



Kolping
INDIA
Connects



E- News

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For Private Circulation Only

From National Director Desk,

Warm Greetings from Kolping India.

With a sense of responsibility and obligation, Kolping India has recently launched “Kolping India Connects- E News” as a viable and cost-effective tool to connect with all our stakeholders. In this digital era, the E-News stands as an indispensable mechanism for Kolping India to disseminate information on events, report on special brand building activities, deliberate creative development ideas and interventions, and suggest strategies to strengthen the Kolping family identity.

By providing educational inputs and skill development to the Kolping groups, experimenting with alternative livelihood models among Kolping women groups and remaining ever sensitive to the social, economic, and ecological concerns of the marginalized community groups, Kolping India stands as ever relevant and responsive organization to the society. “Kolping India Connects” attempts to present vividly the successful narratives of women empowerment through the processes of Women Centred Development initiatives. Knowledge is a power and therefore, “Kolping India Connects- E News” operates as strategic tool to empower all of us with positive and knowledge building information. The current issue presents a concise narrative on the inauguration of Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre at Kancheepuram, National Coordination Meeting for the Collaborating Partner Organizations at Chennai and Kolping in action on World Nature Conservation Day 2023.

With Love and Happiness

Dr.Maria Soosai
National Director

News Content

National Level Partner's Coordination Meeting



Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre, Naming and Inauguration



World Nature Conservation Day 2023 :

- Conference on “Conservation of Nature for Sustainable and Healthy Human Life”.
- Mass Plantation of Palmyra Seeds, inaugurated by Honourable Minister Mrs. Geetha Jeevan at Anthoniyarpuram.
- Protect Nature and Protect Life: Community Awareness building on Protection of ecology.



National Level Partner's Coordination Meeting

Kolping India organized the Collaborating Partner Organization Meet on 6th June 2023 at ICSA Paripurna Centre, Chennai. Msgr Christoph Huber, the General Praeses of Kolping International was the Chief Guest for the Coordination Meeting where all key stakeholders managing Kolping India programme across India in the respective Kolping regions were present.

Dr. Maria Soosai, the National Director welcomed and introduced Msgr Christoph Huber to the participants. Subsequently, the Chief Functionaries of Collaborating Partner Organisations (CPOs) briefly introduced them and their team to the Chief Guest and the floor. In the introduction, most of them recognized the substantial contribution of Kolping India for the growth and development of Kolping Family Association in their respective dioceses.

A succinct presentation under the theme 'Ever Relevant Kolping - Kolping is ever an inspiring Icon' highlighted how Kolping India diligently followed the words of blessed Adolph Kolping "the needs of times will teach you what to do" to continuously stay as a meaningful and relevant organisation. Fr. Maria Soosai, National Director said that Information is power and those in possession of information become powerful. Therefore, new forms of communication and information dissemination channels becomes imperative for an organization to have edge over other organization of similar nature. Realizing the need for keeping the information sharing alive, a bulletin under the brand, 'Kolping India Connects: e news' was launched by Kolping India. 'Kolping India Connects: e news' was released by Msgr. Christoph Huber, the General Praeses on 6th June 2023 and the printed copies were distributed to all the participants. The National Director further emphasised that promoting Kolping as a Brand is one of our recent endeavours to propagate the life and work of blessed Adolph Kolping among the marginalized community groups and society at large.

Msgr. Christoph Huber, the General Praeses in his speech highlighted that Kolping brothers and sister around the world are united as a global Kolping Family, connected with each other under a discreet family identity beyond territories, religious beliefs, and cultures. He cited the life history of blessed Adolph Kolping and his unquenching thirst for exploring new ideas and working strategies according to the demands of the time. Msgr. Christoph Huber invited all Kolping families to work collectively towards establishment of equality of all in the society.





Since this was a special coordination meeting, Kolping India Collaborating Partner Organisations were invited to present their work in the form of Posters and value-added Products that our Kolping members produce as part of their livelihood. An exhibition was organised under the theme **‘Women at the Centre of Development – Kolping India Way’** that showcased the Development Initiatives of Women from the Marginalised Community Groups. Msgr. Christoph Huber inaugurated the Poster and Product exhibition and appreciated variety of products that were displayed in the stall. Exposition of Kolping India activities through professionally designed posters drew amazing acknowledgement and appreciation from the General Praeses and the participants. Each of the 33 CPOs were allocated space to display their posters and products, and the respective Directors and Kolping Coordinators explained their work in detail to the visitors. The exhibition had also paved way for Kolping members to know the type of value-added products produced in different areas and the marketing strategies adopted by the respective Kolping Associations.

In the afternoon, Mr. John Peter Nelson – Executive Director, IGSSS, New Delhi delivered a session on ‘Opportunities and Challenges for NGOs - post Covid and FCRA amendment scenario. He explained the difference between faith-based organization and Civil Society Organizations. He focused on VUCA (Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity) theory and related it to the present NGO’s scenario. As Kolping members are largely involved in income generation activities including producing products and services, his deliberation revolved around marketing and branding strategies. The fast-changing trend affects the market demand and supply. Unless the organization adapts to the trends and upskill the community accordingly, it is impossible for the organization to survive. The changing trend also brings in ample opportunities for the organization. The organization must be ready to imbibe new technology according to the changing requirements to enhance its ability to reach the community. Mr. Nelson dwelt on building resilience in overcoming organizational challenges and explained the Blue Ocean and Red Ocean theories. With his input session the day programme came to an end.

Kolping India Home : Adolph Kolping Resource Centre, Naming and Inauguration



The idea of a resource centre for Kolping India was mooted as back as 2015. The centre was envisioned to be a hub for knowledge building and information dissemination. With the support of Donors, the dream of Kolping India has become a reality with the inauguration of the Centre at Kancheepuram on 7th June 2023.

The Kolping India fraternity assembled in the building site and offered a traditional welcome to Msgr. Christoph Huber, the General Praeses and Most Rev. Dr. Amalarj, Bishop of Udagamandalam and the special invitees for the inauguration and blessing of the newly built building at Keelambi, Kancheepuram. Dr. Maria Soosai, the National Director received them with garland and handed over the Kolping flag to the General Praeses and the National Flag to the Bishop. The Kolping flag and the National flag were subsequently handed over to Mr. Cyril the National President and Ms. Louisa Mary respectively. The Chief Guest and the Special Guests were taken in procession to the entrance of the building with the picture of Blessed Adolph Kolping in the centre carried by Ms. Nagari Jesuretnam and the two flags on the sides, while the participants were proudly waving the Kolping flag with joy.

Naming a building is a symbol of infusing an identity that summarises human values lived and shared over the years. Msgr. Christoph Huber named the new building as '**Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre**' and inaugurated the centre by unveiling the name plaques and cutting the ribbon to make way for all to enter the newly built centre.

Most Rev. Dr. A Amalarj, Bishop of Udhagamandalam, Blessed the building and presided over the concelebrated Holy Mass, organized in the Main Auditorium.

After the Holy Mass, children of Kolping Members presented a welcome dance. Fr. Maria Soosai, the National Director welcomed the gathering and presented a brief historical evolution of the Resource Centre and the people associated with the project. Msgr. Christoph Huber, Most Rev. Dr. Amalarj, Mr. Nelson and Fr. Anthony Raj shared few words during the occasion. The National Director specially thanked Kolping International, Kolping Switzerland, Kolping Augsburg and Oswald Foundation for their consistent and unremitting fund support to Kolping India to have a resource generating centre. Finally, the event was concluded with cake cutting and a family meal. We are pleased to proclaim that our dream project has seen the day of light after overcoming several obstacles including the devastating Covid Pandemic.

About Kolping India Home - 'Adolph Kolping Resource Centre'



Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre is constructed in a land measuring 1.63 acres located adjacent to the Chennai – Bangalore National Highway at Keezhambi near Kancheepuram Town. The ground floor of the building includes a reception cum office, two rooms, an auditorium with a seating capacity of over 200 persons, kitchen, dining hall and wash area. The First floor consists of a Chapel, Office room, Training Hall, Library, 5 rooms, and a pantry. Second and third Floors have 15 rooms each with the same specification. All the floors combined could provide accommodation to approximately 100 persons at a time.

The construction of the centre was taken up in a phased manner. Having completed 1st phase of the building, the centre was inaugurated. Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre is located where several Educational Institutions and Industries are present. The scope for these educational institutions and industries to organise their programs are high, as only few hotels in the neighbourhood have a full-fledged training hall with residential facility. The high demand for an integrated training cum residential facility now, hope to make Kolping India Home: Adolph Kolping Resource Centre a much sought-after training centre for Corporates, NGOs, and Government Sector.

World Nature Conservation Day 2023

Conference on “Conservation of Nature for Sustainable and Healthy Human Life”.



The origin of World Nature Conservation Day is unknown, but uniformly the World Nature Conservation Day is observed annually on July 28, across the world. The changing environment frequently threatens the life in the earth. The human life and livelihood of the human society is always at risk due to climate change which is the result of overexploitation of natural resources and destruction of nature on the pretext of development. Therefore, the survival of human life demands protection and promotion of healthy environment which is critical for healthy and

productive human society. The World Nature Conservation Day aims to sensitize the community on the need of preserving the environment and the natural resources to keep the World healthy and emphasizes that it is the responsibility of individuals and society to sustain the environment for the future generation.

Towards this end, Kolping India, Chennai in collaboration with Tuticorin Multipurpose Social Service Society organised a National Level Conference on a theme, "Conserve Nature for Sustainable and Healthy Human Life" on 22nd July 2023 at Good News Centre, Tuticorin. Over 300 participants representing Kolping Associations from Tuticorin, environmental activists, social workers, representatives from NGO sector, academicians, research scholars and Kolping Association members from other districts participated in the conference. The Conference was inaugurated by Most Rev. Dr. Stephen, Bishop of Tuticorin Diocese.

In the introductory address, Dr. Maria Soosai, the National Director explained the objectives and significance of the Conference. Most Rev. Dr. Stephen, in his chief guest address, emphasised the need for urgent action towards conserving nature to sustain human life on earth.

The Conference had four different thematic sessions, dealing with the need of conserving land based and sea based natural resources. The Experts Mr. Mathivanan, Professor Fatima Babu, Pastor John Samuel, Neiythal U Anto deliberated on the topics assigned to them. Dr. Maria Soosai dealt with the concept 'development' and its inclusive nature. The Conference concluded with the vote of thanks by Fr. Amalan, Director of Tuticorin Multipurpose Social Service Society. Environmental protection activities taken up by Kolping India across India was displayed and eco-friendly, value-added palm products produced by Kolping SHG group members were exhibited at the conference venue.



Mass Plantation of Palmyra Seeds, inaugurated by Honourable Minister Mrs. Geetha Jeevan at Anthonyarpuram



As a follow-up of the National Level Conference on “Conserve Nature for Sustainable and Healthy Human Life” Kolping India in collaboration with Tuticorin Multipurpose Social Service Society organized a public rally with the support of Anthonyarpuram Parish, Tuticorin on July 23, 2023.

A rally was organized with the participation of 450 members from Kolping SHG Groups in Anthonyarpuram and surrounding areas, community leaders, children, representatives of community-based organisations. The rally went through the busy streets raising slogans on water conservation, proper disposal of waste, environment cleanliness, safe sanitation and hygiene.



After covering over few kilometres, the rally reached the village common area where the Palmyra plantation was planned. Honourable Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Mrs. P. Geetha Jeevan launched the Palmyra plantation drive initiated by Kolping India and Tuticorin Multipurpose Social Service Society. The honourable Minister lauded the efforts of Kolping India and Kolping SHGs at Anthonyarpuram. In her speech, she outlined the Government schemes related to Nature protection and the recent initiative of Tamil Nadu Government for conservation of Palmyra Trees. As many families in the region traditionally rely on Palmyra trees as source of livelihood, mass plantation of Palmyra trees is critical for these families to revive and sustain their livelihood.



Kolping SHGs at Anthonyarpuram were solicited to nurture the seeds planted and promote palmyra plantation further in the neighbouring areas.



World Nature Conservation Day 2023

Protect Nature and Protect Life: Community Awareness building on Protection of ecology



Community leaders, Kolping Members along with their children are planting of palmyra seeds at Anthoniyarpuram

Responding to the call of Kolping India to observe World Nature Conservation Day as a means to sensitise and instil environmental consciousness among the public, Kolping members joined in large numbers to sensitise people on the urgent need of nature conservation.

Facilitated by the respective Kolping India collaborating partner organisations, Kolping Federations in several districts had taken up wide range of nature conservation activities such as sapling plantation, clearing garbage from public places and beaches, and cleaning of water bodies.



Sanitary workers demonstrating preparation of organic manure using the Solid Waste collected from households – Dharmapuri Kolping



Kolping members promoting plantation of native tree saplings - Cochin Kolping



Expanding the Green Cover - Sapling plantation – Warangal Kolping

BETTER ENVIRONMENT – BETTER TOMORROW

KOLPING INDIA

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