**About Vimochana Development Society**

Vimochana Development Society, a registered Society, is a Social Development Organization, with its office at Dharmashrama, Dharmagiri, Machapur, Kalghatgi 581 204, Karnataka State, India.

Vimochana Development Society is a Voluntary Organization established in 2001 as an extension of Commit-ments (Community Development Service) and Good News Welfare Society, exclusively for rural development and rural education under the leadership of Fr. Jacob P. J. Ex MLA, with his 5 decades of rural development work, which is registered under Society Act – 1860. It was established by group of likeminded social workers who are working in the field of Child Protection, Basic health, Education, Vocational Training, Employment generation and Skill development training programs, Environmental protection, Rural development, Women empowerment and Social Justice and other important social developmental issues.

Vimochana Development Society works as a non-profit, non-political and non-religious organization. **Vimochana Development Society** works among women, children, and unemployed youth of Rural & Urban Slum Community and backward poor villagers, especially for the upliftment of Lamani Community, a tribal most backward community. Major areas of interest of the organization are Vocational Training, women empowerment, Primary and non-formal education, Basic health, HIV/ AIDS Awareness, Environmental Protection, Agriculture and Horticulture Production, Small scale & home Industry protection, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Employment Oriented Vocational Training, Old age home construction, Women & Child Protection and Social Justice, Youth Development, Promotion of Arts and Culture, Reproductive Child health and other Awareness Programs on various Social, Health & Education and Current Issues

Since its establishment, the Society has undertaken many projects like Women’s and Human Rights Campaigns, Social Justice Programs, Rural Electrification, Watershed Management etc.

**Registrations and Affiliations**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of the organization | Vimochana Development Society |  |
| Address | Post. Kalghatgi  District . Dharwad  Karnataka  581204 |
| Registered under | 1. Societies’ Act 1960 2. Under section 12 A of IT Act 3. Under section 80G of IT Act(Now applied for renewal) 4. Under Foreign Contribution regulation ACT(FCRA) 5. Department of women and child Development 6. Registered with Planning Commission of India | Reg. No 60/2001  FNO-118/458/CIT-HBL/2001-02  F NO 115/458/71/CIT-HBL/2001-02  NO -094520052  No- KA080017AE01  ID: KA/2013/0070159 |

**St. Mary’s English Medium School**

St. Mary’s English Medium School, the brain-child of Fr. Jacob P. J., was established in the year 2001, and with the sole motto of providing value based English medium education to the rural poor, who were hitherto deprived of this. His aim is to provide quality English medium education to the children of farm laborers, so that one child educated in such family and with some technical skill training/education could get a job so that he/she would not send parents to coolie labor work. Thus, this school is aptly named **“Save a Family Scheme.”**

* Started with 53 children in a rented building in Kalghatgi, the school has trekked a rough terrain and no boasts of its own eco-friendly, green campus, in nearby Machapur village.
* The strength now stands at 1018 children studying from Nursery to X standard. This year the school is sending its 5th batch to SSLC examination. The previous 4 batches have made the school proud by producing 100 % results in SSLC Examination with more than 60% distinctions and First Classes.
* Majority of these students are pursuing Science/Technical education. We have a Past Students Desk to keep the track of all these passed-out students and help them to chalk out a suitable career.
* Being value based educational institution, a unique ceremony is conducted every year as part of the farewell program for SSLC students in the auspicious presence of their respective parents, each one with a lighted candle in hand, take an oath ”Never to give bribe, never to take bribe” in all their live time. They would wear a batch “Youth against Corruption” proudly on their chest.

**Features of St. Mary’s school**

* The First English medium high school in the Taluka with a population of 135000
* The school is not collecting any donation for admitting the students
* Above 70% students are from agriculture , socially and economically backward families
* We are admitting all students without any entrance test or interview
* 100% result in the first 4 batch of 10th std completed
* Charging only a very nominal fees to just to maintain the staff
* All qualified and experienced staff
* Established and managed by a committed team led by Dr. Fr Jacob P. J . who has established No .of educational institution in the region
* Providing computer training and Smart Class facilities from class 1
* Excels in sports and all extracurricular activities
* Out of the total strength of 1016 students, 80 children are provided with free education.

**Rising Star Children’s Home**

We are providing Boarding facilities to the children coming from different parts of Karnataka. Presently 111 children are in the Children’s Home. Out of these 111, 16 children are offered free education with boarding facilities.

Rising Star Children’s Home, situated in a vast green campus has facilities for Solar Water Heater, Water Filter for drinking water, separate blocks for boys and girls. It has a large play ground and garden. The children are secured with round the clock security services.

The Hostel has 2 separate wardens 1 for boys & 1 for girls and 5 resident teachers, who are constantly monitoring and guiding the children in their studies, discipline, healthcare etc. the children are given nutritious food with a varied menu. Their monthly height and weight chart is maintained. Health cards of all the children kept in order and all the medical history is recorded in these. Apart from private doctors regular doctors on call from government hospital are available.

**Social Service Programs**

Vimochana, with the aid and assistance from EDM France, has been undertaking various Social Service Programs in the last 10 years or so.

It has undertaken projects to uplift Lamani Tribal people of 9 Lamani Thandas of Kalghtgi Taluka to bring these backward and downtrodden Lamani Tribal people into the main stream of the society. They were deprived of all human rights by the rich and were subject to exploitation. As there were voiceless people, Fr. Jacob P. J. took up their cause and became voice for these voiceless tribal people.

We organize Personality Development Programs, Tailoring Classes, Summer Camps, Leadership Development Programs for the youth of these 9 Thandas. For school going children evening tuition classes have been organized.

All these programs have been supported partially by Enfants Du Monde (EDM) of France.

As results of these programs many of the youth in these Thandas have been educated and have secured jobs in various government as well as private organizations.

The attendance in the schools has been increasing and the lives of the people in these Thandas have changed drastically. They have shed their inhibitions and inferiority complex.

Several Lamani children have been sponsored for their education. They are provided free education and boarding in St. Mary’s School and Rising Star Children’s Home. And also Lamani children studying in St. Mary’s as day scholars are provided free transportation from their home to school.

**About Fr. Jacob P. J.**

**Work**

1962 – 65 : Secretary to Bishop of Belgaum, Asst. at the Cathedral

1965-85 : Parish Priest of Holy Rosary Church, Tumarikoppa village, where the Parish

Priest has been murdered a few years back.

1965-85 : Rural Development and Social Work, Tumarikop, Kalghatgi

1978-83 : President, Taluka Development Board, Kalghatgi

1983-85 : M. L. A. and Chairman, Local Bodies Finance Commission, Karnataka

1985-till date : Pioneering and unique undertakings for the integrated development and

improvement of Kalghatgi Taluka as a model for the whole of India.

**Fr. Jacob P. J. designed and created his work in the form of his DEVELOPMENT TREE, its three branches showing 1. Education 2. Rural Development and 3. Human Rights Movements**



**Major Projects and Institutes established by Fr. Jacob P. J.**

1. **Educational Institutions**

* St. Xavier’s High School
* Bala Prema Boarding for boys and girls
* Maria Prasanna Grihini Training Centre
* Good News P U College
* Good News Degree College
* Good News Automobile Training center
* Good news Computer Training center
* Good News Driving School
* Good News Boys’ Hostel
* Good news Girls’ hostel
* St. Mary’s School
* Rising Star Children’s Home

**Rural Development**

\* Roads & Electrification for all the villages of the Taluka

\* Benachi Irrigation Tank

\* Gandhi Jeevan Collective Farming Cooperatives

\* Low cost houses

\* Dairy Co-operative Societies Regd.

\* Poultry Development Society – Regd.

\* Hanumapur Kandli Water Shed Project

\* Hunashikatti Shingnalli Water Shed Project

\* Sujala Water Shed Project

\* Sponsorship for Lamani Tribal Students of 9 villages and 2800 Students and Books & uniform distribution

\* Construction of Bio Gas Plants – 800 -With assistance from AFPRO & Govt.

\* Youth Clubs and HRD

\* Rural Sanitation Project

\* Drinking water supply for the whole Taluka

**Human Rights Movements**

\* Letter Writing Campaign for Bus Service

\* Agitation for village water supply

\* No-Hair Cut, No-Shave Campaign for Village Electrification

\* Hunger Strike against Unjust Royalty

\* Sit-in Satyagraha against

\* Mobilization against unjust tax Money Lender

\* Signature Campaign for irrigation

\* Campaign for village post office

\* Indefinite Hunger Strike for College Grant

\* 101 Days’ Mounavrita and Satyagraha for sanctioning Court

\* Letter Writing Campaign for World Peace

\* Hunger Strike against corrupt officer

\* Hunger Strike for sanctioning of High School at Tribal Village

\* Agitation against police atrocity

**Life and Mission of Fr. Jacob P. J.**

Fr. Jacob is the only priest in the country (in the world) who held elected and political office and Diocesan pastoral office simultaneously. He proved that politicians need not be corrupt.

His first priority was providing drinking water to all the 87 villages of Kalghatgi Taluka first by rigging bore wells and desilting the existing tanks.

Second was to provide bus services to all the 87 villages of Kalghatgi and to Hubli, major town nearest to Kalghatgi and Dharwad the district head quarters.

Then he took up electrification of the villages of the Taluka, because electricity was the basic need for most of the utilities especially agricultural.

In parallel with these he took up Education as his motto. Lack of education means lack of development. He initiated this by urging government to start primary schools in all the villages of the Taluka. Apart from this, he started the first High school, St. Xavier’s School in Tumarikoppa village, which even today stands out as the model school.

Today his efforts have seen many schools, especially, in remote villages of the Taluka imparting education to the rural masses.

The Good News College is the first Degree College was opened with altered courses in Computer and Motor Mechanics.

He also started St. Mary’s English Medium School, under Vimochana Development Society, which is first English Medium School in the Taluka. As Kalghatgi Taluka is economically under developed, people here could not afford English medium education to their children sending them to Towns and cities and could ill-afford heavy donation and fees. Thus he has named this school as “Save A Family Scheme.” We are charging very low fees and taking no donation whatever. Four batches have passed out scoring 100% results in S.S.L.C.

The ‘Maria Prasanna Grihini Training Centre’ now running in its 37th year is unique for the whole State. 30-40 illiterate/uneducated girls are given one year residential training to be ideal housewives and mothers. (Prov. 31.10 sq.) it is totally subsidized for this poor inmates.

He carried out his mission through The Good News Welfare Society (R), The Vimochana Development Society (R), The Good News Society for Global Peace (R), 36 Milk Cooperative Society (R), The Kalghatgi Poultry Cooperative Society (R), The Gandhijivan Agricultural Society (R) and a large number of Youth, Child and Women’s Organizations.

His never-tiring spirit and energy is flowing in each and every activity of the Society and the School.

He organized several programs for their education, social justice and humanitarian cause.

He undertook Hunger strike to get school sanction for these tribal people from the Government. As a result primary school was sanctioned for Shivapur Lamani Thanda. He donated his own land for this school and is today is the beacon of education for these backward students.

As part of rural development he built Benachi Tank, which was pending for the last 100 or more years. He brought this under food for work scheme.

**Recognition**

All these socio-economic development activities of Fr. Jacob P. J. have been timely and aptly recognized by various governmental as well as non-governmental organizations. Here below, few are highlighted.

**Rotary International Best Rotary Award**

**Excellence in Ministry National Award by Catholic Priests Conference of India, Bangalore**

**National Human Rights Award by Vigil India Movement, Bangalore**

**Honorary Doctorate from Karnataka University, Dharwad**

**Karnataka Rajyothsava Award 2014, Govt. of Karnataka**

**Sponsor a Child**

Fr. Jacob P. J.’s vision is to make this Taluka a model Taluka by providing education to the children of poor farmers and laborers, who cannot think of education to their children.

You, as a philanthropist, could be part his MISSION by sponsoring a Poor Child for education.

**Be a friend of a child in need.**

**You can Sponsor:**

* A child as Day Scholar for as little as Rs. 10,000/- per annum with marginal increment every year till the child reaches 10th Standard.
* A child as a Resident Student for Rs. 35,000/- per annum with marginal increment every year till the child reaches 10th Standard.

Your valuable contributions are exempted from Income Tax u/s. 80G of IT Act.

**You will get**

* The progress report of the child shall be send to the sponsor twice a year.
* You are welcome to visit, once a year and interact with the child.