

## KARNATAKA REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR EDUCATION



### EDITORIAL

**“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”**

**- Mahatma Gandhi**

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”**

**- Nelson Mandela**

Education has special place in the life of any individual and community as it builds up the character of the person, his spiritual depth and perception and prepares them for life. It provides the person with knowledge, maturity and determination. Pope Francis says: “Catholic education is one of the most important challenges for the Church, currently committed to new evangelization in an historical and cultural context that is undergoing constant transformation”, remarked the Holy Father in his addressed to participants in the plenary session of the Congregation for Catholic Education (for Educational Institutions).

From its inception the Karnataka Regional Commission for Education has been striving to support the Educational System, support the Institutions in their needs and encourage them in their dedicated task under the Leadership of our Archbishop Dr. Bernard Moras. His deep insights, spiritual depth and deep concern for Education has helped us to grow and help thousands of students in their desire to pursue higher studies.

Dr. Sr. Genevieve CSST, has been the live wire of this Regional Commission for Education. For the past seven years and two months she has served the cause of education with dedication and utmost care. She has used her contacts and expertise in this institution and we place on record the voluminous work done by her. The Commission will gratefully remember her for the Directory of all Educational Institutions of Karnataka, which is complete and provides ready data at any time. She has been called for greater task by the Congregation for furthering the educational cause and we wish her the best and pray God to grant her good health and place on to her his abundant blessings.

As I assume this new task as the Secretary KRCE, I look for your support and guidance. Let us work together as a team to serve the cause of Education in the church of God in Karnataka.

**Fr. Eugene Lobo sj**

Secretary

Karnataka Regional Commission for Education



## **Pope Francis to Catholic Students, Teachers: It Takes a Village to Raise a Child**

"Catholic Education is one of the greatest challenges for the Church, which is committed to carrying out the New Evangelization, in a historic and cultural context that is in constant transformation."



Pope Francis told students he loved school. He explained that this affection for education came from one of his school teachers. "I remember my first teacher, that woman, that teacher I had when I was six years old, in first grade. I have never forgotten her. She is why I loved school. I visited throughout her life, until she passed away, at 98."

The Pope said that school is a place of encounter, where parents can meet professors and collaborate along with them. That's why, he said, family and schools go hand in hand. He also referenced an African proverb, which he had everyone repeat. The Pope said: "This makes me think of an African proverb, which says: 'It takes a village to raise a child.' Let us all say it together: 'It takes a village to raise a child.' All together: 'It takes a village to raise a child.'" It's in school he said, where one learns truth, good and beauty. He also emphasized the three and most important languages learned in school.

"A path that leads to the three languages that a mature person needs to know: the language of the mind, the language of the heart, and the language of the hands. All three are in harmony. In other words, think of what you feel and do; listen to what you think and what you do; and do well what

you think and do. The three languages are in harmony and together."

The Pope was actually a teacher years ago. In the 1960's and 70's, in Buenos Aires, Jorge Mario Bergoglio taught literature and psychology to young students. He was also a professor at the San Miguel School of Theology.

Pope Francis offers three proposals for improving Catholic education. He said: "Catholic education is one of the most important challenges for the Church, currently committed to new evangelization in an historical and cultural context that is undergoing constant transformation".

Pope Francis proposed three aspects for consideration by the participants: the value of dialogue in education, the qualified preparation of formators and the responsibility of educational institutions to express the living presence of the Gospel in the fields of education, science and culture.

Referring to the first of these points, Dialogue he said, "Effectively, Catholic schools and universities are attended by many students who are not Christian or do not believe. Catholic educational institutions offer to all an approach to education that has as its aim the full development of the person, which responds to the right of every person to access to knowledge. However, they are also called upon to offer, with full respect for the freedom of each person and using the methods appropriate to the scholastic environment, the Christian belief, that is, to present Jesus Christ as the meaning of life, the cosmos and history.

With regard to the second aspect, the Pope remarked that during his meeting with the Superior Generals, he had emphasized that education in our times "is guided by a changing generation, and that, therefore, every educator – and the Church as a whole is an educating mother – is required to change, in the sense of knowing how to communicate with the young".

In relation to the responsibility of educational institutions to “express the living presence of the Gospel in the field of education, science and culture”, Pope Francis reiterated the need for Catholic academic institutions to avoid “isolating themselves in the world”, and instead to “know how to enter, with courage, into the Areopagus of contemporary cultures and to initiate dialogue, aware of the gift they are able to offer to all”.



### **Workshop on Current Issues**

**Workshop on current issues relating to controlling sexual misconduct/ Labour Laws relating to PF, staff appointment/ minority issues and RTE**



**ate: September 1& 2, 2014 (Monday & Tuesday)**

**Venue: Regional Pastoral Centre (KROSS), 2nd Cross, Da Costa Layout, Bangalore -84**

We are all aware of the new problems and issues coming up in recent days which have been seriously affecting our institutions. These need immediate attention and remedial solutions.

- 1.a) Prevention of sexual harassment and handling the problems
- b) Child safety measures / precautions
- c) Legal implications
- d) Burden on our Institutions: - POCSO & Goonda Act

- e) JJ Act – 2010 & CWCS Act – in relation to hostels & boarding houses
- 2.Labour Law and related issues
- a) Procedure in the appointment of staff
  - b) Provident Fund - new act and recent changes
  - c) How this act affects institutions
  - d) Financial implications
  - e) Leave facility to our staff

Further our Educational Institutions are facing problems in relation with the minority issues that need to be clarified - such as RTE and Minority Certificate. You are free to suggest any other topics.

KROSS and KRCE are jointly organizing this workshop. Mr. Robinson D' Souza Retd., Law Secretary, Government of Karnataka along with his team will conduct the workshop. Mr. Robinson D' Souza is a person well versed in these issues particularly in connection with Educational Institutions.

Since it is an important workshop, kindly make it convenient to attend. **Kindly depute the principals /vice principals, correspondents and hostel wardens. You may send two or three participants for the workshop.**



### **Government Scholarships for Minorities**

The Karnataka Government has announced 3 different scholarships for Minorities at different levels of education. The Minorities dept officials have assured us of their support. Let us utilize this opportunity. It would be good if every school and college has a person to champion the initiative to encourage and assist students to apply for the relevant scholarship. The central office in Bangalore (KROSS, Da Costa Layout, Bangalore 560 084) will be at your service to support you, especially to ensure that

applicants are successful in being granted the scholarships.

For any Information/assistance regarding these Karnataka Government Scholarships Kindly contact <minoritybenefits.akucfhr@gmail.com>

### **1.POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS: ACADEMIC YEAR 2014-15**

Fresh online applications are invited from the students of Minority Community students pursuing Post-matric education. Visit website:www.momascholarship.gov.in

**LAST DATE for submission online fresh applications is 15/09/2014.**

Submission of duly signed printed version (hardcopy) of online fresh application to the District Officer Minorities or District Officer Backward Classes and Minorities of your district respectively is 25/09/2014.

**For Renewal: Last Date for submission of online renewal applications by student is 10/10/2014.**

Submission of duly signed hardcopy of online renewal application to the District Officer Minorities or District Officer Backward Classes and Minorities of your district respectively is 20-10-2014.

### **(2)MERIT-CUM-MEANS SCHOLARSHIPS:2014-15 (Professional Courses)**

Fresh: For online applications visit www.momascholarship.gov.in

**Last date for online submission of fresh application 30/09/2014.**

Submission of duly signed printed version (hardcopy) of online fresh application to the District Officer Minorities or District Officer Backward Classes and Minorities of your district respectively **10/10/2014.**

**Renewal: Last date for online submission of Renewal application 15.11.2014.**

Submission of duly signed printed version (hardcopy) of online renewal application to the District Officer Minorities or District Officer Backward Classes and Minorities of your district respectively 25-11-2014. For guidelines visit www.gokdom.kar.nic.in

### **(3) UTTEJANA (INCENTIVE) FOR 2014-15**

This benefit given to students who belong to the Minority Community and

- (a) Passed SSLC and taken admission in PUC 1<sup>st</sup> year, those studying in PUC 2<sup>nd</sup> year and those who
- (b) Passed PUC and taken admission in 1<sup>st</sup> year degree course and those studying in 2<sup>nd</sup> year and 3rd year degree course.

For details see www.gokdom.uttejana.html

Submit the application with required attachments to the District Officer Minorities or District Officer Backward Classes and Minorities of your district respectively.



### **Christmas Holidays**

The KRCE had made a special request to the Commissioner of Public Instructions on behalf of all Christian Schools to grant Christmas vacation in December and to reduce the Dasara Vacation of October. The Commissioner of Public Instruction in the Government order C4(6)Raje/01/2013 – 14 dated 16.08.2014 has permitted all schools in Karnataka to grant leave for Christmas during the last week of December and reduce the holidays in October by equal number of days.



## THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

The Annual General Body meeting was held at Regional Pastoral Centre (KROSS), Bangalore on the first of August 2014. The meeting commenced at 9.30 am with a beautiful and meaningful prayer dance performed by the students of Mount Carmel PU College, Bangalore. Fr. John Rose, Secretary Archdiocese of Board of Education led the prayer invoking God's blessing and invoking the power of the Holy Spirit. 60 General body and 12 Governing body members were present. In his presidential message His Grace greeted all the members present and announced that Fr. Eugene Lobo SJ is taking over as the Secretary of KRCE from Sr. M Genevieve and complimented Sister for the tremendous responsibility shouldered by her for the past 7 years and 50 days. The work was not easy, he said.



After this, His Grace referred to the problems faced by schools. The problems are never ending in our Institutions. When one problem is solved, a new one emerges. With the new Central Government we can expect further problems. Particularly if the Constitution gets amended, since they have the strength to do so, we will continue to face more problems related to it. RTE still is a problem for all minorities.

**Sr. Genevieve then announced the release of the New Directory.**



This directory is the result of the proposal made by Fr. Becket D' Souza at the KRCE meeting last year. Sr. Genevieve explained how she had spent over six months towards the compilation of the Directory which was now ready for release. KRCE Secretary Mabel Lobo also helped Sr Genevieve in the tabulation of the data. This Directory was released by His Grace Dr. Bernard Moras who made a comment on the percentage of Muslims and other groups we are educating in comparison with the Catholics student population.

**Appointment of Auditor:** It was unanimously agreed that we retrain Mr. Vittal Rao as our auditor for the financial year 2014-15 as all were satisfied with his services.

**Fr. Eugene Lobo** emphasized that problems regarding RTE, minority issues would be taken up further. The Minority issue is still in the court and the minority certificates are mandatory now. The Education Pastoral Plan for the next three years 2015-2017 is due and has to be worked out with new goals and objectives. The CBCI has requested an evaluation of our institutions in accordance with the Pastoral Plan to be presented at the September 23 meeting at New Delhi.

**Governing Body members:** the following secretaries were appointed as the new members of KRCE:

1. Fr. Gerald D' Souza, secretary Catholic Board of Education, Mangalore in place of Fr. Wilson V. D' Souza



2. Fr. Alwyn Sudhir, secretary Belgaum Diocese of Board of Education, Belgaum, in place of Fr. Robert Fernades.

**Fr. Archibald Gonsalves:** The Vice President of KRCE in his message appreciated the contributions of Sr. M. Genevieve over the past seven years and welcomed Fr. Eugene Lobo as he takes over as the new Secretary. Fr Archie has completed his term as Vice President KRCE

and is now transferred to Goa as the Superior.



### Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village, though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.



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