

PREM DAN  
15, NATHALAL PAREKH MARG, MUMBAI 400 001  
Tel: 284 1975/202 0474, Fax : 284 1975, E-mail: premdan@vsnl.com

July 21, 1999

Dear Friends,

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of June we commenced yet another academic year, the 23<sup>rd</sup> year of the Garden School. Our very first School for Street children. How time has flown and how many books can be written about the lives we touched and changed among those who passed through our small but a great institution.

In April we completed one year of our Boarding for girls. During the summer vacation some of our children who had no homes had to stay in the Boarding. One of our generous French sponsor and the founder of Prem Dan France - Philippe Baudin and his son Cedric very kindly offered to take these children to Goa - a Seaside holiday resort. For most of them this was indeed a luxury - Thanks a million Philippe and Cedric. May God reward you for your generosity.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June the Boarding reopened with 40 students on roll. The task of selecting them was the most difficult one. You will be surprised to hear that among the parents who sought admission for his children was a Leper who had lost 1 foot. Of course we admitted the girl who now has a safe home. Most of the children came from broken homes or one parent homes. This year we were compelled to take older girls because many were not safe at home.

We are proud of our students who appeared for their High School Examination. This is a State Board Examination. We thank the sponsors who helped them to finish school. Congratulations to the sponsors of:

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Anjali Sose     | 5 Henry Khan            |
| 2. Poonam Charosia | 6 Esperance Maneg       |
| 3. Rajini Babulal  | 7 Christina Rao         |
| 4. Titty Joy       | 8 Balakrishna Ramaswamy |

All these above mentioned students have gone to Junior College. Prem Dan achieves its goal when the students finish school and are able to pursue their studies till Graduation. Anthony Napoleon and Paul Milton did not make the grade. We wish them better luck next time.

It was such a historical moment for Prem Dan to welcome Thomas Feix - son of our beloved Uncle J and grandson of Otto Feix - our first German sponsor. Tommy a Lufthansa pilot was thrilled to see the work done by his grandfather and his father. Thanks a million Tommy, for getting involved! On the 30<sup>th</sup> of April we had the pleasure of meeting our beloved Uncle J, he came on his routine half yearly visit to Prem Dan - Thanks Uncle J.

We say a Special Thank you to all our numerous and generous Italian sponsors who have come forward to sponsor children. In this connection we also appreciate the work done by Mrs Linda Manni. The children are lucky to meet their children when they visit Mumbai often loaded with gifts for their children and Prem Dan.

In May, two representatives of the Italian National Television Channel 3 came to shoot a documentary on the condition of burnt cases and dowry deaths. They also televised a Programme on the goals and works of Prem Dan in Mumbai. I thank all who made this possible. My special thanks to Mr Andrea Porcu the cameraman and Ms Patrizia Maciocchi the Journalist. Those who wish to see these programmes on the Internet, the details are as follows:  
[www.tg3.rai.it/finestre/articoli/premdan.htm](http://www.tg3.rai.it/finestre/articoli/premdan.htm)  
[www.tg3.rai.it/finestre/articoli/45-1.htm](http://www.tg3.rai.it/finestre/articoli/45-1.htm)

You will be happy to know that Prem Dan has been fortunate to receive a valuable gift - A Computer System of the latest model donated by Telecom Italia through the intervention of Mr Mario Traversini.

You can now contact us through E-mail at this address; [premdan@vsnl.com](mailto:premdan@vsnl.com)

Aunty Giovanna Berti will always be remembered by Prem Dan for her selfless service to our Homeless boys. This year she managed to place 8 of them in Boarding Schools and to find Sponsors for them. Giovanna you are our "Prem Dan Francesca of Assisi".

Our special thanks goes to Mrs Havovi Medora and Mrs Scylla Vatcha who gave new life to 12 year old Mumtazbegum Shukrulla by providing the much needed funds for her orthopaedic surgery. Thank you Havovi and Scylla ! Since her childhood, Mumtaz had been a victim of severe Polio Malitis. She had almost lost the use of her right leg but through the successful surgery she is now able to lead a normal life. The credit of this success also goes to Aunty Giovanna Berti who found a competent surgeon in the person of Dr Ashok N Johari and who accompanied the child throughout the surgery and is still doing the follow up of the recovery.

It was always my dream, to have Irish sponsors. This dream came true in April 1999 when a dynamic young Irish lady by the name of Ms Julie Headon walked into Prem Dan, fell in love with the project and on her return to the Green Isle started the Sponsorship Programme. Today we have 24 Irish sponsors. She also raised money by introducing the unique idea of no uniform day in a school. On such a day, the students come in coloured clothes and pay a fine for not wearing their school uniform. A part of this collection was then sent to Prem Dan.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of May we were indeed very sad to bid farewell to our beloved friends Heinrich & Elisabeth Hunck. They returned to Germany. We will miss them as they were so intimately connected with Prem Dan and gave us tremendous help with the Fund Raising for our Boarding. We will miss you. Do keep in touch with us.

We were delighted to meet our dear friend John Edmundson once again. He was in Mumbai for a short while John is still our "Egg Uncle"! Margo we wish you had come too.

We take this opportunity to thank all our sponsor who work so zealously for Prem Dan throughout the year.

Special thanks to:

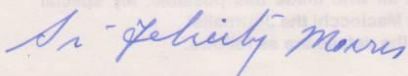
Phillippa Merchant	- Australia	Mauro Mingrone & Giovanna Berti	- Italy
Peter Van Wijk & Magda Himshoot	- Belgium	Philippe Baudin	- France
Helmut Ofner	- Germany		

A very Special Thank you to our generous sponsor Anjali & Arjun Mathrani for all their generous gifts to Prem Dan. We are looking forward to your next visit.

The unavoidable monsoon season is here again. It brings with it innumerable sufferings for our homeless children and the slum dwellers. But as we know it is a necessary evil for this country.

I take this opportunity to thank each one of you for your loving collaboration and support to Prem Dan. May God reward you abundantly for the same.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary,



(SISTER FELICITY MORRIS)