CHAPTER - IV
TECHNICAL INSTITUTES

The succeeding pages provide details about the technical institutes and the nature of courses offered in the technical institutes run by the Catholic Missionaries in the Madurai Diocese.

ST.JUSTIN'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

St.Justin’s College of Education is located in the eastern part of Madurai and near to the historical Theppakulam of Madurai. This college is within the campus of the Teresa Convent.¹

ORGANISTION AND MANAGEMENT

The Congregation of Immaculate Conception established St.Justin’s college of Education on 31st July 1968. It is a non-autonomous government aided women’s college, affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University. The institution has an efficient internal co-ordinating mechanism. The management council elected by the chapter members of the congregation comprises of the Superior General, the Principal, the Secretary and the Procurator as its members. All the developmental aspects of the college like infrastructure, starting of a new course are carried out by the Secretary. The Principal looks after accreditation and hostel maintenance.

The Governing Body consists of the President (Superior General), Secretary, Principal, University Representative and staff representative. These members co-operate plan and take-up decisions for the smooth functioning of the college. All the administrative works of the college is well co-ordinated by the establishment of various committees like Admission, Alumni, Arts and Crafts Assembly, Association, Calendar, Discipline, Educational Technology, Examination, Excursion, extension, Fine arts, Grievance Redressal, Library, Magazine, Sports, Games, Staff and Research.²

THE COLLEGE EMBLEM

The college emblem portrays a lamp stand in the India map lift by a lady. The map symbolically conveys the service rendered to the country. The lift lamp signifies the dispelling of dark ignorance among the masses. The hand that sets light to the lamp connotes the women student teachers who are moulded to serve the country. The glowing light metaphorically stands for God as students teachers are trained with moral and spiritual vitality.\(^3\)

THE VISION, MISSION AND GOALS OF THE COLLEGE

The Sisters of the Congregation of Immaculate Conception with the mission of reaching the poor and the downtrodden in love and simplicity in areas of education, help, social work and evangelization started in the institution with the vision for God and Country. St.Justin’s college of education in realisation of its vision imparts knowledge inculcates values, develops skills and such that the aspirants especially from the poor, needy and under privileged classes of society are turned out to be well-trained, morally upright, socially committed, spiritually inspired and culturally rooted. But all these, however is meant to steer up vibrant power of women teachers to meet the emerging needs and challenges of our nation.

GOALS

1. To seek, extend and apply knowledge to solution of human problems,
2. To become an effective communicator,
3. To be clear and firm on principles and encouraging in action,
4. To be efficient leaders in future,
5. To be unselfish in the service of the fellow being,
6. To become agents of needed social change in their country and
7. To be a teacher of all round personality.

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OBJECTIVES

1. To provide opportunities to apply knowledge in various activities,
2. To develop communicative skills, personality traits, imbibed values and character,
3. To train them to employ modern innovative methods of teaching,
4. To bring out the innate talents of the students,
5. To train leadership qualities among the students,
6. To maintain and develop their physical and mental health and
7. To mould the students to be effective and efficient teachers.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The infrastructure is well maintained with the financial support of the college management, the Congregation of Immaculate Conception which runs seventy three educational institutions of various levels and other social service institutions and it has enough resources and asserts to mobilize funds at times of need.  

St.Justin’s College of Education has an area of 1.6 acres. Area of the library is 1203 sq.ft with the seating provision of sixty. Area of computer centre is 557 sq.ft and the numbers of computers available are eleven. Area of the games room is 128 sq.ft. Area of the hostel is 0.24 acres. Numbers of blocks are two. Area of the dining room is 1655 sq.ft. Multipurpose hall with two hundred seating capacity has an area of 1787.5 sq.ft. Area of the educational technology lab is 1313 sq.ft with fifty seating provision.

SINGLE FACULTY DEPARTMENTS

The single faculty Departments in the college are namely Education, Mathematics, Biological Science Education, History education, English Language Education, Tamil Language Education and Physical science education.

The institution offers professional one-year degree course. A computer certificate course is compulsory for all the students. The curriculum of B.Ed course is multi-disciplinary in nature. It has good support services, guidance and yoga programme compulsory to all the students.

**ADMISSION**

The students are selected in accordance with the rules and regulations stipulated by NCTE (National Council of Technical Education) and State Government. However, priorities to socially and economically poor women candidates are given within permissible limits. The selected candidates are called for an interview. Finally admissions are made after the verifications of the certificates. A team from regional Deputy Director of Collegiate Education office scrutinizes the admission.\(^6\)

**INCULCATION OF SOCIAL VALUES**

1. Programmes such as village visits.
2. Group activities within the campus such as conducting remedial teaching for the educationally backward students in the schools within the campus.
3. Visiting the inmates of the orphanages, Juvenile Justice board and the special schools for the hearing impaired on occasions like Independence Day, Christmas, Republic day and Gandhi Jayanthi.
4. Helping the NGO’s and other societies through monitory and material help.

5. Students are motivated to contribute their sources for relief measures during the natural calamities like Gujarat earthquake and national emergencies like Kargil war.

6. Conducting basic course for Guide Captions for seven days.

**INCLUSION OF MORAL VALUES**

Moral instruction class is conducted once in a week. Apart from the guidance and counseling course, a special cell is in operation so as to give personal guidance to the students. Awareness programmes on deadly diseases like HIV, Hepatitis B and Cancer are arranged periodically for the students.

**SPIRITUAL VALUES**

Everyday, a General Assembly is conducted with prayers, readings and songs from the three major religious traditions. A common prayer is conducted both in the morning and in the evening where all the inmates participate. A meditation room is made available so that students can go into this powerhouse and equip themselves spiritually and get invigorated to face problems. Inter religious dialogues; seminars and symposia are conducted periodically. Spiritual renewal programmes lasting for two to three days are conducted once in a year.

**CULTURAL VALUES**

Study tour programmes are arranged mostly to North Indian States, so that they come to know about the different cultures of our nation. Fine arts week is organized on the occasion of the Pongal festival to bring out the inner talents of the students in tune with the local culture. Celebrations of National and International festivals are conducted throughout the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Total cost</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Text Books</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Other Books</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>3423</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Journals &amp; Periodicals</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1697</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>News Papers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2129.50</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIBRARY

Students avail the library facilities. Four hours per week are allotted within the timetable for library works. Apart from the working hours, the students and the staff use the library in the morning between 9.00 am to 10.00 a.m and in the evening 5.00 p.m to 6.00 p.m. being a residential college, during the study holidays the students avail the facilities between 10.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m.  

The number of students benefited by the scholarship is tabulated below.

SCHOLARSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Aid</th>
<th>Year before 2002-03</th>
<th>2003-2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Government of India Scholarship</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. State Special Scholarship</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. B.C. Scholarship</td>
<td>39+2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. AIACHE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Fee Concessions by the Institution</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NATIONAL LEVEL LINKAGES

St. Justins College is member of NCTE, UGC, AIACHE and Xavier Board of Higher Education. Source of funding of the institution during the year 2002-2003 is tabulated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Funding</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund raising drives</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Association</td>
<td>9000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Financing Course</td>
<td>2,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant in Aid</td>
<td>24,22,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees</td>
<td>1,00,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UGC Grant</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Development Fees</td>
<td>19,300x100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The operations of the N.S.S unit from 1989 to 1999 are furnished below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camp Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thanakkankulam</td>
<td>21-11-90 to 30-11-90</td>
<td>Village experience, house visit, family welfare day, preparing the roads, children’s day, tree plantation, free eye camp, environmental cleanliness, women’s day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaigaidam</td>
<td>21-10-91 to 30-10-91</td>
<td>Census work in the areas of Jeyamangalam, Muthalakkampatti and Sankaramoorthipatti, park cleaning, awareness on small savings, social awareness, free eye camp, road repairing, awareness on personal hygiene and cleanliness, omens day, children’s day, tree plantation, awareness on siddha medicine, awareness on cancer and blood donation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanakkankulam</td>
<td>2-2-93 to 11-2-93</td>
<td>Literary campaign, inter-religious dialogue, repairing roads, environmental awareness, tree plantation, a day with lepers, social awareness, sports competition, awareness on small savings and talk about family welfare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madurai Kamaraj University</td>
<td>26-2-97 to 7-3-97</td>
<td>Cleaning the University campus, organizing dramas, skits and plays on AIDS awareness, environmental awareness and orientation in social analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanakkankulam</td>
<td>13-3-96 to 21-3-96</td>
<td>Campus cleaning, awareness on environment, cultural programmes, literacy, awareness about voting, sports competition, tree plantation, film show on AIDS, visiting the lepers hospital, visit to mentally retarded home at Nilakottai, Austinpatti campus cleaning and camp fire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.Kallupatty</td>
<td>9-3-99 to 18-3-99</td>
<td>Leveling and repairing the village roads, awareness on social evils of women and their role, programme on religious unity, programme on consumerism, awareness on agricultural problems, social awareness, awareness on human rights, personality development, protection of eyes and eye donation and family welfare programme.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPORTS

The college sports and games teams are encouraged to participate in the District and State level tournaments. The expenses are met by the college management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>No of Students</th>
<th>Events 2001-2002</th>
<th>Prizes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100 mts</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200 mts</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>800 mts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4x100 relay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shotput</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Javelin throw</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Long jump</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zonal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Kho-Kho</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALUMNI

St. Justin’s College of Education is conducting Alumni meet once in a year. Alumni Association was inaugurated on 19-1-2004 and the first meeting was held on the same day. About hundred and seventy four alumnae’s have enrolled themselves, as members of the Association. Out of these, four alumnae are the teachers of this college at present. The policy of the Alumni Association is to invite the alumnae in the college at least once in a year and the future students are helped from the fund raised through the Association. The expertise of the Alumnae is utilized for giving demonstration classes. The Alumni Association has instituted first and second prize for core I and core III subjects. Twenty textbooks have been contributed to the book bank from the Alumni Association fund. 11

It is the only one Catholic Training College, which produces hundred teachers per year and fulfils the needs of schools in and outside the Diocese.

JAYARAJ ANNAPACKIAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE PERIYAKULAM

Education is the principal means to foster harmonious form of human development and thereby reduce poverty, exclusion, ignorance, oppression and disharmony. India has not succeeded in fulfilling the above educational objectives. The unemployment problem in India is great. It is estimated that there are thirty five million registered unemployed graduates in the country. A vast majority of the students dropout either at the 10th level or at the 12th level. The very few graduates do not settle down in good jobs and they are not equipped with necessary skills. Many of them are under employed, unemployed and unemployable too. The curriculum at the school and the college levels is divorced from the requirements and needs of the job market. This has not only contributed to the problem of unemployment but also unemployability. There is a serious inappropriation between the jobs that are available and the graduates with inadequate skills. 12

Keeping this in mind the Jayaraj Annapackiam College for women felt the urgent need to train the children who have completed their Higher Secondary Level Examinations, especially in rural areas, in specific jobs because most of them dropout after their +2. They do not go to college and pursue higher education. Jayaraj Annapackiam College for women is promoting the concept of community college system that is, connecting education with employment and supplying the human resources to meet the employment potential in the following areas viz, Theni, Periyakulum, Cumbum, Kumuli, Bodinayakkanur and Kodaikanal. As the first step towards the establishment of community college at Periyakulum a research study to explore the employment opportunities and possibilities available in and around Periyakulum, Theni, Cumbum,

Bodinayakanur, Gudalore, Batlagundu and Kodaikanal has been carried between 10-8-1998 to 13-9-1998.\textsuperscript{13}

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To identify the employment opportunities and possibilities available in and around Periyakulam and its neighbourhood Periyakulam, Theni, Chinnamanur, Uthamapalayam, Cumbum, Kumuli, Bodi, Bodimettu, Devadhanapatty, Odaipatty, Rayappanpatty, Andipatty, Batlagundu, Ayyampalayam and Kodaikalnal.
2. To study the exact job description and skills required to perform these jobs that are available.
3. To identify possible collaborators from service sectors in this educational alternative.
4. To design the programmes develop the curriculum for the courses to be started and the feasibility of the new institution to be repeated.

**SCOPE OF THE PERIYAKULAM ST. ANNE’S COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

To offer job oriented, skill oriented, work oriented, and quality education at an affordable price to all who desire it and to meet the local needs of industry, commerce and community, its emphasis will be on application, employment oriented and skills promotion. It will encourage the pursuit of knowledge, not so much for the sake of knowledge but for the purpose of finding gainful employment leading to better standard of living.\textsuperscript{14} Technical education needs to be spread and youth need to be trained to become self-employed. To provide quality education at an affordable price to all who want and desire it, the college offers one year Diploma.

The employment opportunities available in Theni District are furnished hereunder.

\textsuperscript{13} Report, Periyakulam St.Anne’s Community College for women, Periyakulam, 2003-04, p.1.
\textsuperscript{14} Ibid; pp.28, 29.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>AREA OF EMPLOYMENT</th>
<th>TOTAL NUMBER OF JOBS AVAILABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nursing Assistant</td>
<td>1327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Paramedical Assistant</td>
<td>860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Textile Technology</td>
<td>5680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Computer Software</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Small Business Development</td>
<td>919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Preschool Teachers</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tailoring, Embroidering and Dress Making</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Home Appliances Maintenance and Service</td>
<td>750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Office Management</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Beautician and Skincare</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BENEFICIARIES OF THESE PROGRAMMES**

- 10 or +2 passed students
- The students who are doing their graduation in the existing Arts and Science colleges.
- Those who have completed their degrees and looking for specific skills.
- Those who are working and who want to update their skills.
- Rural youth and rural women who want to be trained for self-employment.
- Rural widows who want to be trained in a special way for self-employment.\(^{15}\)

MCRDCE, AIACHE (Madras Centre for Research and Development of Community Education, Chennai, All India Association for Christian Higher Education, Delhi) sanctioned Scholarship for the poor students.

**Scholarship Details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No.of Students</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Organization which sponsored</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rs 5250 (Rs 750 each)</td>
<td>AIACHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rs 10000 (Rs 1000 each)</td>
<td>MCRDCE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{16}\) Ibid; p.12.
This community college governed by the Congregation of St. Anne’s Sisters of Trichy trains the girls of Periyakulam and its surroundings to stand independently. It enables the students to overcome their poverty.

**DON BOSCO – TECHNICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE**  
**K. PUTHUR, MADURAI**

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

St. Don Bosco was born on 16<sup>th</sup> August 1815 in Italy. He became a priest on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1841. He is popularly called as *Father of Youth*. He started work for the welfare of youngsters on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1841. Later on, he gathered poor and unemployed persons and were given prayer games, industrial training. In order to guide the young men, an organization was established, which was called as *Salesians*. The follower of Don Bosco established this institution.

Salesians established educational institutions throughout the world. In India, they established their institutions in Tamilnadu and Pondicherry. In the beginning, Chennai acted as the centre for Salesians. Now it is divided into two centres one from Chennai and another from Trichy. Fr. James Thioppius acted has as the head of Trichy centre. This centre has three higher secondary schools, four high schools, three primary schools and four Technical schools. Among them Don Bosco Technical Training Institute was established on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1988 at K. Puthur in Madurai. Its motto is “Niraivazhvai Nokki”. This institute was started in order to give technical training to the students those who socially and economically backward. In 1988, two courses were introduced. They were

1. WELDER and 2. WIREMAN

In 1988, two teachers were appointed and thirty-six students were admitted. In 1989, the course of FITTER TRADE was introduced. RADIO AND TV MECHANISM TRADE was also introduced in the same year. In 1991, steps were

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taken to get recognition from the Central Government for the starting of Formal Courses. As a result, Formal Courses were introduced by the recognition of Central Government. The Formal Courses are,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. NO.</th>
<th>Trades</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Fitter (Boys)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Electrician (Boys)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>General Electronics (Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>MMV (Mechanic Mater Vehicle – Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>M. R &amp; A/C (Mech – Refrigeration &amp; Air conditions – Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Instrument Mechanic (Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>2 Years</td>
<td>S. S.L.C Passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. NO.</th>
<th>Trades</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>MMV (Two wheelers &amp; Four Wheelers Mechanism)</td>
<td>1 Years</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Electronics (Radio &amp; TV)</td>
<td>1 Years</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>M. R A/C</td>
<td>1 Years</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Electrician</td>
<td>1 Years</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1. Electrical Appliances.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2. Basic of single phase</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3. Phase motors and rewinding)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Fitter / Turner / Welding</td>
<td>1 Years</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Driving School</td>
<td>1 Month</td>
<td>VIII Passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Non – Formal courses are also introduced. The courses, duration of the courses and eligibility for admission are tabulated above.

This institute is gradually developed by the meritorious services of Fr. James, Fr. Edward Xavier, Fr. Selvam, Fr. Arockiyaraj, Fr. Williams and Br. Sebastian. In 1992, Bosco Institute of Graphic Arts was started. In 1998, this Institute had only thirty-six students. But in 2003-2004, the institute has two hundred and fifty students. All the students are given work Diary and Institute Calendar. They are expected to bring these books to the institution daily. In work diary they write about daily classes, works. Once in a month, they submit their work diaries before the staff who is in charge for them, and get signature from the Principal also.

The classes of first shift start from 8. 30 am to 4.30 pm. The second shift start from 9.00 a.m to 5.30 pm. SKIP (Skills for Progress) and Government scholarships are given to the students. In 2003-2004, nearly fifty students were benefited by this scheme. Poor Students Fund has Rs. 5,000 as capital to give financial assistance to the poor students. Certain individuals also give scholarship to the students especially Catherine, Fr. Antony, Dr. Fathima. Sr.Velankudi Ganapathy. In 2004, Staff Benefit Fund was created to give fund for the teaching and non - teaching staff in need of money. Don Bosco Industrial and Technical Institute conducts state level Football match, in their campus every year. They also sent their students to participate in Regional level and District

27. Ibid, p. 3.
level, Football, Volley ball, Basket ball, Baseball, Table Tennis and other Indoor games are conducted with other Industrial and Technical Institutes. The students are selected to win in All India Skill Competition.

In the name of local industrial visit, the students are given training in local industries. In the name of educational tour, they use to visit the factories in Chennai, Coimbatore. Some of the students are appointed in the permanent posts of many factories. They are,

1. Tuticorin Harbour Congregation
2. Spic Jothi Gas, Madurai
3. Balamurugan Trailors, Madurai.
5. Madura Coats Limited, Madurai.
6. Mill Point, Sindhamani
7. Carmet Engineering Works
9. Fenner India limited, Madurai
10. Tamilnadu Cements, Alangulam
11. Heary Vehicles Factory, Chennai
13. Qwality Industries, Madurai
14. Punchayat Union, Melur
17. Hardly Nalco India limited, Bangalore.
18. M.M.K. Electronics centre, Sattur
19. Pandiyan products & Co, Puthur

20. Equipments, Uthankudi.
22. Raja Ganapathi Industries, Coimbatore.
25. Nagarajan Auto Carriage
27. Tamilnadu Electicity Board
29. Sona, Meena Industries, Madurai.
30. Premier – Engineering Company – Coimbatore
31. Combodia, N. T. C. Mill, Coimbatore
32. Some of the students also are working in abroad. 31
34. Tube product India Madras
35. Esan Roy Rolle Relays and Devices ltd, Hosore and
36. V.S.R. Industries, Puthur. 32

Past Pupils Association was organized in 1998 in order to give employment opportunities for the students. For self-employment opportunities, the students are given training, from general Manager of District Technical Institute. 33 In 2003-2004 there were eighteen teaching staff and two non- teaching staff working in this institution. 34 The institute also has a library. Dhinamalar, Indian Express, Hindu, Electronics Computer in Tamil, monthly magazine relating to trade are circulating among the students. 35

32. Ibid; p.3.
34. Attendance Register of Teaching and Non-teaching Staff, 2003-2004, n.pg.
Dhinakaran, the daily newspaper publishes an article for unemployed personnel. That article is published once in a week, which is called as *Velai Vazhikatti*. In that newspaper, the students of Don Bosco Industrial and Technical Institute present their meetings, seminars, tournaments and achievements.\(^{36}\) On 21-08-2003, Fr.Casmir presented an article about development of Industrial and Technical Institute.\(^{37}\)

The Salesian brothers, who have well reputed educational institutions in Tamilnadu, run this Technical Institute in Madurai. It caters the needs of industries and automobile carriages in this city.

**ARCHBISHOP MARIANUS AROCKIASAMY INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, ROYAPPANPATTI**

**HISTORY OF AMAITI**

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with the help of St.Aloysius Educational Social Developmental Society aimed at starting an Industrial and Technical Institute at Royappanpatti. The Administrative Council under the head of Br.S.Amalraj was convened on 07-08-1997. They passed the resolutions of starting the construction work immediately and of starting four trades by August 2000. They bought six acres of land from village committee and laid the foundation in November 1997. The Administrative Council decided to name it Archbishop Marianus Arockiasamy Industrial and Technical Institute in honour of the stand by Archbishop. ‘Manos Unidos’ a Spanish organization came forward to opt financial assistance. Thus, three blocks one for management and other two for classes and laboratories were built and equipments were bought.

Br.Jeyaraj,SHJ, and Br.Jesuraj,SHJ took charge as the Correspondent and the Director respectively on 16-05-2000. Archbishop Marianus Arockiasamy

Industrial and Technical Institute was inaugurated on 26-05-2000. Br.Robin, the then Provincial of Angelo Province presided over the function. This institution got the recognition of the Central Government on 22-05-2000 and the recognition number is GET-6/22/5/2000-TC. With the hardwork of Br.P.Jeyaraj SHJ, the former Superior General of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, computer training centre was started on 05-02-2001. Rev.Sr.Maria Delino, from Italy presided over the function. Sr.Delino sponsored the amount to buy ten computers and other materials. The computer unit was named as ‘Sr.Maria Delino Computer Unit’.

Br.I.Raphael, SHJ and Br.Joseph Sahayam, SHJ took charge as the Correspondent and the Director respectively. To give self-employment opportunities for girls, the management planned to start tailoring and so they bought twenty tailoring machines. To start computer training, a scanner and other materials were bought. Four trades such as

✓ Computer Aided Office Management
✓ Desk Top Publishing
✓ Cutting and Tailoring and
✓ Embroidary and Needle work

were started. The State Council of Vocational Training (S.C.V.T) inspected the institution and the Director of Tamilnadu Government Employment recognized the new trades and Training department on 20-03-2002. The State Government recognition number is 1/5296/2002.

The management decided to start a new trade that is Motor Mechanic of Vehicles. They got loan from G.T Enterprises, Chennai and bought equipments for the new trade. The State Council of Vocational Training inspected on 27-08-2002

40. Office Record, op. cit, Royappanpatti.
41. Particulars on the Notice Board, op. cit, Royappanpatti.
and National Council of Vocational Training inspected on 03-12-2002. They got recognition for the new trade on 19-05-2003. Br.Jerald Jesuraj, SHJ and Br.John became the Correspondent and the Director respectively on 25-05-2003. With the hard work of Br.Jerald Jesuraj, SHJ, AMAITI Driving School was started on 26-04-2004. A Director, a Principal, six teaching staff and two non-teaching staff are working in this institution. Seventy-five students are studying here.

With the experience of running an industrial and technical institute in Andrapradesh, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus established this institution recently. It helps the rural people to get employment. Teaching of tailoring and needlework to the girls make the poor girls to be self-employers.

**THERESA TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE**

St.Theresa Teacher Training Institute saw the light of the day in the temple city of Madurai in 1947 at Palayakuyavar Palayam, Madurai. Its motto is *Love and Serve: Lead and Lift*. In 1951, the institute was shifted from Palayakuyavar Palayam to the Theresa Campus, Madurai. At that time, thirtyfive students studied in that institution. In 1970, the number of students increased from thirty-five to forty.

**THE PATTERN OF THE COURSES OFFERED**

In the beginning, the institute offered higher-grade training and basic training. The higher-grade training was eventually abolished in the year 1970. The basic training faced the same fate in the year 1971. From the year 1975, the training course certificate was known as D.T.E(Diploma in Teacher Training Education). From the year 1971 to 1982, the institute had its admissions once in two years. From the year 1982, admissions have been given every year.

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42. Office Record, op. cit, Royappanpatti.
43. Particulars on the Notice Board, op. cit, Royappanpatti.
THE PILLARS OF THE INSTITUTION

The major credit of starting this institution goes to Rev. Sr. Sophi, Rev. Sr. Ernestine Mary, Sr. Mary Immaculate, Sr. Sesu Mary, Sr. Niromy, Sr. Alphonse Ananthi, Sr. Theresa Sr. Fatima Santhi who worked as the heads of this institution. Sr. Alphonsa Ananthi once again becomes the Principal of St. Theresa Teacher Training Institute.  

Sr. Ernestine Mary - 1947 to 1965  
Sr. Mary Immaculate – 1965 to 1975  
Sr. Sesu Mary – 1975 to 1976  
Sr. Niromy – 1976 to 1983  
Sr. Alphonse Ananthi – 1983 to 1990  
Sr. Theresa – 1990 to 1991  
Sr. Fatima Santhi – 1991 to 1992

From the year 1995, Sr. Amali Joseph directed the institution, as the Principal and Correspondent. Under her leadership and guidance, the institute enriched energy and golden year with fresh vigour. In the beginning, the institution produced 90% result. But now, they produce 100% result every year.

MILESTONES

The aim of education today is child-centered education. The teacher trainees are taught child psychology and concepts of educational psychology. The methods of education and administration also are taught to them. Theresa Teacher Training Institute has the aim to achieve in all round development.

The trainees and staff often participate in many seminars and workshops. National, state educational centers and teacher training institutes introduced the new system of education with the help of UNICEF. The center was functioned under the head of this institution for five years. Seminars are conducted to create

44. Golden Jubilee Souvenir, St. Theresa Teacher Training Institute, Madurai, 1947 – 1997, p.40  
awareness among trainees. They took active participation in the programmes of literacy mission. They evince keen interest in the programmes of social service. They are trained in non-formal and adult education. They are given special training in school education at Fathima School which is located in Theresa campus and at St. Patrick school which is located near East Gate.

Retreats, Seminars, Celebrations, Field Trips and Workshops are frequently conducted to break the monotony and also to facilitate personality development. Academic achievement is the landmark of the institution. In 1994, new syllabus was introduced.\(^47\) In 2002, fifty trainees were selected by first counselling. Thirty trainees were selected by conducting an interview.\(^48\) Many old students are now working as postgraduate teachers, professors and principals. Nearly two thousand four hundred and thirty five student trainees have gone out of forty-six years.\(^49\)

Intensive teaching practice, preservice training and microteaching are given special emphasis. Proper attention is given to the development of various skills such as dancing, singing, craft, handwork, gardening, decoration, oration, essay writing, story writing and dramatics etc. On 25-2-2003, Savasiksha Abhiya Plan was introduced. As a result, the trainees began to explain the subject with the help of dolls.\(^50\)


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\(^47\) Log Book, St. Theresa Teacher Training Institute, Madurai, 1994-1995, n.pg.
\(^49\) Golden Jubilee Souvenir, op.cit, p. 41.
Mr. M. Sankar the Principal of Teachers Training Institute, T.Kallipatti presided over the meeting. The trainees participate in inter school competitions and they have won prizes too. They celebrate sports in their campus every year. The trainees have games, classes and mass drill to enhance their physical development. From 25-2-1999 to 27-2-1999, District Level Sports was held at Oddanchatram. On 10-8-1987; the trainees participated in the competition conducted by the daily newspaper Dinamalar. The trainees used to visit Gandhi Museum, Pepsi Cool Drink Factory, Aavin Milk Industry, Christian Mission Hospital, Madurai and the Deaf School.

Every year, the Commissioner of Teacher Training Institute, T.Kallipatti used to visit St.Theresa’s Institute during the practical examination for I year trainees. The Commissioner who belongs to any teacher-training institute of Tamilnadu visits the campus for II year trainees. On 27-2-1998, Mr.Veerappan, the Director of National Council of Educational Research and Training, Delhi visited the campus to supervise the in-service course. A new building was constructed in the campus in 1992. A new scheme was introduced in the examination pattern. New postgraduate teachers joined duty as subject teachers and language teachers as per the new rule of the Government in 1995. Librarian and Laboratory Assistants were also appointed.

After the National Council of Technical Education’s visit, new recognition order was granted by the Government. A new personal computer has been purchased. On 10-12-1997, Golden Jubilee was celebrated in the campus of Theresa Teacher Training Institute. Rev. Sr. Amali Joseph, the energetic and enthusiastic Principal of Theresa Teacher Training Institute skillfully planned and executed all the activities. She was able to complete the construction of Golden

Jubilee Hall and the Open Air Stage within a short time. His Grace Rev. Marianus Arockiasamy, D.D the Archbishop of Madurai consecrated the new building. His Grace Rev. Edward Francis, the Bishop of Sivangangai, His Grace Rev. Irudhayaraj, the Bishop of Palayamkottai also presented. Rev. Sr. Josephine Alphonsa, Mother General of the Congregation of Immaculate Conception, inaugurated the exhibition of teaching aids. Rev. Sr. Alphonse Fatima, Assistant Mother General of Congregation of Immaculate Conception lightened the lamp. The three dimension models like computer, human heart etc enticed all the spectators. The trainees displayed the artistic talent. The colourful designs and ornamental festoons gave the new building a magnificent look.  

On November 2003, St. Theresa Teacher Training Institute was shifted from Theresa’s Campus to a new campus at Viraganur. This campus is more spacious than other campus. Now the institute has beautiful building with many class rooms, hostel facilities, playground etc. The new building was blessed by His Grace Rev. Marianus Arockiasamy. Sr. Alphonse Ananthi is an active Principal. She is an efficient, administrator, energetic and dynamic personality, very humble and simple. Under her administration, Theresa Teacher Training Institute is achieving many achievements. Now the institute has thirteen teaching staff including Principal and six non-teaching staff.

In the first year, the number of students is eighty and all these trainees are staying in the hostel. In the second year, the number of students is eighty. Among them fourteen are Day students. The trainees are given scholarships also on the community basis like BC, MBC, DNC and SC. Especially they are given Rs. 31,375, Rs. 4050, Rs. 1150 and Rs. 12510 respectively. So the total scholarship

amount is Rs. 49085 during the year 2003 - 2004. In 1995, Librarian and Laboratory Assistants were also appointed. The library has 9605 books. They are utilised by teaching staff, non- teaching staff and trainees. Hindu, Dinamanikathir, Dhinamalar, India Today, Tamilpavai are purchased for the library.

Thus St.Theresa Teacher Training Institute imparts education, enlightenment and enthusiasm. It trains the trainees to become eminent persons with professional excellence.

St.STANISLAUS TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE, SATTUR

The major aim of the institute is to rise up teachers of dedicated, sincere and spiritual men. This institute is mainly meant for moulding talented teachers giving priority to the Catholics. It is the duty of the teachers to bring up the youths high motive. So, it is named after the young Saint Stanislaus. It is a well known fact that having the motto as “Ad Majora’, the school has established a rich of its own among the teacher training institutions of Tamilnadu.

HISTORY

The credit of running the institute in a commercial town as Sattur goes to the Jesuits and the Monfortians. In the beginning, that is fifty-three years ago, the infrastructure of St.Stanislaus Teacher Training Institute was a ginning factory run by the Japanese. On 4th July 1945, with the kind permission of the Archbishop Rt.Rev. Peter Leonard, the ginning factory was turned to be a teacher-training institute. Rev.Fr.M.D.John Devashayam, S.J, was appointed as the first Headmaster of the institution. It was started as an Elementary Grade Teacher Training Institute and so a model school was absolutely necessary to continue the teaching practice in a real classroom situation. For this reason, the Sacred Heart School, attached to the Sattur Parish was shifted to the present campus with a new name, St.Stanislaus Primary School. It was then a small shed. Later in 1948, it was

upgraded to a middle school. From 1949 to 1952, Rev. Fr. Stanislaus Ponrad, S.J had been the Headmaster and he worked for the betterment of the institution.

In 1953, Rev. Fr. Peter Royappan, S.J became the Headmaster and he guided the members of the staff and students successfully up to 1956. It was the reign of Thiru. Kamaraj, the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu, visited the school and praised the authorities. An exhibition was organized in the school campus, which was praised by all. During this period, the shed was improved as a tile-roofed building. Rev. Fr. G. Ambrose, S.J had been working as the headmaster from 1956 to 1962. During this period, he wrote many plays, skits, villupattu and composed numerous devotional hymns. A separate building for weaving instruction and a stage for drama were also built up. Once again, Rev. Fr. Peter Royappan, S.J had been working as the Headmaster from 1962 to 1967. His efforts to maintain the finance of the institution were in a steady manner.

Then came Rev. Fr. Tittus, S.J, who served from 1967 to 1970 insisted that teachers should continue to learn to be more productive and creative. Instead of the Elementary Grade Training, Secondary Grade Training was introduced and eighty students were admitted for the same. Rev. Fr. Ambrose took the charge for the second time in 1970. In 1971, the glorious moment of the Silver Jubilee of this institute was celebrated. Fr. Ambrose was of the opinion that even a layman could be the Headmaster of this institute; accordingly Mr. Henry Dass, M.A. L.T was appointed as the Headmaster for three years. During that period, the stipend Rs 18- per student was stopped. The next headmaster in 1974 was Rev. Fr. Pushpam, followed by the military returned Rev. Fr. Thangadurai from 1974 to 1976. In the year 1974, the name “Secondary Grade Teacher Training” was replaced by “Diploma in Teacher Education”. The students were admitted once in two years. Rooms in the campus were let out for rent and thus this period was a block to the growth of the institution. To overcome the difficulties and to begin a new era in the field of education, the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel landed at Sattur in the year 1976.
Rev. Bro. M. P. Joseph the first principal after the transition, had to do a lot to upgrade St. Stanislaus Middle School to a High School on 06-06-1979. Rev. Bro. Irudaya Michael the first Headmaster of the new high school made the students of St. Stanislaus well known to the corners of Tamilnadu. Then came the period of Rev. Bro. Stephen from 1981-1982. When he was the Principal, spiritual activities were given importance and he lived an exemplary life. Students had a good leader in the person of Rev. Bro. V. K. George from 1982 to 1985. Rev. Bro. I. Packiaraj followed him in the training institute, along with Rev. Bro. Jebamani, the Headmaster of St. Stanislaus High School. Rev. Bro. I. Packiaraj completed the building work of the Primary School, High School and the Training Institute which were blessed and inaugurated by Archbishop Rt. Rev. Marianus Arockiasamy, D.D on 24th June 1989. In 1989, a land, which is at the East of the institute, was purchased for Rs 25,000/- to make a playground for the students. Bro. I. Packiaraj who worked for the welfare of the institute, retired in 1994 after a decade of dedicated service. The institute was in want of a master of all trades and the superiors found Rev. Bro. I. Thiruthuvam fit for the job.

The major problem showed its face in the form of water scarcity. Advised by the superiors, he tried to dig some borewells almost all over the campus but ended in vein. A water tank for storing drinking water was the need of the hour, he managed to get a helping hand from Caritas Italiana and in 1995-1996, he built an over tank. Besides, a power tiller was purchased for Rs 1,25,000/-, which was sponsored by the Society of St. Gabriel Brothers. There sprout another difficulty that shook every activity of the institute. In order to prohibit the mushroomed hundred and seventy-five private Teacher Training Institutes, to regulate and control the existing –traditional institutes like ours and to bring all such Training Institutes under the control of one council, the National Council of Technical Education (NCTE) was established by the Central Government. Consequently the High Court of Madras cancelled the recognition of all the Teacher Training
Institutes. The trainees could not appear for the examinations and further admission was forbidden.

According to the Government Order 803, the institution needed many changes, alterations and additions. The Government Order suggested five acres of play ground, a well–equipped library, a laboratory and well furnished classrooms, improvisation of teaching aids, apparatus and educational technology. Moreover the N.C.T.E insisted on appointing teachers for each subject, all of them were masters both in their subject and in education. Accordingly Miss.C.Manimegalai, M.A., M.Ed, for Tamil, Mr.G.Anto Poobalarayan, M.A., M.Ed, for English and Mr.J. Pugalanthi, M.Sc., M.Ed. for science were appointed. The members of the N.C.T.E visited the institute in 1995 and issued a temporary recognition for two years with the condition that the institute should fulfill the remaining minor requirements. Students were permitted to appear in the public exams and new batches of forty students were recruited.

As per the recommendations of the N.C.T.E, the institute was in need of a library of thousand eight hundred and sixty square feet. A sum of Rs. 5,00,000 was sanctioned by beloved Archbishop, to start the building work in January 1998 and it was completed. By utilizing the manual work of the students, using the resources sparingly, adding the left from the amount sanctioned for building library, a modern kitchen equipped with gas stove facility had been constructed. Moreover, the campus wall had been raised twofeets up. None but Rev.Bro.I.Thiruthuvam, a dedicated Montfortian could accomplish all such things within a limited period. Thus, after a long period of changes, shifting and constructions they were able to fulfill the conditions of the National Council of Technical Education and could receive the permanent recognition in 1988.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTION**

Every year, personality development course is offered for the students in order to develop their physique along with the psyche. It is really useful to keep their body fit forever. A retreat for three days is being conducted annually. Family
Commission from the Diocese of Madurai annually conducts sex education and premarital course for the trainees that may lead a true Christian family in future. Guidance and Counseling by the Madurai Social Service Center of Madurai Kamaraj University is arranged to make the students aware of the purpose of their vocation as teachers. To prepare students to cooperate with the parish priest and the locality and to develop a cordial relationship with them, a yearly programme is arranged by the Laity Commission of Tamilnadu. Resource persons from State Resource Center for Non-formal and Adult Continuing Education prepare the students to create social awareness among the common people through street plays and awareness songs.

In 1997, an old student J. Johnson participated in a competition and won the first prize of Rs.2500/- and a certificate and added fame to the institute by reciting all the thousand three hundred and thirty Thirukural, a famous two lined verses in Tamil literature. A ten days programme was arranged by the culture resource persons from the Nanjil Natham for the trainees.\(^\text{62}\) Now in the institute eighty trainees are studying in the first year and seventy nine trainees are studying in the second year.\(^\text{63}\) A Principal, twelve teaching staff\(^\text{64}\) and six non-teaching staff are working in the institute.\(^\text{65}\)

**LIST OF PRINCIPALS**

M.P. Joseph, Bro. Stephen, V.K. George, Bro. I. Packiaraj, Bro. I. Thiruthuvam and Bro. Seriak had been working as the heads of the institutions. The present principal is Bro. Stanislaus an energetic person who moulds the trainees as dedicated. Eighty students are staying in the hostel. Every Sunday Hindi classes are conducted. The works are divided among the staff to run the administration smoothly. Demonstration and observation classes are also conducted. For every

\(^{63}\) **Strength of Trainees Note**, 2003 – 2004, p.85
\(^{64}\) **Attendance Register of Teaching Staff**, 2003 – 2004, p.1.
programme, a planning session before the programme and a feedback session after the programme are held. Group discussions are conducted on subject wise. Manual work also exists in the institute.

The trainees are given teaching practice in and around twenty kilometers of Sattur. There are three cycles of teaching. In the first cycle of teaching, the trainees are expected to handle one paper in all the subjects. In the second cycle of teaching practice, the trainees handle two papers in all the subjects. And in the third cycle of teaching practice, they have to finish twelve papers in all the subjects. For the second cycle of teaching practice, evaluation is to be given by the respective school staff with the signature of the headmaster of that school. The first year trainees handle the classes for the primary level from standards one to five. Second year trainees handle the classes for high school from classes six to eight.66

Science Exhibition was organized by Mepco Engineering College in Sivakasi on 21-08-2003.67 The trainees attended the exhibition. The Montfort Brothers organized a Science Exhibition at Yercaud on 12-01-2004.68 Working experience subjects like basket making, producing ink and jam are also taught. In order to overcome the fear and hesitation the competitions on sports and games are held. Rev.Fr.Stanislaus, the Principal of the institute insists everybody to make use of the library. To increase the number of books in the library, the Principal induces trainees to contribute a book for the library.69

Volleyball, Cricket, Football, Badminton, Kabaddy are conducted among the trainees.70 St Montfort Brother’s Centenary Celebration was held at Trichy on

69. Interview with Mr. Pushparaj, Staff of the St.Stanislaus Teacher Training Institute, Sattur, dated on 17-03-2004.
70. Physical Education Department Report, St.Stanislaus Teacher training Institute, Sattur 2002 – 2003, p. 6.
18-10-2003. In that celebration, senior members of the staff of the institute were honoured by giving memento. Regarding the celebration, another meeting was held at Chennai on 30-12-2003. Village awareness songs and street plays conducted by Mr. Santhappan’s folk group of Tirunelvelly for five days from 11-02-2004 to 15-02-2004. The library is a well-equipped one. Total number of books is 3244 in the year 2004. The books are divided subjectwise as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number of Books</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of Education</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Teaching</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Literature</td>
<td>119</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Novels</td>
<td>149</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Grammar</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Tamil Novels</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Grammar</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siru Kathaikal</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siru Kavithaikal</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Encyclopedias</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The seating capacity of the library is eighty. Everyday, nearly fifty students make use of the library. The magazines available in the library are Week, India

71. Minutes of the Staff Council, St. Stanislaus Teacher training Institute, Sattur 2003, n.pg.
Today, Journals like Indian Education, School Science and NCERT Publishes (National Council of Education and Research Training).\textsuperscript{73}

**MADURAI COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MADURAI**

Madurai Jesuit Province has been a pioneer in the field of education in Tamilnadu over hundred and fifty years. In the process of an evaluation of its educational mission, it realised the needs of this mission to be focused and strengthened so as to make education an empowering instrument. Further the result of such study was the realization of the increasing strength of unemployable and excluded youth not only from its institutions but also from other educational institutions in Tamilnadu, specifically in and around Madurai. This study was taken for further analysis on 14\textsuperscript{th} April 1997 as “Re-engineering of Education” in the company of educators, social workers and Philanthropists of education; this study was also presented to industrialists, businessmen, management, professionals, executives, scientists, educators, non-government organizational professionals, village leaders, parish priests etc., on 4-7-1997 as relevance, access and challenges of life skills and work skills in education in Tamilnadu. The presentation of the *Feasibility Report* on *Alternative System of Education* in Madurai and its surrounding districts was discussed at length in the above meetings. As a result of these continuous and serious sessions, an institute for alternative system of education was formed and it was named as Madurai Community College. Honourable Shri P.T.R.Palanivel Rajan B.Sc., B.L., the Speaker of Tamilnadu Legislative Assembly inaugurated this college on 31-07-1997, and the function was presided over by Rev.Fr.Donatus Jeyaraj, S.J., the Provincial of Madurai Jesuit Province.

**MADURAI COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND ITS LOCATION**

Madurai Community College is located in the campus of Loyala Technical Institute because the components of the skills offered by Madurai Community

\textsuperscript{73} Library Stock Register, St.Stanislaus Teacher Training Institute, Sattur, 2003-2004, pp.1-26.
College to its target group is technical and it is envisaged by the Jesuits Management to utilize fully the existing infrastructures such as practical worksheets and other personnel of Loyola Industrial and Technical Institute for the said training. The organization of Madurai Community College entrusted with Jesuit Madurai Province, is given to the Society of Loyola Technical Institute and the Superior and Director of this said institute takes care of the development of this college for the empowerment of the excluded with the assistance of its director, administrator and staff.

**ADMISSION**

For the first batch (1997-98), thirty-nine students having different educational qualifications +2 to degree level from hundred applications were selected. In the second year sixty-nine applicants were selected out of hundred applicants. 1999-2000 onwards, the anchor faculty of Madurai Community College scrutinizes the applications received from different strata of society and they visit each applicant’s home and interview the family members and the candidates. After the completion of the home visit and personal interviews, the faculty pools their information and collectively analyses the strengths and weaknesses of the applicants and then selects and admits them for training.

**COURSES AND TRAINING**

The training of these excluded youth is composed of life adjustment skills and work skills. Life adjustment skills are formed of

1) Functional English 2) Life Coping Skills 3) Computer Usage and Business Applications 4) Fundamentals of Electrical and Electronics. Whereas, work skills are selected based of the findings of feasibility report and on the recommendation of the industrial partners and trainers. Thus, in the first year of its foundation

1. Refrigeration and Air-conditioning Technology
2. Two wheeler Maintenance Technology
3. Automobile Service and Maintenance Technology
4. Computer Hardware and Maintenance Technology
5. Office Management Technology
6. Plastic Technology and
7. Plantation and Crop Management Technology
were started and there had been applicants for the first five and no applicants for the latter. After a brief survey, Electrical and Electronics and Hotel Management programmes were started in the place of the last two courses. Besides the above stated trainings, the trainers are given training on Life Education, Entrepreneurial skills and Marketing skills.

MEET AND ITS KINDS

There is a weekly Staff Meeting, which analyses, discusses and decides the ‘modus operandi’ to be followed for the effective training and for orienting mischievous and lapsed trainees and the shortcomings of the training. Parents Meet is convened once in two or three months to assess the growth and performance of each student trainee from the date of entry to the date of leaving the college.

Dealers’ Meet: Dealers and distributors of various manufacturing companies are called for a meet once in a year to learn about the demands in the market with regard to formulation of products and obtain their feedback on the trainings conducted by Madurai Community College.

Advisory Body’s Meet: There are nine advisory bodies for all the nine adjustment skills. These are convened once in six months. One of the industrial partners is the chairperson, the staff in charge of the work skill as convener of this body. This body presents to the expert members the type and mode of training, the content, methodology of the training, evaluation and assessment of the trainings, follow up of the trainings etc.

Alumni Meet: Once in four months Alumni of Madurai Community College are invited to share about their occupation and the implications and impediments in their training and field placement and find measures to improve their skills.
Trainer's Meet: All the trainers in each work skill both on campus and in the industries are gathered once in a year to review the overall formation imparted to the trainees, to the parents and to themselves and to plan various and suitable programmes for the following year.

Governing Body Meet: the management selects and nominates industrial partners, trainers, philanthropist, quasi government officials and government officials, nongazetted officers and scientists to plan, to assess the growth and development of Madurai Community College, in terms of trainings to the excluded youth, faculty improvement trainings, introduction of new programmes and finding out financial and material sources for the trainings. This body meets twice in a year under the chairmanship of the Provincial of the Jesuit Madurai Province.

EVALUATION

The trainings offered to empower the excluded youth are evaluated in two phases, one inside the campus and the other outside the campus. Every student is given three hours of core skill subject and four hours of work skills daily. They are also introduced to various avenues in industries and commercial sectors through special lectures for a week. In the first week of every month, monthly tests are conducted for three hours and the final examinations are held at the end of the training in each skill in the college. The results of the monthly test are made known to the parents in person.

Outside the campus, the hands on experience is carried out for each trainee in reputed and interested industry, factory, office, hotel and organization. Industrial trainer, faculty in charge and the student himself/herself assess the performance of each trainee through tricolour cards. At the end of every fifth week, the tricolour cards are collected and assessed in the presence of the student trainee himself/herself and encouraged to improve the skills. In the past years, 84.46% of students were placed in jobs. The motto of this institution is skills to the
least, best for the community.\textsuperscript{74} At present, including the Director and Administrator twelve staff members are working in this institution.\textsuperscript{75}

LOYOLA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, MADURAI

ORIGIN

When the Madurai Diocese was created, the St. Joseph’s Industrial and Technical Institute governed by the Jesuits was handed over to the Trichy Diocese. This institute had served as a base to train the Brothers of the Society of Jesus. So, there arose a necessity of a new institution to give training to the Brothers who were willing to join as brothers of the Society of Jesus. To eradicate this problem, the then Bishop Peter Leonard tried twice to begin an Industrial and Technical Institute. On 1-7-1939, for the first time, Fr. Arul Jeganathar at Karaikudi started De Britto Industrial and Technical Institute. In 1939, during the Second World War, due to insufficient fund and equipments, they could not run this institution continuously. In 1945, after the Second World War, Bishop once again called upon Fr. Arul Jeganathar to start the technical institute. That time also due to the poor economical condition his attempt ended in vein.

Fr. Humbert Bindo the then Vice Provincial got special permission from the Superior General and made arrangements to start this institution at Madurai. For this, they bought four acres of land from the Bishop of Madurai at the cost of Rs 45,000. Fr. Richard Paul, the Assistant Parish Priest of Railway Colony Parish had been asked to make the initial arrangements to start the institution. On 10-7-1950, the construction work was started. First they built the compound wall and a shed with asbestos sheet with the help of French. It was started in June 1952 as Nazareth Technical School. In this year only, the Madurai Jesuit Province was bifurcated from French Dulus Province. It is Fr. Richard Paul

\textsuperscript{74} Ponvizha Malar, Loyola Industrial and Technical Institute, Madurai, 2002-2003, pp. 46-51.  
\textsuperscript{75} Staff Register, Madurai Community College, Madurai, 2002-2003, n.pg.
who played vital role in the foundation of this institution. He had depth knowledge about machines. Till 1955, he had worked as the Director as well as the instructor.

**GROWTH**

In 1952, four rooms, a chapel and a hall for the aspirants were built. In the beginning, a workshop of 120 ft x 32 ft, a store and an office were built. Carpenter and Welder trades were started. As the youth did not like these two trades they began to quit the institute. So Automobile trade was started in addition to the two trades. The students again joined the courses. In 1956, during the fourth centenary year this community was bifurcated from the Jesuit community in St Mary’s Higher Secondary School. The name Nazareth Technical School was changed as Loyola Technical Institute because already there existed a school at Nazareth in Tirunelveli District in the same name. In 1957, Fr.Arul Kuzhandai Samy became the Assistant Director of the institution. In 1960, on the day of St.Ignatius feast day, a seminary was started in this campus and Fr.C.V.I.Sama was appointed as the Superior and Director of the institution. Br.Stanislaus Yagappa built a residence for the Jesuits. In 1963, a classroom and a hostel were built at the cost of Rs.43000. With the efforts of Fr.Sama, this institution got recognition and promoted as industrial and technical institute.

In 1967, in order to give shelter to the Catholic students studying in various colleges in the Madurai city, the Thembavani House was built. Though it was established for Catholic students, students of other religions were also admitted. Since the students of different colleges stayed here, they could not control the students by imposing rules and regulations. So they closed this home in 1981. From 1965 to 1970, this institution faced many hurdles and so they decided to handover this institution to Delesale Brothers. But the senior Jesuit priests suggested “this is the only one Technical Institute belongs to the Jesuits. Let us wait for the goodness”. So the institution had been with the Jesuits. In 1981, Fr.T.M.Mathai took charge as the Director. He tried to get recognition of the Central Government. For that purpose, he sent the teachers to Chennai for training.
At the same time, he approached his friends and got donations for the institution. He upgraded it to the Central Government Syllabus and got Permanent Recognition for four trades such as Mechanic Motor Vehicle, Wireman, Electrician and Fitter. As the number of students increased there had been insufficient space. He sought the permission of the Provincial and built a new building. In 1990, Br.A.Ignatius became the Principal and he renamed this institution as Loyola Industrial Training Institute. At present, fourteen teaching and non-teaching staff members are working in this institution. The motto of this school is *Uplift through Truth and Work.*

**COURSES OFFERED**

The former courses offered are

1. Fitter
2. Electrician
3. Wireman
4. Mechanic Motor Vehicle

The duration of all the four courses is two years.

The non-formal courses offered are

Mechanic Motor Vehicle – 1 year (for boys)

Two Wheeler Maintenance – 1 year (for girls)

**ADMISSION**

Nineteen students per trade and totally seventy-six students are admitted in the first year as juniors and so the total strength is one hundred and fifty-two. The educational qualification for getting admission in is class X or class XII. Selection process is not merely by merit but also by the economic and social status of the applicant. Of the total admission, thirty percent are allotted to scheduled caste and scheduled tribes (Dalits). It is done through an admission committee. After selection, the candidates are interviewed along with the parents for knowing their aptitudes.

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ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In the national level 1987 examinations, student Joseph Immanuel of Wireman trade became first in state level. In the 1999 examinations, student Peter Prakash of Mechanic Motor Vehicle Trade became first in state level. In 2002 examinations, student Sahaya Selvaraj of Mechanic Motor Vehicle Trade became first at national level. Monthly test is conducted in all subjects and the performance is recorded on monthly and quarterly basis. Every trainee should be deputed to an industry for industrial experience. Normal duration of such training should be minimum for one month. After the completion of final trade exam campus interviews are arranged and reputed company people come forward to accommodate the trainees in their concerns. This institute is ranked among the twenty Industrial and Technical Institutes that have been selected as the best institutes from four hundred and ninety private institutes in the state. In the regional level, it takes the first place. All round education of students is addressed through value education and training in arts and sports. Students won the Football at district level; in Volleyball they were winners at district and regional level. The athletes won laurels in 100,200,400,800,1500 and 4x100 meters relay at the state level and won the overall championship in field events. This institution also provides a programme of functional English to all the students and programmes to develop their human resources.

This well established institution mould the students in order to get an integrated growth and development. In the succeeding chapter the missionaries contribution at the school level is discussed in detail.

CHAPTER – V

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

ST. ALOYSIUS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, ROYAPPANPATTI

In 1929, the Parish Priest of Royappanpatti established St. Aloysius Primary School with the recognition of the Government. It is really great thing to be in the field of education and it is still greater a thing when education is imparted to the helpless children hailing from poor families in the backward areas.

Cousanal, who was a European Priest, started Sacred Heart Congregation in Palayamkottai with eight Brothers. The Congregation began to develop in the field of education and social services. It established its branches in various parts of Tamilnadu. In 1929, St. Aloysius Primary School was handed over to him. The children of Royappanpatti were not able to get higher education. So, the people submitted a petition to Mgr. Peter Leonard S.J. the Archbishop of Madurai Diocese. He also agreed the demands of Fr. Royappa Alexander S.J, the Parish Priest of Royappanpatti, some of the common people, St. Anne’s sisters and Sacred Heart Brothers.

“LEAD KINDLY LIGHT” is the prayer of the school. In 1964, the school had ten teaching staff, three non-teaching staff and two hundred and forty students. Now there are forty one teaching staff members, eight non-teaching staff members and management staff members are also working in this school. In 1965, St. Agnes School joined with St. Aloysius High School. Classes were started for girls and boys separately.

AIMS OF THE SCHOOL

To give education for all the people irrespective of caste and creed especially for the backward class people, every day they use to teach catechism for

3. Attendance Register, Non- teaching staff, 2003 – 2004, p.3.
Catholic students and moral for Non-Catholic students. It also gives education for the students who belonged to the estates of Kerala.

After ten years, the administration was handed over to the Sisters of St. Anne’s of Trichy. In 1975, Sr. Kunjammal Serian became the Headmistress of the school. She rendered meritorious services for the development of the school. Many buildings were constructed with all the facilities. The number of students began to increase. In 2003, the school had thousand six hundred and thirty students. In 1979, the Government upgraded many High Schools into Higher Secondary Schools in order to give higher education for village students. As a result, St. Aloysius High School became a Higher Secondary School on June 1979. It produces good results in the government examinations.

Science laboratories were constructed. P. T. Rajan inaugurated the first laboratory on 07-10-1968. In 1985, the second laboratory was constructed with the sum of Rs. 1 lakh. Angelo Computer Centre was started by the Sacred Heart Brothers on 10-09-1987 with the sum of Rs.3 Lakh. Mgr. Marianus Arockiasamy inaugurated the third laboratory on 25-02-1988, which had all facilities for Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology reparatory. On 09-12-1989, fourth laboratory was constructed by Sr. Anna and inaugurated by N.P. Alphonse the Priest of Royappanpatti. The Integrated Education for the Disabled students was started in 1998 with forty-two students. The physically handicapped, the deaf – dump and the blind students are educated with the help of a special teacher. In the higher secondary level Teacher Training Course was introduced in June 1986. In 1989, St.Agnes Higher Secondary School seceded from St. Aloysius Higher Secondary School.

5. Ibid, p. 3.
EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Veeramamunivar Elakkia Manram was started in 1964 to give training in speech, writing and acting. Now it is named as Angelo Elakkia Mantram in order to honour the Co-founder of the Congregation of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Br.Angelo. Science Forum was established in 1979 to share the views about laboratory equipment, to know about the scientific achievements, to create awareness among the students, to train them and to bring them to participate in the competitions and exhibitions regarding science. NCC was started on 14 –01 – 1973. In 1980, a separate block was organized for the girls. After finishing NCC, the students began to get employment opportunities in Indian Army.\textsuperscript{11} NSS was started in 1981 in order to give social service awareness among the higher-class students. They use to organize camps at Karunakkamuthanpatty, Erasakkanayakanooor, T.Sinthalaicheri, Anumandhanpatti, Kullappakavundanpatti, and create awareness regarding the construction of new roads, tree plantation, cleaning, safe guarding public places, adult education and giving assistance in free medical service.

Y.C.S. (Young Christian Students Movement), Y.S.M. (Young Students Movement), Scout, Junior Red Cross(JRC), National Green Corps(NGC), Quiz club, Commerce club, Maths club were also established to train leadership quality among the students. They attended camps in Madurai Diocese and other states. In 1989, Old Students Association was organized. Parent Teachers Association is also functioning in this school. The teachers looked after the students in evening and night study hours. The motto of the school is \emph{Liberation through education}.\textsuperscript{12}

SPORTS

Athletic events are conducted in Zonal, District and State levels. They won shield in Kho – Kho, Football, Running, High jump, Long jump, Javelin throw, 400 meters, 200 meters relay conducted in the district level. The State level sports

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{11} \textit{Ibid}, p.5.
\item \textsuperscript{12} \textit{Annual Report}, 1999 – 2000, p.2.
\end{itemize}
meet was held at BHEL in Trichy in 1995. senior level meet this school won I prize in high jump and 400-meter relay. The students were selected to participate in National Athletics in Haryana. In senior level table tennis (Single and Double) students won I prize in 1998-1999. In shot-put and discus throw students won I and II prizes respectively in the district level matches. Two students were selected to participate in National level Football match in New Delhi.

HOSTEL

Hostel was constructed for economically backward class students. New building was also constructed during the Silver Jubilee celebration, which is called as Cousanel Illam. It was blessed by Mgr. Marianus Arockiasamy, the Archbishop of Madurai Diocese and was inaugurated by Bro. I. Victor, the Superior General of Sacred Heart Brothers. The students are divided into many divisions and they are looked after by Brothers, Wardens and teaching staff in the hostel. The hostel has all facilities for the students. Now six hundred and eighty-one students are stayed in the hostel.

POOR BOYS FUND

To give financial assistance to the poor students, a fund was created. In 1998 – 1999, a sum of Rs.25000 was given to the poor students. During festivals like Deepavali and Christmas, the management offers cloths and food items to the people in need. Uniforms are supplied to the poor backward students by the management at free of cost. The festivals like Deepavali, Christmas, Pongal are celebrated. National level festivities like Independence Day, Republic Day, and Flag Day are also celebrated.

The Students strength, staff strength, result, the list of headmasters and the list of correspondents are tabulated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
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<td>80</td>
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<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>39+10</td>
<td>1631</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>39+10</td>
<td>1469</td>
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<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1993-'94</td>
<td>39+10</td>
<td>1479</td>
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<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
<td>Br.Aруlpragasam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
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<td>39+10</td>
<td>1374</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
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<td>39+9</td>
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<td>Br.S.Aмalraj</td>
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<td>2000-'01</td>
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<td>Br.P.Jейарaj</td>
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<td>Br.I.Raphael</td>
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<td>Br.I.Raphael</td>
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<td>94</td>
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<td>Br.S.Thettaravu</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1737</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Br.R.Cасимир</td>
<td>Br.S.Thettaravu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ST. MARY’S HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, MADURAI

“Man is man because he remembers”, said Pascal. Who could come under the beneficent influence of the Jesuit Fathers and yet not remember them always with love and affection? Having had the good fortune to come into close conduct with the Jesuits. The Society of Jesus is a world wide organization founded in 1534 by St. Ignatius Loyola, whose main work is to preach and teach. As early as the second half of the XVI century, they had colleges in hundreds all over Europe giving free education to poor children and charging the rich nominally. There missionary zeal equals the pedagogic zeal.19

St. Mary’s Church was established in 1842, which has been all along serving the needs of the student and local community.20 The credit of starting the school in Madurai goes to Fr. Trincal. The school was begun in 1855 evidently as a Primary School.21 It was continued by his successor Rev. Fr. Labarthere, S.J. But in 1879, Rev. Fr. Blanc placed the then existing school under the results grant

system with the view of introducing the pupils to the government methods of primary schools.  

When the first form had fifteen boys and the second form had eight, the far-sighted Superior and Fr. Talom submitted the plans for establishing a boarding which should accommodate as many as three hundred boys. The lower classes were located in the boarding house of the orphanage. As the new stringent rules of sanction and recognition of schools had already come into force, a little conversion with the management of schools, might have wondered at the boldness of the step that the Fathers had taken.

On the 27th July 1906, this school became high school and granted readily the required sanction to open V form. Towards the end of the year 1907, the school obtained the sanction to open the VI form. In 1908, they admitted the boys for the first time to the Matriculation. In 1912, the boarding had hundred and eighty-seven pupils. In 1918, ‘Apostolic School’ took new effort to nurture priestly and religious vocations under Fr. Turlan and eight hundred and fifty students have passed through its portals. A significant change in the school is the suppression of the English medium section in 1979. In 1978, the school became Higher Secondary School.

Rebuilt thrice in the majestic Gothic style; the St. Mary’s Church enjoys the status of the Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Madurai since 1969.

Under the management of the parish, the 159-year old primary school is equipped with ample infrastructures including computer laboratory. The tailoring and typewriting institutes attached to this parish serve the needs of the locality.

In 2002-2003, the strength of the students was two thousand seven hundred and
forty four in the school. Science club was organized in the school to kindle awareness regarding science among the students. The school has NSS, NCC JRC, YSM to create patriotism and social service mentality among the students. Parent-teachers association helps the parents to have close contact with the school to know about the development of their children. St. Mary’s Computer Academy was established on 31-07-1997. By that the students are able to study computer and to use computer in all the departments.

**NIGHT STUDY**

Every day from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm, evening study is conducted by the teachers for the welfare of the students who are socially and economically backward. In 1989, Student Uplift and Animation Movement was established for the welfare of the students. It was also organized to develop love, helping tendency among the students.

**BOARDING HOUSE AND HOSTEL**

Attached to the school is a boarding establishment. It’s numbers are not less than 80 Catholic boys most of whom come from the Marava Country. Vazhavan Illam originally known as ‘the children’s home’ and meant only for the poor section of the suburbs of Madurai, was started in 1853-1954. Fr. Savarimuthu, one of its first perfects could be called the ‘Father of the Orphanage’. It is stated that the entire blessing showered on St. Mary’s was due to the extra ordinary service rendered by this institutions. The Beschi Home began to function with twenty boys on 6th June 1959. They were housed in the De Nobili Hall of the school. The social structure of the hostel building rose fast and reached its present magnitude on the first July 1959.

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LIBRARY

Another form of extra curricular activity is library reading. In 1908, the library had six hundred volumes. In the early years, the library books were housed in the office room itself. But the present library makes a great impression with its extensive hall. In 1908, the library had 13,656 books on the whole.\(^{35}\) But in 2003, the library had 24,628 books\(^ {36}\) and by that thousand five hundred and forty-eight students and two hundred and two staff members are benefited. In 2003, two thousand five hundred and thirty-two students used the things like map, Globe, chart, Geometry box, Scale and other materials.\(^ {37}\)

SPORTS

Every year the students used to participate in the basketball tournament conducted by T.S.M. Manikka Nadar and Janagiammal Higher Secondary School.\(^ {38}\) In 2000-2001, Sourashtra Higher Secondary School conducted A.K.Ramamoorthy Basketball match. In this match, St. Mary’s Higher Secondary School got first place. On September 1\(^ {st}\) 2000, TVS Lakshmi Sundaram Matriculation School conducted Football match. In that match also they got first place. In 2000-2001, Madurai District level Basketball and Table Tennis matches are conducted. St. Mary’s Higher Secondary School got second place. Football tournament was conducted among the Jesuit schools from November 18\(^ {th}\) to 21\(^ {st}\) in Didugul. In that tournament also they got second place.\(^ {39}\) On 11-11-2001, YMCA conducted Mini Marathon running. Hundred and fifty students participated.\(^ {40}\)

Thus their works have been organized on right lines. The teachers’ works are earnest and zeal. Discipline in the school is quite good. The results in SSLC Public Examination are also good compared to other institutions in the district.

\(^{35}\) Ibid, p. 63.  
\(^{36}\) Stock Register, Library, St. Mary’s Higher Secondary School, Madurai, 2002 – 2003, p. 72  
\(^{39}\) Stock Register, 2000 - 2001, p. 70.  
\(^{40}\) Stock Register, 2000 – 2001, p. 68.
The Old Boys Association is functioning well. "Sons of India, thy won children shall bring thee Salvation." Said Pope Leo XIII. Those who were educated and trained by the French Jesuit in St. Mary’s School are now Rectors, Principals, Headmasters, Professors of Philosophy and Theology, managing all our Jesuit institutions, young in age, ripe in wisdom with an equal young provincial on the top. Among the secular clergy, it is the Alumni of high school who are Superiors and Leaders and are preaching the word of God in the humblest Parishes.

The specialty of St. Mary’s lies besides the devoted Jesuit Fathers and teaching staff in that universal equality with which all the boys are treated irrespective of their parents, posts or positions.

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The strength of teachers, students and the results are furnished below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength Teaching +Non-teaching</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
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DIRAVIAM GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, KAMALAPURAM
ORIGIN AND GROWTH

Kamalapuram is situated in a remote rural area. People are striving hard to get their daily bread. In 1970, the Sisters of Immaculate Congregation started Diraviam Girls High School. The main aim is to enable unlettered people into lettered one. Kamalapuram is situated in remote area. Here, majority of the people are formers and illiterates. Not only the grown up are illiterates but also the younger ones. The school motto is *Share and Rejoice*. Diraviam School is developed little by little. Now, it is grown up into a higher secondary school. Diraviam High School was upgraded into a Higher Secondary School in the year

1990. It is one of the best schools in this rural area. The school has got award for 'Best Rural School in the District'.

GROUPS

Three groups were started at earlier and vocational group was started in the school in 1995.\textsuperscript{45} Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Commerce, Accountancy, Economics, History, Botany, Biology, Zoology, Auditing and Office Management are taught in this school. Above thousand students were admitted in this school in the year 2003-2004.\textsuperscript{46} Every year, this school produces centum result in X Std and almost centum in XII Std. This school produces Doctors, Engineers, Teachers, Police and Nurses every year. Many of the students get above thousand marks in the Higher Secondary Courses.

ADMINISTRATION

At Diraviam Girls Higher Secondary School, good discipline is given importance. Values of life are taught to them. In this remote area, good education is given to them. All the records are kept in a good manner. Punctuality of the student is kept importance by the Headmistress. Every week, the students celebrate Elakkiya Manram, Literary Association, Science Club and Maths Club. Science Exhibition is conducted in the District. In District Level Exhibition this school stood first and participated in the state level competition that held at Palayamkottai. In district level they get prizes also.\textsuperscript{47}

COMPUTER EDUCATION

In the remembrance of the Silver Jubilee, they constructed a new building for computer education in the year 2002-2003. Computer education was started in

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{45} Ibid, 1994-1995, p. 2.
\item \textsuperscript{46} Students Attendance Register, 2003-2004, n.pg.
\item \textsuperscript{47} Minutes Notebook, Diraviam Girl’s Higher Secondary School, Kamalapuram, 2002-2003, p.7.
\end{itemize}
the year 2003-2004. Many of the students got computer education in their school itself. Different movements were started in this school. They are such as

- YCS
- Human Rights education
- Amlavai Pengal Eyakkam

These movements help the students to form a better society.

J.R.C., Red Cross movements are also functioning in this school. Students adopted a village near by Kamalapuram that is Jambunatharai kottai. Their motto is ‘Ready to Serve others’. The students help not only to the adopted village but also everywhere and also in their school campus.

GAMES

Physical education is good to health. ‘Sound mind is a sound body’. To have a healthy body, the students participate in different athletics and games such as Khabadi, Kho-kho etc. They also participate in the district and state level competitions. They also got prize for this.

MUSIC AND CRAFT

The students are much developed by their teachers. They are taught how to make baskets, bags, other knitting works, embroidery work in the pillo cover, how to cut skirts and other inner garments. Students are given practice to sing prayer songs, Tamilthai Vazthu, National Anthem etc. The library is well equipped. Above thousand of books are kept in various sections such as Tamil, English, History, Drama and Novels, Science, quiz books and magazine. From VI to XII, two periods per week are allotted to read library books. By reading books, students improve their knowledge. Maintenance of library books is controlled and guided by the teachers.

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes record is maintained in the school. For every academic year, the Headmistress and the teachers are joined together and plan for their school improvement. Each and every item is entered in the minute record book. Promotion meeting is conducted at the end of the year.  

STAFF MEMBERS

There are twenty teachers working in this school. Due to their selfless service, students improve a lot. Teachers are cooperating with the management to their best. Three non-teaching staff members are working in the office. They maintain each and every record. There are record clerk, office assistant and a watchman. They have showed much attention for the school progress.

HOSTELS

To give good education, hostel was started by the Congregation of Immaculate Sisters. They help orphanage girls. They provide food, shelter, and clothing etc. Some of the students are paying a small amount of money and stay in the hostel. Merely four hundred students stay in the hostel and get good education.

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

This school has good infrastructure facilities. It has spacious building. Neat toilets and sanitary conditions are provided for both students and teachers. Desk and benches and classroom facilities are provided to almost all of the students. Because of these infrastructure facilities students can get good education. The school has also good water facility.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

The Diraviam Girls Higher Secondary School celebrates various festivals such as Pongal, Deepavali and Christmas etc. Every year, all the students from VI

to XII prepare Pongal in front of their classrooms and share with others and rejoice. Because of celebrating various functions, they promote religious tolerance among students.56

The school slowly drives away the superstitious and bad habits in this area. They try to remove their ignorance. The school is one of the recommended schools in this area. This school provides shelter and food for the orphans and the needy.

**LITTLE FLOWER GIRLS’ HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**USILAMPATTI**

Usilampatti is situated thirty eight Kilometers North west of Madurai surrounded by hills and the climate is healthy. On the west side is a vast green place with plantation of rice, cotton and sugarcane. It had a secondary school. There are some confectionaries, which give work to the local people. The Jesuit Priest of Valandur wanted the sisters for the parish, which was to be started in Usilampatti, the centre of Kallarnadu, inhabited by the Kallars. They were brave warriors too. The government took interest in civilizing these Kallars. It offered subsidy for the education of Kallar children in different institutions.

On 17th February 1932, Mgr. Faisandier, the Bishop of Tiruchirappally Diocese visited Usilampatti. The people requested the Bishop to open a convent in Usilampatti in view of a good school for their children. The Sisters of St. Joseph’s of Lyons visited the place at the end of April. They sent their request to the Mother House for a foundation at Usilampatti. Their desire was to work with the socially and economically poor people.57 They bought lands from Amavasai Nadar on September 22nd 1932. Sr. Jeanne Augusta who came to India in 1906 was chosen to start the building for the new foundation at Usilampatti. On 4th January 1933, she with a teacher and a cook arrived at Usilalmpatty. They were

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looked after in Arul Anandar Nadar’s house. Later on, she was shifted to a small room and started the construction.

Sr. Jeanne Augusta who lived in the church compound started a kallar school in the same compound as the other school. It was in view of getting aid for kallar boarding and school. But the District Educational Officer was not in favour of it. So, the idea of a separate kallar school was given up at that time and for both the schools new building was blessed in 2001-2002. The school became a higher secondary school during the academic year 2003-2004. The staff members follow the method of case study to give special care for the students. The motto of the school is *Lead Endless Light* and this school works especially for the social uplift of the students belong to the Kallar caste.

The school has many committees like Cultural Committee, spiritual Council, Social Council, Parent-Teacher-Management Relationship (PTMR), Leo–oriented education; campus ministry. The school also has NSS, NCC, and JRC. Literary programme and sex educational classes are also conducted in the school. Festivals like Deepavali, Pongal, Christmas, and Ramzan are celebrated. Independence day, Republic Day, Women’s Day, United Nations Organisation’s Day also celebrated. Students take part in the District, Zone level sports. The library in this school is a well-equipped one. The students are given benefits by the scholarship according to the category. They are having a children’s home. The correspondent is responsible for the admission and dismissal of the children. All the communications came through Assistant Educational Officer and District Educational Officer. They recommend the grand for them after their visit.

Apart from the regular staff, the management appointed eleven teaching staff and three non-teaching staff since there has been no aid for the higher secondary sections. As this school is situated in the place mostly occupied by the people of the Kallar caste, they are the beneficiaries of this school and the students’ strength of this school also increasing year by year. So it is clear that the number of students who go for higher studies is steadily increasing.

PRESENTATION CONVENT GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

THENI

The growth of the presentation sisters in Theni owes its strength first and foremost to God and to the pioneering efforts of Rev. Mother Xavier Murphy the Mother General of the order in 1933. Since then many dedicated Irish Sisters in their capacity as individual and small communities continued the work and survived countless difficulties, hurdles and obstacles in establishing what is today
the Presentation Convent Girl’s School. In 1987, it was raised to the standard of a High School and a Higher Secondary School in 1997.

The Presentation Sisters follow the footsteps of their foundress Nano Nagle. Her undaunted spirit laid a grace filled, love filled foundation of all. The Presentation family works with an eye to serve the poor, marginalized and uneducated; also to help the weak ailing, suffering humanity. LOVE is their aim in order to achieve all. For the past sixty nine years of selfless work of both Irish and Indian sisters brought through thick and thin, struggles and pain, joy and sorrow help them to keep the school as it was started with ‘Tamil’ as the medium of instruction. Sr. Pius who worked in the early 1950’s, with the Sisters of the Congregation of Immaculate Conception namely Bernard, Peter, Philip, Rita and others did spade work and sowed the seed. 64

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of their work is; Commitment to the materially poor, developing critical thinking, being an agent of social change and promoting Christian and human values. Their specific aim is to impart good education to promote all round development of an individual, to expose their inborn talents through extra-curricular activities and to make them good citizens.

Now school has forty-nine teaching staff, two non-teaching staff and in self–finance fourteen teaching staff are appointed. Two thousand students are studying in the school. Every year, the school produces cent percent result in Higher Secondary and around 99 % result in S.S.L.C. 65 Teachers and students participated in an awareness programme on the right use of Electricity conducted by the Central Government on 17-11-2001. It is a power thermal project of Hyderabad. The students participated in an awareness programme on environment. They also made a model of a neat road and highlighted the rules and regulations of

roads and environment. They saw the model and had a better knowledge of road safety in 2001\textsuperscript{66}. They led a procession to create awareness in the people on environment, presentation of peace and disadvantages of plastic bags.

The teachers participated in the Human Rights Programme conducted by the Peoples Watch, Tamilnadu. The children participated in the Science Exhibition conducted by the Educational Department, Theni. In 2001, they participated in another science exhibition held in Zamindarini Kamulammal Memorial Higher Secondary School, Bodinayakkanur. The school gives importance not only to education but also to the physical education. The school has one Physical Education Teacher, who won many laurels in sports and games activities. In the games like Football, Kho-Kho and Table Tennis the students emerged victories in the Inter-District level.\textsuperscript{67}

Seven Kho-Kho players were selected as National players. One of the National Players had an opportunity to participate in the tournament held in Madhya Pradesh. Mass drill and Yoga classes are conducted regularly.\textsuperscript{68} Seven guides of Scout received the Rajpurskkkar award from honorable Governor of Tamilnadu on 26-01-2001. In the same year, Red Cross conveners and students attended a camp at Vaigai Dam.\textsuperscript{69} On August 22\textsuperscript{nd} 2002, the students and the teachers participated in the essay competition conducted by Madurai Meenatchi Mission Hospital. N.S.S, P.T.A, YCS, Red Cross, N.C.C, Women Cell and Guide are functioning in this school to promote religious tolerance in the minds of the students. Festivals like Deepavali, Christmas and Pongal are celebrated. The school observes all National celebrations in the school like Independence Day, Republic Day, World Peace Day, Womens’ Day and Human Rights Day.\textsuperscript{70}

\textsuperscript{68} \textit{Annual Report}, 2000-2001, p.3.
\textsuperscript{69} \textit{Ibid}, 2001, p.2.
\textsuperscript{70} \textit{Ibid}, 2002, p.3.
Aravind Eye Hospital conducted an eye camp in 2003. In that camp, nearly thirty teachers participated. Orientation programmes on Leprosy and Blood Donation were held. Rotary Club of Theni conducted Personality Development and Skill Training Programme. Social Science club conducted a model parliament. The students of X and XII participated in that programme. Regularly they have literary association activities in all the subjects. On December 12th 2003, Flag Day was held. The students are given scholarships on community basis like SC, BC, MBC, DNC and one Disabled student. Every year, the Educational Department conducts various competitions in Speech, Dance, Tourism and Essay Writing. In 2002, the students participated in a cycle procession on the former Chief Minister Anna’s Birthday and won I and II prizes respectively.

R. C. TOWN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, MUNJIKKAL

KODAIKANAL

Kodaikanal is a hill station on the Palani hills, which is the part of Western Ghats. It is about 7000 ft high from the plain. It comprises of thick forests, green meadows, deep valleys, streams, cascades, medicinal plants and variety of flowers. Inscriptions of Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal explain that the Sanskrit word Varahagiri, which in Tamil called as Pantri Malai lateron known as Palani Malai. In 1906, R. C. Town Primary School was started to give education for the children of tribal areas. Education and moral are the two eyes of this School. After eighty years of service, in 1986, the school became a middle school. VI, VII, and VIII standards were started. Its motto is Dedication through Education. In 1996, the middle school was upgraded into high school and therefore IX and X standards were started consecutively. In 1999, R. C. Town High School became R.C. Town Higher Secondary School. Mathematics, Science and Arts groups were introduced. In 2002-2003, due to the services of Father S.Xavier Raj, Computer Science

subject was introduced in Maths and Arts group. The courses availed at present are,

I – Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths
II - Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Maths
III - Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology
IV – Commerce, Accountancy, Economics, Computer Science.

In 2001-2002, nine hundred and three students studied in the school. In 2003-2004, the strength of the students increased up to nine hundred and fifty one. The number of teaching staff members in the year 2003-2004 was twenty three and that of non-teaching staff members was six. The school has computer lab with six computers. Its office has been computerized. Scholarships are given to B.C., S.C. and M.B.C. students. Unbalanced Occupations childrens’ scholarships are given to children of sweepers and scavengers. Many associations like Scout, JRC, Science Forum, English Literary association, Tamil Elakkia Manram are functioning in the school to kindle the hidden talents of the students.

In 2002-2003, the school got first mark in XII Standard among the schools in Kodaikanal. Mass drill is conducted every Friday. Football, Volleyball, Shuttle Cark, Kho-Kho, Kabhadi, Carrum and Chess matches are conducted. They win prizes in Zonal and District level matches. Field events like 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters, relay and jumping events like high jump and long jump are also conducted. Old students Association acts as usual. Science Exhibition was held on 20-10-03 in the school. More than three hundred students

77. Ibid, 2003 – 2004, p.6
participated in the exhibition. A medical camp was conducted on 22-11-03. In that camp awareness regarding first aid, primary health and Tetanus Vaccine were given. On 27-02-2004 a seminar on eradicating leprosy was held. ⁸³

The students’ strength, staff strength, percentage of pass, list of correspondents and list of headmasters are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength (Teaching + Non-teaching)</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1999-’00</td>
<td>16+2</td>
<td>692</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr.John</td>
<td>Fr.Xavier Raj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2000-’01</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>14+2</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Mr.Justin Ilango</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>851</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr.Pascal Joseph</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>68</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fr.Charles Huston</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>76</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sr.Mariani Banu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>988</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fr.Apolin ClaretRaj</td>
</tr>
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St. XAVIER’S HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, SHENBAGANUR

St.Xavier’s Primary School was established to impart education, for the children of Tribal areas in Kodaikanal. The school became a High School on 8-06-1988. The School was upgraded into Higher Secondary School on 01-07-1999. The motto of the School is *To blossom Morality and Education.* Teaching and non-teaching staff members are the members of the Staff Council. They meet once in a month. Secretary arranges the meeting. Examination committee is in charge of the result. Twelve teaching staff members are getting Government aid. The number of non-teaching staff is two. Twelve Teaching staff members are given consolidated pay by the Management. Scout is conducted for Boys. One male staff is appointed to look after scout. Girls participate in Guide. For them, one female staff is appointed. From VI Standard to XII Standard twenty students are selected for both Scout and Guide. YCS, JRC, YSM and other Associations like Tamil Elakkiya Manram, English Association, Maths Association and Science Forum are also conducted once in a month. Science Exhibition is held in the

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School. St. Xavier’s Higher Secondary School has been participating in science exhibitions conducted at district level.\textsuperscript{88}

All sports like jumping events, throwing events, games like Football, Volleyball, Kho-Kho and Khabadi are conducted. The students participate and win in Zonal level, District level, Revenue district level and Divisional level. Ballbadminton and Shuttle are also conducted for the students.\textsuperscript{89} Parent Teachers Association also functions in the School. It consists of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee. Local parents are the President and Vice President. The Correspondent is the Treasurer and the Headmistress is the Secretary. Executive Committee consists of Association convinces the meeting regularly and it renders service for the development of the School.\textsuperscript{90} From VI Std to X Std students are given scholarships. XI Standard and XII Standard students are also given scholarships.\textsuperscript{91}

The School hostel is called an Orphanage and it works for the welfare of poor students. Three hundred and fifty boys and girls are stayed in the orphanage. No fee is collected for their admission and meals. The Government grants financial aid to the students once in a year.\textsuperscript{92} The School has a well-equipped library, which has thousand five hundred books including Tamil, English on the basis of education only. Moreover, science and Technology books, dictionaries, Mathematics Guides, Reference books for all the subjects and monthly magazines are also available in the library.\textsuperscript{93}

\begin{itemize}
\item \texttt{88. Minutes Note, St. Xavier’s Higher Secondary School, Shengaganur, 2003-2004, p. 6.}
\item \texttt{89. Physical Summary Note, 2003-2004, p.8.}
\item \texttt{90. Hand Book, 2002-2003, p.10.}
\item \texttt{91. Students Scholarships Note, 2003-2004, p.3.}
\item \texttt{92. Hostel Students Attendance Register, 2003-2004, p.17.}
\item \texttt{93. Stock Register, 2002-2003, p.4.}
\end{itemize}
St. JOSEPH’S GIRLS’ HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, MADURAI

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH’S OF LYONS

In this great country, one of our greatest needs is, the spread of education among our women. The condition of women’s education is however such that any attempt as its spread deserves help and encouragement from all quarters.\(^94\) The beginning of the 20\(^{th}\) century marked advance in education in Madurai. In 1901-1902, there were in the district not less than thousand seven hundred and thirty seven educational institutions imparting instruction to not less than sixty three thousand and eighty seven scholars. During the last fifty years, the district has witnessed far-reaching changes in the field of secondary education.\(^95\)

Sr. Rose took up her job as teacher in a small school started for girls by the Jesuits of Madurai in 1905. Sr. Rose had interesting methods of teaching and she was popular among the school children. Her sincerity and words of love appealed to the parents. Many of them sent their girls to school. Thus the gates were opened to women’s education.\(^96\)

Towards the end of 1906, an announcement was made that an English medium would be opened soon. People were waiting to send their children to the English Medium School run by the European Sisters. In the beginning of 1907, St. Joseph Sisters began to teach English to twenty girls in East Gate School which was administered by the Sisters of St Joseph of Lyons. In 1907, St. Joseph’s Sisters started an English Medium School in the Danappa Mudali street.\(^97\) There came two types of peoples like advocates, judges, magistrates, collectors etc, who wanted their children to learn English and music and other people whose children did not have much of schooling. They also heard that poor, good-looking girls

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were brought by temple authorities to serve in the temple. These children were sold. 98

The Europeans who were living in Madurai at that time wanted their children to have music lessons after they completed their school education in Madras, Bangalore or Cochin. Hence the Sisters began teaching music. They also taught needle works to girls of high-class society who wanted to get perfection in those crafts. Some were English people and some were Protestants. 99

The parents came and clamoured for seats. Sr. Rose took the only possible course. She expanded the school. In 1945, the school was upgraded with many buildings. Now St. Joseph’s School is immensely popular and in 1950 the strength raised to three hundred. 100 In 1980, it became higher secondary School. Two thousand five hundred and nineteen students were studying in this school during 2003-2004. 101 Sixty three teaching staff and seventeen non-teaching staff were working there. 102 Every year, they use to participate in the science exhibition at St.Mary’s Higher Secondary School. In 2002-2003, they won second prize. Tree plantation is insisted in every function. 103

In State level, District level and Zonal level matches, the students win prizes. In each class, the students are divided into four groups and they are selected in the name of worldbeaters skill test. Volleyball, Tennis, Table Tennis, Badminton, Kho-Kho, High jump, Long jump, Javelin throw, Athletic events and Sports and games items are conducted in the school. 104 Cultural Committee, Academic Council, YCS, Red Cross, Scout, N.S.S, Human Rights Education Movement, Women Cell, N.G.C and Parent Teachers Association are the various

98. Ibid, p.27.
organizations in the school. The school has a well-established library with nearly twenty four thousand books. To promote the reading habit of the students, the school offers magazines such as Arumbu, Nalvazhi, Children’s World, Dhinamani Kathir, Wisdom and Dhinamani.

NIRMALA GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL – MADURAI

In 1954, the centenary of the Declaration of the Immaculate Conception as an article of faith was celebrated. As a remembrance of the centenary, Nirmala Girls’ High School was started at St.Theresas Campus on 2-7-1954. It’s motto is Pure heart is God’s abode. The campus has an area of 7.5 acres. Even though the campus has many institutions, Nirmala Girls’ Higher Secondary School is the first and front building of the campus. In 1978-1979, the high school became a higher secondary school and it stands proudly as one of the top rank schools of Madurai city.

Maths, Science, Computer Science, Business Mathematics, Accountancy, Commerce, Economics, Botony, Biology, Zoology, Advanced Tamil, Type Writing, Office Management, Dress Designing and Making and Home Science are taught in higher secondary classes. Three thousand seven hundred and twenty two students were studying during the academic year 2003-2004. Every year, the school produces well results in X and XII examinations. Best teacher award was given to Sr. Antony Maria Lilly, the Headmistress of Nirmala Girls’ Higher Secondary School during the academic year 1999-2000. She received the award from Mr.M.Karunanithi, the former Chief Minister of Tamilnadu on 5-10-2000.

Scout functions in this school. Every Tuesday, Junior Red Cross (J.R.C) is conducted in order to give training for the students in emergency and to create best citizens. N.S.S. meeting is conducted every Wednesday. XI and XII students are the members of N.S.S. N.G.C. was also established to create awareness in the minds of the people on environment, preservation of peace and disadvantage of plastic bags. Three movements were started for the youth to establish a new society. They are Y.S.M, Human Rights Education and Amalavai Pengal Eyakkam.\textsuperscript{111}

Elakkia Mantram is conducted every Thursday to give training on speech.\textsuperscript{112} Science Club creates scientific interest among the students. Students published their works in ‘Pensakthi’ a magazine.\textsuperscript{113} Jawaharlal Nehru state level exhibition was conducted from 2\textsuperscript{nd} January to 6\textsuperscript{th} January 2000. Hundred and seventy students participate from twenty-one districts. Spirunulla the alga was produced and exhibited by students of this school. They won II prize. Intel computer institution organized an exhibition in Bangalore. Jawaharlal Nehru national level Science exhibition was held in Goa from 25\textsuperscript{th} November to 28\textsuperscript{th} November 2000. For that exhibition seven schools were selected from Tamilnadu. Nirmala School was one among them. The product solar still, which purifies the wastages let out by the textile mills had been exhibited. A plan of purifying the Vaigai River also had been proposed. For the best performance, the school was awarded. ‘Mupperum Vizha’ was celebrated on 16\textsuperscript{th} November 2000, which was presided over by the former speaker P.T.R.Pazhanivel Rajan. The school office has produced a large number of nativity certificates, community certificates and income certificates. The students won prizes in the district level competitions. They give importance to human rights.

\textsuperscript{112} Ibid, p.10.
\textsuperscript{113} Ibid, p.11.
NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

N.S.S students adopted a village called as Poolangulam to organize a camp on cleaning, environment. They prepared a list about handicapped and mentally disordered persons. They were brought to the center of ‘AKAS’. They cleaned the buildings of Thirumalai Nayak Mahal. A camp was held at Kunjampatti near Usilampatti from 2-1-2000 to 10-1-2000. In that camp AIDS awareness programme, small savings, environment, cleaning, removal of child labour, maintenance of medicinal herbs, mother and childcare were organized. Amalavai Pengal Eyakkam consists of fifty students discussed with the mentally retarded, handicapped children of Nilakkottai.114

SPORTS

The students won many laurels in sports and games activities. Foot ball, Kho-kho, table tennis, Ring ball, Basket ball are conducted in the school. In Athletics like High jump, Long jump, 100 meter, 200 meter, 400 meter, 1500 meter relay, Shot put, Discuss throw, Javelin throw are also conducted in the school. All the students participate in them to have a sound mind and sound body. To promote religious tolerance in the minds of the students they celebrate various festivals like Deepavali, Pongal, Christmas and observe all national celebrations like Independence Day, Republic Day, Martyr’s day, Flag Day are also celebrated.115

LIBRARY

The library is well equipped with many books and is functioned for the welfare of the students. The students have the right to get books from the library with the previous permission and signature of the staff. They have to return the books within one week. In the evening, students are given training in computer, tailoring and Hindi class.116 The list of Headmistress, Correspondents and the results obtained are tabulated below:

ST. BRITTO HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, MADURAI

In 1968, for the education of the boys of the mill workers in and around Gnanaolivupuram, Mgr. Diraviam started St. Britto High School (close to the Parish Church), which later became a higher secondary school.\(^\text{117}\) The

The school was exactly opened on 22\textsuperscript{nd} June 1968 and T.A.Soosai was the first Correspondent.\textsuperscript{118} The brothers of the Sacred Heart first headed it. The following were the headmasters:

- Br.S.Josephraj (1972-74)
- Br.A.Visuvasam (1974-77)
- Br.Peter Roy (1979-81) and
- Br.A.Gnanapragasam (1981-83)

This school owes much to Br.Emmanuel who was responsible for the strict discipline of the school and the excellent result (100\% pass) in the first two years. The following were the correspondents:

- Fr.T.A.Soosai (for 12 years)
- Fr.Peter Kulandai (for 2 years)
- Fr.M.Dhivianandam (for 3 years)
- Fr.Z.Joseph Selvaraj (for 3 years) and
- Fr.S.M.Selvaraj (for 2 years)
- Fr.M.I.Maria Arul Selvam (for 8 years)

The school is coming up in academic excellence. The school won first prize for its exhibit in the science exhibition held in Madras and was later selected for a national exhibition in Jawaharlal Nehru Children’s Science Exhibition held at Jammu Moulana Asad Stadium. The school is proud of the fact that it is forming future priests of the diocese, for the students of the Pius Ex- Preparatory Seminary are studying here. Vocational promoters of various congregations find this school a fertile field. The school has few blind boys who are treated like the other sighted boys. Within the campus of St.Britto Higher Secondary School there is a small

\textsuperscript{118} Mupperu Vizha Malar, St.Britto Higher Secondary School, Madurai, 2004, n.pg.
hostel called Diraviam Hostel meant for poor catholic boys. They are supported solely by the diocese.\footnote{119. V.M.Gnanapragasam, \textit{op. cit}, p.182.}

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

H.Kavignar Kannan of 10\textsuperscript{th} standard scored 480 out of 500 in 1998 public examinations and became 3\textsuperscript{rd} in Madurai District and got special prize from the Chief Minister. In 1999 public examinations, S.Kumaran scored 487 and became second at state level. In 2000 public examinations, M.Muruganandam scored 482 marks and A.Ramprakash scored 480 marks and became 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} respectively at district level. In 2001 Government examinations, G.Jegadeesh scored 485 marks, S.Gnanasundaram scored 484 marks and A.Joseph Alex scored 483 marks and came first, second and third respectively at educational district level.

**TAMIL LITERARY ASSOCIATION**

The students of this school participated in the Bharathi Memorial Competitions conducted by Madura College Higher Secondary School at the district level. The speaker of the assembly Mr.K.Kalimuthu presented the shield for championship. In the debate conducted by Thiyagarajar College of Technology, P.Edison was selected as the best student. In the music competition R.Godson Jerome won first prize at district level and second prize at state level and got prize from the Education Minister Semmalai. M.R.Ajay Sridar won first prize in the elocution conducted by Sri Ram Corporation.

**SCIENCE CLUB**

In 2003-2004 National Science Conference, this school students N.William Trincal Thaphe, J.Karthick, P.Siva Prabu, S.Parthasarathi and W.Dony Rajesh presented a research paper on “Producing Mushrooms from School Wastages” (papers and dry leaves). This research paper had been selected as first at the state level and they participated in the national level Children’s Science Conference held at Luckno and got medal for good research. The students participated in the Indian Science Conference presided by our then President
A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. In the competitions conducted by Tamilnadu Science Society on 16-10-2003, S. Antonymuthu won first prize in drawing and students A. Sasikumar and M. Kaliraj won third prize in the quiz competition.

**FINE ARTS CLUB**

Students of this club participated in many competitions like dance, singing, music etc and won thirty five prizes. More than 1200 students with film workers performed a sound and light programme called ‘Isai Sangamam’ in seventy two stages. On 14-11-2003 Children’s Day celebration, the students of History Association performed youth parliament on stage. In that programme, students acted as Prime Minister, Speaker, Leader of the Opposition and members.

Britto Band Set consisting of students makes every function grand by its performance. It shows the students talents in the educational district level ceremonies. Fr. Gnanapragasam S.J founded Veeramamunivar Elakkia Kazhagam. This club conducts competitions for students every year and awards them prizes. On 7-11-2003, veeramamunivar’s 324th birthday was celebrated and Dr. Glory V. Doss, Professor of Christianities, M.K. University presided over the function. Every year Competitions are conducted by St. Britto Bible Society and prizes are awarded to the winners. On 23-1-2004, the annual day of this organization was celebrated and Fr. Marivalan S.J presided over the function and gave away prizes. Seven trained teachers of the school find out the mischievous students and analyse their status and guide them by giving counseling.

**NATIONAL CADET CORPS**

NCC of this school was started in July 1978. This school NCC belongs to the Tamilnadu Technical Battalion. Hundred students practice in this group. Cadets of this school participated the CATC training camps held at Theni, Thirumangalam, Pasumalai, Nagamalai, Chekkanurani, Palani, Arumuganeri, Nagercoil, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli, Virudunagar and Royappanpatti. At Royappanpatti cadet M. S. Thirmalai Kumar won gold medal in firing. Cadets participated in National Integration Camps held in Kanjipuram, Marthandam,
Erode, Bihar, Punjab, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Vrdha, Mathyaprades, Himachal Pradesh, Newdelhi and Vallam and won prizes.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

There are fifty students in this scheme. Students help the traffic police at Arasaradi and Kalavasal junctions. They regulate the traffic at A.A.Salai and Melaponnagaram 2nd street. They do the work of scribes for the blind students. These are all routine works of the NSS students. Students help the medical officers in giving pulse polio drops. These students take care of a garden with forty medicinal plants from June 2000. Students participated in the camp at Mullipallam from 15-6-2000 to 24-6-2000, a camp at pappakudi from 8-2-2002 to 17-2-2002 and a camp at Pothumbu from 27-10-2003 to 05-11-2003.

The motto of scout is ‘Be Prepared’. Students of this group participated in the one-day adventurer competitions held at Pasumalai Higher Secondary School on 10-12-1999 and ten students won prizes and got the overall championship. On 30-11-2000 also students won prizes and championship in the same competitions held at the same school. Till now more than twenty-five students received Governor awards.

SPORTS

This school is the best school in Sports and Games for the past ten years. Base Ball (Junior and Senior) team has consequently secured the district winner for the past ten years(1993-2004). S.Paul Patrick represented Tamilnadu State Junior Basket Ball team participated National Games in Basketball at Punjab in 1996. S.A.Phillip Kumar represented Tamilnadu state youth volleyball team and participated the National Games held at Bhopal in Mathyaprades. S.James Jesse represented state youth Basketball team and participated in the 54th National Games held at Kanguva in Himachalaprades. This school conducts ‘Basketball Rolling Trophy’ in association with Old Students Association.

There are more than 12000 books in the library. Apart from that, fortnightly, more than hundred books are got from Arapalayam Branch Library
and supplied to the students. Daily newspapers, weekly and monthly magazines are bought for the welfare of the students and staff members. Sr. John Devos started YCS/YSM first in Chennai and it spread out to the schools run by Catholic Missionaries. In 1999, student Sankarlal participated as state representative and lead the organization in the rally held at Chennai. In the rally held at Trichy, students gave awareness through skits and street plays. In the school itself the students are trained to criticize the journals, films and society. In the Audio Visual Centre, cassettes, Over Head Projectors, computer and educational CD’s are preserved. They are used to promote the fundamental skills in languages. The Silver Steps movement was started in the Silver Jubilee year 1993-94 in order to help the poor students. Students and teachers contribute money for this movement without any compulsion. This movement pays every year school fee for the poor students. Poor boys get free uniform under this scheme. In 2004, there were 1306 students as members.

Integrated Education for the Disabled has been functioning for the past twenty years. Every year, around twenty students benefit through this programme. In the source room, students get the facilities of cassettes recording, copying and brail texts. In 2002-2003, blind student Joe Pradeep stood second in the H.S.C examinations at the state level. In 2003-2004, R. Sankar a blind student came second at district level. St. Britto Alumni Association (SBAAN) was started in 1987. For the past ten years this association has been conducting district level Basketball competition at the cost of Rs 10000. This association conducted free diabetic identification camp, free eye camp and free medical camp jointly with Aravind Eye Hospital and Allied College of Sciences. This association celebrates every June 26th as Alumni Day.\textsuperscript{120} The strength of the students, staff, the list of

\textsuperscript{120}Mupperu Vizha Malar, 2004, n.pg.
Correspondents, the list of Headmasters and the result produced by the school in the higher secondary course examinations are furnished below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength Teaching +Non-teaching</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1990-'91</td>
<td>50+9</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>Mr.A.Yagappan</td>
<td>Fr.M.I.Maria Arul Selvam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>1681</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1993-'94</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1995-'96</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>90</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>51+9</td>
<td>1912</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>2001-'02</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>2136</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2002-'03</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>2182</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2003-'04</td>
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<td>2153</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2243</td>
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<td>2369</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![+2 RESULTS](image)

ST. AGNES GIRLS’ HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, ROYAPPANPATTI

Royappanpatti

St. Anne’s congregation was established in 1878 in Trichy. It established its branch at Royappanpatti in 1910. With the recognition of the Government, a primary school was established in the name of St. Agnes in 1934. In 1854, Fr. Saint Cyr came to the newly founded village of Royappanpatti. The leader of this village Mr. Royappa Udayar donated lands to Royappanpatti and Hanumanthanpatti Church. He also donated lands to Sisters of St. Anne’s of Trichy and Brothers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The congregation of St. Anne’s of Trichy began their community at Royappanpatty on 13th May 1910. In November 1910, they started a school having classes one to three with sixty students. In 1918, it had four teachers and classes from one to five. In 1932, it became a higher elementary school with hundred and sixteen students. In June 1964, it together with St. Aloysius Higher Elementary School became a high school. With the tireless efforts of the Correspondent Sr. Kunjamacherian, S.A.T and Br. Arulpragasam SHJ, it became a higher secondary school in 1979. In 1989, girls’ sections were bifurcated from St. Aloysius Higher Secondary School.

123. Fr. V.M. Gnanapragasam, op. cit, p.80.
and functioned as St.Agnes Girls’ High School. In 1990, it became St.Agnes Girls’ Higher Secondary School.\textsuperscript{124} The motto of the school is \textit{Truth and Purity lead to Charity}.\textsuperscript{125}

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

In 2002, this was the only school to get 100% result in the S.S.L.C and H.S.C examinations in Theni district. In the same year student A.Niranjana came first by scoring 474 marks in the S.S.L.C examination at the district level. Every year management arranges class wise educational tour.\textsuperscript{126}

**COURSES OF STUDY**

The following courses are offered in this school.

1. Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths
2. Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology
4. Economics, Commerce, Principle of Management and
5. Commerce, Accountancy & Auditing Theory, Accountancy & Auditing Practica I and II.\textsuperscript{127}

**Extracurricular Activities**

Every year the students use to participate in regional, district and state level athletes and win prizes. In 2001, A.Maheswari won first prize in Karate. The senior and super senior teams won first prize in football and hockey at district level. K.Lakshmi won first prize in long jump at district level.\textsuperscript{128} In 2004-2005, the students M.Shobana Devi, M.Baby Saranya, K.Amudha, M.Vidya and Kalaivani were selected for the state hockey team. Student M.Shobana Devi participated in the national level competition held in Mathiaprapadesh and students

\textsuperscript{125} Hand Book, St.Agnes Girls' Higher Secondary School, Royappanpatty, 2007-08, p.6.
\textsuperscript{126} Annual Report, 2002-2003, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{128} Annual Report, 2001-2002, n.pg.
M.Vidya and Kalaivani participated in the national level competitions held at Ludiana in Punjab conducted by Federation of India.\(^{129}\)

In 2001-2002, J.Elakkiya was awarded best student in firing. Three students attended the trekking camp held at Cunnoor in Ooty.\(^{130}\) In 2002-2003, students T.Arunadevi and B.Gohilavani participated in the trekking camp held in Sikkim.\(^{131}\) In 2007, P.Suganthi won first prize in firing at state level and national level.\(^{132}\) Every year hundred students are admitted as cadets.

In NSS, fifty students are admitted every year. In 2001-2002, one day camps like environmental camp and awareness camps were held.\(^{133}\) In 2002, a ten days camp was held near Shanmuganathith Dam.\(^{134}\) In 2005, the camp was conducted at Ozana Colony for ten days.\(^{135}\) The scout students are trained to get leadership qualities. In 2001, the scout consisted of thirty two students.\(^{136}\) In 2005-2006, three students got Rastriya Bruskar award from the Governor and seven students attended thiruthia soban camp.\(^{137}\) In 2007, student M.Steffy Madhana got Rastriya Bruskar award.\(^{138}\)

Junior Red Cross movement creates the awareness of helping others. In 2002-2003, there were twenty five juniors in this organization. Six students attended the training camp held at Vaigai Dam.\(^{139}\) In 2005-2006, the students attended the road safety seminar, blood donation camp, eye donation camp and aids awareness camp. They were trained to make products from wastages.\(^{140}\)

\(^{130}\) Ibid, 2001-2002, n.pg.
\(^{131}\) Ibid, 2002-2003, n.pg.
\(^{133}\) Ibid, 2001-2002, n.pg.
\(^{134}\) Ibid, 2002-2003, n.pg.
\(^{135}\) Ibid, 2005-2006, n.pg.
\(^{137}\) Ibid, 2005-2006, n.pg.
\(^{139}\) Ibid, 2002-2003, n.pg.
\(^{140}\) Ibid, 2005-2006, n.pg.
2006, six students attended the training camp conducted at Veerapandi. A student, S.Sahaya Sarona was awarded the best junior. Every year, De Nobili Elakkia Mantram conducts competitions like elocution, drawing, singing and essay writing and the students are awarded prizes. Apart from this Tamil literary association, Young Catholic Students Movement(YCS), Young Students Movement, Human Rights Association to teach the human rights, Small Savings Scheme is also functioning in this school.

The staff strength, number of students, results achieved in the corresponding year, list of headmasters and list of correspondents are furnished below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength Teaching +Non-teaching</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td>980</td>
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<td>1532</td>
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<td>Sr.Alphonse</td>
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<td>&quot;</td>
<td>1655</td>
<td>99</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

142. Staff Registers and Students Registers, St.Agnes Girl’s Higher Secondary School, Royappanpati, 1990-2006, n.pg.
Kodaikanal is a famous tourist center and known for its climate all over the world. It is nearly 7000 feet high from the sea level. In 1820, the British Government expanded its area of Madras presidency towards the south. It sent Lieutinent Ward to test the living conditions of Palani Hills. Lieutinent Ward didn’t finish his survey till 1837 and so the Government chose Ooty as the residential of British Army. Later in 1845, the clergies of Madura Mission came to know about Kodaikanal through the British Government. Fr.H.S.Taylor and C.P.Muzzy first visited the Palani Hills and decided that it was liable to survive. A stream in Kodaikanal had been made as a star shaped lake by the collector of
Madurai, Henry Vier Levinch. In 1980, the members of the English Club and the British people residing at Kodaikanal started the boat club and this club runs a free hospital. The forest area of Kodaikanal has an area of 40,740.48 hectares. It is in between 100 20” - 100 5” North Latitude and 760 16” - 760 45” South Latitude. The British forest Officer H.D.Bryant developed the Bryant Park in 1900. In 1786, William Batri who had worked in Eastern Company started a laboratory at the top of his house for his own use. The Eastern Company absorbed this lab in 1789 and it has been functioning as an observatory since 1792.  

ORIGIN

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary started a community house at Kodaikanal in 1916. During that time, Cholera, Chicken Box and Tuberculosis affected many of the sisters and they need a cool climate to take rest. For this purpose only they started this community. At that time the other catholic convent existed here was the Presentation Convent. In the same year, these sisters started a kindergarten school. The people were not interested to send their children to school. So the sisters provided noon meal (kanji) for the students. At that time, very few houses were here and there.  

In Kodaikanal, there were schools in English medium for rich children; but no decent school for the girls of poor families. Such a school was started in 1916, which was upgraded into a higher secondary school in 1984. Long before the Government began mid day meal scheme these sisters were giving mid day meal for more than seventy poor children; and the Education Minister Aranganayagam had given a certificate in 1982 praising this pioneer effort of the sisters. The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who came to Kodaikanal for holidays in St.John’s Convent saw the misery of the poor and needy and started a cresche in 1925 and a dispensary in 1936.  

144 Interview with Sr.Vimala, a retired Physical Education Teacher, dated 12-7-2006.  
145 V.M.Gnanapragasam, op.cit, p. 224.
At first the school was started with four girls, seventeen boys and two teachers. It became a high school on 21-6-1962 and upgraded as a higher secondary school on 28-9-1984. In the year 2006, thousand and thirty three students were studying in this school. Thirty teachers and six non-teaching staff are working in this school. The motto of this school is ‘Towards fuller Humanity’.  

AMALA ANNAI HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
T.SINHTHALAICHERY

This village became a Parish in 1924 and Fr.Adrian was the first Parish Priest. Fr.Mares started a school for boys and another for girls. Fr.Gonsalves brought the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and gave them the charge of the girls’ school. From 1960 to 1975 was the period of Fr.Mathew Muttom,S.J. It could be possible for Fr.Mathew Muttom alone to become the chairman of the Panchayat.

ORIGIN

The French father Mares began this school in 1908 as a primary school. Fr.Arulanandam S.J upgraded this school as a middle school in 1957. The former Bishop Marianus Arockiasamy upgraded this school as a high school on 13-6-1988 and further raised this school as a higher secondary school on 01-07-1999. This school serves with the motto love and serve. The parish priest of Sinthalaichery manages this school and a sister of the Congregation of Immaculate Conception heads the school.

COURSES OFFERED

The following courses are offered at the higher secondary level

1. Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology
2. Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science
3. Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology

147. Fr.V.M.Gnanapragasam, op.cit, pp. 96,97.
4. History, Economics, Accountancy, Commerce and
5. Economics, Accountancy, Commerce, Principles on Management. \textsuperscript{149}

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

In the competitions conducted by Bharathi Literary Association, fifty students won prizes and got the award “Bharathi Elakkia Thilagam”. Every year, after the first term, the students who are poor in studies are called for night study. JRC student Josua got the best student award. In 2006, U.Nivetha and Arockia Deepa got young scientist award in the district science exhibition. NGC cadets plant saplings and grow them. NSS students attend camps and make awareness among the people. Though they arrange one-day camps, so far they have not yet conducted any ten days camp. Every year students participate in the sports and games conducted at zonal level and district level and won prizes in Kho-Kho, throw ball, Volley ball, Kabaddi etc. especially the senior and super senior throw ball team came fourth at the state level competitions. Every year, students enjoy educational tour. \textsuperscript{150} Three Scout and Guide students got Governor Award. From 2000 onwards, poor boys fund has been raised. Through this scheme, students themselves help the poor boys in remitting fee and getting uniforms. Every year, retreat is conducted for the students to refresh their mind and heart. In 2002 government examinations, student Marambadi Antony scored 478 and came third at the district level. \textsuperscript{151}

In 2006, the school had the strength of 1132 students \textsuperscript{152} and there were twenty eight teaching staff \textsuperscript{153} and four non-teaching staff \textsuperscript{154} working in this school. The Hindu students are taught moral studies and catechism is taught to the Catholic students everyday. A special syllabus is framed for these two studies. The

\textsuperscript{149} XI standard Application form, 2006-07, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{150} Annual Report, 2006-07, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{151} Ibid, 2002-03, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{152} Attendance Register, 2006-07, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{153} Staff Register, 2006-07, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{154} Non-teaching Staff Register, 2006-07, n.pg.
students appear for exams on these subjects. Experts from the headquarters of Madurai Diocese inspect these classes once in a year and give advises to teach it effectively.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1999-‘00</td>
<td>Sr.Elizabeth Mary Rani</td>
<td>Fr.Edward Francis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2000-‘01</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2001-‘02</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Sr.Pushpa</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2002-‘03</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2003-‘04</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>Fr.Charles Guston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2004-‘05</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Sr.Rose</td>
<td>Fr.Arulanandam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2005-‘06</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>Sr.Thinesh Mary</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2006-‘07</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LOURDU ANNAI GIRLS’ HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**K.PUDUR, MADURAI**

When K.Pudur was in the territory of St.Mary’s Parish, Fr.Endaline bought a piece of land in K.Pudur (Kosakulam Pudur) and built a small church of Our

Lady of Lourdes in 1920. In 1931, Fr. Gabriel Gomez enlarged the church and brought the C.I.C Sisters to start a primary school. When the Madurai Diocese was born in 1938 the Bishop’s house was built in K.Pudur. The city expanded; transport facilities increased; more Catholic families came to settle down in K.Pudur. 157 “The city of Madurai is expanding day by day on the northern side of the city along Alagarkoil Road, K.Pudur where several housing colonies have come up recently” are the words used by Sr. Neomi in her letter to the Collector dated 30-11-83 asking alienation of land of six acres for school play ground. 158

ORIGIN

Most.Rev.P.Justin Diraviam, the Bishop inaugurated the Lourdu Annai High School on 9-6-1976. A portion of the R.C.Middle School was allotted for this school temporarily. Sr. Pudumai was the first Headmistress and Sr. Rose Theresa, Miss. Thilagavathi, B.Sc, B.Ed(Maths), Sr. Cells, I. Alphonse, Sr. Jeevamani (Tamil Pandit), Miss. D. Jasintha (P.E.T), Miss. Grace Mary Leelavathy (craft Teacher), Sr. Theresammal (attender), Brotto Gnanasekaran (peon), Savarimuthu (watchman), Chinnamma (scavenger) and Arockiasamy (sweeper). 159 First correspondent was Sr. Delecta who was also the Principal of Justins College. 160 On 29-11-1977, the new building was opened by Bishop Justin Diraviam. Students donated Rs 250 as their contribution. On 5-7-1995, the school was upgraded as a higher secondary school. 161 Veermamunivar Tamil Elakkia Kazhagam was inaugurated on 8-7-1988. 162 The motto of the school is loving service following Our Lady. 163 The first sports day was celebrated on 3rd March 1979 and it was presided by Fr. J. Joseph Xavier. The

157. Fr. V. M. Gnanapragasam, op.cit, pp.104, 105
158. Letter written by Sr. Neomi to the District Collector of Madurai, dated 30-11-83.
162. Log Book, p.35.
first Annual Day was celebrated on 14\textsuperscript{th} March 1979 which was presided by the Collector P.C.Zeriac I.A.S.\textsuperscript{164} Staff council was started on 25-7-1980 with five members Sr.A.Arockiam, Sr.Julian Mary, Sr.Amala Roja, Miss.Flora and Miss.Shantha. From 1980, in the consecutive years medical camp had been conducted by Leprosy Control Unit and a few students were identified.\textsuperscript{165}

**COURSES OFFERED**

The following courses are offered at the higher secondary level

1. Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science
2. Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology
3. History, Economics, Commerce, Accountancy
4. Business mathematics, Economics, Commerce, Accountancy and
5. Auditing, Economics, Commerce, Practicals I & II\textsuperscript{166}

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The school library is enriched with three thousand and fifty seven books.\textsuperscript{167} Student C.Leema Powlin came first in the 1983 state level S.S.L.C examinations and she was honoured by Collector K.Aludaya Pillai I.A.S and was awarwded Rs 2500 cash.\textsuperscript{168} Every year, the students used to go educational tours to places like Mysore, Bangalore, rameshwaram, Courtalain, Kanyakumari, Thekkadi, Suruli etc. Band set comprises of students, gives music programmes at the time of festivities. Guide, YCS/YSM, People’s Watch, NGC, JRC, Red Ribbon Club and Amala Avai Pengal Eyakkam help the students to bring out their leadership qualities and working with community. There is no NCC in this school.\textsuperscript{169}

The list of Correspondents, Headmasters, the strength of teachers, students and the results obtained in the H.S.C examinations are furnished below. Apart

\begin{itemize}
\item \textbf{164. Invitation letter,} 1979.
\item \textbf{165. Log Book,} pp.48, 63, 76.
\item \textbf{166. XI standard Application form,} 2006, p. 3.
\item \textbf{167. Library Stock Register,} 2007, n.pg.
\item \textbf{168. Invitaion Letter, op.cit,} 1983.
\item \textbf{169. Interview with Sr.Germanammal,} The Headmistress, dated 24-9-2007.
\end{itemize}
from these regular staff twenty-two teaching and three non-teaching staff have been working as management staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength Teaching +Non-teaching</th>
<th>Student Strength</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1995-’96</td>
<td>24+4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sr.G.S.Xavier</td>
<td>Sr.G.S.Xavier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1996-’97</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1997-’98</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Sr.S.Pushpam</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1998-’99</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>Sr.I.Elizabethmmanal</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1999-’00</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1437</td>
<td>99.5</td>
<td>Sr.G.S.Xavier</td>
<td>Sr.I.Elizabethmmanal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2000-’01</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1384</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Sr.I.Elizabethmmanal</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>2001-’02</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1383</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2002-’03</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1448</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Sr.D.Hilda</td>
<td>Sr.M.Maria Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2003-’04</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1478</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2004-’05</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1476</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2005-’06</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1483</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>”</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2006-’07</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1499</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Sr.Germanammanal</td>
<td>Sr.Maria Rosammanal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2007-’08</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>1526</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

170. Staff Registers and Students Attendance Registers, 1995-2007, n.pg.
SIRUMALAR GIRL’S HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
NAGAMALAIPUDUKOTTAI

SERVITES OF MARY

The Servites of Mary formerly the Sisters of Seven Dolours first entered Madurai in 1882 and opened a school in East Gate area, now occupied by the local Sisters of the Congregation of Immaculate Conception. Later, according to the desire of the people, another school was started near the Rosary Church. Both the schools flourished. When the new local Congregation of the Immaculate Conception needed a place to start work, the Servites were asked to choose between Madurai and Dindigul. They chose the latter. They handed over the Madurai schools to the Blue Sisters and proceeded to Dindigul. In 1900, they opened a convent and took charge of the primary school in Sarugani; later upgraded it into a middle school. In 1968, they began a dispensary in their own convent, which became the Maria Mater Hospital in Arockianagar, three kilometers away from Sarugani. During the leadership of Mgr.Diraviam, they were allowed to open Alexis Canoz dispensary at Gnanaolivupuram in 1968, and in 1969 the Sirumalar Higher Secondary School at Nagamalai Pudukottai and later in 1972 St.Joseph’s School for the blind in Justin Nagar at the outskirts of Madurai. Sirumalar Higher Secondary School is the only one of its kind for this Congregation in Madurai Archdiocese.  

171.

171.Fr.V.M.Gnanapragasam, op.cit, pp.222, 223.
This school was started as a high school on 29-6-1969 and was upgraded as a higher secondary school on 27-7-1981. On 7-6-2002, Rev.Sr.Yusteshia Mary, the Provincial opened a new building. It was blessed by Fr.James Paulraj.\textsuperscript{172} This school has building in 54500 Sq.Ft and the area of open space garden is 33525 Sq.Ft. The playground occupies an area of 67411 Sq.Ft. The total area is 115962 Sq.Ft.\textsuperscript{173} The motto of this school is \textit{Social Change through Education}.\textsuperscript{174} The courses taught in this school are tabulated below.\textsuperscript{175}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>Medium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Physics-Chemistry-Maths-Computer Science</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Physics-Chemistry-Maths-Biology</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Physics-Chemistry-Maths-Biology</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Physics-Chemistry-Botany-Zoology</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>History-Economics-Commerce-Accountancy</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Economics-Commerce-Accountancy- Business- Maths</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Commerce-Accountancy-Office Management-Typewriting</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

On 9-11-2001, District Level Sports were conducted on various events. Lalitha of this school got first prize in high jump and Jeyapradeepa got first prize in high jump at senior level. In the district level competitions conducted on 31-8-2000, Sangeetha got first prize in high jump.\textsuperscript{176} NSS was started in 1999. Every year, they use to conduct camps around Nagamalai Pudukottai. In 2002, NSS camp was conducted at Nagamalaipudukottai. From 9-4-2003 to 16-4-2003 another camp was conducted at Keezhakuyilkudi. GUIDE was started in 1981.

\textsuperscript{172} Interview with Miss. Packiam, Record Clerk, dated 24-9-2007.
\textsuperscript{173} Inspection Report, Sirumalar Girl’s Higher Secondary School, Nagamalaipudukottai, 2006, n.pg.
\textsuperscript{174} Hand Book, 2006, p. 4.
\textsuperscript{175} XI Standard Application form, 2006, p.3.
\textsuperscript{176} Sports Record, 2000-2001, n.pg.
with the strength of forty students. On 9-2-1988, Parents Teachers Association was started. Every year the school celebrates fine-arts week in which competitions like Thirukkural recitation, Rangoli, Blackboard Drawing Competition, Fancy Dress, Dance and Elocution. Gandhi Study Centre conducted a written competition at Chennai on 31-10-2006 on the title “My Experiment with Truth”. Thirteen thousand three hundred and six students from all over Tamilnadu participated in it. M.Divya of this school secured third prize.177

The staff strength, result attained in the past fifteen years and the list of headmistresses and correspondents are tabulated below with the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Staff Strength Teaching +Non-teaching</th>
<th>Pass % (+2)</th>
<th>Headmaster</th>
<th>Correspondent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1990-'91</td>
<td>30+8</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Sr.Manicka Samidurai Seeli</td>
<td>Sr.Josephine Therese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1991-'92</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1992-'93</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>86</td>
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<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1993-'94</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>Sr.Fatima Sheela</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1994-'95</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>Sr.K.Jesili</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1995-'96</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>”</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1996-'97</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>Sr.A.Josephine</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1997-'98</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Sr.L.Manikkam</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1998-'99</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>”</td>
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<td>97</td>
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<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2000-'01</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>Sr.A.Josephine</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>2001-'02</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>”</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2002-'03</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2003-'04</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>Sr.Mary Mantani</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2004-'05</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>”</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>2005-'06</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>2006-'07</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>”</td>
<td>Sr.Rexita Mary</td>
<td>”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


This is the only one higher secondary school run by the Sisters of the Order of Servants of Mary in Madurai Diocese. This school serves the people around Nagamalaipudukottai.

Thus the Catholic Missionaries attached to the Madurai Diocese contribute a lot for education at school level.