

# PREM DAN

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## NEWS LETTER

**Dear Friends,**

I am happy to have this opportunity, to send you another news letter. On the 13th of June, we commenced our academic year.

Four of our Children appeared for the High School examination. There were only girls this year. This proves a point - The Girl Child through Prem Dan, is getting an opportunity to be educated and to be independent. The names of these students are:

1. Pratima Bahadur
2. Sangeetha Das
3. Rajeshwari Mogli and
4. Chitra Ramaiah

All four of them are continuing their studies and have entered Junior College. I congratulate their sponsors and thank you for giving them this golden opportunity, to be amongst the privileged girls who have completed their High School.

We were very fortunate this year in securing 68 new admissions into recognised schools. We found a few more new schools, who were ready to share our ideal of reaching out to the under-privileged children.

This news letter will be the first, to bring you the sad news of the death of one of our children and a great benefactor. Both took place in June and both were due to accidents.

Shirley Appadurai our ex-student had just completed her secretarial course and had begun job interviews. She was excited about beginning to work and to be independent. On the 3rd of June at 7.00 am, she was making tea on a kerosene stove, which exploded and - Shirley got burnt. She was hospitalised, but passed away on the sixth day. It was indeed a great loss for her parents and Prem Dan. We had a memorial service for her. God knows why he wanted Shirley to go home, without enjoying the fruits of her labour. May her soul rest in peace.

The second great tragedy for Prem Dan was the death of one of its greatest benefactors - Dr. Rudolf Lang, who also died in a tragic boat accident in Austria on June 7th. Dr. Lang was dedicated to our Sponsorship programme for many years. He visited us whenever he came to India and was constantly in touch with us. We had a memorial service for him. We are grateful to his successor in Swarovski Crystal - Mr. Helmut Ofner, for accepting the additional responsibility of looking after Dr. Lang's Indian Children. Thank you Mr. Ofner.

You will be happy to know that Prem Dan now enjoys the free services of a Physician, Dr. Mrs. Pratiba Joshi. She comes once a week, to check the children. She has detected T.B. patients and the usual health problems of the needy, namely - malnutrition, worms etc... We are treating them for their various ailments. We owe this great favour to our great local sponsor Mrs. Havovi Medora, Principal of Cumballa Hill High School. Mrs. Medora and Her dedicated staff and pupils are constantly providing our children, with food, toilet requisites, clothes, shoes and stationery. Thank you Havovi.

On the 15th of August, another wonderful event took place in the history of Prem Dan. One of our Belgian sponsors, Capt. Michael Baltus, on his visits to Bombay noticed that our children badly needed dental care. He was determined to find the money and the personnel to run a free dental clinic. On one of his visits to Bombay, I introduced him to an Indian Dentist, Dr. Vincent D'sa, who was also looking for an opportunity to run a free clinic. Our church provided the premises required and Capt. Baltus sent the funds to set up the clinic. Capt. Baltus also has plans to send Belgian dentists from time to time to give their honorary services. Congratulations I and thank you Michael and Vincent for this great achievement. Prem Dan will soon turn out not only educated young ladies and men, but also healthy ones..

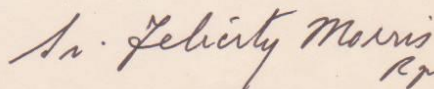
To all our sponsors and especially the new ones, I would like to give you some advice about sending gift parcels to your children. Our Indian post office does not always deliver foreign parcels intact. In June, a German sponsor sent a watch and some other items. When the parcel was delivered, it was found that the watch was missing. If you desire to give gifts to your children, kindly send us the money in the form of a cheque or a bank draft in the name of Prem Dan and we will buy them the gift.

The construction of the boarding school has commenced. In my next news letter, I will tell you at what stage we are.

Wedding bells rang for Kunjumol Joseph on the 6th of May. Leela our very famous street girl aged 14 too got married. She is already the proud mother of a son.

Thank you dear sponsors, for your love and collaboration. May God reward each one of you abundantly, for your love and service to the poor and needy in His Family.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary



(SR. FELICITY MORRIS)

September 9, 1996