants shared their ideas, proposals and success stories. It was emboldening to learn that the project was a boon for the people of the area and help them to be empowered through various interventions and programmes.

**Lower Assam:** With an objective to make an assessment of the activities and impact of the project for Integrated Sustainable Community Development in Bashbari, Bahalpur and Panbari and evaluate staff performance monitoring visit was carried out on 25th and 26th April 2016. Fr. Saji George, Director, Fr. Clean Areng, Associate Director, Ms. Regina B. Sereng and Sr. Margaret MPV were the visiting team members. During the meeting with Local Directors, Area Coordinators and Community Animators of the respective centers it







was truly heartening to know that through this project the communities have women's self help groups functioning well. And as a result these communities are enabled and empowered with leadership, inspired to venture into livelihood activities, well informed about Government policies and schemes and how to avail them. It was also mentioned by the Coordinators that the people are aware and value the importance of opening individual bank account, birth certificate, PAN card etc. Each of these centres has about 10 to 12 village community or tea garden community under their care. The monitoring team also visited various SHGs and had fruitful interaction with them.

### Boys' Home at Umwahlang

The FAsCE India team, the Director and the Associate Director, visited the construction site of the Boy's Home at Umwhalang, Meghalaya on 14th June 2016. The work is progressing as per plan and schedule. This project aims at Providing Quality Residential Education to Tribal Children from Umwahlang and Surrounding villages in Meghalaya District, Northeast India.



### Social Animation Programme at Umroi



A One Day Seminar under the title "Religious as Development Officers" was organized by the Forum for Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries in collaboration with FAsCE India on 6th June 2016 at Umroi, Meghalaya. Rev. Fr. Reji K. Mani, Councillor for Social Apostolate and Innovative Ministries accorded a very cordial welcome to all the participants. He placed the participants in the right perspective and introduced the three resource persons: Fr. Jose Karipadathu, Fr. Tomy Thekkel and Fr. George Pekadankuzhiyil who are specialized in social work and hold the degree of MSW. The resource persons, highlighting the

importance and significance of social work in the daily life, dealt with various relevant topics of social work: a Brief history of the social work, social teachings of the Church, social work in the school and Formation of Project and the Importance of Reporting. Fr. Saji George, Director of FAsCE India, explained the participants the motto, various activities, field of work of FAsCE India. There were 22 participants who profited from this Animation Programme. Fr. Daniel Lalmuanzela, one of the beneficiaries of the seminar, thanked the resource persons and organizers for the well conducted and informative sessions. FAsCE India remains grateful to Rev. Fr. Benoy Veliyathu and Umroi Community for the smooth conducting of the seminar.

## Office Updates

- The meeting of the Governing Body of FAsCE India was held on 4th April 2016 at MSFS Provincilate, Narengi, Guwahati.
- Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobilizer, attended a four days training on Herbal Medicine Making organized by GGSS from 13th to 16th April 2016 at Pastoral Centre, Rangia, Guwahati.
- Mr. Francis Angampu Maringmei, Programme Officer, CBR Forum Bangalore conducted the Facilitation Visit to Basar from 9th to 11th June.
- Fr. Lukose Kavungal, the Local Director, Basar and Ms. Regina Bara Sereng, Chief Programme Coordinator, FAsCE India attended the North East Partner's Meet of CBR Forum held from 13th to 14th June at Social Forum, Guwahati.
- The Coordinator and Animators of FAsCE India, Basar attended the North East Region CBR Coordinators and CBRWs Workshop held from 15th to 16th June at Social Forum, Guwahati.
- The Staff Meeting and Monthly Review of FAsCE India Staff was held on 1st April, 3rd May and 1st June at MSFS Provincilate, Narengi, Guwahati.

## Success Stories

### SHG members appear in Sakchar Bharat Mission Exam

The women of Jonai SHGs will be having very soon their literacy certificates in their hands. It was a proud moment for 52 SHG members as they had the rare privilege of appearing for the examination for the Adult Literacy Programme conducted by National Institute of Open Schooling, Noida under the scheme of Sakchar Bharat Mission. 52 women from different villages of Jonai wrote their exam in Salaram LP School, Rajakhana No. 2, Dhemaji District of Assam. FAsCE India had initiated the literacy programme activity in 2015 under the project sustainable livelihood for strengthening of SHGs and Federations of Jonai.



### Abotani Pahor and Abotani Kasang SHG brought joy

Hema Doley from a village in Gogamukh was married to Bokshiram from the same village. Her husband's family was not happy with the marriage. So Hema's in-laws decided to send her husband to Pune, Maharashtra for job. Hema was left behind with her in-laws in Gogamukh. A year had passed but her husband had not made any contacts with her, neither did he come home. So Hema decided to return to her parents. However, her in-laws came to take her back to their house. Hema was sad and confused as yet another year had passed by and there was still no communication from Bokshiram. Then, one day she came to know that it was not her in-laws alone but her husband also dislikes her, hence, he had distanced himself from her.



Eventually, she returned to her parents for good. And to her utter dismay adversity came upon her family one after the other; first her father met with an accident and sustained fracture in his right leg making him bed-ridden and after few days she lost her young brother who succumbed to his injuries in an accident while cutting a tree. Hema was going through real tough times, as her father, the sole bread earner of the family now, was bed-ridden. Seeing her pathetic condition, the villagers were kind and generous towards her. Even after hearing all these incidents and her miserable condition, her husband did not do anything to help her out from the difficult situation. Seeing Hema's plight the SHG members took the initiative to talk to her husband and her in-laws but the response was not good.



The SHG members of Abotani Karsang and Abotani Pohar then decided to file an FIR against Bokshiram and his family for showing negligence and depriving Hema of her rights. Accordingly an FIR was filed in the nearby Police Station. In their FIR the SHG members demanded compensation of one lakh rupees and four bighas of land as a means of her livelihood. The police acted well and arrested her husband Bokshiram. The firm steps taken by the SHG members and police were indeed paid off well as Bokshiram and his family agreed and paid the compensation to Hema. At present Hema is staying with her relatives leading a happy and comfortable life. It is worth mentioning our heartfelt gratitude to Abotani Karsang and Abotani Pohar SHG for their timely intervention in saving Hema's life and giving her justice.

### Successful Restart of Tajik Punsang SHG



The Tajik Punsang SHG was started on 20.01.2012 with 10 members in Tajik village near Gogamukh. At the outset the SHG functioned well with initiatives of the active office-bearers. However, the group and its activities were not picking up since there was discord and lack of understanding among the members. Even to conduct meeting once in a month became a difficult task. They were about to stop their group activities and gave up their savings, leading Tajik Punsang SHG at the verge of closing.

When FAsCE India field workers came to know about the problems they came and motivated the group to continue the group activities, but nothing changed. Finally, a meeting was called by the president and secretary to seek opinion of the members and to take decision to stop the SHG group activities and its close down. In this meeting all the members of Tajik Punsang SHG were present, even the irregular members had turned up for this meeting and FAsCE India field workers, who were invited to the meeting, were also present. During this meeting the members openly shared their difficulties and in the course of their discussion the members were able to find solution to their problems and most of the misunderstandings were resolved. As a result the members decided to continue the group activities with better understanding and positive attitude.

Regular meetings with full attendance have been held and the serious discussions in the meetings led to many fruitful decisions. Accordingly the activities were renewed. Hence, change was very much visible in this group which eventually paved way for new opening for the group. They started pig-rearing as part of their income generating activity from the seed fund of ₹. 10,000/- received from FAsCE India. The group is now actively taking part in all its activities with renewed commitment and better understanding towards progress.



Hearty Congratulations to Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Mappilaparambil, the New Regional Superior of Dibrugarh Region & his councillors



## From the Director's Desk

Fransaliam Agency for Social Care and Education in India (FAsCE India) continues to extend its ambit to the new frontiers, providing leadership, empowerment, innovation and creativity, standing in solidarity with the poor, the needy, the marginalized, the less privileged and the unfortunates in Northeast India.

In the past quarter of the year 2016, FAsCE India has had the privilege to initiate yet two more new projects namely: "Formation and Strengthening of Self Help Groups for Improved Livelihood at Somonpara, West Garo Hills Dist., Meghalaya" and "Formation of Children's Clubs in Siang Districts of Arunachal Pradesh". Thus it is heartening to note that FAsCE India is widening its horizon and networking to the interior and remote villages of the West Garo Hills and Arunachal Pradesh. These projects were initiated with an objective of empowering the women and the children.

Acknowledging God's omnipresent, omniscient, all-powerful and providential presence during this quarter, I express my profound gratitude to each and every one of you for accompanying us with your valuable prayers, support, encouragement and service. Your support and prayers are our strength and confidence.

As we are looking forward to celebrate the 70th Independence Day of our beloved Nation on 15th August 2016, let us reverentially pay tribute to and gratefully remember all the freedom fighters and the thousands of our fellow citizens who have contributed a lot to the progress of and fought for the independence of our beloved nation and sacrificed their yesterday for our today. As we remember and salute their selfless sacrifice with gratitude, we shall work relentlessly to attain the real freedom our country stands in need today. This is also a special day to thank God for the political and religious freedom we enjoy and to pray for God's special blessings on the rulers and the people of our country for the realization of this freedom.

Let us wish each other the real, inner and true freedom that God envisages for us and raise our hearts in prayer in the words of Rabindranath Tagore **"Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake"**. Happy Independence Day! May God Be Praised!

**Fr. Dr. Saji George Puthiyakulangara MSFS**  
Executive Director, FAsCE India

## Join Hands with FAsCE India to Educate a Child



Do you believe that the children are the best gifts from God and they are the future of a country? Then, be a part of FEAF (FAsCE Education Assistance Fund) to educate a less privileged child and change the life of the child and the future of our country! You can sponsor a child by donating ₹. 6000/- yearly or you can donate any amount of your choice and be part of a movement that can bring smiles to many children.

***If you are interested please contact us: 8753925266 / 7086664224; E-mail : [directorfasceindia@hotmail.com](mailto:directorfasceindia@hotmail.com)***

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Contact us: 0361-2647867; [fasceindia@hotmail.com](mailto:fasceindia@hotmail.com); [directorfasceindia@hotmail.com](mailto:directorfasceindia@hotmail.com)  
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# FASCE India

Fransal Agency for Social Care and Education in India

## FASCE India Newsletter

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**St. Teresa of Kolkata**

*Pray for Us*

### FASCE India

MSFS Provincialate  
Satgaon – Narengi, Udayan Vihar P.O.  
Guwahati – 781 171, Assam, India  
Tel.: 0361-2647867



### From the Associate Director's Desk

The 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2016 was one of the witnessing events of the fruit-bearing impact of charity in the person of Mother Teresa now known as St. Teresa of Kolkata as she was being canonized to the state of sainthood. If her life and work had lasting impact on the whole humanity it was because she placed 'humanity' in the first place. The most influential people in history took time to serve others — people like Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Mother Teresa and such other great

personalities built influence by consistently dedicating their time, energy, love and service to others.

The need for more of Mother Teresas is felt today than ever in our world of violence and injustice. But there are some Mother Teresas in some pockets of the world extending their helping hand - time, energy, love and service to the needy in the face of individual, group of individuals, community and NGO's that trying to reach out to the unreachable. FASCE India over the years has been joining hands with such likeminded people in *promoting progress*. In this jubilee year of mercy FASCE India is exploring the diverse field intervention initiatives as per the call or the voice of the needy by extending the corporal and spiritual work of mercy especially by giving a healing touch and solace to the sick and suffering. Providing health care services through medical camps to various sections of people is a visible gesture to this effort, particularly for the inmates of the Central jail, Guwahati. The collaborative work with Central Jail Authority and Prison Ministry of India and visit of NEF College are the positive signs of widening of its horizon in networking capacities. Opening of new tuition centre for the underprivileged and dropout children at Bongaon, near Guwahati, a coaching centre at Somonpara in Garo Hills and progressive activities, like children's camp and teachers' day celebration at FASCE Head Office and talent show and sports competition in different centers are another visible signs of paving opportunities for the successful future of the children and enabling the platform for imparting value education, exploring the hidden talents of the children and promoting children's rights.

Today there are lots of real needs which are not met; there are lots more to do but undone; miles to reach but still unreached. But all these will be achieved, if extended our helping hands in unison in a unique way. Let the words of Mother Teresa echo and reecho in our ears "I must be willing to give whatever it takes to do good to others. This requires that I be willing to give until it hurts. Otherwise, there is no true love in me, and I bring injustice, not peace, to those around me."

**Fr. Clean Areng**  
Associate Director

## Jubilee Year of Mercy

**Supplementary Education Centre at Bongaon:** The spiritual works of mercy include instructing the ignorant. Education is the most powerful weapon to eradicate the ignorance and change the world. It is a powerful tool by which economically and socially marginalized children and adults can free themselves from the clutches of their poverty and become responsible citizen of the country. Realizing this fact and falling in line with this concept, FAsCE India, the social action wing of the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales Northeast India Province ventured again into the field of education of the poor and less privileged children by initiating a Supplementary Education Centre at Bongaon village.



The new Supplementary Education Centre was inaugurated by Fr. Saji George, the Executive Director, on 10th July 2016 at Bongaon in the presence of Fr. Clean Areng, the Associate Director and also in the auspicious presence of the Village Headman, Community Leaders, FAsCE India Staff and 30 Children with their parents, friends and well-wishers. Highlighting the necessity and importance of the education of the children and their role in the community, society and nation building, Fr. Saji George dedicated the center to the people of Bongaon. The children were given free textbooks and notebooks for their studies.

**Health Camp for Inmates of Central Jail Lokhra:** The corporal Works of Mercy include also visit to the prisoners. God does not despise the broken; nor should we. Rather, we are to imitate the One who came to seek and to save the lost. With this motto to visit and offer health care service for the inmates of the Guwahati Central Jail, a free medical camp was organized on 4th September 2016. The medical camp was a collaborative endeavor of FAsCE India with the Prison Ministry of Northeast India. Around 250 inmates of the Central Jail benefited from this camp. The Superintendent of the Central Jail and his staff offered their support and encouragement in holding the day-long health camp. A team of 10 doctors and medical experts from Sahid Jadav Nath Government Homeopathic College, Guwahati joined FAsCE India in realizing this act of mercy. Sr. Letitia, the Regional Coordinator of NE Prison Ministry of India, Fr. Saji George, Executive Director and Fr. Clean Areng, Associate Director along with the members of Prison Ministry and FAsCE India Staff were present for coordinating the smooth functioning of the camp. Shri. Bhupen Ch. Das, Superintendent of Central Jail, Shri. Deba Kr. Gogoi, Jailor and Shri. Sujit Das, Assistant Jailor extended their wholehearted support and appreciated the initiative of FAsCE India.





**Free Homeopathic Medical Camp at Amsing Jorabat:** Visiting the sick and taking care of them is yet another corporal work of mercy. In collaboration with Sahid Jadav Nath Government Homeopathic College, Guwahati, FAsCE India organized a general health camp at K.T.R. Memorial M.E. School, Amsing Jorabat on 13th August 2016. The objective of the camp was to provide general health check-ups, and refer for free treatment to those patients who required long-term medical care. A team of 8 doctors and 3 staff members, assisted by FAsCE India Head Office Team, extended their unconditional service to the general health camp. The camp was started at 10.00 a.m. and concluded around 3.00 p.m. Around 300 people received help in various medical departments like Pediatrics, Dental Care, Gynecology, Dermatology and ENT. FAsCE India gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the team of medical experts from SahidJadavNath Government Homeopathic College, Guwahati.



## Children's Club in Arunachal Pradesh

**Pasighat:** A leadership training program was conducted on July 20, 2016 at SFS School premises in Pasighat. The training program was organized for the leaders of the Children's Club of the Pasighat parish. The topics of the sessions were: concept of leader, categorization of leadership based on what leaders do or what they are capable of doing best, identification of leadership styles based on how leaders perform the tasks of making decisions and implementing decisions etc. The sessions were made lively through various group dynamics, activities, games and by audio visual sharings from the life of great personalities from history. Sr. Yajo MSMHC was the resource person and Ms. Christina, coordinated the day-long training programme. At the end of the programme, Ms. Alina Tayeng, one of the young leaders and participants, proposed the vote of thanks.



**Kaying:** Leadership training programme was conducted in 2 phases for the new leaders of Children's Club of Kaying. The first phase was held for 65 participants from the 10 clubs on 7 August 2016 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Kaying. The inaugural session was attended by the parents and parish council members along with the young participants. The Chief Guest of the gathering was Mr. Tanyong Pangu. Ms. Yabin Galing, FAsCE Animator, welcomed the Chief Guest, participants and the guests during the inaugural session. The parish priest was the resource-person for the input sessions on Leadership, Role of leaders, leadership qualities and capacity building of leaders.



The second phase was held on 13 August 2016 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Kaying. 27 leaders from 10 children's clubs participated in this Leadership Training Programme. Ms. Juhi Pinggam, FAsCE Animator, animated the programme and Fr. Jacob Mattathil, Principal of St Joseph's School, Kaying was the chief guest of this programme. In his message, the chief guest, encouraged the children to become good leaders. The main topic for the input session was Communication Skills. Both training programmes were lively and interactive with group discussions and group activities.



**Quarterly Talent Show Competition:** The first round was held on 27 and 28 August 2016 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. During this programme the children were given the opportunity to showcase their talents individually and in groups. Their performances included solo and group dances, songs, mono act and art competitions. The program was attended by Fr. Cornelius Bara, Parish Priest and the resource person, Mr. Tanyong Pangu the Chief Guest, Shri Goling Galing and Shri Tali Pinggam Honourable Judges, Friends and Parents.

The second round was held on 11 September 2016 and the competitions held were in Quiz, Singing, Dance and Drawing. Shri. Tanyong Pangu was the Chief Guest. Shri Tali Pinggam, Shri Goling Galing and Fr. Bernard were the Judges of the competitions and there were 78 participants in all.



**Sports Competition** was held on 2 September 2016 between the Children's Club of Sampong and Miloline. Football and Volleyball Competitions for boys and Throw Ball competition for girls were held separately. Team Miloline with 35 points and Team Sampong with 20 points were the winners and runners up respectively. Despite heavy rain and the ground being very slushy, the games were on with full vigor. The FAsCE India Animators supported and encouraged the children for their participation and guided them for the games.

## FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre at Narengi

**World Day Against Child Labour:** With the rest of the world, the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi also observed the World Day against Child Labour on 12 June 2016 with the focus on the theme "Child Labour and Supply Chains - It's everyone's business". In the short programme the significance of the day was explained by the coordinator of the centre and an audio-visual presentation compiled on the theme was shown to the children. Thereafter, all the children participated in the drawing competition and their understanding of the theme was depicted in their drawings.



**Holistic Health Check up under Project Child:** SFS Higher Secondary School, Narengi generously offered a free health check-up camp for the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre under Project Child on 3rd August 2016 at the school premises. 103 children were offered health checkup in the camp. Common problems included vitamin and calcium deficiency, fever, cold and cough, tonsillitis, headache, diarrhea, dental, eyes and ears related sicknesses. There were four severe cases with symptoms of jaundice, eye infection and wound infection. Accordingly, parents of the severe cases were informed and directed for referral check-up

by specialists for further treatment. Health cards of each child was also issued with all the basic health related information for follow up and necessary treatment. This camp has truly contributed in fulfilling one of the objectives of the Supplementary Education Centre towards the holistic development of each child attending the centre. A special word of thanks and appreciation to Rev. Fr. George Thomas, the Principal of SFS Hr. Sec. School and the team of Project Child!

**A Tribute to the Motherland:** On 15th August, FAsCE India Supplementary School, Narengi joined the rest of the nation in commemorating the 70th Independence Day and paying tribute to our beloved nation. The day was celebrated to pay tribute to and gratefully remember all the freedom fighters and thousands of





people who have contributed a lot to the progress of and fought for the independence of our beloved nation. FASCE India has always taken initiative in celebrating national days of importance with its beneficiaries.



**Summer Camp:** To ensure that the much awaited summer break is a time to relax and rejuvenate for the FASCE Supplementary Education Centre, a special 'Summer Camp' was organized from 21st to 23rd August 2016 for the students of Class I to Class VIII. 108 students participated in the camp with much enthusiasm and vigour. During the camp, the students were exposed to very invigorating learning sessions with 'hands-on-experience' in the hobbies they wished to pursue. It had variety of activities to offer in Sports, Craft, Music, Dance and Skit. The resource persons, Mr. Partha Pratim Hazarika, Founder Secretary of Art and Culture, Cotton College, Guwahati and Minerba Sharma MBBS (GMCH)

along with FASCE India Supplementary School teachers and volunteers conducted the days very creatively, entertaining and initiating the children to various activities.

On Aug 23, 2016, a special assembly marked the closing of the summer camp. The short closing programme was a blend of art and music; students shared their experiences from the camp, exhibited their art and craft works and showcased their musical performances. The parents appreciated the efforts of the students and teachers. The purpose of this camp was fulfilled - "learn and develop social skills and life skills with non-competitive activities and diverse platform to perform, giving a real boost to the young minds".



**Teacher's Day:** The FASCE Supplementary School Children of Narengi and Bongaon jointly celebrated the Teacher's Day at SFS Hr. secondary School Conference Hall, Narengi, with lot of joy, happiness and enthusiasm to express their appreciation and gratitude for the altruistic commitment of their teachers. The significance of the day was highlighted as the date was selected to commemorate the birthday of a timeless teacher and the former President of India, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. The Special Guest of the day was Rev. Fr. Praveen MSFS, Provincial Secretary, and the Guest of Honours were Fr. Saji George, the Executive Director of FASCE India,

teachers, Ms. Chaya Kalita, Coordinator, Sr. Margaret MPV, Community Mobiliser and Ms. Regina B. Sereng, Chief Programme Coordinator.

The dazzling dances, sweet melodies and impressive skits etc. added colour and flavor to the celebration. Students mimicking their teachers made the audience burst into laughter. Fr. Saji George thanked the teachers for their unconditional services, hard work and sacrifices. Miss Hafija Khatun, a student of class 6, anchored the one and half hour programme creatively. The teachers were felicitated with gifts as a token of love and gratitude.





## FAsCE Somonpara

**Summer Coaching Class:** FAsCE India Somonpara has taken yet another initiative to extend educational support and encouragement to the students of class 9 and 10 at Somonpara. Special intensive coaching classes, exclusively for Mathematics, were held from 4th to 31st July, 2016 during the summer vacations. Mr. Lathu Gogoi, a renowned mathematics teacher, initiated the special coaching to the children from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Clearing the concept of the mathematical formulae and hands-on working of sums was very beneficial for the 118 students who attended the coaching.



**An Awareness on Cleanliness:** A public awareness programme on Cleanliness was held on 27 August 2016 at Somonpara with the objective to create awareness among the people about the importance of cleanliness, the consequences of unhealthy environment, benefits of clean environment, importance of keeping the public places and surroundings clean, neat and tidy with an aim of becoming role model for other communities and villages.

**Cleanliness Drive:** A cleanliness drive week was observed in the month of September in Somonpara, Boribara Bazar, Bilori Bazaar, Gambegre and Chigitchakgre under the leadership of the Fr. John Kelamkuzhackal MSFS, Local Director of FAsCE India at Somonpara. The main aim of the cleanliness drive was to spread the awareness among the people about the importance of cleanliness and to motivate the people to care for their surroundings by keeping it clean. Mr. Licin Marak and Nokma the local king appreciated the efforts of the Zonal Director for the programme. Mr. Bilson Ch. Sangma in his speech during the public awareness programme mentioned that such efforts would certainly lead Garo Hills towards social transformation. The whole drive was quite inspiring and motivating. The SHG members participated very actively with much enthusiasm and inspired other members of their communities to participate in the race for a clean environment.



**"If you know God, you will love Him and each other. And if you have love, you will serve one another. And that service will bring peace because works of love are works of peace"**



## Our Guests of Honour

**Miss Sylvia Prieth**, a teacher, hailing from Austria paid a visit to Northeast India from 19th to 27th July 2016. The purpose of her visit was to monitor and assess the progress of the construction of the Boy's Home at Umwahlang, Meghalaya, which is co-financed by her. This project aims at Providing Quality Residential Education to Tribal Children from Umwahlang and surrounding villages in Meghalaya District, Northeast India. She stayed at the project site almost a week taking stock of the situation, interacting with the children and the people in Khasi language. At the conclusion of her visit to Umwahlang Miss Sylvia also visited the FAsCE India Head Office and had an interaction with the staff. During her 3days stay in Guwahati, she also made use of the opportunity to be a substitute teacher in SFS Hr. Sec. School Narengi and enlightened the students at different classes. FAsCE India expresses its heart-felt gratitude to Miss Sylvia Prieth for her gracious visit to FAsCE India, for her generosity, good will and sacrifice in supporting the project at Umwahlang. Thank you dear Sylvia.

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**Mr. Christian Walther**, a Swiss Journalist, visited Northeast India from 10th to 14 August 2016. He was in Northeast India to prepare a documentary on the utility of the ambulance financed by MIVA, Swiss, at Somonpara, Meghalaya. The journalist, accompanied by Fr. Saji George and Fr. Clean, made a spot visit to the mission at Somonpara, where he was welcomed by Fr. John Kelamkuzhackal MSFS and his team. During his 3 days stay at Somonpara he visited and interviewed the beneficiaries of the ambulance. Mr. Christian Walther then picked up Mr. Arai Marak, interviewed him and prepared a documentary of his life. The beneficiary, a poor farmer was saved by the ambulance when he met with a serious accident. The documentary will be broadcast in Swiss Television in three different languages in German, French and Italian.



Mr. Christian Walther was felicitated by SFS School Children with various cultural items. FAsCE India gratefully acknowledges the service of Mr. Christian Walther and the generosity of MIVA Swiss.





## Monitoring Visit by FAsCE India Team

**Visit to SHGs at Geetanagar, Patharquary and Amsing Jorabat:** During the month of August, Fr. Saji George, Executive Director and the FAsCE India team visited the FAsCE SHGs of Narengi area: Geetanagar, Patharquary and Amsing Jorabat for monitoring the activities of these groups who are very active and are engaged in various income generating and community development activities. The Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers of these SHGs took the initiative of organizing the meetings of their groups in the respective places with well chalked out programmes. The groups accorded warm reception to the visiting team with words of welcome by the leaders which was followed by sharing of their activities and the functioning of the groups.



During the interactions, the major transformation and change in outlook towards life after the involvement in these groups, especially the initiatives towards women empowerment, were very much apparent. The economic management of resources and self-sufficiency, which have been attained by the women of these groups, has given them a boost to move forward confidently and hopefully for a better tomorrow.



**FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre at Bongaon:** The FAsCE India Head Office Team made a facilitation visit to FAsCE Supplementary School at Bongaon Village, to assess and evaluate the progress of the new centre. The centre is fully functional with two teachers from the village itself.

There are 30 children who have enrolled on the register and most of them are out-of-school (school-dropouts) children. The teachers take extra care to motivate and prepare them for their enrolment into the formal schools. Besides, the regular curriculum, the children are also given chance to improve their talents through various extracurricular activities. The visiting team had a fruitful interaction with the teachers and children.

## Training on Herbal Medicine at Rangia

A training programme on Herbal Medicine was held from 17th to 19th August 2016 at Pastoral Centre, Rangiya. Sr. Margaret MPV, Women Mobilizer, along with seven women from different FAsCE SHG groups attended the training. The team under the guidance of Sr. Margaret took the initiative of developing herbal gardens in their own respective communities of the members who have attended the training programme and promote herbal medicines.





## Regional Consultation on Adolescent and Child Rights



A two-day regional consultation on "Adolescent and Child Rights in Assam" was held on 22nd and 23rd September 2016 at Bosco Reach Out, Ulubari, Guwahati. It was organized by NESPYM in association with UNICEF and Snehalya. It was the first of a series of four consultations to be held in the state with a view to evolve a way forward for forming a statewide network for "Adolescent and Child Rights in Assam". During the consultation, deliberations and discourses were on the relevant national and international conventions, policies and laws, and strategized on the issues confronting the children and

adolescents in the State and on how to make the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the two optional protocols - Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and National Policy for Children 2013 - relevant in the context of the children in Assam. 20 organizations from the nine districts of Assam participated and from FAsCE India Ms. Regina B. Sereng, Programme Coordinator and Ms. Chaya Kalita, Women's Coordinator took part in this consultation.

## Reflection Workshop at Basar



A three days Reflection Workshop was held in CBR project area at Basar, West Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh. The workshop was facilitated by CBR Forum Guwahati office and the resource persons were Mr. Francis Angampu Maringmei, Project Officer and Ms. Netrasikha Dutta, CBR staff. The objective of the workshop was to discuss, plan and chalk out action plans for the sixth and seventh year of the CBR project at Basar.

The facilitating team from CBR Forum Guwahati had the first day of the reflection workshop with the Asha & Anganwadi workers and VDPO members. On the second day the resource persons held meetings with the leaders of DPOs and the CBR staff. A two year planner was finalized on the day three of the workshop. During the workshop following points were highlighted: to pursue PMAY schemes for 20 PwDs with the BDPO leaders, to gather information about the ST/SC funds, prepare complete list of home based cares and progress reports of CwDs and inclusion of PwDs in the local festivities and social activities. The role of staff and DPO leaders of village and block level was reiterated for effective and fruitful efforts in reaching out to the beneficiaries of the programme.



*"What you can do, I cannot do and what I can do, you cannot do.  
But together we can do something beautiful for God"*



## Observational Visit by BSW and MSW Students from NEF College

The Graduate and Post Graduate students from the department of Social Work of NEF College, Guwahati, visited FAsCE India Head Office for an Observational Visit as part of their field work curriculum on 18th August, 2016 to learn about the functioning and programmes of the organization. 30 BSW Students and 40 MSW Students accompanied by two staff members each visited the organization in the morning and afternoon respectively. Fr. Saji George, Executive Director, welcoming the students and staff members gave an introduction about FAsCE India and its objectives.



Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director and Ms. Chaya Kalita, Women Coordinator, briefed the students about the major activities and the focus group of FAsCE India through a Power Point Presentation. This was followed by questions and interactions. The visiting students were all praise of FAsCE India for the enriching sessions and appraisals.



## A note of Appreciation



"I along with 70 students ( including MSW & BSW 1st Years ) visited FAsCE India on 18.08.2016 and got to learn about the wonderful work they are doing for the betterment of the society, especially for the poor, marginalized and weaker sections of the society. They are involved in social, economic & educational empowering of individuals, communities, underprivileged and needy both in rural & urban areas. This organization is doing lots of programs such as women empowerment in livelihood support services and livelihood skill enhancement; promotion of child rights; community based rehab of person with disabilities; promotion of health and protection of environment and vocational training for youth etc. I wish FAsCE India all the very best and a great future ahead."

**Miss Nabanita Gogoi**  
Field Work Supervisor

NEF College of Management & Technology, Guwahati



## Success Story



**Inauguration of Bagan Bazar:** Jeevanjyoti SHG of Bahalpur received a grant of Rs. 3 Lakhs from NRLM for Bagan Bazar in Choibari Tea Estate in Chappar. On 4 September 2016 the Bagan Bazar was inaugurated by Shri. Dhiraj Choudhury, Deputy Commissioner of Dhubri, the inauguration ceremony was

attended by Mr. Ashok Singhi, MLA Bilasipara East and Smt. Molika Das Lohar, President, Gram Parishad along with the local leaders, village head and block officers. The FAsCE India Zonal team was also present on the occasion to encourage the women leaders of Jeevanjyoti SHG. The Bagan Bazar sells groceries and daily essential commodities. Congratulations to Jeevanjyoti SHG and FAsCE India Bahalpur team.



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## Office Updates

- " Sr. Margret MPV, Women Mobilizer, FAsCE India, participated in the Programme on Social Work held at Social Forum from 11th to 12th September 2016.
- " Mr. Tumar Riba, FAsCE India CBR Coordinator, Basar, Arunachal Pradesh, attended a 2 days Training of Trainers for CBR Coordinators held from 16th to 17th September 2016 at Bosco Reach Out, Guwahati.
- " Rev. Fr. George Panthanmackel MSFS, Provincial Superior of MSFS North East India Province and President of FAsCE India, held a meeting with the staff of FAsCE India Head Office on 28th September 2016.
- " The Staff Meeting and Monthly Review of FAsCE India Head Office Staff was held on 1st July, 3rd August and 2nd September.

## Join Hands with FAsCE India to Educate a Child



Do you believe that the children are the best gifts from God and they are the future of a country? Then, be a part of FEAF (FAsCE Education Assistance Fund) to educate a less privileged child and change the life of the child and the future of our country! You can sponsor a child by donating ₹. 6000/- yearly or you can donate any amount of your choice and be part of a movement that can bring smiles to many children.

**If you are interested please contact us: 8753925266 / 7086664224; E-mail : [directorfasceindia@hotmail.com](mailto:directorfasceindia@hotmail.com)**



## PHOTO GALLERY

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For private circulation only: Published by Fr Saji George MSFS; Managing Editor: Fr Clean Areng MSFS;  
 Associate Editors : Mrs. Regina Sereng, Miss Chaya Kalita and Sr Margaret MPV  
 Contact us: 0361-2647867; [faseindia@hotmail.com](mailto:faseindia@hotmail.com); [directorfaseindia@hotmail.com](mailto:directorfaseindia@hotmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/faseindianortheast>; Website: [www.faseindia.org](http://www.faseindia.org)





# FAsCE India

Fransaliam Agency for Social Care and Education in India

## FAsCE India Newsletter

(For private circulation only)

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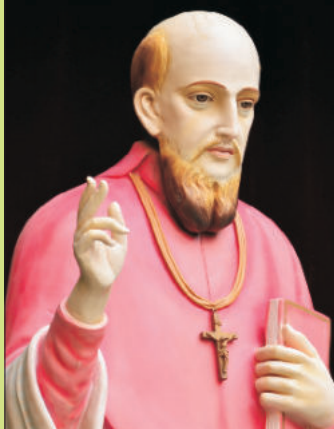
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St Francis de Sales

#### FAsCE India

MSFS Provincialate

Satgaon – Narengi, Udayan Vihar P.O.  
Guwahati – 781 171, Assam, India  
Tel.: 0361-2647867

## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

**A Sweet Home:** The corporal work of mercy include 'shelter for the homeless'. Continuing the works of mercy, FAsCE India, in collaboration with Rev. Fr Jose Thekkel MSFS, Parish Priest of Panishali, facilitated a house for Mr Libinson Marak and his Family at Lower Thokkara village, Panishali, Assam, to commemorate the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The newly constructed house was blessed by Fr Saji George, Director and inaugurated by Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director of FAsCE India on November 21, 2016, in the presence of the Parish Priest, Catechist and the villagers. Sincere gratitude to Fr Jose Thekkel for initiating the work of mercy and sheltering the needy.



**Inauguration of Mother Teresa Study Centre at Dekapam, Telam:** FAsCE India once again highlighted its priority in the thrust area of Child Rights and Empowerment of Children by opening yet another study centre in the Jubilee Year of Mercy at Dekapam village, Telam. The centre was inaugurated by Rev. Fr Varghese Paul Manickathan MSFS, Parish Priest, SFS Parish Pasighat in the presence of Rev. Fr Jiji Konthananickal MSFS, Local Director of FAsCE India and Principal of SFS School, Telam, Sisters, Village Representatives, many public and children. Fr Varghese, the Chief Guest, in his inaugural address, highlighted the importance and significance of such centres in fostering the education of the children. The study centre was named after the newly canonized saint, St Theresa of Kolkata. 80 students from poor living conditions have enrolled themselves at the centre. Hearty Congratulations to Fr Jiji and FAsCE India Team at Telam for the leadership.





**Free Cataract Screening Camp at Panikhaiti:** With a special objective to screen cataract disease, FAsCE India in collaboration with Sri Sankardeva Nethralaya, a Super Speciality Eye Hospital, Guwahati, organized a free eye camp at Panikhaiti LP School, on November 26, 2016. The camp included free eye check-up, awareness and counselling. Patients, who required long-term medical care were referred to further treatment. A team of 6 medical experts and FAsCE India Head Office Team smoothly conducted the day. The camp began at 10. 30 am and concluded around 2.00 pm. Around 100 people benefited from the camp.

As a follow-up FAsCE India facilitated cataract surgery of three senior persons from Hatishila, Ekrabari and Bonda at Sankardeva Nethralaya, Guwahati on December 2, 2016. Special words of appreciation and thanks to the medical experts from Sankardeva Nethralaya for their collaboration.

## PROMOTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

### Workshop on Child Rights and Child Abuse:

Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Child Rights Violations through Human Resource Development programme was implemented in thirty schools under the management of the Missionaries of St Francis De Sales across the seven states of Northeast region. As second phase of this programme, a three days workshop on 'Child Rights and Child Abuse' was held from 14 to 16 October, 2016 at SFS Higher Secondary School Conference Hall, Narengi, Guwahati. 60 young



dynamic leaders from various villages actively participated in the workshop. The resource persons were: Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director, Ms Regina Sereng, Chief Programme Coordinator of FAsCE India and Fr John Barman, Director of Fransalian Youth Mission. The young leaders were enlightened on the prevalence, consequences and circumstances of child sexual abuse and skills and knowledge to deal with it efficiently through presentations, interactive sessions and group activities.

**Adolescent Workshop by UNICEF:** Four representatives from FAsCE Supplementary Centre, Narengi participated in a Five Days Adolescent Workshop organized by UNICEF at Don Bosco Technical School, Maligaon from 17 to 21 December, 2016. The program started with an ice-breaking session followed by different activities like group discussion, presentation on different issues like health, hygiene, sanitation etc. There were altogether 36 children from different NGOs. On the last day of the Workshop, the participants were awarded with a Certificate of Participation. The representatives from FAsCE Supplementary Centre expressed their happiness in participating such an exposure programme filled with varieties of activities, information and entertainment.





**Leadership Camp at Yingkiong:** Leadership Camp for the members of the Children's Club was held from 16 to 18 December, 2016 at Divine Mercy Mission, Yingkiong in Arunachal Pradesh. There were 115 student participants from different schools: Government Higher Secondary School, SFS School, Parsing Secondary School, Simong Middle High School, Town Secondary School and Moying Middle



School from Yingkiong town. The three days leadership camp was packed with sessions on Leadership, Motivation, Team Building and Value Education. The resource persons were Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director and Ms Regina Bara Sereng, Chief Programme Coordinator from FAsCE India. The programme was organized under the guidance and dynamic leadership of Fr Joseph Chakkalackal MSFS, the Local Director and his team.

**Monitoring Visit to Siang Districts in Arunachal Pradesh :** The FAsCE India Head Office Team visited the project locations of Children's Club at Basar, Kaying, Aalo, Yingkiong and Pasighat from 11 to 17 December 2016. During the visit, review meeting was held with the local Directors and Coordinators of each respective center. And the visiting team assessed and evaluated the projects and its progress.



**Children's Day Out :** The FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre aims at the holistic development of the children. Besides, the regular school syllabus and curricular activities it also give importance to various extracurricular activities and exposure programmes, that enhance character formation, growth, development and maturity. The juniors from FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi, along with their teachers had a day out to the Children's Park at Army Cantonment, Satgaon on December 16, 2016. The children amused themselves in various games and entertainment programmes. They showed their vigour, enthusiasm and curiosity in using the various facilities available in the park.



*"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset."*





## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



**Cleanliness Drive at Amsing Jorabat:** The FASCE India Self Help Group of Amsing Jorabat took initiative for a cleanliness drive on October 13, 2016. It aimed at creating awareness among the local populace on the need to have a clean environment. The SHG members actively participated with much enthusiasm and inspired other members of their communities to participate in the race for clean surroundings. The main aim of the cleanliness drive was to spread the awareness among the people to care for their surroundings by keeping it clean.

**Clean Environment, Healthy Life at Somonpara:** In order to promote clean environment and healthy life, under the able leadership and guidance of Fr John Kelamkuzhackal MSFS, Local Director of FASCE India at Somonpara, a cleanliness drive was initiated on October 13, 2016 at Gambegre, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya. 95 members from different SHGs participated in the programme. It started with a short function which was marked by an awareness talk on cleanliness and the benefits of keeping the surroundings clean.



## TRAINING OF TRAINERS AT KAYING

FASCE India in collaboration with the Mission Forum of MSFS Northeast India Province organized a Training of Trainers on 'Whole Community Catechesis' for the leaders from different centers of Arunachal Pradesh from 14 to 17 November, 2016 at Holy Redeemer Retreat Centre, Kaying. The well organized 3 days training programme was animated by Fr Athnas Kerketta, Fr Cornelius Bara, Fr Bernard Sangma, Dn Ajit Daimary and Sr Rita Basumatary. The resource persons dealt on various topics pertaining to the theme. A total number of 38 leaders from various centres of Arunachal Pradesh benefited from the programme. FASCE India expresses its thanks to Fr Jacob Mattathil MSFS and community for organizing the programme at Kaying.



## OBSERVATIONAL VISIT BY MSW STUDENTS FROM NEISSR

The post graduate students from the department of Social Work of Northeast Institute of Social Science and Research (NEISSR) Dimapur, Nagaland visited FASCE India Head Office for an Observational Visit as part of their field work curriculum on November 7, 2016. The main objective of the visit was to learn about the functioning and programmes of the organization. 44 MSW Students accompanied by three staff members arrived at FASCE India Head Office at 9.30 am. Fr Saji







George, Executive Director, welcoming the students and faculty members, gave a brief introduction about FAsCE India, its mission, vision, motto and objectives.

Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director, Ms Chaya Kalita, Women's Coordinator and Sr Margaret MPV, Community Organizer, briefed the students about the major activities and the focus group of FAsCE India through a Power Point Presentation. This was followed by questions and interactions. The visiting students thanking the organization, appreciated the undertakings of FAsCE India.

## INTERNATIONAL DAYS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

**World Blind Walk 2016:** FAsCE India with its President, Rev. Fr George Panthanmackel, its Head Office Staff Members and SHGs Members joined and collaborated with the Project Vision North East, a Claritian initiative and likeminded NGOs, on the 'World Blind Walk 2016' on 14 October, at Shradhanjali Kannan, Guwahati. The walk was flagged off by Member of Parliament Bijoya Chakravarty. In the event, 20 to 30 visually-impaired children led 400 blindfolded adults on a one-kilometre walk starting from Shradhanjali Kannan park. It was a first-of-its-kind experience for the blindfolded people to experience the



challenges faced by visually impaired people. The event was conducted to create an awareness and importance of eye donation. The occasion saw more than 150 people pledging to donate their eyes and each was given a certificate acknowledging the same. Most Rev. John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati, graced the occasion as Guest of Honour. Fr Joseph Mappilaparambil, Chairman, Project Vision North East, in his address, referred to the shortage of cornea that India was facing and exhorted all to stand up to the cause of eye donation so that "we can ensure that every Indian is able to see."

**Special Walkathon 2016:** On November 19, 2016, FAsCE India joined hands with a group of 10 NGOs in Guwahati to celebrate the Universal Child Rights Day at Panbazar in a rally named 'Special Walkathon 2016'. It was organized by MATRI a local NGO, in collaboration with 10 other likeminded NGOs, working for Child Rights, including FAsCE India. This year's theme was "Children Walk for their Rights and Liberty". The awareness rally on the occasion filled the air and street with slogans, promoting child rights. FAsCE Supplementary Children participated in it enthusiastically and entertained the crowd with a colourful dance.





**World Disability Day:** FASCE India in collaboration with Jyoti Niketan, an institute for blind children, Satgaon, came together to commemorate the World Disability Day (3rd Dec.) on December 4, 2016. The aim of the event was to create public awareness in the Narengi area in keeping with the theme for 2016: 'Achieving 17 Goals for the future We Want,' which draws attention to the 17 sustainable development goals and how these goals can "create a more inclusive and equitable world for persons with disabilities."

A brief inaugural function was held at LG Tower Complex, Narengi where Shri. Bhaben Barman, Headmaster of Guwahati Blind High School, Basistha, was the Chief Guest.



Visually challenged children from Jyoti Niketan presented patriotic songs and mesmerized the spectators with their spectacular dance and mimicry, while the children from FASCE Supplementary Education Centre entertained the onlookers with a dashing dance performance during the function.

It was followed by a 'Blind Walk', an awareness rally, with an aim to promote eye donation, flagged off by the Guest of Honour, Mr Madan Chandra Kalita, Officer In-Charge of Satgaon police Station.

**Children's Day Celebration:** Children's day (also known as Bal Divas) in India is celebrated every year on November 14, to increase the awareness of people towards the rights, care, protection and education of the children. The day marks the birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India. Children, who are the future and asset of a country, are the key to success and development of any nation as they are the leaders who would lead their country to prosperity and peace. Realizing the place and role of the children in family, society and nation building FASCE India, honoured them by celebrating Children's Day in five different centres: Bongaon, Ekrabari, Hatishila, Narengi and Amsing Jorabat. The day was packed with variety entertainment programmes and fun-filled activities.



**Pre-Christmas Celebration:** The solemnity of Christmas brings the good news of love, joy, peace, sharing and sacrifice. FASCE India celebrated Christmas with its President, Fr George Panthanmackel at Head Office, Narengi and with Supplementary School Children at Bongaon. At Bongaon, Fr Shaibu Ezhanikat MSFS, Parish Priest, Narengi and Director of Fransalian Communication graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and enlightened the gathering with a beautiful message of Christmas.





## INTERNS FROM TISS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE

Three MSW students, Suman Sinha, Namrata Mukherjee and Mona Alice Marbaniang, from TATA Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Guwahati were placed on block fieldwork for a month from October 14 to November 12, 2016 with FAsCE India. During their internship they engaged in various activities of FAsCE India. They share their experience of having been exposed to various avenues of social work and learnt hands-on lessons to be at the service of humanity.

- \* **Challenging, yet Interesting:** "FAsCE India provided me ample opportunities to learn, analyze and develop skills. I worked, explored and intervened in different areas in the organization from SHGs to children's education, last but not the least interaction with the communities. During my entire one month field work I was very excited about each day's activities as there were new challenges every day. One interesting working area I liked the most about the organization is working for women empowerment which is highly appreciated. Yes, FAsCE India provided me all the support and logistic for which I am very much thankful to all staff members and supervisor". *Suman Sinha*



- \* **A Memory to Cherish Forever:** "I did a month long internship with FASCE India under my curriculum field work. The work environment that the organization created since the very first day of field work was what made the experience a memory to cherish forever. The organization gave me tremendous scope to face my challenges on field and gave me ample opportunities to interact with the community, learn their ways and analyze areas of intervention. This taught me skills like communicating with strangers, organizing the community, ice-breaking techniques, being open to cultural diversity to name a few. Useful skill and analysis development work was assigned to me during the field work and the staffs of the organisation were always there to guide us through the process. FAsCE India focuses on helping you grow throughout the process and support you through thick and thin. I thank each and every one of the organisation for giving me this opportunity and making this field work such an exciting and challenging process. Ever grateful for the warmth and generosity received at FAsCE India". *Namrata Mukherjee*



- \* **Broadened the Horizon of my Knowledge:** The most important learning is patience and endurance, which are some of the core values and are crucial in implementing the skills required in social work. Apart from this, exposure to the various cultures and lifestyles in the region, working with the organization and co-operating as team with fellow students has broadened the horizon of my knowledge. All in all, the experiences have helped me grow not only professionally but also personally as more responsible and society-conscious citizen. There has been lot of learning from the field work that I had undertaken during one month of internship at FAsCE India." *Mona Alice Marbaniang*



## OFFICE UPDATES:

- " Fr Clean Areng, Associate Director attended FVTRS National Skill Conference held at Bangalore from 24 to 27 October, 2016.
- " Fr Clean Areng and Mr. Ajeesh Mathew, Accountant, participated in the Workshop 'MISEREOR Consultant for Financial Corporation' from 23 to 25 November, 2016 at Social Form, Guwahati.
- " Mr Gajendra Nath Pradhan from CBR Forum initiated the Assessment and Evaluation Programme from 5 to 6 December, 2016 at Basar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- " Ms Kerlinda War from Bethany Society, Shillong, facilitated the Need Based Training Programme from 7 to 12 December, 2016 for CBR Staff Members at Basar, Arunachal Pradesh.
- " Sr Margaret MPV, attended a one day VAS+D Course organized by Vitamin Angels on December 20, 2016 at NECHA, Guwahati.

## *From the Director's Desk*

Remaining faithful to its vision and mission, Fransalian Agency for Social Care and Education in India (FAsCE India) has touched and moulded many more lives by bringing hope, solace, and joy to children, youth, women and the marginalized sections of the society through implementing and executing various humanitarian projects during the year 2016.

FAsCE India also joined the rest of the world to make the Jubilee Year of Mercy, declared by Pope Francis a memorable and blessing-filled one through special interventions by initiating various works and acts of mercy: by facilitating the construction of houses for the needy, opening tuition centers for the children in remote villages, conducting medical camps targeting different groups, supporting school and higher education etc. Thus **The Jubilee Year of Mercy** was one of rich blessings and satisfactory accomplishments.

As we bid farewell to 2016, I bow before the Almighty God in gratitude for His constant protection and divine providence on our journey to 'promote progress'. Let me also avail this opportunity to thank the Provincial Administration, our sponsors, partners, well-wishers, stakeholders, collaborators, each and every one of you, for the wholehearted support, constant encouragement, patient accompaniment and above all, for joining hands with us in reaching out to the people in many parts of Northeast India. A special word of appreciation and gratitude to the ever faithful and selflessly committed Staff of FAsCE India!

As we are at the threshold of the New Year 2017, I look forward to your continued support, collaboration and cooperation. Let us march together and make this world a lovable place to live in by uplifting the poor and the marginalized. Joyful blessings of the Christmas Season and prayerful wishes for a bright, prosperous and grace filled New Year!

**Fr (Dr) Saji George Puthiyakulangara MSFS**

Executive Director, FAsCE India



*Hearty Congratulations to*

**Rev. Fr George Panthanmackel MSFS**  
President of FAsCE India

**On being appointed as the Provincial of MSFS Northeast India Province for a second term.**



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Associate Editors : Ms Regina Sereng, Miss Chaya Kalita and Sr Margaret MPV  
Contact us: 0361-2647867; [faseindia@hotmail.com](mailto:faseindia@hotmail.com); [directorfaseindia@hotmail.com](mailto:directorfaseindia@hotmail.com)  
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