CHAPTER IV

MEDICAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Medical and Technical Education are the two inseparable limbs of human progress. But Kanyakumari District prior to 1956 was known for Siddha and Ayurveda Medical Treatment. Similarly, under technical education type writing and some other vocational technical subjects were imparted through private agencies and some government schools. It is a pity to state that no medical and technical education existed in the past even after the formation of Kanyakumari District, except the government polytechnic at Konam established in 1959. However, one could witness a sudden spurt in medical and technical education in Kanyakumari District recently, ever since 1980. At present the people of Kanyakumari District got the privilege of enriching their medical and technical knowledge thanks to the establishment of medical colleges and the rapid growth of a number of engineering colleges.

Medical and Technical Education includes Medical Colleges, Nursing, Paramedical Colleges, Dental, Ayurvedic and Homeopathy and Technical Institution like Polytechnic Industrial Training Institutions and Engineering Colleges both private and public. In the ancient time, the technical education was imparted hereditarily. The father’s profession like medicines, gardening, masonry their family profession. But Indian education was theoretical in character and lacking in vocational,
industrial and technical aspect\textsuperscript{1}. But with the advent of Industrial revolution and the expansion of scientific advancement, it became necessary to select suitable persons to study various technical studies like Engineering and Medicine, mostly according to their taste. It is evident that there were many technicians and physicians served under the Monarchs who constructed massive building structures and provided best medical treatment found available especially under different native physicians. The best standing monuments of this District is Padmanabhapuram place and subways between Padmanabhapuram palace and Vattakkottai and massive towers of Suchindrum Temple\textsuperscript{2} are best examples of the development of technical skill and the different native physicians popularly known as Asan provided Siddha and Ayurvedic treatments to different disease shows the growth of medical education in those days.

**Evaluation of Technical Education**

Historically speaking, Kanyakumari District formerly called South Travancore had a long history of Technical Education. Since 1820 Christian Missionary established the first technical educational institution. In 1820, Rev. C. Mead founded the school of Industry at Nagercoil for the purpose of promoting popular arts and instructing the children of industries. The boys were taught lesson in printing and book binding. A similar school was established at Neyyur, the art of wearing, the rearing a silk worms and the manufacture of sugar, indigo and paper

\textsuperscript{1} Vanchan Singh, *Development of Education in India*, New Delhi, 2005, p.118.
were taught in the industrial institution managed by the missionaries. But this benevolent enterprise inaugurated by Rev. Mead was neglected by the mission for sometime.

From 1800-1857 the company required some Indian Engineers for constructing roads, canals and government buildings under the public works department. Hence they included technical and vocational education as the chief branches of education. This situation made a immense need for the service expert engineers. So the educated got good jobs under the Britishers Public Work Department.

In due course of time missionary technical institutions faded away. Sri Moolam Ramavarma Technical Institute is one of the oldest technical institutes in former Travancore State in 1905-1906. Since the re-organization of the states, it is under the administrative control of the Madras Government. It continues to function even today. This technical institute at Nagercoil provided three years course in wearing, carpentry and Black smithy initially. In the first decade of the 20th Century, the importance of the technical education was realized still more.

Therefore various commissions and committees were formed to look the establishment of technical institution. The committee recommended appreciation and dignity to manual labour and promotion of technical skill for the development and advancement of industry and technology. Education should

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4 Gopalakrishnan, M., (Ed.) op. cit., p.1014.
5 Jayapalan, N., Problems of Indian Education, New Delhi, 2001, p.121.
emphasis on agriculture, technical, commercial and other practical courses besides the academic one\textsuperscript{6}.

After independence, the Indian Government adopted new industrial policy resolution in 1948, which aimed at rapid industrial development with the help of advancement in Science and Technology. In 1951 the Indian Parliament passed the Industries Development Regulation Act. Accordingly at the end of the first five year plan, the Government of India adopted the new industrial policy resolution in 1956. It classified the industries into 3 categories with under lying note of predominant role of the state in industrial development.

The Government of India appointed a committee in the year 1945, to advice on the provision of advanced technical education in the country under the chairmanship of N.R. Sarkar\textsuperscript{7}. The committee after reviewing the condition of technical education in India recommended the establishment of four higher technical institutions one in each in four regions of India North, South, East and West. The All India Council of Technical Education fully endorsed the recommendation of the Sarkar Committee. The Indian government accepted the recommendations of the Sarkar Committee and gave its approval for establishing two institution one at Calcutta and other at Bombay. In 1948, the All India Council of Technical Education conducted a meeting and considered the location of the institute in South and North and decided to locate Indian Institute of Technology at Kharagpur for the East and Bombay in the west to train 3000 undergraduate

\textsuperscript{6} Jayapalan, N., \textit{op.cit.}, p.20.
\textsuperscript{7} Dayal Dass, \textit{Development of Technical Education in India}, New Delhi, 1984, pp.22-35.
and 1000 post graduate students. Thus the beginning of the technical education in India Institute of Technology. Further the Indian educational commission or Radhakrishnan Commission was appointed by the Government of India in 1949\(^8\). The commission recommended in structuring the curriculum for the engineering courses. The Radhakrishnan Commission opines that engineering course to study include general education, basic physical and engineering sciences fewer applied courses and towards the end of the course specialization in some specific field may be chosen by the candidate.

In addition, the Radhakrishnan Commission also classified the engineers in following categories namely. 1. Senior Administrators; 2. Engineer – Scientists, Design and Development Engineers; 3. Engineers – required for production operations and maintenances and sale; 4. Technical assistants and Designer draft men; 5. Draft men, Foreman and Craftsmen and it recommended institution should be created to raising the stock of engineers in all these categories\(^9\).

Based on the recommendations of the Radhakrishnan Commission the existing engineering and technological institution were strengthened and five Indian Institute of Technology were established during 1950’s. In the year 1958, the National Development Council recommended to set up a study team to review the existing technical education in the country. As per the recommendation of National Development Council,

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\(^8\) Jayapalan, N., *op. cit.*, p.135.
the Planning Commission appointed a working group on Technical Education.

During the first five year plan the Indian Institute of Science had developed and Fourteen Engineering Colleges were sprang up. Kothari Commission has made important observations for promoting technical and vocational education in India. As per the opinion of the commission number of Polytechnics was started of which one in Kanyakumari emphasizing special attention to girl students\(^\text{10}\).

In 14\(^{th}\) October 1957 a new department for technical education was established under the control of Director of Technical Education. The Vice-Chancellor of the State Universities, Principals of Technical Institutions leading Industrialists, Technocrats, State and Central Government Officials and Heads of related departments (Industry, Commerce and Education) form the Board with the Minister of Education as its chairman. This Board advised the government in the matter of technical education granting affiliation, recognition to technical institution and formulating the government policy on technical education.

**Polytechnics**

Beside to give effect to the main recommendation of the postwar education reconstruction report, government institutions formerly know as technical schools were recognized as polytechnics on a regional basis. Secondary Education

\(^{10}\) Vanchan Singh, *op. cit.*, p.136.
Commission recommended specialized courses in Polytechnics and Technical Institution. As a result, instruction in the Polytechnics was given in a variety of subjects such as civil, electrical, mechanical, sound, sanitary radio, auto mobile, chemical engineering, printing technology textile manufacture, auto and Radio Servicing\textsuperscript{11}.

**Junior Technical Schools**

During 1960’s the government of Madras started Junior Technical Schools in Madras, Coimbatore, Vellore, Nagercoil and Trichy\textsuperscript{12}. The main object of establishing Junior Technical Schools was to give pupils good grounding in all the different sections of workshops.

Consequently the students who had undergone the Junior Technical Course were required to take up responsible posts of Charge men and Supervisors in industries in due course. As the Junior Technical Schools were promising in the initial stage itself, the Madras Government decided to open 11 more schools during the 3\textsuperscript{rd} five year plan period\textsuperscript{13}. It was hoped that the poor parents who would like to have their children taken up skilled jobs in industries would admit their children in these schools soon after the completion of higher elementary courses.

To improve the quality of technical education the Kothari Commission recommended : a) Junior technical schools be renamed as technical high school ; b) Polytechnics should have

\textsuperscript{12} Madras Information, July 1963, p.35.
well equipped workshops and laboratories and use them fully; c) Particularly attention should be given to developing courses of special interest that is course in secretariat practice, pharmacy, electronics and radio technology\textsuperscript{14}. To give immediate effect to Kothari Commission all changes were made in Technical Education.

Kothari Commission has made important observations for promoting technical and vocational education in India. In the opinion of the commission, there is considerable scope along with the polytechnics for starting a range of interesting courses in commercial, clerical, scientific and industrial trade and in areas of special interest to girls products of technical high schools and polytechnics should be encouraged to set up small enterprises of their own or to join together with other in creative small-scale workshops, industries and services needed in the community\textsuperscript{15}.

\textbf{Noorul Islam College of Engineering, Kumaracoil}

Noorul Islam College of Engineering is one of the private engineering colleges started in 1989 with only two UG programs Computer Science \& Engineering and Electronics and Communication Engineering\textsuperscript{16} with 80 students. It has metamorphosed into the best technical educational institution with 12 under graduate programme, 8 post graduate programme, M.B.A., M.C.A. and Ph.D programme the institution

\textsuperscript{15} Vachansingh, {	extit{op.cit.}}, p.137.
has made distinct contribution to the development of knowledge and enhanced the objectives of university education system in its area of specialization and developed potentials for enriching the same\textsuperscript{17}.

The college is run by the Noorul Islam Educational Trust and looked after by its Founder Chairman Dr. A.P. Majeed Khan. The primary motto of the trust is to establish educational institutions of excellence, especially, in the field of engineering and technology so as to equip the youth of this place and its vanity with the wisdom of system building. The Noorul Islam College of Engineering – shortly known as the NICE stretched is an area of 225 acres of land at Kumaracoil in Kanyakumari District.

The college is approved by the Government of Tamilnadu and the AICTE, New Delhi. This College is affiliated to Anna University, Chennai. Subsequently, during 1993-94 Electrical and Electronics Engineering\textsuperscript{18} in 1994-95. P.G. Courses M.B.A. and M.C.A. were launched. During 1995-96, Mechanical Engineering\textsuperscript{19}, 1997-98 Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering and in 1998-99, Information Technology came into being. Besides this, other technical courses like M.Sc. Software Engineering B.Sc. Computer Science, affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University were introduced.

\textsuperscript{17} Noorul Islam College of Engineering Magazine,2009-2010, Kumaracoil, p.5.
The structural infrastructures are well planned. The college has separate blocks for all departments. The main block consist of college office, library and P.G. Courses like M.B.A. and M.C.A. The Mechanical Engineering Block, the Electrical and Electronics Engineering block, open-air auditorium, Hill-Top Auditorium and the new workshop block are the best example for their well planned building up infrastructure. The college has a networked campus in which all the departments are interconnected using optical fibre network to implement information sharing, communication, application access and internet connection sharing through VSAT.

The Noorul Islam Educational Trust gives various awards and scholarships to help and encourage students. At present the management is giving fee concessions and scholarships to the weaker sections of the society. This college attained apex of reputation before its conversion into the Deemed University in 2009.

**St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engineering, Chunkankadai**

The college was started in 1998 with 4 UG programme composed of 240 students. Subsequent year by year it was elevated to a first grade college with 6 UG and 7 PG courses with an in take of 630 students. M.E. Computer Science Engineering and M.E. Energy Engineering were started successfully\(^{20}\).

In keeping the wide vision about the growth of the institution, the campus has been designed and constructed

\(^{20}\) Annual Report, St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engineering, Chunkankadai, 2010-2011, p.17.
bearing in mind the aesthetic sense and the environmental sensitivity. All the facilities provided here are adequate with a futuristic institute of higher learning and in an environment, which would enhance the teaching-learning process. Impressed by the facilities of laboratories, the Anna University of Technology Tirunelveli is using this college labs to conduct the practical classes of its part time U.G. and P.G. Programmes\textsuperscript{21}.

To meet the increasing requirement of space on account of the growing student population, the infrastructure is being continuously supplemented and upgraded. 7.5 acres of land has been purchased to accommodate the forthcoming facilities. The ground where the celebrations are going on is also a part of the land procured recently. The construction of a five story multipurpose building with Air Conditional Conference Hall cum placement centre, indoor stadium, library, guest rooms and auditorium\textsuperscript{22} is on progress.

The research and development centre of the college has been functioning effectively. It catered to the needs of the local society as well as contributing scientific knowledge to the international community.

A part from the social activities, this college engaged in some extra curricular activities like Red Ribbon Club, Youth Red Cross, N.S.S., N.C.C., Energy Club, Fine Arts Club and Women Cell.

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\textsuperscript{21} St.Xaavier’s Catholic College of Engineering (SXCCEE), Magazine, Chunkankadai, 2010, pp.11-17.
\textsuperscript{22} \textit{Ibid.}, p.17.
\end{flushright}
The Red Ribbon Club (RRC) organized a blood group identification camp for the first year B.E./B.Tech. students which was supported by Vivek Laboratories, Nagercoil. One day orientation programme “Celebrating Life” was organized by RRC\textsuperscript{23}. Mr. M. Vijayakumar is the programme office of the RRC under whom awarded with the best Red Ribbon Club award by Kanyakumari District Collector\textsuperscript{24}.

Alumni Association had become a part of convocation programme in St. Xavier’s Christian College of Engineering conferred its first degree in 2002\textsuperscript{25}. This association acts as the platform to build lifelong relationships between students, alumni and college. The centre will provide an opportunity to keep abreast on the developments in the college, memories with old friends, interact with present students as well as maintaining lifetime ties with the college. Now the college and alumni together decided to meet on 26\textsuperscript{th} December every year. As a part of alumni activity they planned to help poor students of this college in paying their exam fees, book fees and tuition fees\textsuperscript{26}.

In the wake of rapid technological advancement the role of library has to be redefined. The library functioned in accordance with changing needs. To give the user population quick access to print an electronic information resource. The college library has 22000 volumes of books under 8451\textsuperscript{27} titles. The e-journals facilities of the library provide unparalleled full text access to

\textsuperscript{23} Sezem, St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engineering, Chunkankadai, 2011, p.20.
\textsuperscript{24} Certificate from District Collector, R.R.C. Programme, 19.01.2011.
\textsuperscript{26} SXCCE Magazine, Chunkankadai, 2011, p.64.
\textsuperscript{27} Library Book Stock Register, SXCCE, Chunkankadai, 2004.
more than 2000 publications from Science Direct, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the Institute of Electrical Engineers (IEE). In order to start a separate Digital Library, ten systems with Multimedia facilities and collection of 1,500 CDs and 105 Floppies and 16 Audio Cassettes were provided. Besides, the college Library is fully computerized. All details of the Library Collections are fed into the computers and provide for the LAN for users\textsuperscript{28}.

\textbf{Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalumoodu}

Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering at Manjalumoodu was started by Sree Narayana Guru public Charitable Trust on 26.08.2002\textsuperscript{29}. The college holds the principle of Sree Narayana Guru “one caste, one religion and one god” the college has approved from All India Council for Technical Education and affiliated to Anna University, Chennai\textsuperscript{30}.

The college is situated on a site of 13 acres of land area and well planned structure buildings. Nearly 150 computers provided in the computer with internet connection, separate multimedia lab, well stocked library. Modern labs for physics, chemistry, electrical machines, digital electronics and micro processor labs and well equipped work shop for six trades\textsuperscript{31}.

\textsuperscript{28} Sezem’II, St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engineering, Chunkankadai, 2011, p.63.
\textsuperscript{29} Foundation Stone, Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalumoodu, dt. 26.08.2002.
\textsuperscript{30} G.O.Ms.No.204, Education, dated 03.06.2003.
\textsuperscript{31} Annual Report, Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalumoodu, 2002-2003, p.5.
The college offers the courses of B.E. (ECE), B.E. (Computer Science), B.Tech (Information Technology), B.E. (EEE) and M.B.A. At present 700 students are studying here and under 36 teaching faculty. The college arranges educational bank loans to the needy pupils. The college produces good academic results in every year. Total intake of students for the four branches are 240 per year\textsuperscript{32}.

The students of final and third year CSE and ECE visited HAL Bangalore, BHEL, C-DAC Lekshmi Pressing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai during 2006-07. This college has a long term vision of catering to the ambitions and aspiration of the youth of the country by creating excellent career opportunities and prospects and achieving for them excellence in Technical Education of High standard. The college plans to establish an industrial park to impart technical skill with live work experience to the graduate\textsuperscript{33}. This college library is well-equipped with 8085 volumes and 30 journals. Library has started functioning with digital coding section in lending books\textsuperscript{34}.

N.S.S. programme is well co-oriented by N.S.S. programme officer Mr. M. Thambraj ably assisted by Mr. Sunil. The students are taking active part in playing football, cricket, volleyball, in addition to indoor games. A sports complex is developed with all modern amenities on the eastern side of the college\textsuperscript{35}.

\textsuperscript{32} Library Book Register, Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalumoodu, 2007-2008.
\textsuperscript{34} Personal Interview with R. Rajesh, Lecturer, Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalumoodu, 30.07.2007.
Two factors are crucial in making an educational institution worthy and ideal. They are 1) Academic excellence; 2) Placement. There is a wide gap between the skill set development through academic programme of the university and that demanded by industry in the job market. In order to make the present day engineering graduates employable at various establishments, career counseling programmes are given to final year students to develop communication skills and other personality traits.

To add fillip to placement, a separate cell is functioning under Prof. Hariharan, N. Interaction is maintained with corporate to ensure that the college is in the purview of their placement options. Area wise training is imparted to the students of facilitate their awareness in aptitude tests, group discussions and interviews. Project work is also being tailored to meet the technical skill needs of placements36.

**C.S.I. Institute of Technology, Thovalai**

The C.S.I. Institute of Technology, which was started in 1995 with 83 students, was an ambitious project of the Diocese. Initially there were three groups such as computer engineering, electrical and electronic engineering and mechanical engineering and classes were held in the Moderator Gnanadason Polytechnic Campus, Nagercoil37. On 12th July 1996 this engineering college was shifted to Grade Garden at Thovalai38. All India Council for 

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36 Personal Interview with R. Rajesh, Lecturer, Sree Narayana Guru College of Engineering, Manjalamoodu, 30.07.2007.
Technical Education (AICTE) the Government and Manonmaniam Sundaranar University sanctioned an increase in the number of seats in the existing courses and permission was given to start Electronic and Communication Engineering in 1999-2000\(^{39}\). At present the college offers Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Instrumentation Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering and Information Technology and Mechanical Engineering\(^{40}\) approved by AICTE and affiliated to the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University\(^{41}\). All these courses are offered in Self financed basis and they have been imparting quality education.

**Government Polytechnic College**

During the second five year plan period two polytechnic colleges were started in which one is in Kanyakumari District government polytechnic college in 1959\(^{42}\). It started functioning on the St. Hindu College Campus with 120 students. In September 1963 it was shifted to the present place at Konam which covers an area of 20 hectors. This polytechnic is situated at 3 km away from Nagercoil on the Rajakkamangalam road. To equip the students in all subject government took special care and introduced coaching class too. For instance government order enacted during the year 1959 states that special coaching

\(^{39}\) CSI Institute of Technology Magazine, 2000-2001, Thovalai, p.3.  
\(^{40}\) *Desopakari*, Nagercoil, June 2002, p.36.  
\(^{42}\) Finance (Planning and Development) Department Second Five Year Plan, Madras State, Review of the progress for first four year (1956-57 to 1959-60) and the progress for fifth year (1960-61) Madras, 1961, p.136.
class of Mathematics was provided for the needy students\textsuperscript{43}. It has been growing up and its bloom celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 2009. In the initial stage three courses were offered they were Civil, Mechanical and Electrical and Electronic Engineering. To develop the Technical education in the state aimed both quantitative expansion as well as evaluative expansion the objective is to improve the facilities for Technical education and standard of instruction in the technical institution in state. As per this in 1981 Electronics course was introduced in government polytechnic in Nagercoil\textsuperscript{44}. At present, the curriculum has blossomed to offer five diploma courses namely Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Electronics, Electronic and Communication and Computer Engineering with an intake of 60 students in each branch together with 10\% or 20\% students through lateral entry. Besides, some part time diploma courses were offered from 1978-79. After that the strength of the students gradually increased in every subsequent academic years. The strength of students was 200 during the academic year 2001-2002, has progressed to 240 from the academic year 2003-2004 onwards\textsuperscript{45}.

**Full time and Part time courses**

The following full time courses are offered in this institution : 1) Diploma in Civil Engineering, 2) Diploma in Mechanical Engineering, 3) Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, 4) Diploma in Electronic and Communication Engineering and 5) Diploma in Computer Engineering. Besides

\textsuperscript{43} G.O.Ms.No.596, March 23, 1959.
\textsuperscript{44} Tamil Nadu State Administration Report 1980-81, p.95.
\textsuperscript{45} Students Attendance Register, Govt. Polytechnic, Konam, 2003-2004.
this Civil, Mechanical and Electrical and Electronics engineering courses were conducted on Part Time basis\textsuperscript{46}.

**N.S.S. Unit**

The N.S.S. Unit of this institution with an enrolment of 100 student volunteers is functioning with a view to develop social activities in student life by way of rendering all sorts of service to the downtrodden people living in rural areas and slum. The student volunteers have to conduct camp for about 10 days in any one of the most backward or under developed rural areas. They engaged in constructing roads and drains, imparting adult education, improving environment and other welfare works in a scientific and technological way. The student volunteers are also to adopt a village and render service regularly on holidays\textsuperscript{47}.

**Physical Education**

Under physical education the students are coached in major games such as Football, Cricket, Basket Ball, Volleyball, Kabbadi and Ball Badminton and all indoor games. Facilities are provided to undergo practice in all track and field events. The teams of these institutions participate in divisional and inter division tournament and Athletic team at Divisional and Inter Division level sports meet every year. To inculcate team spirit and sportmanship qualities among student’s annual intramural tournament and sports meet\textsuperscript{48} are conducted annually.

\textsuperscript{46} Govt. Polytechnic Magazine, Konam, 2000-2001, p.3.
\textsuperscript{47} N.S.S. Camp Report, Govt. Polytechnic, Konam, 2002-2003, p.1.
Youth Red Cross Unit

Youth Red Cross Unit in Government Polytechnic College, Nagercoil was started on 15th November 2000. All the students in this institution are members of the Youth Red Cross Unit and meeting are conducted to motivate the students to do social service works. Selected 110 volunteers have been doing active works related to the welfare of students and society49.

Moderator Gnanadason Polytechnic, Nagercoil

Taking advantage of the encouragement given by the Government of Tamilnadu to start Self Financed Polytechnics, the Diocese, formed a committee under Joy Gnanadason to study, the feasibility of starting a polytechnic college for women50. The efforts of the committee led to the starting of a women’s polytechnic on 12th December 198351 which was named “Moderate Gnanadason Polytechnic and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Kanyakumari Diocese, C.S.I. Nagercoil52 is recognition of the meritorious services rendered by I.R.H. Gnanadason, the first Bishop. Since there was great pressure from the parents of boys, for admission into this institution men students were also admitted from 198753. The polytechnic offers Diploma Courses in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering and Computer and Information Technology54. In 1986 the Directorate of

51 Minutes of the Moderator Gnanadason Polytechnic, Nagercoil, 30th November, 1983, p.32.
52 Minutes of the Special Executive Committee, Nagercoil, 25th October, 1984, p.10.
53 Ibid., 19th January 1987, p.12.
54 G.O.Ms.No.2200, 22nd November1983.
Employment and Training of the government of Tamil Nadu approved this institution as a Computer Training Centre\textsuperscript{55}. These courses help the polytechnic students as well as the outsiders to get computer education. The student strength according to the academic year 2003-2004 is 930\textsuperscript{56} and 43 teaching and non teaching staff are serving in the institution.

**Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai**

The seeds of Morning Star Polytechnic College was sown on Chunkankadai Mount, has grown tall, spread its branches over 25 years. As a result, it emerged as one of the outstanding ventures of the R.C. Diocese of Kottar in its efforts to promote social welfare by imparting technical education to equip thousands of students especially the socially disadvantaged youth of this district with technical skill to secure employment. On 13 June 1984\textsuperscript{57}, the government of Tamilnadu granted recognition to this polytechnic and affiliated to the Board of Technical Education, Chennai. Mr. P.S. Pandian, I.A.S. who was the Director of Technical Education, accorded government’s approval without much difficulty. The first academic year that commenced on 24\textsuperscript{th} August 1987\textsuperscript{58} was given a good start with the then Bishop’s High mass with 180 students on its roll and with 19 staff\textsuperscript{59}.

\textsuperscript{55} The \textit{Dinamalar} 25\textsuperscript{th} October 2003, p.7.

\textsuperscript{56} Students Attendance Register, Moderator Gnanadason Polytechnic, Nagercoil, 2003-2004.

\textsuperscript{57} Annual Report of Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai, 2004-2005, pp.30-33.

\textsuperscript{58} Dr. V. Lawrence, \textit{History of the Catholic Church in Kanyakumari District}, Nagercoil, 2002, pp.187-88.

\textsuperscript{59} Staff Record Maintain in Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai, 1988.
During 1988-89 the Director of Technical Education nominated a monitoring committee to study and submit the infrastructural and other facilities available in the college. Accordingly the college began to grow out of 72 self financing polytechnics in the state, this college listed one among the 17 polytechnics which enjoyed a distinguished status for its excellent performance in the beginning stage itself. It celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 2009\textsuperscript{60}.

True to the motto “Towards fullness of Life” engraved in the emblem of this polytechnic college, every effort has been sincerely taken by the management to make this polytechnic college full fledged with all the infrastructural facilities as per the stipulations of the government of Tamilnadu and the All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi. As such, the AICTE has granted extension of approval for all the courses upto the year 2012. Due to increase intake and introduction of new branches, the strength of students rose to roll 1306 in 2006\textsuperscript{61}.

The management provided all opportunities to the faculty members to equip their skill in the changing scenario. In order to make the learning process effective, they maintained regular instruction with students and their parents. Necessary steps were taken for extra coaching to the weaker students on Saturdays and holidays. Certificates of appreciation and awards are presented to the students who have excelled themselves in regular attendance and in the Board Examination.

\textsuperscript{60} Silver Jubilee Magazine, Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai, 2009, p.33.

\textsuperscript{61} Attendance Register of Students, Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai, 2009.
The staff members attempted to inculcate the seeds of knowledge, perseverance, inspiration and wisdom to students. To encourage student’s participate in group discussion and to motivate the students to present papers in seminars and symposia. Seven associations are formed one in each for Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Electronics, Electronics and Communication, Information Technology, Computer Engineering and Basic Science\(^62\).

**Sree Krishna Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai**

To cope up with the growing population and to give technical education to the youth. Sree Krishna Polytechnic College established at Chunkankadai in 1994 for the upliftment of the downtrodden people. Keeping this in mind the Krishnavakara Educational Trust started the Sree Krishna Polytechnic College as a co-educational institution in self financing stream. This college was granted recognition by the government of Tamilnadu and All India Council of Technical Education, Delhi\(^63\). “Study-Serve-Smile” is the motto of this polytechnic college. Good planned permanent buildings with all modern facilities. Residential accommodation with all facilities is provided in gents hostel. The college offers diploma courses in Civil Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Micronics Engineering and Computer and Information Technology\(^64\).

\(^62\) Personal Interview with Sathy, Lecturer in ECE, Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai, 25.05.2006.


**N.M.S. Kamaraj Polytechnic, Pazhavilai**

The Nadar Mahajana Sangam (N.M.S.) Kamaraj Polytechnic at Pazhavilai was started in September 1982\(^65\). This polytechnic offers diploma courses in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering. The total number of students admitted every year in the first year of all the diploma courses was 120 from the beginning to 1985-86 and it was later increased to 180 from 1986-87\(^66\).

There are adequate tool, lathe and workshop facilities. The library of this polytechnic has a collection of about 3000 books and it is a subscriber to various technical journals\(^67\).

Hostel facilities are available for 120 boys. The teaching staff of this institution consists of 27 members. The Civil Engineering department of this Polytechnic maintains successful results every year since inception, i.e., not less than 90 percent every year. In the field of sports the students of this polytechnic won the first price successively for the years 1985, 1986 and 1986-87 in Kabadi conducted among the polytechnics in state level\(^68\).

**Kalaivanar N.S.K. Polytechnic, Chenbakaramanpudhur**

Vellala Educational trust started Kalaivanar N.S. Krishnan Polytechnic of Chenbakaramanpudhur in October 1985 as a self financing institution. The polytechnic temporarily functioned in

\(^{65}\) Information Board, N.M.S. Kamaraj Polytechnic, Pazhavilai, 1982.


\(^{67}\) Library Book Register, N.M.S. Kamaraj Polytechnic, Pazhavilai, 2009.

\(^{68}\) N.M.S. Kamaraj Polytechnic Magazine, Pazhavilai, 2007-2008, p.3.
a rental building at Putheri, Nagercoil until the permanent building at Chenbakaramanpudhur was completed on 5 September 1986\textsuperscript{69}. The college offered diploma courses Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Electrical and Electronics Engineering\textsuperscript{70}. As a co-educational institution it admitted 70 boys and five girls during 1985-87. The accessories to teach engineering subjects such as fitting shop, welding shop, foundry shop and lathe workshop are set up with in the institution. The library of this polytechnic contains 2000\textsuperscript{71} books on engineering and allied subjects. Gradually infrastructural facilities are developed to meet the requirement of introducing new courses. Hostel facility is in adequate and hence ten boys are accommodated in a rented building. All together there are 16 teachers\textsuperscript{72} are engaged in teaching in various discipline.

Besides polytechnic, a number of ITI centres were sprung in different parts of Kanyakumari District which catered to the rising demand for technical courses to meet the heavy demand in the employment market. However the ushering in of such institution began to decline with the on set of engineering colleges and the introduction of +2 pattern of education. But only the dropouts in the +2 course preferred admission in the ITI. This trend is probably the main reason for its appalling status. Even then an attempt is made to highlight some of the

\textsuperscript{69} Inscription stone found in the building wall, Kalaivanar N.S.K. Polytechnic, Chenbakaramanputhoor, 5 September 1986.
\textsuperscript{71} Library Record, Kalaivanar N.S.K. Polytechnic, Chenbakaramanpudhur, 2002-2003.
\textsuperscript{72} Staff Register, Kalaivanar N.S.K. Polytechnic, Chenbakaramanpudhur, 2007-2008.
prominent institutes engaged in imparting in training in various course of the aspiring students.

**Government Industrial Training Institute, Nagercoil**

The Government Industrial Training Institute at Nagercoil was opened in the year 1964. From the inception of the institute, subjects like Draughtsman (Civil); Electroplating, Fitter, Mechanic, Wireman, Welders and Turner were taught. In the civil draughtsman’s course girls and boys are admitted. But in some courses like Electrical boys alone admitted\(^{73}\). Tool room, workshop, library and hostel facilities are available. Nearly 31 teachers are engaged in teaching the above discipline.

**S.M.R.V. Government ITI for Women, Nagercoil**

Began as Sri Moolam Ramavarma Technical Institute which has its honorary past. The details of which are given in the relevant place of this chapter was upgraded as a full fledged industrial training institute for women in the year 1982. In the beginning, it imparted training in the trades of handloom weaving, power loom weaving and advanced handloom weaving\(^{74}\). Now, the industrial training institute offers Mechanic, Secretarial Practice, Dress Making and Hand Compositor. Tool room, workshop and library facilities are available, though hostel facilities are yet to be provided. There are seven teachers including instructors, training officers, drawing master, physical training teacher and carpenter.

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\(^{73}\) Gopalakrishnan, M., *op.cit.*, p.1021.

In the all India trade test, more than 95 percent students of this institution have come out with flying colours since the upgradation of this institute as an industrial training institute since 1982.

**Nirmala Institute of Technology, Manalikarai**

The Nirmala Institute of Technology was started on 17 August 1965 with the fitter, welder, electrician, telecommunications and radio mechanic trade. Every year the institute admitted 18 trainees for fitter, electrician and radio mechanic and 13 trainees in welder and telecommunication up to 1981. In the year 1981, it permitted to admit every year 54 trainees in fitter trade, 36 trainees in electrician and 26 trainees in welder trade. In course, the radio mechanism and telecommunication were dropped. But in 1985 mechanic (motor vehicle) draughtsman (Civil), plumber mechanic (diesel) courses were started. The institute also imparts training in typewriting (English and Tamil) lower and higher shorthand and rural artisan programme.

In respect of the typewriting and shorthand courses and draughtsman (civil) trade, the institute admits girls also, while other trades are meant exclusively for boys. Every year, 90 to 100 per cent of the students of this institute come out successfully in the final examinations. The facilities of tool-room and library are available though there is no hostel facility. There is 25 teaching staff in this institute.

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C.M.S. Industrial Training Institute, Azhakiapandiapuram

The Christian Mission Service Industrial Training Institute at Azhakiapandiapuram was started in the year 1969\textsuperscript{76}. The trades taught in the institute are fitter, mechanic (motor vehicle) and electrician. Every year in each trade, 18 boys are admitted. Tool room, library and hostel facilities are available in this institute. There are eight teachers besides a principle, foreman and a physical instructor engaged in imparting learning.

St. Lawrence Technical Institute, Nagercoil

This technical institute came into existence in the year 1978 received recognition from Tamil Nadu Government in 1979 with the trade, Mechanic (diesel) later, trades in draughtsman course (civil), plumping and carpenter were started\textsuperscript{77}. In the draughtsman (civil) trades girls are also admitted. The infrastructural facilities such as tool room, workshop and library are available though there is no hostel. The teaching staff includes ten junior training officers, besides the principal.

Nava Bharath Industrial Training Institute, Kuzhithurai

Nava Bharath Industrial Training Institute at Kuzhithurai was started in 1982, with the trades in fitter and draughtsman. In 1986 mechanic (motor vehicle) trade was newly started. In the draughtsman (civil) trade, girls are also admitted\textsuperscript{78}. Tool room, workshop and hostel facilities are available and twelve teachers are employed to handle classes both theory and practical.

\textsuperscript{76} Personal Interview with Xavier, Tutor, C.M.S. Industrial Training Institute, Azhakiapandiapuram, 04.05.2006.
\textsuperscript{77} Lawerence, V., \textit{op. cit.}, p.187.
\textsuperscript{78} Gopalakrishnan, M., \textit{op. cit.}, p.1022.
St. Matha Industrial Training Institute, Kuzhithurai

Kuzhithurai is endowed with St. Matha ITI started in 1982 with draughtsman civil course and Mechanic (motor vehicle). In 1983, fitter trade also was introduced. Every year this institute admitted 36 students in each trade. Girls are also given preference in draughtsman (civil) course\(^79\). In 1986-87, 196 boys and 20 girls were given training in the first and final year’s course, Hostel facilities are available separately for boys and girls. This institute fulfils all the required infrastructure facilities.

Kanyakumari Diocese Church of South India Industrial Training Institute, Kaliakkavilai

Kaliakkavilai one of the remote villages situated in the border of Tamilnadu and Kerala is provided with Kanyakumari Diocese church of South India Industrial Training Institute managed by CSI Diocese. Its committee was formed in 1983 with N. Wilson Apollo\(^80\) served as convener in the inception period. Started on 1\(^{st}\) August 1983 in the Leitch Bungalow at Muttom, with two units in Draughtsman (Mechanical) course and civil course\(^81\). Each unit had 18 students\(^82\). In June 1985 the government of India granted recognition without any financial commitment. As there was a heavy rush for admission, a two year course in Draughtsman (civil) was introduced in 1985.

\(^80\) Minutes of the office bearers meeting, Nagercoil, 15\(^{th}\) November 1982, p.4.
\(^81\) Minutes of the I.T.T. Management Committee, Nagercoil, 19\(^{th}\) September, 1983, p.51.
\(^82\) Minutes of the I.T.I. Management Committee, Nagercoil, 10\(^{th}\) May 1983, p.48.
Since Leitch Bungalow at Muttom was too cramped civil section of the ITI Muttom was shifted temporarily to Perinbapuram on the basis of the recommendation of the sub-committee. Subsequently, in August 1987, the Mechanical Draughtsman trade course was also shifted to Perinbapuram. But for workshops and practical, the students of these courses and the staff went to Muttom. Soon it became apparent that the locale of the ITI was not suitable, the annual intake began to decline. Therefore the Board of Technical Education of the Diocese resolved to shift the ITI to the CSI Church Campus in Kaliakkavilai in 1997. Hence forth students strength gradually increased and in 2000 an additional course in Motor Mechanical Trade was started. However, lack of hostel facility pinpricks the authorities to provide such a facility though it remains a dream still now.

**Nesamony Transport Corporation Industrial Training Institute and Driver Training School, Nagercoil**

Nesamony Transport Corporation Industrial Training Institute and Driving Training School was established at Nagercoil in 1984. It offers only one trade mechanic (motor vehicle) in which 16 boys were admitted. Due to passage of time the intake of students increased to 25. Mainly in admission the transport department employees sons are given preference. In the driver training school 23 boys are trained every year. There

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84 Minutes of the Board of Technical Education, Nagercoil, 1st August 1997, p.55.
85 Desopakari, Nagercoil, June 2002, p.34.
are five teachers in the ITI\textsuperscript{86} including the principal and a part
time instructor. In the driving school there are 6 instructors.

**J.E. Industrial Training Institute, Thuckalay**

The J.E. I.T.I. at Thuckalay was started in year 1984, with
Draughtsman (civil) fitter and mechanic (motor vehicle) courses
Draughtsman civil course is followed in Co-education system. In
each of these courses 18 students were admitted\textsuperscript{87}. As there is
high scope for technical course the strength has been increased
considerably. The Institute is provided with hostel, library and
tool room.

**Institute of Industrial Training, Munchirai**

This institution was started in 1981, with the recognition
by the government of Tamilnadu and affiliated to NCVT,
Government of India. In the initial stage only 3 courses were
offered, like fitter, draughtsman (mechanical) and stenography.
But gradually its strength increases and so they introduced
many one year and two year courses. The minimum eligibility
are fixed as 10\textsuperscript{th} standard pass Fitter, Draughtsman
(mechanical), Mechanic (diesel), Mechanic (motor vehicle) and
Electrician are two years courses and stenography (English) and
Air-condition (mechanic) are one year courses\textsuperscript{88} were introduced
for its growth.

\textsuperscript{86} Annual Report of Nesamony Transport Corporation I.T.I. and Driver Training


St. John Industrial Training Centre, Marthandam

The St. John ITC at Marthandam was inaugurated in 1984 and the trades offered in the institute are Draughtsman (civil), fitter and Mechanic (motor vehicle). This institute is offering co-education in respect of draughtsman (civil) course. During 1986-87, there were 14 boys and 3 girls in the draughtsman (civil) course, 38 boys in the fitter and 40 boys in the mechanic (motor vehicle) course\textsuperscript{89}. Hostel, library and tool room facilities are available.

Friends Industrial Training Institute, Mathicode

Friends ITI at Mathicode was started in 1984. A Private institution it offered fitter, Draughtsman (civil) and Electrician courses. Every year in the trades of fitter and draughtsman (civil) 36 trainees and in the electrician trade 38 trainees are admitted\textsuperscript{90}. Girls are also provided admission in draughtsman (civil) course. There is a library and a tool room. But no hostel facility is provided.

Bharath Engineering Training Centre, Nagercoil

Bharath Engineering Training Centre at Nagercoil was started in 1983. The courses taught are mechanic, motor vehicle and fitter. During 1986-87, there are 51 trainees in the mechanic course and 30 trainees in fitter trade. A tool room, laboratory and a library, containing about 1000 books are available to provide better education. There are five course

\textsuperscript{89} Gopalakrishnan, M., \textit{op. cit.},

\textsuperscript{90} Lawerence, V., \textit{op. cit.}, p.280.
instructors and one Maths instructor\textsuperscript{91} to equip the students skill.

**Technical Institute of Engineering and Industrial Training Centre, Nagercoil.**

Nagercoil, the district headquarters is blessed with several educational institutions one among them is Technical Institute of Engineering started in 1983 with only one course namely fitter. The course of draughtsman (civil) and mechanic (motor vehicle) were introduced during the year 1984 and 1986 respectively. Initially 18 trainees in fitter and fifteen trainees in draughtsman and 35 trainees in mechanic (motor vehicle) course were admitted. Depending on the rush for admission the number of intake was gradually increased. However the girls were admitted only in civil draughtsman courses.

**J.M. Industrial Training Institute, Colachel**

Colachel a port village is also blessed with J.M. Industrial Training Institute started in 1981. This institute offers two courses fitter and welder admitting only eighteen students. During 1984-85 civil draughtsman course was started in which sixteen trainees were admitted. During the year 1987-88 there were 36 trainees in fitter trade and sixteen trainees in civil draughtsman\textsuperscript{92} course were admitted. However, the welder course was dropped during 1984-85 probably due to the lack of demand.

\textsuperscript{91} Gopalakrishnan, M., *op. cit.*, p.1021.
C.S.I. Motor Mechanic Training Centre (ITI), Nagercoil

Realizing the importance of motor mechanic training the CSI Mission established a motor mechanic training center at Nagercoil in February 1991. This institution attempt to create employment opportunities for the youth. At first, a non-formal Motor Mechanic Training course was started with 15 students. In September 1993, a one year course in Diesel Mechanism was also introduced with an intake of 20 students in each course. Subsequently additional courses in Electrical and Fitter trades were started with 19 trainees in 1995. All the four trades got permanent affiliation from the Directorate of Employment and Training (D.G.E.T) New Delhi. The total strength of the trainees in the institute rose to 145. Apart from these courses, an Automobile Service Centre was established in the Campus which undertakes repairs and maintenance of vehicles at comparatively lower charges and helps the students to test what they have learnt in the classrooms. Thus this institute provided both theoretical and practical skill. The typewriting institutes, shorthand institutes and accountancy institute are the commercial schools. Many schools of this type were recognized by the government and many unapproved schools are in the district.

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MEDICAL

Kanyakumari District is home to many medical practitioners of various branches of ancient India’s health tradition including Siddha, Ayurveda and Varmakalai. The stage Agarthiya is believed to have lived in this lands end and there is a village by Agasteeswaram near Maruthuvalmalai which owes its name to the dwarf sage\textsuperscript{97}. Generally treatment done by elders who are conversant with this method of treatment by applying Tamil medicine. From the period of Agasthiyar to the present day Siddha system has been preserved by the people of Kanyakumari District. Another native system of medicine, Chintamani which formed part of Ayurvedic Science is also prevalent in the district. This system describes the means of ascertaining diseases by examining the pulse\textsuperscript{98}.

In Kanyakumari District the Allopathic System of medicine introduced by the Christian Missionaries especially protestant missionaries. Though the indigenous school of treatment objected to the allopathy system of medicine the L.M.S. established a hospital at Neyyoor in 1830 and began its services. Similarly the Salvation Army Catherine Booth Hospital in 1892 at Putheri was another mile stone in medical history.

The major systems of medicine of Ancient India were Ayurveda, Siddha, Naturopathy, Yoga and Tantra, were in practice\textsuperscript{99}. Folk medicine, village medicine, tribal medicine and

\textsuperscript{98} Gopalakrishnan, M., op. cit., p.1065.
\textsuperscript{99} Vaidya Bhagawan Dass, Fundamentals of Ayurvedic Medicine, New Delhi, 1972, p.2.
varma system of medicine were some of the other minor system of medicine. Homeopathy was later introduced into India by the Europeans along with Allopathy in the modern period. All these system of medicine practiced in Kanyakumari District from Yore.

Allopathy, the new system of medicine was introduced by the Europeans, more specifically by the British. Initially the western hospital system was introduced to look after the sick soldiers of the East India Company and it has grown and transformed itself into the most complex modern system of medical care involving the public and the government alike. Government patronage helped Allopathy to get itself entrenched as a popular scientific system of excellence\textsuperscript{100}.

A new degree course on B.Sc. Pharmacy was instituted from July 1939 and from 1949 later it was called as B.Pharm\textsuperscript{101}.

A degree course in Nursing was introduced in 1944 and the duration of study being four years after matriculation. The first 2 years was known as Intermediate in Nursing and the next 2 years B.Sc. in Nursing.

The World Health Organization’s concept of Health has been clearly defined in its preamble as a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely absence of disease or infirmity\textsuperscript{102}.

\begin{thebibliography}{9}
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M.B.B.S. Course

A student desiring to take up M.B.B.S. and become a Doctor should possess certain indelible qualities as requisites both to undertake the studies and to make a mark in the profession. A doctor must have a great sense of responsibilities coupled with an urge to serve and heal the sick and the poor. He should possess a very sharp memory, keen and minute observation, good judgement and amiable and sympathetic temperament. His success ultimate depends on his relationships with his patients and this requires not only proficiency skill and academic excellences in medical science but also a humanitarian approach, helpful and considerate attitudes, genuine interest in the welfare of the patients, cheerful and friendly temperature.

To practice as a physician and surgeon, one must have completed the prescribed course of theory, together with the practical training known as internship by passing the University examination from a recognized medical college after which he should get a licence from the state medical council of India.

Admission Qualification

The minimum required qualification is a creditable pass in the higher secondary examination Tamilnadu State Board or any equivalent examination certificate issued by any other recognized state government institution. The pre-medical course should cover subject like physics, chemistry, botany and zoology or B.Sc. Degree course. Generally admission to the medical courses is very lucrative and is in heavy demand, which is filled on the
basis of the Quota system. In this system, some percentage of seats are allotted to meritorious candidates selected on the basis of the mark obtained in the plus two examination, entrance examination and the performance in the interview. There are other reservations like children of central government. Servants posted in the state, children of the state government servants, posted outside the state for those who are from the union territories. Reservations existed for the students belonging to schedule caste and schedule tribe, then too kith and kin of the freedom fighter. Retired Army person and those candidates with National or International acclaim, sportsman, widows, orphans, besides these students like physically challenged and Blind\textsuperscript{103} in addition to the candidates selected by All India Medical Board. However the reservation worms periodically depending on the pass percentage in the concerned examination and whims and fancy of political party in power. For instance for sometime admission is based on the entrance test together with the mark secured in the higher secondary examination. But this system to meet with a metaphorical and conducting entrance for admission is also finished.

**Course of Study**

The M.B.B.S. degree course extends over a period of 5 \( \frac{1}{2} \) years with 4 \( \frac{1}{2} \) years fulltime study and one year post examination internship (practical clinical training) otherwise known as house surgeon course) before the degree is awarded.

\textsuperscript{103} Careers in Medicines and Allied fields careers information series II, careers study centre (Central Institute for Research and Training in Employment Service) D.C.E.T. Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation, Government of India New Delhi, 1971, p.5.
Broadly, the 1st one and a half years are spent on pre-clinical subjects after which the students has to pass the first examination in Anatomy including Embryology, physiology and Bio-chemistry. The second examination at the end of next 18 months is in Pharmacology, Pathology, Bacteriology and Forensic Medicine. The next 3 years after passing the pre clinical subjects are devoted to clinical work in hospital wards and departments, concurrently with training in the para clinical subjects of Pharmacology, Pathology etc. The final examination which is at the end of four and a half years study covers ear, nose, throat, ophthalmology, gynaecology and social preventive medicine. Sometimes even history of medicine students have to appear in oral, written, clinical and practical tests. Only those who obtain atleast 50% marks in each part are deemed to have passed the examination\(^{104}\). During the house surgeon period each student is eligible to get stipend which varies from time to time.

**Kanyakumari Government Medical College, Nagercoil**

The Tamilnadu Government decided to start a new Medical College at Kanyakumari District in the Government T.B. Hospital Campus at Asaripallam. As per the norms of Medical Council of India they revised the norms that the Medical College and Hospital must be in the same campus. Thus they enriched the infrastructure and college was established in 2003 affiliated to Dr. M.G.R. Medical University\(^{105}\). It possessed nearly 500 bedded


\(^{105}\) Information Board found in Kanyakumari Government Medical College, Nagercoil, September 2003.
hospitals. Every year intake of student’s strength is 100. All the selection of student’s procedure is through counseling method.

**Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical Science, Kulasekharam**

This college was started by Dr. Velayuthan Pillai in 1997 at Kulasekharam\textsuperscript{106}. It was started with the strength of 123 students and 13 staff. At present the college has raised its strength to 597 students and 37 staff\textsuperscript{107}. Most of them are Tamil Speaking people. This is the First Medical College in Kanyakumari District. The courses offered in this college are BDS (Bachelor of Dental Surgeon) and B.Sc. Nursing, later in 2005, M.B.B.S. Course started. It is affiliated to Dr. M.G.R. Medical University\textsuperscript{108}.

The college is situated in an area of 9 acres. It has four, two storied buildings with all modern facilities. They established the college with well equipped operation theatre, Microbiological Laboratory, X-ray and scanning. Every year free Medical Camps are organized in this college. Through these camps they have done immense welfare to the public like free consultation and medicine, medical aids, education the people about the necessity of healthy food, hygienic environment, awareness about various diseases\textsuperscript{109}.

\textsuperscript{107} Attendance Register Maintained in Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical Science, Kulasekharam, 2002-2003.
\textsuperscript{108} Administrative Record of Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical Science, Kulasekharam, 2005, p.12.
Saratha Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College, Kulasekharam

It was started in 2000 by Dr. Mohan Pillai. It is the first homoeopathy medical college in Kanyakumari District\textsuperscript{110}. The college offers the degree of B.H.M.S. (Bachelor of Homoeopathy and Medicine). The college was started with the strength of 105. At present the college has the strength of 197 students 29 staffs are working in this college\textsuperscript{111} in 2006. Subsequently increased in later days.

**Infrastructure and Facilities**

The hospital is setup in beautiful and clean surrounding. It possesses three storied buildings with all modern facilities. Separate hostel facilities for boys and girls are available here.

**Medical Camps**

The college organizes medical camps in every year in the college campus. Free consultation and treatment are given to the patients. Moreover stress is laid on educating the public about preventive medicine and health care\textsuperscript{112}. The courses offered in this college are B.H.M.S. 4½ year Academic Course and one year Rotary Internship. P.G. Course M.D. (Hom) organon of medicine with Homoeopathic Philosophy, M.D. (Hom) Material Medical, M.D. (Hom) Practice of Medicine and M.D. (Hom) Pediatrics\textsuperscript{113}.

\textsuperscript{110} Annual Report, SKH Medical College, Kulasekharam, 2004-2005, p.4.
\textsuperscript{111} Staff Register Maintained in SKH Medical College, Kulasekharam, 2005-2006.
\textsuperscript{112} Annual Report of SKH Medical College, Kulasekharam, 2002-2003, p.17.
\textsuperscript{113} A Brochure of Saradha Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College, Kulasekharam, 2008, p.6.
Siddha Vaidhya College, Kanyakumari

Akila Thiruvithamcore Siddha Vaidya Sangam Siddha Maruthuva Kalloory and Hospital is located in Kanyakumari, Tamilnadu. It is a private college and recognized by government. It is established in the year 1997\textsuperscript{114}. It is joined with the Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University. The courses offered in this college is B.S.M.S. (Bachelor of Siddha Medicine and Surgery) and the number of seats for these courses are 40 students\textsuperscript{115}.

The student eligibility to get admission in the Higher Secondary Education by Indian School certificate examination or equivalent to 10, +2 with physics, chemistry and Biology. The candidates should have studied in Tamil Medium upto 10\textsuperscript{th}, Higher Secondary Education\textsuperscript{116}.

Christian College of Nursing, Neyyoor

This college was budded with a Self Finance B.Sc. Nursing Course Programme in 1998 with the permission of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The course was started with annual intake of 50 students from the academic year 1998-1999\textsuperscript{117}. It is affiliated to the Dr. M.G.R. Medical University\textsuperscript{118} and recognized by the Tamilnadu Nurses and Midwives Council Chennai and Indian Nursing Council New Delhi. It obtained minority status in October 2002. When the college attained full pledged growth P.G.

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
  \item Information Board in Siddha Vaidhya College, Kanyakumari, 1997.
  \item Attendance Register, Siddha Vaidhya College, Kanyakumari, 2002.
  \item Admission Brochure of Siddha Vaidhya College, Kanyakumari, 2004, p.3.
  \item Proceedings of the Registrar, Tamilnadu, Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Dated 23 September 1999.
  \item The Dinamalar, Dated 23 April 2000, p.7.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
Programme under 4 higher specialties ie medical Surgical Nursing, Mental Health Nursing, Maternity Nursing and Community Health Nursing were introduced in 2006. As the management enjoys minority rights, college admits 50% of students under management quota. As per the norms of the government the infra structure facilities were expanded\textsuperscript{119}.

The college articulates sound knowledge to impart education and develop the graduate to love and serve with high-tech health care delivery system. The motto of the college is “care, serve and heal”\textsuperscript{120}.

Christian College of Nursing Neyyoor renders health care to a population of 15,800 at their door step with a vision to build a hospital in the same venue. Nurse run clinics and doctors clinics are conducted every day. Maternal and child health care, morbidity care, school health programme and geriatric care are covered with the help of students posted for their learning experience.

Appointed required staff to cater services every day. The students are encouraged to participate in various cultural programmes and quiz competitions to develop and exhibit their talents and skills. Students are encouraged to conduct a workshop participate health awareness progammes\textsuperscript{121}.

\textsuperscript{119} Annual Report, Medical Board, Nagercoil, 2002, p.100.
\textsuperscript{120} Christian College of Nursing Magazine, Neyyoor, 2003-2004, p.5.
\textsuperscript{121} Annual Report, Christian College of Nursing, Neyyoor, 2003, p.10.
School of Radio Diagnostic and Radio Therapeutic Technology

The School of Radio Diagnostic and Radio Therapeutic Technology course was started in July 1985\textsuperscript{122}. In order to help the children of Kanyakumari District to study paramedical courses within their District at a low expense the Diocese put forth the idea to start this institution. The two year training programme affiliated to C.M.A.I. with six students was started in July 1985. Moreover, a one year Government approved course was also started with 20 students in 1993. The medical Board fixed the course fee. Dr. Tamil Chelvam, from the International Cancer Centre, organized and directed this course which enabled many young men and women to acquire knowledge and skills in Radio Diagnostic Technology.

Christian College of Physiotherapy, Colachel

As per the Government of Tamilnadu order dated on 26 October 1998, the self-financed Physiotherapy College was started in 1999\textsuperscript{123} and affiliated to Tamilnadu M.G. Ramachandran Medical University\textsuperscript{124}. In 2002, the Health and Family Welfare Department of Government of Tamilnadu, granted minority status to this college. The students are sent to Kanyakumari Medical Mission Hospital Neyyoor for training.

Thus the people of Kanyakumari District are gifted with a number of Technical and Medical Institutions which not only attracted students from far and near areas but equip them in necessary technical and medical knowledge enabling them to obtain white collared positions and healing their diseases.

\textsuperscript{122} Minutes of the Medical Board, Nagercoil, 1 February 1986, p.12.
\textsuperscript{123} G.O.Ms.No.569, Dated 26 October 1998.
\textsuperscript{124} The Dinamalar, Dated 6 December 1998, p.7.