



MISSION CONNECT

Mission Moments that Matter

Good Shepherd Central East India/ Nepal





Top Stories

[Harvest from the mission field](#)

[New hope](#)

[New Insights](#)

[Hand in Hand](#)

[Voices of the children](#)

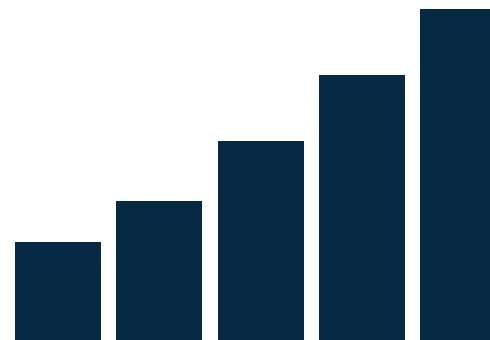
[New Life](#)

[Success stories](#)

[Staff Corner](#)

[Adieu! Welcome!](#)

[Contact us](#)



From the Editorial Desk

We are happy to share with you the fourth issue of **MISSION CONNECT**—a space where hope is kindled, dreams are realized, and lives are touched with compassion and purpose.

Rooted in the heart of a Shepherd, our mission reaches out to the unreached, especially those on the margins. It is a call to uphold human dignity, promote justice, and build a world where inclusion and equity are not mere ideals, but lived realities. Every breath we take becomes life to the program participants. Every untold story is an invitation to listen. Every encounter is an opportunity to stand in solidarity.

Our mission is not only to serve but to journey with others toward transformation—where systems are challenged, voices are amplified, and communities are empowered. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the contributors who keep Mission Connect alive with passion and purpose. Together, we continue to build bridges of hope and healing in our wounded world.

Srs. Kala, Julia and Neticia



HARVEST FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Good Shepherd Me to We Lab - The Leadership Mirror



Good Shepherd Educators Reflect and Lead:

Good Shepherd educators from across India gathered in Bangalore on June 6–7, 2025, for two enriching days of self-awareness and leadership growth. Thirty Sisters and key school leaders, facilitated by Sr Beena CL, Sashi Natarajan, and Sushma Antony, courageously looked into the “Leadership Mirror” to reflect on who they are and what they offer as changemakers in education.

Participants undertook the MBTI assessment, guided by certified practitioner Sashi Natarajan and the Anahat team. This journey of self-discovery deepened their understanding of individual preferences, enhancing communication, teamwork, and leadership.

The MBTI fosters appreciation of uniqueness, awareness of blind spots, and collaboration despite differences — nurturing inclusive classrooms that honour every student’s individuality, echoing St Mary Euphrasia’s belief that “One person is more precious than the whole world.”

Visioning the Valedictorian:

A spiritually, mentally, and emotionally grounded changemaker — resilient innovator, global citizen, and compassionate leader, building a humane and hopeful future.



Good Shepherd Centenary School, Chennai celebrates World Environment Day

Students Celebrate Nature with Green Spirit:

Students from Grades 1 to 6, dressed in green, celebrated their love for nature with enthusiasm. The special assembly included a gratitude song, short speeches on protecting the environment, and a pledge to care for the Earth.

Ms. Sarah Mohan, an ecologist, explained how insects, bees, butterflies, and birds keep nature balanced, inspiring students to keep their surroundings clean. An interactive session sparked curiosity and questions.

She then led an eco-walk, guiding students to observe local plants, insects, and birds. The event ended with students planting saplings — a meaningful step toward a greener planet.



NEW HOPE FOR CHILDREN

Children's Parliament brings New Hope to Ouguri, Assam

In Ouguri, a remote village in Assam, the launch of a Children's Parliament has brought meaningful change, introducing social engagement to a community long centered on agriculture and daily livelihoods. Until recently, villagers had little exposure to organized development efforts. That began to change when local volunteers and educators set up the Children's Parliament — a platform for children to voice concerns, suggest solutions, and engage in community life. Initially, many parents hesitated and questioned its relevance, but awareness campaigns and orientation sessions gradually helped them see its value. Through discussions and learning about rights, the community realized how empowering children fosters informed, confident, and responsible citizens.



Children's Parliament - Leadership Training, Amaravathi



A two-day leadership training for Children's Parliament members was held by GSC Amravathi on 23rd May and 12th June 2025 in Patipandla village. Facilitated by Mr. Ravi Kumar and project staff, the sessions built communication, teamwork, and confidence. Mr. Ravi led interactive discussions on leadership qualities like fairness, listening, courage, decisiveness, and motivation. Children worked in groups to present their insights on leadership responsibilities. The program ended with an inspiring talk by Mr. Srinivas Rao, Mandal Revenue Officer, who urged children to support one another and grow as inclusive, responsible leaders, impressing on them the value of early leadership.

Little Hands, Big Impact: World Environment Day

On 6th June 2025, two villages in Ouguri came together to celebrate World Environment Day — led by children and grounded in the spirit of sustainability. Under the theme "Our Earth, Our Future," children organized activities to raise environmental awareness and promote eco-friendly habits. Bringing saplings from home, they planted trees like neem, guava, and jackfruit across school grounds, public spaces, and water sources — greening their surroundings while inspiring care for nature and conservation within the community.

Harvest from the Mission Field



WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR OBSERVED

On 12–13 June 2025, the Good Shepherd Sisters and partners-in-mission marked World Day Against Child Labour in Mangalagiri, Tadepalli, and Thullur, with 130 stakeholders, NGOs, and government officials. A government representative spoke on the forms and harms of child labour, urging society to protect vulnerable children. Sr. Vidya, Child Protection Project Coordinator, shared the 2025 theme: “Progress is clear, but there’s more to do”, calling for stronger efforts. Sr. Mercy George, Local Leader, highlighted the plight of children in hazardous work. Awareness posters were displayed, reinforcing the collective responsibility to end child labour.



FARMERS GAIN INSIGHTS ON SOIL HEALTH AT JNKVV EXPOSURE PROGRAM

On June 13, 2025, 52 beneficiaries (26 men and 26 women) from nearby villages, along with Good Shepherd Convent Garratola staff, visited Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur, for an exposure program on sustainable agriculture and soil health.

Welcomed by Dr. Dinkar Prasad Sharma, University Director, the group heard Dr. V.S. Divyadi emphasize the vital farmer–soil relationship: “You need a farmer every day, and he needs the soil.” Participants learned that soil is a sacred, life-giving resource, beyond just a growing medium, and that modern practices have harmed this bond. Farmers were taught to identify nutrient deficiencies, select fields wisely, and diversify income through allied activities. The visit raised awareness, inspired sustainable practices, and built capacity. Farmers expressed eagerness to apply their new knowledge of soil management, productivity, and conservation in their fields.





INTERNATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS DAY CELEBRATED IN NAGPUR

On 16 June 2025, International Domestic Workers Day was celebrated at the Good Shepherd Provincialate, Nagpur, with the theme “Safety and Health of Domestic Help.” Organized by the Mumbai Domestic Workers Welfare Association (Nagpur Unit) and the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, the event gathered 300 women to honor their vital contribution to the economy.

The day began with a lively welcome dance and words of appreciation for the resilience of domestic workers. Fr. Praveen Montero, Advocate and Director of Yuva Jyoti, spoke on workers’ rights and social security. Sr. Philo outlined welfare schemes, and social worker Mr. Sathik Bhai pledged help in securing essential documents.

Fr. Sameer and Sr. Pushpa Louis, Provincial, urged the women to claim their rights confidently. The inspiring, celebratory event raised awareness of domestic workers’ struggles, empowering them to move forward with dignity, equality, and hope.



HOME OF HOPE, CHALICE PROGRAM MANGALAGIRI



The Mangalagiri Site expresses deep gratitude to Chalice Canada for supporting vulnerable families in GSA Amaravathi. Through the Direct Family Fund (DFF), 286 children’s families received assistance for education, health, nutrition, and family development.

In addition, Chalice Canada supported the construction of three houses for needy families in 2025, making their long-cherished dream of owning a home a reality. The project, launched on 6th January and completed by 31st May, marks a significant achievement for the team and a lasting benefit to the community.

The three single-family homes, built with modern designs, sustainable materials, and quality finishes, now offer comfortable and secure living spaces for families.

The Mangalagiri Site, along with the entire Good Shepherd family, sincerely thanks Chalice Canada for their generosity and commitment to improving the lives of poor and marginalized children and their families



My Journey with the Bharathiyar Children's Parliament

I'm R. Liya, a Class 6 student from South Kadu village. With my friends, we formed the Bharathiyar Children's Parliament — a space to learn, lead, and grow. I was proud to be elected Deputy Prime Minister and took my role seriously.

Being part of the Parliament has transformed me. I've learned time management, caring for nature, saving, respecting others, and speaking confidently. I now value education and am eager to keep learning and contributing to my community.

Collective action nurtures self-confidence

The Warriors Children's Parliament of Munagodu, Amravathi, held regular meetings but struggled without a proper venue. Guided by the Parliament team, members drafted an official request, signed by all 27 (11 boys, 16 girls). A delegation of seven, led by their leaders, presented it to the village elders. Impressed by their initiative, the elders granted them use of the church premises. Since then, the Warriors have joyfully conducted their meetings in this safe, welcoming space, strengthening their teamwork and confidence.

Courage Beyond the Screen: A Girl's Brave Stand against Cybercrime

I'm Reshma (name changed), 19, from the Kathakri tribal community in Beed, Maharashtra, and a member of the Shraddha adolescent girls' group. I want to help other girls stay safe from cybercrime. I was harassed and blackmailed by a married man, but with a social worker's help, I filed a police complaint, informed my family, and he was caught. I'm grateful to the Good Shepherd Sisters for raising awareness and supporting me to act bravely and protect myself in time.

"Many things may attract our eye – but only follow what attracts our hearts."

I'm Nithyasree, an 8th standard student from vibrant Pallipatti village, Salem. Being unanimously elected Prime Minister of the Kamarajar Children's Parliament was a proud moment that inspired my dream of becoming an IPS officer.

As Prime Minister, I confidently lead monthly meetings, interact with officials, and address community issues. I've become more organized and aware, and I now read newspapers daily to stay informed and guide my team. Together, we attend evening classes, learning and growing as a motivated group.

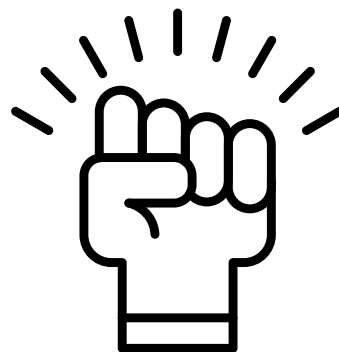
"Empowered by Education, Driven by Dreams"

I'm Thokala Sandhya Rani, 24, from Jupudi village, Amaravathi. Growing up poor, I dreamed of helping my parents and being independent. After my B.Sc, I felt lost — no English, no computer skills, no direction.

Joining the Good Shepherd Convent's free Computer and Spoken English training changed everything. Patient teachers helped me overcome my fears and gain confidence.

By the end, I felt transformed. With their support, I got a Data Entry Operator job at the Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, earning ₹35,000.

To every girl who feels she can't — believe you can. Take the first step!



New Life - A New Dawn

SHEPHERDING LIGHT DAWNS AT AYANDUR

On 4 June 2025, the Good Shepherd Convent inaugurated its new mission in Ayandur, Villupuram District, as part of the Chennai centenary and Salem silver jubilee celebrations. Inspired by St. Mary Euphrasia's belief that *"each soul is worth more than the entire world,"* the mission aims to serve the rural poor through compassion, accompaniment, and community engagement.

Born of dialogue with local leaders, including Fr. Sahaya Celestine and Mr. Antony Dass, and blessed by the Archbishop of Pondicherry-Cuddalore, the inauguration coincided with the St. Antony's Church flag festival. Province leaders, dignitaries, and villagers welcomed the sisters as agents of transformation.

Honouring local daughters-turned-sisters, Sr. Arockiamary and Sr. Monica D'Silva, the mission was entrusted to Sr. Vinnarasi and Sr. Rubi Kala. The sisters, called "the heartbeat of Christ" in Ayandur, commit to restoring dignity and hope through pastoral care, empowerment, and the Good Shepherd's charism.



MEDIA INTERACTION PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY VILLAGE, NEPAL

The Media Interaction Program, organized by Opportunity Village Nepal under its Anti-Human Trafficking Project on 23rd June 2025, aimed to strengthen media engagement in addressing internal trafficking in Kathmandu Valley's Adult Entertainment Sector (AES). The program encouraged ethical, survivor-centered journalism to raise awareness, influence policy, and protect vulnerable women and girls.

Presentations highlighted trafficking trends, survivors' experiences, and gaps in protections, urging the media to adopt a human rights-focused, trauma-informed approach. Youth from the project shared powerful testimonies of exploitation in AES establishments, while experts stressed the importance of sensitive, confidential storytelling that upholds survivors' dignity.



Celebrating Success

GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT SCHOOL, KARJAT

As Good Shepherd Convent School, Karjat, celebrates 22 years of excellence, we proudly announce an outstanding academic milestone! On 13th June 2025, our Std. X students excelled in the SSC Board Examinations.

Highlights:

- 51 students appeared
- 7 scored above 90%
- 25 secured distinction
- 100% pass result

This remarkable success reflects our students' hard work, guided by the visionary leadership of Manager Sr. Resi, Headmistress Sr. Amala, and our dedicated teachers who inspired and supported them throughout. Congratulations to our students for upholding our tradition of excellence with discipline and commitment!



STAFF CORNER

CAPACITY BUILDING ON CHILD RIGHTS ADVOCACY



A two-day workshop on child rights education and advocacy was held at MSFS Dhyanashram, Visakhapatnam, on 23–24 June 2025 for 45 CEIN Province social development staff. The training aimed to equip them with skills to promote child rights effectively in their areas.

Facilitated by Dr. Francis Thambi, CEO of CRAF, sessions covered child rights education, building advocacy frameworks, involving children and stakeholders, developing strategies, and addressing challenges. Input sessions, group activities, and role plays helped deepen understanding and translate learning into action.

Each team drafted a site-specific advocacy plan, making the workshop both impactful and actionable in advancing child rights within their communities.

STAFF CORNER

Biannual Meeting for the Project Staff

As part of the biannual meeting, staff visited Aruku Valley, Visakhapatnam, on 25th June 2025, exploring the tribal museum showcasing diverse cultures and traditions—a learning and relaxing experience. On 26th June, the biannual review covered EJ, CP, MC Bridge Fund, ICDS projects, and cooperative societies.

These meetings enhance communication, staff engagement, and team cohesion while addressing key issues and plans. Each site presented activities, achievements, challenges, mitigation strategies, and financial management. The process fostered feedback, problem-solving, and stronger relationships, reinforcing collective commitment to the mission and improving overall project effectiveness.



Creating Child Safe Environment

Program orientation to the staff on the project Creating Child Safe Environment through Children's Parliaments and Adolescent Girls' Groups in India"



The orientation covered project overview, objectives, geographical reach, administration, monitoring, budget, and site-specific details. Through input sessions, group activities, and hands-on practice in forming Children's Parliaments, staff gained practical knowledge and clarity on implementation. The training equipped the team to effectively manage the project and engage communities to achieve its goals.

A new project launched on 16th April 2025 across five Good Shepherd sites serving marginalized communities, began with a two-day orientation on 28–29 June 2025 at the Provincialate, Nagpur. Conducted by the MDO team, the session was attended by 15 project staff.



Adieu! Thanks a Million!



MUCH GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION

Mr. Peter Lasrado, who served as MDO Manager of CEI for six and a half years, retired on 30th June 2025. The MDO monitors, improves program quality, and explores funding support from government, NGOs, philanthropists, and corporates to transform the lives of marginalized communities. Mr. Peter was an efficient manager, skillfully coordinating project sites, facilitating communication between AP MDO and funding agencies, and enhancing staff efficiency through capacity-building and training programs. He developed key organizational policies and the Province Strategic Plan.

Known for his competence, professionalism, and warm rapport with staff and stakeholders, he inspired many through his simple yet impactful training sessions. We wish him the very best as he embarks on the next chapter of his life



WELCOME TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD FAMILY!

HEARTY WELCOME, MR. SANJAY BARAI



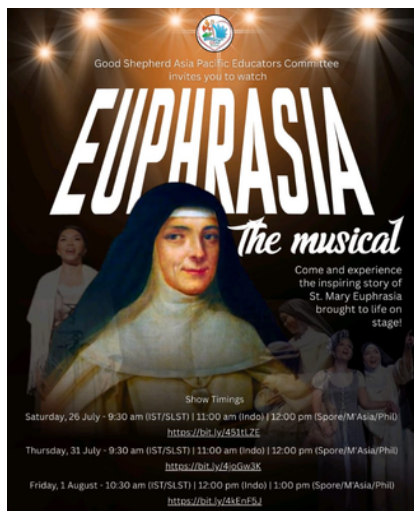
We welcome Mr. Sanjay Barai from West Bengal as the new CEI MDO Manager from 1st July 2025. He brings experience from Save Kendra Calcutta and Divine Concepts as a project associate and training coordinator. Skilled in communication, jute livelihoods, government schemes, GST, and fundraising, he has organized staff training and secured CSSR funds for the education of slum children. After training under Mr. Peter Lasrado for two months, he now takes on this role. We wish him success in this new and challenging responsibility.



COMING UP...

July 30, 2025

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons



**CELEBRATE ST. MARY EUPHRASIA'S BIRTHDAY
AS ONE GOOD SHEPHERD FAMILY!**

REGISTER!

Saturday, 26 July - 9:30 a m (IST)

<https://bit.ly/451tLZE>

Thursday, 31 July - 9:30 am (IST)

<https://bit.ly/4joGw3K>

Friday, 1 August - 10:30 a m (IST)

<https://bit.ly/4kEnF5J>

Contact us:

Mission Development Office
Province of Central East India/Nepal
Good Shepherd Provincialate
Anukampa Nivas
Baba Farid Nagar, Koradi Road, Mankapur
Nagpur - 440030
Maharashtra - India

Share! Connect! Inspire!

Reach out to the Editorial Board : Srs. Kala, Julie, Neticia



ceinwebcomm21@gmail.com



Send your stories with HD images
before September 30, 2025