

# FEED ORISSA

*An Update by Philip Bishoyi, Missionary, Diptipur, Orissa*

Dear Friends of the Friendless!

We love to greet you so for Jesus Himself was a Friend of the friendless.

On 18th July, we opened a Home for the poor children of prisoners, slum dwellers and the poor believers of our village



congregations. Well, it means new lives for a handful of boys whose future would be at stake if their present condition prevailed. We would like to introduce two children to you.

You might have read about Puska in one of our earlier letters. Puska, who was seen collecting cement falling from bags from a lorry to give his mother who would make some money out of it, is right under our roof now... The sight of 4 year old Puska (2 yrs. back) bathed in cement melted our hearts. Puska is a lively kid who could win the heart of anyone who comes across him. He is in I Std.

Saphed is an orphan from our village congregation. The pale and lanky kid has a very sorry tale behind him. He is the only boy born among three girls to his parents. When his father got TB, for the fear of contracting the disease, his mother deserted her husband and children and married someone else. The father died soon after with a broken heart and TB and the children were orphaned. The eldest sister in the

family had to shoulder the responsibility of feeding her siblings including a few months old baby and an infant (2 yrs. old). The little baby cried to death after the mother left. Our evangelists visit their village regularly and they have brought Saphed to the home. Saphed is deeply affected. We could not force a smile out of him. But God has given him in our hands for he has a wonderful plan for this boy. Saphed is in 5th Std.

The people of Gandharla in Balangir district were filled with awe as they saw Daniel and Susan after six years. When we visited Gandharla in 2001 and distributed rice to the starving, Daniel who was then a small boy also came to us. When enquired, we came to know that Daniel had none to take care of him. We wrote in the Newsletter about Daniel and the Cyril Christian couple



from Sambalpur, Orissa came forward to educate the child. Soon his sister Susan also joined him. After six years, they visited Gandharla this June with the Cyrils and the whole village gathered to see them in amazement. Susan's friends have left the school long back and they are now working as coolies. Susan has won the first prize in the Bible test conducted by the Sambalpur Diocese for 3 consecutive years. Daniel is preparing for his 10 std examination. Pray for them. We appreciate and thank the Cyril Christian couple.

The works of reconstructing the collapsed houses and feeding the starving are progressing well in Sindhekela area. The house of a



poor old widow who takes care of her deserted grandchildren who was completed last month. Now she has accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and is attending the local Church. Praise the Lord!

The number of starving families that receive monthly provision from us has gone up to 64 in Sindhekela field alone. When Kalyani Suna came to our TB clinic for treatment she was pregnant. We counselled the couple and treated them with much prayer. Kalyani had safe delivery. Both the mother and the baby are fine. We are providing milk powder for the baby and ration for the mother.



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We have village congregations in 38 places. But only one village has got a church. In some villages, our believers have willingly given their land for the construction of churches. Pray for the construction work.

Every year we conduct cataract surgery camps for the poor rural people. We operate nearly 300 people every year, yet hundreds of people are sent back without the surgery for we schedule the camp for only two or three days. These people wait for another year to be operated. We feel that this is unfair. Hence we are conducting mini camps in interior villages to collect the cataract patients and get them operated once every fortnight through the Lions Club. Dr. P.K. Singh, ophthalmic surgeon, helps us. Mr. Banchhur, a retired hospital staff has joined our team to help us in this project.

We are also planning for a *Surgery Camp*. Hundreds of people remain invalid at home or live with pain just because they could not afford surgery. Dr. Joseph Victor, Thanjavur and Dr. & Mrs. Manoharan, Kanchipuram have volunteered to come with a team and help us. Pray for the arrangements, to locate the patients, Operation theatre, Doctors, Nurses, Anaesthetists and co-operation from the government. MEDIVISION will be helping us.

We send out a bimonthly Newsletter to those interested. Please write to us if you like to be in the mailing list.

***Address for Correspondence and Contributions:***

**BLESSING YOUTH MISSION**

Church Colony

Vellore 632 006, India.

Tel: 0416-2242943, 2248943

<bym@sancharnet.in>

Money Orders, Cheques, Bank Drafts to be sent in favour of BLESSING YOUTH MISSION, VELLORE.

Any relief material may be sent by TCI Lorry service to **TITLAGARH**, Orissa and the waybill to— Mr. Peter Nag, Bundupalla village P.O & Desil, Via Titlagarh 767 033, Orissa. Contact person for Feed Orissa: Mr. P.Thomas Livingstone, Ashish Sebasadan, DAM Colony, Bargarh 768028. Mobile: 9337311560 <feed\_orissa@yahoo.com>