

Okkuta Annual day

1. The annual day of Samagra Samudaya Arogya Yojana Okkuta was celebrated on March 10, 2015 at 10 a.m. in the Mount Rosary open grounds. It was a get-together of 75 self help women groups of Moodbidri villages. In each group of women there are 15 to 20 members. The aim of these self help groups are
 - To educate women members in topics of women's health, children health and family health.
 - To learn and do kitchen garden, floriculture, animal husbandry programme and other self employment trades possible in the village context, seeing the possibility of marketing the goods produced.
 - To secure all possible government schemes for the benefit of women, children and family welfare, and above all
 - To do savings, to build up the revolving fund as its financial resource, to implement womens self help programmes in the villages.
2. The Okkuta function began with an ecumenical prayer session, when the Word of God from the Bible was read, messages from Bhagavad-Gita were presided and song from Quran was cheerfully prayed. The motive of this ecumenical prayer was to obtain union with God and one another and secure God's blessings on all people and to live in love and charity.

Sr. Pramila welcomed the guests. Fr. Edwin Pinto presided over the function and the other chief guests were Mr. Mohammad Ali Abbas, a social worker in Alangar, Mr. Alwyn Pinto, President of Lion's club Moodbidri, Mrs. Veena Shetty, President of Innerwheel Moodbidri and Fr. Mark Valder, resident priest of Mount Rosary. It was preceded by reading of two years reports of Okkuta with all the activities of 75 self help groups done by the women members of the self help groups.

The messages of the various chief guests were: Mr. Mohammad Ali spoke about Jesus the Lord who came to the world with the message of love both of God and fellowmen. He continues to do so through the Institutions like Mount Rosary and its personnel both sisters and Priests. It does works of charity not only in the campus of Mount Rosary but also in the villages irrespective of caste, creed and community. Mr. Alwyn, President of Lion's club, said, not just big and important works are needed to uplift any community but any small deeds done with the love of God and neighbour are important, which Moodbidri Lion's club does. Mrs. Veena Shetty, Innerwheel president, said, society needs the sacrifices of women not only in the family, or in a house but also in the society. The okkuta women have done this and she complemented them.

All the three speakers as well as the President of the function not only complemented the works of the members of the Okkuta but also the sisters, Helpers of Mount Rosary, who have been promoting and working hand to hand with village groups of women in the Integrated Community Development programme of health, agriculture and floriculture and also in self employment and preserving the environment.

3. After the stage function, different groups rendered skits, dramas and group songs to entertain the audience. At the end lunch was served to all and the function concluded.

Sr. Prescilla D'Mello
Helpers of Mount Rosary