

## REGIONAL REPORT - KARNATAKA REGION 2017-2018

**DATE: 30th September 2017**

**VENUE: Shanthikiran Bajjodi, Mangalore**

**“Give thanks to the Lord, invoke His name;  
Make known among the nations His deeds.” (Psalm 105:1)**



“It was the day the Lord did make.” 30th September 2017, was a unique, joyous and grace filled day, as it beckoned us for rejoicing, thanking, planning, hoping, and implementing, as 17 Sister Doctors from various parts of the Karnataka region gathered at Shanthi Kiran Bajjodi, a Pastoral Center at Mangalore. The Sister's presence delightfully added beauty to the quiet and peaceful surrounding.

We began the day by invoking the Divine Spirit in our midst through a meaningful prayer with audio-visual aid, conducted by Sr. Dr. Saritha. The first spiritual input session began at 9.00 am by Rev. Fr. Joseph Martis, Rector of St. Joseph seminary, Jeppu, Mangalore. He enlightened us with his wonderful talk on the healing mission of Jesus, the healing mission of the Church. He highlighted the importance of our sharing in Jesus' healing ministry especially when we are called to touch and heal the people in a holistic way. In the present scenario in the medical field, when we are called to respect every life as sacred, we face lots of challenges, but we cannot run away from the mission; rather by our empathetic approach called to be the Gospel to the people in need.

After a short coffee break, we discussed the National level

activities as well as new project of SDFI on “Prevention and early detection of cancer in women.” The Sisters willingly shared the responsibility in organizing health activities, conducting cancer awareness programme and conducting medical camps zone wise etc.

We were enlightened on various SDFI activities for the Silver Jubilee year and shared the various duties given to our region, in view of the Silver jubilee celebration which will be held at SJMC, Bangalore, in January 2018. We were also reminded to update our address and details congregation wise, for the updating of the SDFI directory.

Our region was divided into 3 Zones namely, Mangalore, Badravathi and Bangalore, and 2 cancer awareness programmes were undertaken by each zone. Mangalore and Bangalore zones will be conducting 2 medical camps.

At 12.10 pm, we participated in a meaningful Eucharistic celebration, which was followed by lunch.

Following lunch, the group gathered again for a sharing session and we had the unique privilege and joy of wishing our Golden Jubilarian, Sr. Dr. Vida, who celebrated her Golden Jubilee of religious life on the same day at the Province level.



At 2.30 pm, we were fortunate to have the input-brain storming session by Dr. Gopinathan, Consultant Cancer Surgeon, Father Muller Cancer Centre Mangalore. He spoke in detail on various types of Cancer in Women, and its prevention and detection in early stages, as well as different modalities of treatment. The interactive session was wonderful, and the resource person spent ample time answering the queries of the Sisters. It was a very good and informative session, especially for us working in rural areas. The members had plenty of doubts to clear.

Following the tea break, we came together for a sharing session and discussed our various activities.

Sr. Teresa SH, who represented SDFI Karnataka at the CHAI meeting at Shivmoga, enlightened us with the important points discussed during, mainly on palliative care and the ways and means we could reach out to lonely people. We also discussed the challenges faced in our rural setup and the need to handle the problems in order to carry on our mission, so as to reach out to the poor and needy. We did appreciate the esteem and affectionate dedication of Sister Doctors in rural areas, working single-handedly, for His greater glory.

Many of our Sister Doctors are actively involved in creating public awareness on health through classes, free medical camps and non-formal education of women. Some of us shared our experiences and challenges faced in the healing ministry. Thus our meeting was an enriching one and came to a fruitful end.

The whole day was an event of grace, to realize more and more Christ Jesus to be our reference point in our mission of loving, caring, redeeming and restoring every person to the dignity of a child of God. Aware of the sign of the times, we endeavour to face the changes and challenges, and



courageously play our role to alleviate the sufferings of humanity and bring a ray of hope and joy into the lives of the downtrodden and the most needy in the mission.

**Sr. Dr. Lenita SCCG**  
President, Karnataka Region

