

CIMR NEWS LETTER

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Merry Christmas And Happy New Year

CIMR – JOURNEY WITH A NEW VISION

45 years of journey of CIMR and its growth is the dream and hard work of Fr. Felix along with his committed co-workers. Several milestones have been achieved during this journey and all these helped to ensure their place for the intellectually challenged persons in the society. Several thousands of children and adults along with their families benefitted from this dedicated service and we are continuing the same even after the demise of the founder.

It was Fr. Felix's dream to develop a place for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. With that vision he purchased the agriculture land at Kuttichial. Now, we are thinking more seriously about it as many of our students are adults and sooner or later they require rehabilitation services and there are not many facilities available for them.

By God's grace, we have the land required for constructing a rehabilitation centre. Our next goal is to build a facility suitable to accommodate a group of adults with disabilities. This can provide services for short term stay, respite care and long term stay with training in employment. We humbly ask for your support to realize this aim. Every contribution, no matter the size, will bring us closer to making this dream a reality for the children we serve.

The meaning of Christmas, the birth of the savior who came among us in humility and love, reminds us that every act of kindness and generosity brings His light more fully into the World.

Thank you for supporting us all these years, for your prayers and for your concern for our children. May the child Jesus bless you and your family with peace and love and abundant blessings in the coming New Year. CIMR wishes you all Happy Christmas and Happy New Year.



EDITORIAL

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Again another Christmas time has come. Christmas is all about sharing life and love. We at CIMR share our sentiments of gratitude to each one of you, our friends, well wishers, supporters and companions in this journey of love and service. We wish you and your families the peace and joy of Christ and a very Happy New Year 2026 in advance. It is 45 years since we started our journey as CIMR Family. As we look back, we have travelled a long way in the protection of divine providence and under the able leadership of Rev. Fr. Thomas Felix CMI, and in his footsteps three years in his physical absence. We remember the many loving faces of our children, parents and siblings, Co-Workers and well wishers who travelled with us over the past years. During this season of Christmas we remember all of you with gratitude and raise our hearts to the Almighty to keep all of you filled with his grace and peace.

This issue of CIMR News Letter comes to you narrating our present journey with our children with the objectives of an inclusive society.

Fr. Thomas Cheganariparampil MST
Executive Director, CIMR

CONSTRUCTION OF INCLUSIVE CHILDREN'S PARK AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

RPWD Act of 2016 ensures equal rights and inclusive society for all persons with disabilities. This has been enshrined in the previous PWD Act 1996, National Policy on Disability, UNCRPD, RPWD Act, and Education Policy of India. But due to several reasons this has not yet been fully implemented. All public institutions and public places and public transportation facilities have to be equipped with barrier free inclusive environment. India is on the process of implementing this in a phased manner.

CIMR is fortunate to be part of making a portion of a public park inclusive in every respect. Captain Lakshmi Park managed and run by Thiruvananthapuram Corporation has a new and attractive look with its inclusive make over and facilities. A portion of the park land was given to CIMR for making it inclusive. The land is owned by Kerala Water Authority. It was previously developed by Smart City. Hence a quadriparty agreement was made between Kerala Water Authority, Corporation, Smart City and CIMR. As per this agreement, the construction of the inclusive park and maintenance of the same for three years is done by CIMR.

The construction of the inclusive children's park was possible with the financial support of Allianz Services Pvt. Ltd. The whole concept of inclusive set up in the allotted portion of the park was conceived and implemented by Allianz Services and H&H Architects through CIMR. We are thankful to Allianz and H&H Architects for this marvelous work.

It took about seven months to complete the construction work and installation of equipment. After the constructions, it looks very beautiful and it is equipped with ramp for wheel chair users, swing and merry go round accessible even for wheel chair bound, activity for all children, information and direction in braille and space for the parents to sit and watch the children. The park gives an amphitheatre look with space for group activity. The flooring is done with EPDF material which helps the children feel good and protects them from injury even if they fall down. Wheel chair accessible toilet is also made. The pop up shop provides reading material and it sells out environment related materials. Important places to visit in Thiruvananthapuram and nearby places are depicted with photos and their importance. The surroundings are filled with attractive plants which gives a greenery outlook.

The official inauguration of this inclusive educational park was done by Shri Mohammed Riyas , honorable Minister for Tourism and Public Works on 5th November 2025 in the presence of Corporation Mayor, Mrs. Arya Rajendran, Deputy Mayor Shri. P. K. Raju and people representatives and officers.

The top officials of Allianz Services visited the park on 7th October and they expressed great satisfaction over the overall construction of the park.



SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTER INAUGURATED AT CIMR

CIMR is entering into another stage of empowering the children with disabilities to become entrepreneurs. A small unit of waste paper recycling unit is established at CIMR in which the students will be trained to make different types of paper from waste paper, textiles cuttings, hyacinth etc. Using the up cycled paper they will make various items like file folder, Carry bags, envelops, pen and pen stand, dairies, calendars, greeting cards etc.

The unit that includes various machines was inaugurated by the Executive Director of Kerala Shuchithwa Mission, Shri U. V. Jose IAS at CIMR and started its functioning. The children and staff are learning to operate the machines, recycle paper and other materials and make variety of items. Later, this can become a center for skill development and sustainability. This creates a perfect synergy between waste management and livelihood generation. By transforming waste into beautiful, usable handmade products, we are not only protecting our environment but also equipping our students with sustainable skills for the future.



GRADUATION CEREMONY OF 55TH BATCH OF TEACHER TRAINEES

The graduation ceremony of 55th batch of Teacher Trainees was held on 20th November. Shri. Moideenkutty k, The Managing Director of Kerala State Handicapped Welfare Corporation, was the chief guest. He reiterated the importance of special teachers in the present scenario. He motivated the graduating teachers to be productive for special children. Dr. Johannes Meunzel participated in the programme as a special guest. The guests awarded the teachers with certificates. Fr. Thomas welcomed the guests. Sr. Elise, the course coordinator and Mrs. Kala Bhasker congratulated the teachers on being awarded the certificates.

The outgoing teachers were welcomed with flowers by DCMR students. The present teacher trainees and DCMR Students staged beautiful dances to felicitate the outgoing teachers. The outgoing teachers shared their experiences in the institute during the training and after they started their career as a teacher. All the 12 outgoing teachers are already employed in different institutions in Kerala. All of them are happy in their first job placement.



TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE

The 57th batch of teacher trainees commenced their classes on 15th October after long process of admission procedure. 12 students are admitted in this batch and started their journey towards becoming special educators.

The 56th batch of teacher trainees, as part of their course, started their field visit- visit to families and Buds Schools. Thus the trainees have a hands on experience in the life situation of the special children, interaction with the parents and Buds School teachers and management. This gives them a new experience of interacting with the children in their living surroundings.



DR. JOHANNES VISITS CIMR

Dr. Johannes Meunzel, who was behind building up Jeevan Prakash Child Center at CIMR, is always very close to us. He was here at CIMR for a two month visit. During this stay he went through all the activities of CIMR and interacted with many and shared his knowledge. He interacted with our children and guided our students in several ways. Together with that he guided several doctors in different hospitals regarding early detection especially children in the first year of life to detect any motor developmental delay. On November 5 and 6 Dr. Johannes explained the neuro kinesiological diagnostic method to a group of paediatricians at Holy Cross Hospital Kottiyam. Similarly, on 26 November he interacted with paediatricians of CSI hospital Kazhakootam and on 27 November at Mary Queen's hospital Kanjirappaly. We are thankful to him for his committed service to the development of the children and of this institute.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

This year children's day was celebrated at DCMR with a medical checkup camp by PHC Nandancode team. PHC team along with Asha Workers presented some cultural programmes and spoke on world diabetic day and conducted health check up on all students and staff and gave advice to be taken care of and to be conveyed to the parents. The children were given sweets and they were greeted on children's day.

On the eve of children's day all the children and staff were taken for a movie at the Travancore Mall. All the children enjoyed watching that movie "Baahubali: The Epic". It was organized and sponsored by Round Table Club members, Trivandrum.



STUDY VISIT TO CIMR

The teacher trainees of Nagpur visited CIMR and learned its activities on 10th October. They were enthusiastic to learn about Three Cs and observed how children are educated in this method. They observed the activities of the students and interacted with our teacher trainees.

Teacher trainees of St. Agnes Institute Mangalore visited CIMR on 31 October. They were very eager to understand the Three Cs concept and how it works with the intellectually challenged children.

NCC students from Kendriya Vidyalaya Akkulam visited the students of DCMR on 26 November. They visited all the classes and other activities of DCMR and interacted with the students.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING STARTED

With the support of Azim Premji Foundation, vocational training to our young adults started on 1st October. They are being trained in making products from paper, like paper files, paper carry bags etc. A group of them are trained in agriculture activities, another group in computer, tailoring, craft making etc. We hope that this training will enhance their capability and slowly make them employable. The adults with intellectual disability need employment so that they will become earning members in the family.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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