

A TOS visit to a Bridge school for girls in India

Many TOS groups around the world spend part of their energy assisting non-TOS organisations that work in areas we support. A major area of emphasis for the TOS in recent years has been the fair, humanitarian and safe treatment of women and girls in society, the home, the work place and in education. As an example of this cooperative effort in service to humanity, on 12 April 2017 Bro. A.M. Vatcha, President of the TOS Rayalaseema region, and Bro. K. Shivaprasad, National Secretary of the TOS India, visited a Bridge school in Hyderabad run by the M. V. Foundation (MVF).



Bridge school for girls in Hyderabad

The MVF is a renowned NGO in Hyderabad that provides services in the area of child protection and education specifically to girls. This organisation, founded by Professor Shantha Sinha (retired from Central University) in 1981, has done an immense amount of work in saving several thousand girls in this region from miserable lives. In light of the social conditions prevailing here among the under-privileged, finding a girl child labouring at the age where other children go to school and have play time is a common feature. Poor parents normally prefer that children earn additional livelihood instead of attending school. This is especially true for girls.



Bridge school – Girls from the MVF Bridge school in Hyderabad

Considering this discrimination, MVF has centres running as Bridge schools for girls. Volunteers of MVF pick up girls who are not going to school from their homes and keep them in Bridge schools in order to prepare them for admission to government run schools. MVF is enabling hundreds of girls to become educated, self-reliant graduates and post-graduates, rather than spending their lives as uneducated labourers. As they say on their website, they “Give wings to their dreams.”



Bridge school – Bro. A.M. Vatcha, and Bro. K. Shivaprasad and others

As part of their visit, the TOS presented gifts of studs (ear rings) to the 115 children present. The girls were happy to receive the gifts and everyone enjoyed the day.