APPENDIX-III

INFORMATION OF KRISHNAMURTI “THE SCHOOL”, CHENNAI

‘The School’ is affiliated to the Indian Council for Secondary Education. The students work with a curriculum designed by the school from kindergarten to class VIII, after which they follow a syllabus prescribed by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations.

English is the medium of instructions. Tamil, Hindi and Sanskrit are the other languages the students learn. Besides the basic subjects the curriculum includes creative arts such as music-classical and modern, arts and crafts, classical dancing and dramatics. Gardening and physical training including yoga. Admissions-Procedure Registration, however, does not guarantee admission, as class sizes are limited. Students can be considered for admission to the Kindergarten only if they have completed the age three years and six months on 1st June of the year of admission.

For admissions to other classes children are tested in the basic subjects English, Hindi or Tamil and Mathematics. The student does not need to be coached for these tests for we are interested in discovering the child’s potential for learning in an atmosphere such as is offered at the school.

Admissions are made after careful interviews with parents and children. The call for interview is only against vacancies in that particular class.

Teachers

The teaching staff is committed to exploring education in the light of Krishnamurti’s teachings. The faculty is a well knit, well qualified, serious, purposeful group of people from diverse backgrounds. Among the staff, there are regular dialogues on educational issues, classroom processes, social and global concerns. These discussions in the ambience of a
Krishnamurti school provide the necessary dynamism for innovative change and movement.

**Teacher Taught Relationship**

Teachers and students hold discussions on themes relating to life - on subjects of fear, pleasure, hurt, ambition, co-operation and responsibility at various levels of understanding. The everyday experiences of the children in the peer group, in class, at home, and from the media form contexts for such explorations. These discussions are vital to the growth of the child.

**Assemblies**

Every morning there is a 20 minutes assembly for the students of class 5 and above, where the student and staff come together to sing, chant, listen and share ideas. Separate assemblies are held in the Kindergarten and Junior School.

**Special Weekly Assemblies**

Every Wednesday, students of middle and senior school present before the student and teacher body, plays, project presentations, quizzes, and other creative activities, once a month, the teachers and students participate in an Open House, where school-related issues are discussed. Artists of repute also are invited to present a lecture demonstration.

**Special Assembly on February 17**

This assembly is organized in remembrance of the death anniversary of J. Krishnamurti. It is both a solemn and reflective occasion in which parents, students, teachers and special invitees participate. The assembly committee is in charge of the K assembly.

**Physical Education**

The School has a programme for physical fitness of all students. Regular games period are part of the schedule. Additional opportunities to play football, basketball, volleyball and badminton are provided during the school day. Junior VII
and Senior Sports days, inter-school matches, treks and camping form part of the annual programme.

**Sports Day for Junior School Children**

Students from KG and the MAG classes participate in the sports activity on this day. The emphasis is on discovering one's skill and potential and putting to use the various kinesthetic skills learnt during the games, rather than on participating competitively. There is no prize giving ceremony.

**Sports Day for Middle and Senior School Children**

Students from class five to twelve participate on the mass drill and events on this day. The emphasis is on encouraging students to explore their sense of body movement and rhythm and to find ways of excelling in sport without the competitive edge. There is no prize giving, or victory stand involved on this day.

**Extra Curricular Activities:**

Complete education is impossible without sensorial learning and encouraging various forms of expression. In junior school, students learn a wide variety of skills and to express themselves creatively. In the later years, students opt for activities which include art, weaving, clay work, carpentry, vocal music, home-craft and dance.

**Field Trips**

Different classes go on field trips to chosen locations. Valuable skills are learned, and relationships built, through these experiences. Students are expected to participate in these as in any other class activity; these are not considered "extra", but rather than essential part of the curriculum. Parents are requested to supervise packing, which is best done by the children, but instead to carefully supervise so that necessary items are remembered and unnecessary items are not included. When students label and pack their own supplies and equipment, they have more of a sense of what they are taking and how to keep track of their things. Students must not bring expensive articles, food items of any description and music systems.
(other things like games, chewing gum, cameras etc.) on such trips. The school must be informed of any special medication that the student is under. This needs to be packed along with clear instructions.

**Symposium**

The symposium grew out of a deeply felt need for non-competitive, yet meaningful interaction between the school and other schools in the city. This annual event was envisioned as a forum for students of different schools to engage on issues of social and contemporary relevance. It provides a platform for students to enquire, discuss, raise questions and voice their opinions. Students also interact and share insights with special invitees, who are people involved in specific fields.

**Unique features of the School**

Students are encouraged to accept and share responsibility in various ways: Students from classes 5 and above wash plates and set the dining hall in turn. Clean their classrooms. Do gardening or some kind of work on the school campus.

**Academic Evaluation**

Students' progress is assessed systematically and continuously. Evaluation is comprehensive, non-comparative and points to possibilities for growth. Parents receive reports twice a year.

In September parents send a report to school on their children based on the observation made at home. This report facilitates a joint awareness and understanding of the child by the school and home.

Students take formal examinations and their work is graded in the last 5 years of school.

Students take the public examinations at the end of Tenth and Twelfth standard.