



Since the inception in 2006, Don Bosco Tech Society makes all possible efforts to provide bright future to the young generation by imparting appropriate market driven skills. A significant milestone in the history of Don Bosco Tech Society was the launching of short term placement linked skill development program 'Bosco Academy for Skills and Employment' in partnership with Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) since 2010. There are many centres in which this program has been successfully implemented without any interruption. As a result, thousands of youth have benefited through skill training program in a span of six years. To showcase the continuous efforts of these centers, a segment 'Champion Centre' has been introduced in the monthly news bulletin 'UPDATE'. In this issue, we are highlighting the Don Bosco Tech (Nilika) centre located in Kolkata (West Bengal).

Don Bosco Tech (Nilika) centre is located in the campus of the Provincial House of Kolkata. With collaboration and support from Province, Don Bosco Tech started the short term skill training program on July 26, 2010. Till date, 22 batches of BASE program completed in association with Ministry of Rural Development, ITC and Axis Bank Foundation. 1470 youth from lower economic strata have been impacted through this intervention out of which 79 per cent joined job market with facilitation from Don Bosco Tech. When we recall the initial days of launching the program at Nilika, it really makes us proud. We tried to capture some significant moments through this piece of writing.

Having a good and adequate infrastructure, the Salesian community decided to initiate the youth empowerment program in Nilika for optimum utilization of available space. "But it took time to start the BASE program in Nilika centre because many were not convinced that a 3-month training will make the youth employable and also whether this program would work in the heart of the metropolitan city like Kolkata," says Fr. Remesh Chorian, SDB (Former Province In-Charge, Don Bosco Tech, Kolkata Province). At that time, Nilika centre was known as a tuition center for the slum children. The Salesians were conducting tuition classes in three shifts (Morning till 8.30 AM and evening 4 to 6 PM and 6 to 8 PM) for those children, whose parents are not financially sound to send them for tuition. At the same time, the community was willing to make the space available for the skill training during the day. The first batch of BASE program with funding from MoRD for the BPL category began with 90 students. However as long as the MoRD project was implemented, the center was running with an optimum strength because of the Government sponsored program.



There were also lots of apprehension whether the numbers would get saturated after few batches in the same premises.

After completion of MoRD project, there was a transit period, when lots of youngsters started enquiring every day about the starting of next batch and Don Bosco Tech was also eagerly searching for an agency to sponsor these candidates. Axis Bank Foundation came forward to support the programme partially. As a team, the management took a decision to start the program as a fee based model in which the student had to pay token amount as fee for the training and hostel. The switching from free mode to fee mode took nearly two months to start the next batch. The trainers struggled to get the expected numbers. "During the course of time, we have also learned that if you are imparting quality training, a small amount of money will not become a

hindrance for skilling. The youngsters also became quite serious about the training because they are paying some hard earned money as fee for the training," says Ms Satabdi Roy Shaw, who was closely associated with Nilika centre in different roles like, as Communicative English Trainer, Centre Coordinator, Cluster Coordinator and State Coordinator of West Bengal. The fee mode also added value to the program in terms of retention in the training and placement. Don Bosco alumni are retained in their jobs in different star hotels, resorts or restaurants in cities like Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Cochin, Kolkata and other places. Mr. Goutam Maitra (Center Coordinator, Don Bosco Tech, Nilika) expressed, "For me it is a great platform to help the youth to become employable and skillful for today and the future."

"Quality brings credibility to the training. Quality of training and placement is the reason behind the success in Nilika centre. Kudos to all the team members for the great success," says Fr. Remesh. When the students came out as well-groomed youngsters and moved to various parts of the country on jobs – the training and the center became sought after. Now students from far flung areas are coming to the centre by travelling even two hours one way to become skilled. Because of good words from students not only attracts more youth but also Don Bosco evolves as a strong brand in the city for imparting skill training. From those days, the centre team never looked back; and Don Bosco Tech at Nilika has been continuously responding to the aspirations of these poor and needy residents of the City of Joy.

COURSES

Hospitality
COOKERY
F&B SERVICE
HOUSEKEEPING



Industrial Sewing
Machine Operator

MAJOR EMPLOYERS

Barbeque Nation
Hotel Aroma
Speciality Group
Mast Kalandar
Aroma Hotel
Casino Air Caterers and
Flight Services
Cafe Coffee Day
The Travancore
Heritage
Hotel Sapphire Inn
Windflower Resort

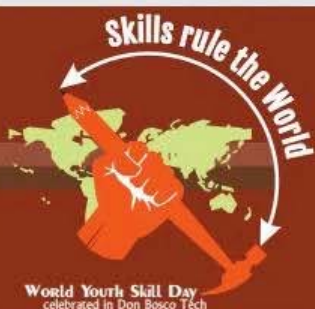
Blue Water
Vedic Village Sps
The Upper Deck Resort
Best Western Premier
Vedic Village
Food Link
Mainland China
Subway
KFC
Hotel Sonar Bangla
Pizza Hut
Lake Land Country Club
Dolphin

Placed

1168

Trained

1470



Joining hand with millions of youth across the World and India, staff and trainees of Don Bosco Tech Society observed World Youth Skills Day on July 15, 2016 in many and different ways in all the centres located across India. The United Nations, at its General Assembly in November 2014, had declared July 15 as World Youth Skills Day to generate greater awareness and discussion on the importance of vocational training and the development of other skills relevant to both local and global economies. This year UN observed the day with special theme of 'Skills Development to Improve Youth Employment'.

Rising Star: Gitali Nath



Impossible itself says,
"I AM possible"

28-year old Gitali Nath hails from Sonapur (Assam), which is 20 km away from Guwahati and belongs to a middle class family. As a tradition in the state, like all the young girls she got married at the age of 24 years. But soon after getting married, her life became miserable as her husband fully depended on her which resulted in separation as she could not bear the burden for long.

Gitali worked as a teacher in a school (Sonapur) on a contractual basis as she did not want to be a burden on her parents. In spite of her qualification, she was unable to bag a job to sustain herself, which was slowly leading her into depression. Then, one fine day her father came to know about Don Bosco Tech Society and brought Gitali to the Sonapur centre to enquire about the courses.

At the center, after the assessment on the interest inventory test and brief counselling, she joined the Hospitality domain. She felt lucky to be a part of third batch of Hospitality and left no opportunity to learn and acquire all the necessary skills taught in the centre. "Her passion to learn and execute what she learned was remarkable," comments Sunita Kumari (Centre Coordinator, Don Bosco Tech, Sonapur).

After completing her training, Gitali got her placement in the Hospitality section of Novotel Hotel at Hyderabad Airport. Her efficiency and hard work left a very positive impression upon her seniors and employer. Gitali very skillfully secured her job as an Executive Assistant to General Manager in Novotel.

"Today my life is transformed and I owe it to Don Bosco Tech. I am earning a handsome salary of Rs. 16,000 per month, which is helping not only for my survival but also financially supporting my parents." She is ever grateful to Don Bosco Tech which not only changed her life situation but also secured for her a future that offers hope and possibilities in career and a secure livelihood.

Promoting the importance of insurance among the trainees

On June 12, 2016, Don Bosco Tech (Makkalalay, Karnataka) organized a guest lecture for the trainees of Retail domain. Mr. Chandra (Senior Branch Manager) and Mr. Dinesh (Chief Advisor) from LIC India (Mysore Branch) were the resource persons, who graced the afternoon program with their presence and shared the inputs related to importance of insurance.

The purpose of the lecture was to brief the trainees about Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and their wide varieties of products such as general insurances, life insurances, and term insurances. Furthermore, the lecture also focused on job vacancies, salary offered in the company, working procedures and culture, career growth and few issues relating to the Retail domain.

The session was highly interactive and gave a considerable motivation to the trainees to learn and improve their knowledge about the insurance and job opportunities in the sector. Trainees were engaged very effectively during the programme and learned much



Don Bosco Tech (Mareduvilli YTC, Andhra Pradesh) had organized an on-the-job training (OJT) for the trainees of General Duty Assistant (GDA) domain after they successfully finished 75 days classroom training. The on-the-job training was organized to gain better hold on the knowledge of their domain and services they need to render to the patients in their future career. The OJT was arranged at the Primary Health Centre, Mareduvilli.

Welcoming the trainees, Dr. Jhansi introduced the trainees about the Primary Health Centre and how it is necessary to set up especially in

Tree plantation drive during the batch inauguration

Considering the serious depletion of the ozone layer and risk of radiation as well as global warming, Don Bosco Tech (Ashadeep, Muzaffarpur, Bihar) organised a tree plantation program cum batch inauguration on July 20, 2016. With the message on planting more trees to save earth and humanity, this program was organised in collaboration with Dainik Bhaskar, the leading daily newspaper of North India. Mr. Kumar Bhavanand (Editor), Mr. Shaleesh Kumar (Sub-editor) and Mr. Lallitendu (Coordinator) from Dainik Bhaskar were the Chief Guests, who graced the program with their presence.

In the welcome speech on the occasion of batch inauguration cum tree plantation program, Fr. Jesuvaraj, SJ (Centre Head, Don Bosco Tech, Ashadeep) said, "Planting of trees is a noble work, and it shows that we are close to the nature that always let us be close to humanity as well."

Followed by his speech, Fr. Albert, SJ (Asst. Director, Ashadeep) advised the trainees to plant at least one tree in their own land too. He commented "Planting a tree symbolizes a new beginning and new life towards greater manifestation of wisdom." He appreciated the cause and work of Dainik Bhaskar for Go Green initiative by tree plantation.



regarding good strategies to be adopted in marketing a product as well as maintaining the customer service that signify the prominence of it. In order to motivate the trainees, trainers narrated the inspiring success story of an alumni from the previous batch of Don Bosco Tech and also briefed about working duration, field work, salary, qualities required in sales, dressing sense, grooming, HR policies, and incentives offered. It was a very useful experience of learning and the opportunity ensured higher level of motivation for the trainees.

Acquiring job-related skills and knowledge on Health Care

the rural areas where good medical facilities and care of the patients are very poor. After the introduction, trainees visited around the health centre and made themselves familiar with the various departments and facilities. The trainees were divided into groups and were given different tasks so that they could interact better with the different departments and personnel of the primary health center and also the patients.

Under the guidance and monitored by the doctor-on-duty during the OJT, trainees undertook rotational duties and responsibilities like entering the patients' names, organizing the prescribed medication, facilitating taking of blood and urine samples, dressing injuries and wounds and arranging saline to the patients in need, etc.

Trainees were very happy about this practical experience and one of the trainees concluded by adding, "We had left our studies long back and sat idle at home. But now, Don Bosco Tech has shown us a ray of hope to gain a skill and to earn a living. We are happy to know that finally we are going to work shortly. Thanks to Don Bosco and trainers for imparting the training and their valuable service and love."



Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Kumar Bhavanand said, "I am really amazed to see the admirable skillful program in Ashadeep, which benefits numbers of underprivileged rural youth to the utmost." Sharing on his visit to various places for the purpose of plantation, he stated that Don Bosco Tech is far different from other organizations, where the trainers and team contribute their skills to transform the life of less privileged youth.