

Annual Report 2014-15



Discipleship Centre



Vision

Be a helping hand to facilitate sustainable and holistic transformation.

Mission

DC is a Christian organization working towards transforming and Empowering lives of people who are in need, to enable them to achieve maximum potential through care, compassion and concern.

Core Values

Christ Centered -

Christ is the head of all that we do.

Integrity -

We value integrity, commitment and accountability in all our actions.

Excellence -

We strive towards excellence by being a creative and learning organization.

Team spirit (Esprit de corps) -

One for all and all for one. As a team we own every action taken by the Centre.

Empowerment -

Empowering people/public/ individuals, thus finally bringing about transformation in their lives.

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Chairman's Message



Greetings in the name of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"He is the creator God who created the Heavens and the Earth (Genesis 1:1)

He is also the creator of everything both visible and invisible." For by him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or power or rulers or authorities, all things were created by him and for him (Colossians 1:16). Yet it has taken 6000 years for the man to understand and accept this truth (Boson particles or God particles).

"This wonderful creator God is also the God of all comfort and compassion. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. (James 5:11). He has compassion on all he has made (Psalms 145:9). His compassions never fail. They are new every morning. (Lam 3:22, 23). He is particularly concerned about poor and needy. He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their maker, but whosoever is kind to the needy honours God (Proverbs 14:31)

"It is a great privilege to join hands with this compassionate God in helping the poor and needy. Discipleship Centre always chooses the poorest of the poor and neglected of the society to help them, equip them and empower them financially, socially and spiritually. Discipleship Centre has continued its efforts during 2014-15 also to achieve its goals, the details of which are mentioned in the report.

Discipleship Centre is also addressing the spiritual needs of the people particularly the children. It is heartening to see their progress. The number of children being helped is growing. Let us all continue to give our best to the organization.

I thank all DC staff, all the individual donors and organizational donors for rendering help and look forward for their continued support to DC.

May the Lord richly reward you and bless you as we continue our journey to please Him in every way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S.L. Karunakaran', with a stylized flourish at the end.

S.L.Karunakaran

Foreword by the **Executive Director**



God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His son,
Jesus Christ our Lord 1st Corinthians: 1:9

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it...
... 1st Thessalonians: 5:24

It is His Grace that Discipleship Centre had celebrated 40th year anniversary on 7th February 2015. We thank the Lord for having guided the organization since 1974.

It is my great privilege to be associated with Discipleship Centre (DC) and achieved some more mile stones. DC is eternally grateful to the Lord for having guided in every step of the way. The Lord has been so merciful to us and shown His face during the entire financial year 2014-15.

DC has been continually striving to bring changes in the life of downtrodden and the under privileged children and communities. DC is witnessing the upward growth of the children and the slums children are now a days equally competing the urban children in many facet of life. For operating musical instruments, our centre's children are better than many. We pray for them in our daily prayers. The parents co-operation received by us is overwhelming and the parents understood the skill and holistic development of their children.

During the year, DC worked for achievement of better sanitation. Using the toilets, avoiding open defecation, washing hands are some of the best practices carried by DC and taking pre-cautionary measures to prevent diseases amongst the children and communities.

My sincere thanks to all my colleagues and my staff for their valuable services rendered to the organization. Without their good works, we would not be able to achieve desired transformation in the community.

I thank all our donor agencies for having supported Discipleship Centre to work for the poorest of the poor.

I appreciate the unstinted support of Chairman and all the Board of Governors who enabled me to work for DC without fear and favour. I remember all our stake holders in my prayer. May the Lord bless us to be more faithful to serve the society.



A. Murugesan

About Us

Jesus moves with Compassion and Concern about the multitudes and communities.....
(Mark 8:2,3)

Discipleship Centre's concern about humanity

Establishment & Objectives

Discipleship Centre (DC) was established in the year 1974 with the objective of uplifting the poor and the needy with relief, rehabilitation and development, nutrition and literacy, without discrimination on the basis of religion, caste, gender or region. There is a special focus to promote the welfare of children. DC has adopted a holistic approach in its mission to transform the lives of people by nurturing and empowering them for sustained progress. The major thrust areas are-Health Care, Vocational Training, Gender Equality, Women Empowerment, Disaster Risk Reduction, Capacity Building and Children at Risk. Discipleship Centre celebrated its 40th Anniversary on 7th February 2015.

Since its inception, the organization has been working towards sustainable development of marginalized communities at the national level. In the past, DC has responded to most of the disasters / calamities that have occurred in the country through the provision of immediate relief and prompt assistance to the afflicted. DC's target has always been the most underprivileged and needy, amongst the urban and the rural poor, with a special focus on the needs of women and children.



Celebration of Discipleship Centre 40th year on 7th February 2015, at the Airport Authority Institute Delhi



Development Programs

At present development programs are being carried out in the states of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar. In every program the primary emphasis is on capacity building of the community leaders, who in turn, along with the project workers, undertake to disseminate knowledge to others in the village. The community-based committees are nurtured and empowered in such a way that once a project is completed, they become the future propagators of development. Through this process, communities are able to stand for their rights, seek out government interventions for their respective villages and are capable of expressing their needs to the concerned government officials.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The Disaster Risk Reduction programs of DC tackle the problems of flood prone villages in Bihar through the dual process of Capacity Building and Physical Interventions. Communities are trained in taking precaution measures and safety.

Child Education

Child Education is a vital component of all DC's development programs without which, development would be incomplete. Besides academics, the non-formal literacy centers are committed to the holistic development of children by helping them to realize and recognize their self-worth and latent potential, and providing a platform for a bright future. Girl children, otherwise destined to a life of ignorance and illiteracy, are now circumventing social norms and actively participating in the literacy programs, with several of them having gained access to formal schools.

Spiritual Nurture

The thread of spiritual nurturing encompasses every activity and program of Discipleship Centre. We realize that ultimately every effort towards upliftment of the poor is in vain, unless the people in whose midst we work experience the joy of salvation, **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."** (John 3:16) **"For we walk by faith, not by sight"** (II Corinthians 5:7)

The journey till today and expression of love and thanks

DC has completed 40 years of its existence during the financial year 2014-15. DC is eternally grateful to the Lord for having guided in every step of the way. The Lord has been so merciful to us and shown His face during the entire financial year 2014-15. We would like to thank our donors and sponsors for having supported us through these four decades and we look forward to their continued support in the years to come.

Synopsis - In the following pages you will find information (about the activities carried out at different centers of DC during the year 2014-15) and inspiring stories/case studies about children and their families, which offer encouragement to us all to continue the good work for the upliftment of the downtrodden.

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men,
especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

(Galatians 6:10)

Our Work at a Glance

Supported by Compassion International
Child Development Projects at Kalyanpuri (Delhi),
Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur and Akarabad (UP),
Faridabad & Palwal (Haryana)

Supported by Tearfund, UK
Children in the slums of Kalyanpuri and
Madanpur Khadar
CCADRR

Supported by Water for People (USA)
Establishing Safe Water & Sanitation
at Sheohar, Bihar

Supported by
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Bouzaid
New Zealand

Supported by Happy Tree Social Services -
Hong Kong
(Serving Orphan Children)

HOPE AND HAPPINESS RESTORED

Discipleship Centre is serving the marginalized, vulnerable children who are at Risk in the urban slums of Kalyanpuri and Madanpur Khadar. The Child Centered Community Development Program (CDP) run by DC has completed 9 years of relentless service with passion and commitment to social change. The project is well designed with a focus on holistic development of child in relation to child rights. Rights based approach, enthusiastic involvement of Government bodies, local churches contributed for transformation of many families within the community.

A feature that stands out very prominently in the Child Development Program is the strong emphasis of the project activities on the dependence of God and the clarity with which the staff are able to communicate that answers and solutions to all the problems that are encountered in the community are available with God alone and that collectively God's wisdom is to be sought for all things.

Kalyanpuri and Madanpur Khadar are one of the many slums in Delhi, it is a microcosm of communities who have come from diverse social and economic backgrounds. They have been migrated from different settlements of west UP, Bihar, Rajasthan etc. Majority of them are integrated into the sprawling metro economy as casual wage hunters mostly at the lowest rung of society as domestic maids, servants at tea stalls, hotels, cleaners, rag pickers, itinerant traders of odd things like false stones, talismans, crude iron implements, vegetable vendors, etc. In spite of his range of livelihood options they were narrated by many, the slum colony also has its vibrant underbelly of criminals, pickpockets, and illegal trade in illicit liquor, drugs and women.

In this context of life, access to basic amenities and essential services like health and education for a dignified life is the main challenge. In addition to this, children especially at their formative ages are susceptible to lot of lures like substance abuse and deviation towards a corrupt and criminal life. As members of fractured families, they have to bear with entrenched everyday domestic violence at the household level. Apart from these risks, the stark and ugly disparity between their lives and those of children in nearby affluent colonies exposes them further to depression, fatalism and cynicism and occasions for deviant practices. For a healthy holistic development they need support, care and counseling in developing their physical and cognitive capacities.

Education (Academic support centre)

The education program is helping Children to improve and progress in their studies. Parents

become more aware about importance of education and took responsibility in ensuring that their children attend classes. As we know that government schools are lacking the quality teaching and children are very weak in studies. However, because of our special coaching classes children are improving in their studies. We are happy that the project is able to motivate many dropouts children to go back to school. Continuous Network with government school helped us to see school retention takes place. Child admission and quality of education are done at regular intervals. From the classes children get a safe and healthy environment after school hours and also they develop good skills in writing, reading and speaking Hindi.

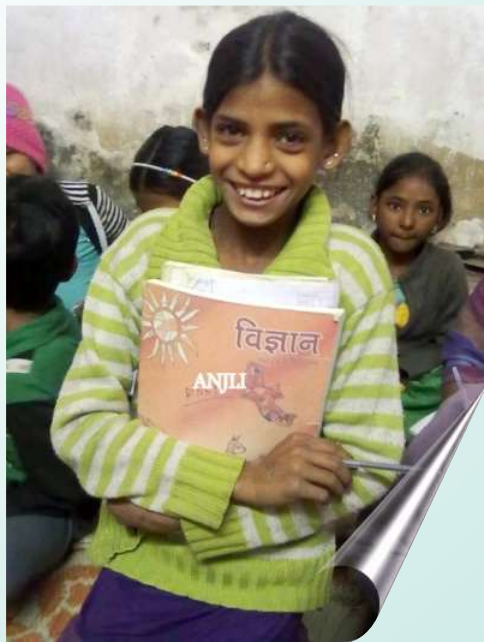
Awareness on child labour: Through various awareness program community and especially women were made aware of child labour. How child's growth is affected if child is sent to work. Community were informed sending child to work is unlawful and Parents are subject to punishment.

Awareness program on Child Protection, movie on Child Abuse, Human Trafficking are conducted regularly. Conducting parents teachers meeting and communities development meetings are very useful weapon.

Parent Teachers Meeting: The Parents and Teachers meeting are held to discuss about children's performance in tuition, school and at home. It is encouraging to note parents are more aware about importance of education. They take keen interest in progress of their children. Parents have now started monitoring performance of schools and the facilities available in the school. They take initiative to report to school if there is anything that does not work well.

Anjali's Advancement

Child Anjali, aged 12 years, is one of the beneficiaries of our project at Kalyanpuri funded by TEAR Fund. She is studying in 7th class now. She hails from migrant tribal community living here. Anjali is living with her parents and 9 siblings. Her parents are rag pickers and due to illiteracy and poverty, they drink and fight with each other every day. They shout at their children and also beat, use abusive language at them to quench their anger. The parents wanted their children also to do rag



picking every day so that they may earn little more money.

Anjali is a good girl. She is regular to our tuition classes since 2011. She is interested to study and attends school regularly. She has a dream to study well and come out of poverty. However, due to malnutrition, she is physically weak. Parents do not care for her enough. They go out early in the morning to rag picking and come back in the afternoon. Hence, Anjali was ill and lost her aptitude for studies. She is afraid of her parents. Due to their pressure, Anjali dropped out of school and was sent to rag picking.

During regular field visits by our community organizer to Anjali's house she came to know that Anjali dropped out of school and tuition classes. She was willing to express her feelings to our community organizers. After persistent counselling and prayer, Anjali's parents agreed to send her back to school. Our Community Organiser also contacted the School Head master who has given consent to readmit her. Now Anjali is regular to school and Tuition classes. Our prayers and continuous visit yielded result. Now, Anjali has completed her 7th classes with good ratings.

Sony's Story

Sony aged 23 years is a migrant girl. She is living with her mother in Kalyanpuri slum and is working as a casual labourer. Her mother has physical deformity and could not go to work. Sony got married four years back and living separately with her husband. She has two year old son. Sony was living happily with her husband until the birth of her son. After that she was under terrible trouble. Sony's husband had an illicit relationship with some other women and so he began to hate her. Every day he used to drink and come home and indulge in verbal abuse and physical abuse. Sony would go to bed with tears and could not sleep. Her husband spent all his earning on another woman and come home empty. He demands food and pocket money from Sony. Sony has to work, share her earnings.

Because of the ill treatment she left her husband and stayed with her mother. She used to fall ill



frequently without proper medication and her physical condition was worsened and health deteriorated. Sony got T.B. Since, her family believes in superstition, they did not permit her to take hospital treatment. At this juncture, we came to know about Sony. She was in our prayers for long time. Under nutritious meal scheme, we supplied Boiled Eggs, Milk and one time meal to Sony continuously. We referred her for treatment to Lalbahadur Shatri hospital at Mayur Vihar, Delhi. Initially she hesitated to take treatment (DOTs) at government hospital. We counselled and encouraged her.

Our staff cross checked her dose of DOTs and motivated her to follow regularly. Now she is completely recovered from T.B and is going to work happily. We thank God for his intervention to change the mind set of Sony and her mother. Her physical condition is also improved. Now she is confident of her future. Sony is an example for other women in the community.

Care for Children (Compassion)

Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them" "and said, Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven". (Mathew 18: 2, 3) DC is serving the children with love. Discipleship Centre takes great privilege in serving the poor children who are in dire need.

Children are the future of the world, who deserve to have proper love, care, opportunities and right to education (RTE) to achieve their future goals. Discipleship Centre is working with the children who are hurt, hungry and hopeless. At present there are about 1004 children in our care.

DC specially works in the areas of Physical, Social, Spiritual, Cognitive and nurtures the children towards bright future. During the year, there are 1004 children who are taken care with the relentless support of Compassion International. Compassion International not only supported the children and has also supported Discipleship Centre to maintain toilets for the children and library facility.

Place	Boys	Girls	Total
Kalyanpuri (East Delhi)	115	129	244
Faridabad (Haryana)	59	72	131
Palwal (Haryana)	74	77	151
Ghaziabad (U.P)	115	85	200
Akrabad (U.P)	86	63	149
Gorakpur (U.P)	65	64	129
Total	514	490	1004

As on today, the children get the support from the Sponsors of Compassion and one growing Physically, Spiritually and some children have become Nurses, Engineers, Hotel Management etc.

Pooja's Progress

Pooja Shiv Lakhan, (IN 216) a 19 year old studying at Kalyanpuri since 2003 belongs to a very poor family. She had breast knot and was operated twice in 2012. Her mother was also in poor health and she has been operated for stone in stomach and removal of gallbladder and intestine operation for appendix.

Inspite of her poor health, Pooja concentrated on her studies very well and scored 79% in 12th standard in Commerce group. She joined B.com course and simultaneously preparing for Uttar Pradesh Audit and Accounts examination.

Considering her calibre and courage, Kalyanpuri Centre is encouraging her in all respects by providing nutritious food and materials for her further studies in B.Com. We need your prayers so that the Lord will bless her in her career and her future life.

Asha's Hope

Asha, a 15 year old girl is studying in Kalyanpuri centre since 2007 and she hails from a very poor family. Asha is good in studies and sports and now playing Badminton for zonal level. She is an athlete. At the age of 12 she determined to overtake a regular winner of athletic in 200 meters race in her group and area. Asha began to put hard work and practiced for the same. She was a winner of 200 metes race in the year 2013 and continues to maintain the same in that area.

Kalyanpuri, Project Centre is providing all the help to her starting from serving nutritious food, sports material etc. Pray for Asha for her spiritual growth and career growth.



Rekha's Healing

Rekha was born in Hindu family, in Mathura Nagar Maharajganj District. From birth itself Rekha was mentally retarded and nobody had taken care of. As she joined the Discipleship Centre's Child Development Centre, she began to see the light in her life. Teachers in DC centre was showing lot of love to her and she began to show improvement in her study, particularly learning English and Christian songs etc. Now she is able to speak, read English and Hindi. DC centre is supplying all medicines for her treatment. Regular parents meeting is a helping tool to improve her behavior. DC is so happy about the changed life style of Rekha a 5th class student of Gorakpur Project.



Kishan's change in life style

Kishan an 11 years old child is studying 5th standard. He is a semi orphan child attends to our compassion Ghaziabad project. Kishan lost his mother and grand parents. Kishan is very active child in the project and very keen to learn dance, Indian rhythm instruments and also talented in drawing and painting as well.

Above all Kishan accepted the Lord as his personal savior in the seekers camp held in the year 2012 and continually praising the Lord with the guidance and support of the project staff. Please keep him in your prayers.



Many more children are skillfully trained in the musical instruments and a playing Choir has been formed in the Centre.





Awareness on Career guidance and Child abuse at Kalyanpuri



Dance competition at Kalyanpuri



Awareness on child rights at Ghaziabad



VBS program and Independence program at Gorakhpur



Awareness on HIV/AIDS and personal hygiene at Ghaziabad



Awareness on child abuse and Field trip at Faridabad



Christmas Celebration at Faridabad



Mother's day celebration and drawing competition at Palwal



Mothers meeting and training on self discipline at Palwal

Serving One Another **Happy Tree of Life - Hong Kong**

Love one another, encourage one another, spur one another on towards love and good deeds, bear with one another, admonish one another, forgive one another, be kind to one another, instruct one another, serve one another, be compassionate to one another, be devoted to one another, honour one another, live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic to one another, be patient with one another, accept one another, submit to one another, Clothe yourselves with humility towards one another, teach one another, live at peace with one



another, confess your sins to one another, Offer hospitality with one another, greet one another, have fellowship with one another, agree with one another, carry one another's burden, these are necessary for an ordinary prudent human beings.

Happy Tree of Life, Hong Kong is very much concerned in supporting the orphans. DC thanks Dr. Jerry Wong and his team for the extended help to orphan children in Kalyanpuri and Madanpur Khadar.

Still we have to cover more number of children who don't have even one day's meal. We need your continuous prayer for bringing up the orphan children and providing quality Education to them.



Everyone Forever: Sheohar, India

Location - The district of Sheohar is located in the state of Bihar, which has the lowest human development index and nominal GDP per capita of all 28 states and seven Union Territories in India. Sheohar, one of the 38 districts in Bihar, is subdivided into five blocks with 202 habited villages. The population is 656916.

Water & Sanitation coverage - Current water coverage in Sheohar is estimated at 62%. Quality issues, especially high iron levels are persistent throughout two blocks of the district. Existing public water points have been created by installing PHE - 6 or India Mark II and III hand pumps at tube wells. Alternative sources of water include open wells, and rivers. The recent surveys in Sheohar estimate that household latrine coverage is 16-20% and water and sanitation coverage in the 290 school is approximately 12%. None of the existing 24 health centers have adequate water and sanitation facilities. Agriculture fields, roads, and banks of river and ponds are used of defecation. Liquid waste is typically drained to nearby rivers and ponds.

Action Points - In Sheohar, interventions are facilitated by local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with DC as the lead NGO. Responsibilities include establishing community- based water system maintenance mechanisms, conducting awareness camps to create demand for household sanitation, developing a sanitation supply chain and facilitating the school WASH program. All activities are closely coordinated with the District Administration, which includes the Public Health engineering Department, total sanitation Campaign Cell, District Water quality Laboratory, Education Department, Health Department, Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and District Rural Development Agency (DRDA).

Reaching Everyone Forever: The Program

Discipleship Centre's programming in Sheohar is designed to achieve the ambitious goals of Everyone Forever.

Objectives include:-

- Increase water supply coverage from 62% to 100% in a period of 4 years including appropriate removal techniques to address high iron contamination.
- Increase sanitation coverage from 16-20% to 100% by business approach.
- Establish community based water supply operation and maintenance systems including mobile mechanics program.
- Increase water and sanitation coverage in school from 12% to 100%.
- Establish FLOW monitoring platform with district administration, so that all water points can be mapped and monitored annually.
- Foment hygiene behavior change through education and promotion activities in communities and schools.

The key challenges anticipated, and program components designed to address them are as follows.

Drinking Water Access: Current government standards require that in rural areas improved water source be located no farther than 800 m from any home. No more than 250 people are to use the same water point. Given the existing coverage and standards, approximately 1100 new water point are to be created and 700 existing water points are in need of repair. Given the lack of available surface water, the resource to be accessed will be groundwater. Meetings held with stakeholders to plan interventions, define roles and responsibilities for long term maintenances, select technologies and establish contributions which will ensure optimal use of financial resources.

Sustainable Sanitation: Discipleship Centre with Technical assistance and financial support from Water for People has developed a sustainable sanitation strategy which applies to its program in Bihar which fits within the Everyone Forever framework.

The programs are tested to achieve the following goods:-

- Latrines being used regularly by all members of the family.
- No significant risk to community health from disposal techniques.

Discipleship Centre is working with local government, local CSO partners to stimulate a sustainable increase in sanitation coverage by generating demand, developing attractive, affordable toilets that are technically sound and well built, but will not invest directly in

hardware. The process by which household access the government subsidies for sanitation will also be improved.

Hygiene Education and Schools: Currently, only 12% of schools in Sheohar have access to adequate WASH facilities. Discipleship Centre believes that providing adequate water and sanitation services in school is providing the basic amenities. Most schools do not meet the minimum government standard for number of adequate toilets per student, and lack child friendly facilities. Poor menstrual hygiene and lack of adequate facilities cause numerous health hazards among adolescent girls and women.

Holistic approach: Discipleship Centre adopt a holistic approach to hygiene education and promotion at both the community and school levels. Personal hygiene (focused on hand washing) safe handling of water (collection, transport, storage and consumption) safe disposal of human waste (household and school) safe disposal of solid and liquid waste (solid waste pits, compost pits, soak pits, kitchen garden and incinerators), and proper food hygiene, (safe washing and food storage techniques) are emphasized through interpersonal, group and mass approaches. The schools program in Sheohar has already initiated child friendly features to facilitate improved sanitation practices in 11 schools, and facilities are built behind the schools because girls feel more comfortable going to the facilities unobserved. School administrators, teachers and students are involved in planning. In many schools, the students take the role of "child engineer" and make decision about the sanitary facilities to be constructed in their schools.

Community Approach to Water Point Maintenance: Given the current number of hand pumps in Sheohar which are in need of repair, it is clear that current mechanism for long term maintenance and repair are not functioning properly. Although natural disasters such as flooding are common, facilities are designed or improved to mitigate potential negative effects. At all new repaired water points, Water for People- India organizes and trains water and sanitation (WATSAN) committees to operate and maintain the systems, open a new bank account, and collect tariffs which will be used to fund repairs and eventual replacement of the systems by the users. In high schools, WATSAN committees consisting of students and one or two teachers will be made responsible for operation and maintenance.

The Jalabandhus - Discipleship Centre has started developing a framework in Sheohar to support local entrepreneurs interested in working as roving water point mechanics known as Jalabandhus (which means "Friend of water"). DC has so far trained 106 Jalabandhus to provide pump maintenance and repair service paid by WATSAN committees and government, which will reduce down time of hand pumps to ensure continuous flow of water and remove dependencies on future outside aid for the same water points.

CCADRR - Creating awareness to the communities to Face Disasters through Capacity Building (Tear fund project)

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is a tool for taking pre-cautionary measures to face the challenges caused by natural hazards like earthquakes, floods, and cyclones, through preventive techniques.

Disaster Risk Reduction is about choices.

Reducing exposure to hazards, lessening vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improving preparedness and early warning for adverse events are all examples of disaster risk reduction.

Disaster Risk Reduction is everyone's business.

Disaster Risk Reduction includes disciplines of disaster management, disaster mitigation and disaster preparedness. DRR is also part of sustainable development. DRR involves every part of society, every part of government, and every part of the professional and private sector. (India is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world and it is estimated that 60 percent of the country is susceptible to earthquakes and 70 percent to floods).

DCs Intervention - Discipleship Centre has stepped in to contribute its bit in this area by tackling the problems of flood prone villages in Bihar through a dual process of Capacity Building and Physical Interventions. DC, with the help of Tearfund -UK, is implementing its DRR program by adopting the following Action Points -

- (1) Risk Assessment through the method of 'Participatory Assessment of Disaster Risk', (PADR) - that identifies the probability of a hazard occurring and the likely impact on a given community.
- (2) Petitioning for change in policy at the national, district and community levels
- (3) Adopting DRR best practices
- (4) Building escape routes or Evacuation Planning, to ensure safety
- (5) Capacity building to cope with impact of disasters
- (6) Formation of Village Disaster Management Committees or VDMCs, Self Help Groups (SHGs) & Village Development Committees (VDCs)
- (7) Ensuring sustainability for continuation of the project
- (8) Equipping the DC staff to handle emergencies

Involvement of the Community - DC has implemented a community based DRR project in Darbhanga, Bihar, which is a flood prone area. The project has been successful in demonstrating how communities can significantly reduce the risk of natural disasters by adopting DRR methods, on the one hand, and taking pro-active steps in petitioning for change in policy at the national, district and community levels, on the other.

Capacity Building - The communities are helped to develop disaster risk contingency action plans through PADR, followed up by their regular review. Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMCs) were formed and through series of review meetings, communities and their VDMCs were able

to evaluate their progress against the village action plans. Communities were sensitized and encouraged to implement DRR practices in their areas by connecting with various stakeholders.

Establishing Escape Routes & Sustainability - Addressing the need for community exit strategies, and ensuring sustainability of the various project interventions, has been primary focus.

As a result there is reduction in dependency on the Government, in the probable impact areas, where the community members are no longer at the receiving end, but instead, work towards sustenance, i.e. ensuring a livelihood in the event of a disaster. Village 'Self Help Groups' (SHGs) and their 'Inter Loaning' scheme is a major transformational intervention. By pooling their resources, the community members are able to assist each other with loans to start small enterprises and generate income to support their families. It is transformational because people realize that they have the capacity and resources to help themselves out of poverty and increase their resilience against disasters & other setbacks.

Alternative Livelihoods - Our DRR project has bridged the gap between development and humanitarian programs and helped to strengthen livelihood security. In a country like India, faced with recurrent crises, development can only be sustained if there is a proper understanding of the response to the negative impact of disasters. The following statement sums it all -

"The more governments, UN agencies, organizations, businesses and civil society understand risk and vulnerability, the better equipped they will be to mitigate disasters when they strike and save more lives" – Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General

DC's DRR interventions seek to assist in the development of this understanding to support livelihoods and to protect assets, reduce vulnerability of communities and increase their opportunities of pursuing sustainable and alternative livelihoods.

Working with the Government - One of the key issues learnt was active engagement of the community at various levels to influence the government authorities to carry out infrastructural development. This has resulted in the installation of high rise tube wells in the flood inundated areas. Networking with the local level government has enabled the villagers to obtain sanction for various schemes for their villages, through the VDCs requesting the government officials to undertake the works as per the orders of the government.

Winds of Change - Although the VDCs may not have access to donor funding for major development, this project undertook practical interventions, utilizing local resources, so that they can be easily replicated in future. The communities are now able to adopt DRR practices and the primary beneficiaries are training others as well. The success of the project is encouraging others to adopt DRR methods. There is a sense of ownership as the community members provide human resources for completion of infrastructural works and their maintenance.

The way forward - The DC staff regularly meet all the VDMCs to review the action plans and to chart the way forward. The review process involves assessment of the progress made towards addressing the vulnerabilities in each community as well as the identification of remaining gaps which need to be filled. The committees are now trained in DRR and are aware of disaster risks and how to address them as they have been equipped with the knowledge and skills for reducing those risks.

The seekers Camp 2014

Showers of Blessings

I heard the voice of the Lord saying "Whom shall I send,
and who will go for us" then I said "Here am I! Send me".

Isaiah 6:8

"Go therefore and make disciples
of all the Nations".

Seekers camp was conducted in Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Kalyanpuri simultaneously on 17th to 19th November 2014. Chairman and Treasurer of DC both gave their valuable time in Faridabad. Executive Director along with several partners participated in Kalyanpuri and Ghaziabad. The seekers were at the age group of 11-18 totalling to 103. Many of them committed to the Lord and living for the Lord. Continuous follow up is in progress.

Seekers learned the truth about many areas that are relevant to today's context of choosing the right path.





John 14:6 was the theme of the seekers Camp in all the 3 places "I am the way, the truth and life".

It was a blessing week to spend time with the children. Children's ministry is marvelous one to do. Please pray for the next seekers camp.

We thank our donors, Happy Tree Missionary work, Hong Kong and Compassion International.



Seekers Camp at Faridabad



The Board of Governors

Mr. S.L.Karunakaran	Chairman
Mr. Robin Amos	Vice Chairman
Mr. Kennedy Dhanabalan	Secretary
Mr. Anand Singh	Treasurer
Mr. Babykutty Ninan	Member
Pastor Jolly Samson Raj	Member
Mrs. Monica Sudhir	Member
Mrs. Esther Farida Nath	Member
Mr. A .Murugesan	Ex-Officio Member

Donations to Discipleship Centre are exempt from tax, u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act. Cheques / Bank Drafts may be made in favour of "Discipleship Centre"

Institution of Donors

1. Tear Fund, UK
2. Compassion International
3. Water For People
4. Trinity Christain Centre
5. Happy Tree Missionary Service

Individual Donors

1. Mr. S. L. Karunakaran
2. Mr. & Mrs. Weaver
3. Mrs. Nalina Kumari Murugesan
4. Ms. Latika David
5. Mr. Abhishek
6. Mr. G. V. Rao

Thank you and God bless you !

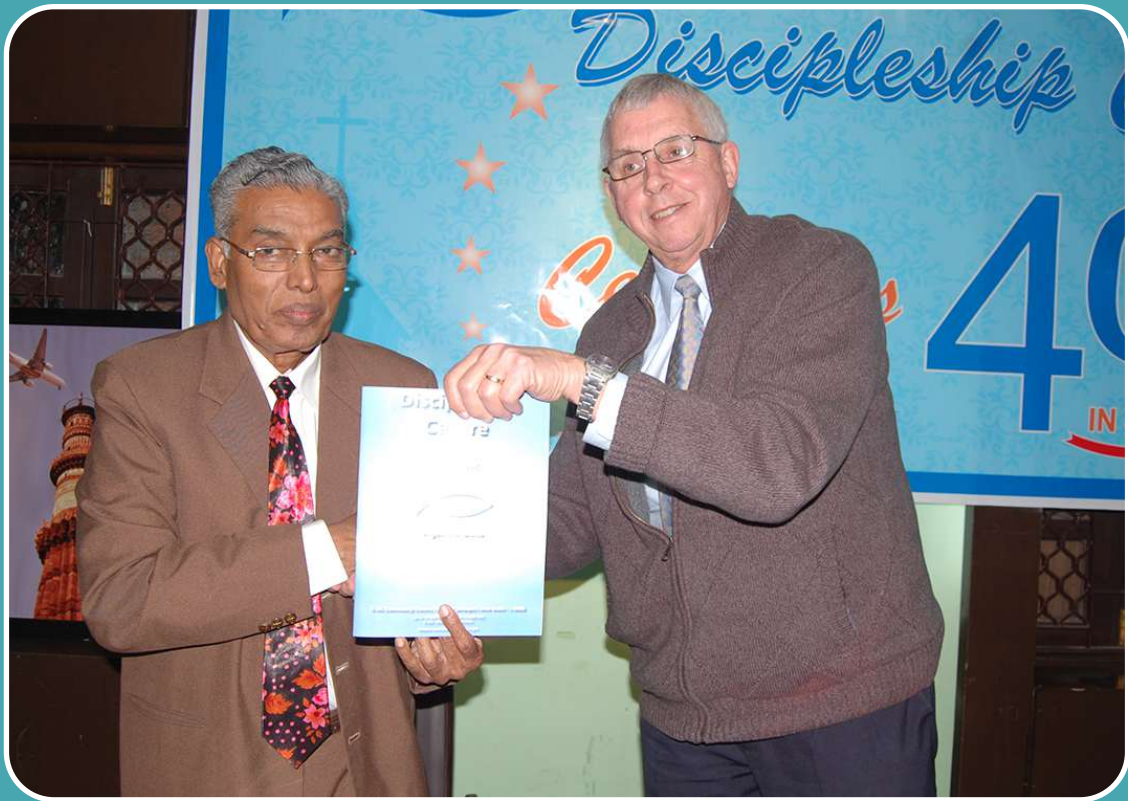
DISCIPLESHIP CENTRE
BALANCE SHEET AS ON MARCH 31, 2015

GENERAL FUND & LIABILITIES	SCHEDULE	AMOUNT (Rs)
General Fund	A	34,288,242.95
Special Earmarked Funds	B	12,863,042.11
Current Liabilities & Provisions	C	1,609,916.00
Emergency Relief Fund		820,749.00
Discipleship Centre Staff Reserve fund		3,300,929.00
MED Fund		81,767.14
TOTAL		52,964,646.20
ASSETS		
FIXED ASSETS	E	16,160,920.00
CURRENTS ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES		
(a) Cash & Bank Balances	F	35,075,337.17
(b) Loans & Advances	D	34,000.00
(c) TDS Recoverable		1,694,389.03
TOTAL		52,964,646.20

Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2015

PARTICULARS	SCHEDULE	AMOUNT (Rs.)
INCOME		
Grants & Donations		46,276,906.01
Interest form Bank		1,949,694.00
Rent Receipt		204,400.00
Excess of Exp. Over Income		606,441.95
TOTAL		49,037,441.96
EXPENDITURE		
Capacity Building of Communities		1,668,202.00
Rural Development Projects		19,110,858.12
Child Development Programmes		19,401,580.38
Rehabilitation Expenses		4,299,938.00
Workshop/Training		1,644,127.69
Administrative Expenses	G	1,786,198.77
Depreciation on Fixed Assets	E	1,126,537.00
TOTAL		49,037,441.96



Releasing Souvenir of
40th year DC
by
Founder and Chairman DC.