

## CHAPTER - III COLLEGES FATIMA COLLEGE

Sr. Rose Benedicte was popularly known as Mother Rose, a native of Le Conte De Drummont in Canada.<sup>1</sup> Her parents were Ernest and Alescandrina Cyr. Sr. Rose was concerned about the education of women. She felt that women need<sup>2</sup> education for their academic and cultural growth. She saw education as a way to come out of poverty. Sr. Rose came to India in November 1924. She was instrumental in establishing the St. Joseph School and the Fatima College.<sup>3</sup>

### ORIGIN AND GROWTH

Fatima College came into being on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1953 when Rev. Peter Leonard declared it open. Founding of this college marked an epoch in the history of women's higher education in Madurai District. The chances for getting collegiate education for girls completing high school studies in Madurai was inadequate.<sup>4</sup> Even though the three colleges for arts and science for men<sup>5</sup> admitted girl students, it was not sufficient to serve the needs of the women students willing to pursue collegiate education.<sup>6</sup> In 1948, it was Rev. Dr. Peter Leonard, the Arch Bishop of Madurai conceived the idea of starting a college for women in his episcopal city. He conveyed this wish to the Sisters of St. Joseph's of Lyons.<sup>7</sup> Sister Rose, a member of the congregation, took the needed initiative, which resulted in the formation of the Fatima College.

---

1. **The Valiant Women of the Indian Mission**, 1908-1996, p.59.

2. **Magazine**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1995, p.18.

3. **Indian Express**, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2003, p.8.

4. **The triangular college campus of Fatima College is bound on the southern-side by the national highway, on the northern side by the Kanyakumari- Chennai railroad and on the eastern side by Alanganallur road and it was named Mary Land**

B.S.Baliga, **Madras District Gazetteers**, Madras, 1906, p.226.

5. The colleges are American College(1881), Madura College(1889) and Thiagarajar College(1949).

6. **1951 Census Handbook**, Madurai District, Madras, 1953, pp.11,12.

7. **Mary land Echoes, Silver Jubilee, 1953-1978**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1979, p.1.

Fatima College was called after the pilgrim **Virgin of Peace ‘Our Lady of Fatima’**.<sup>8</sup> The St. Joseph Convent hosted the statue of ‘**Our Lady of Fatima**’ on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1950, when it was brought to Madurai from Portugal. On that occasion, the Arch Bishop and Rev. Father Bonhore suggested that the college for women to be started in Madurai could be named after the Lady of Fatima.<sup>9</sup> Accordingly; the college was christened ‘Fatima College’. The Madras University Commission inspected the college on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1953 and the affiliation was granted on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1953.<sup>10</sup> The management of Fatima College had acquired an extent of thirty-four acres and six cents of lands in Vilangudi village of the Madurai Taluk.<sup>11</sup> The remaining land was acquired by the Land Acquisition Officer (R.D.O.), Madurai.<sup>12</sup>

In 1955, the University of Madras granted approval for the building plans.<sup>13</sup> On the feast day of St. Joseph, foundation were laid for the construction of Administration, Arts and Science blocks.<sup>14</sup> As the construction of the college building was not completed, the degree classes were shifted to Vilangudi on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1957. The Pre- University classes were conducted in St. Joseph campus.<sup>15</sup> At a solemn function held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1959, Fatima College, Vilangudi came to be known as Fatima College, Mary Land, Vilangudi.<sup>16</sup>

---

8. Richard F. Norton, **Visitations of Our Lady** II S.A. 1946, pp.155-157.

9. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1959, p.9.

10. **Madurai Kamaraj university, General Inspection Commission**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1983, p.35.

11. **The lands proposed for acquisition was located in Re-survey No. 136/3 and Re-survey No.114/2 of Ayan Vilangudi village. The names of the owners were Kannusamy chettiar and his sons and Papathi and Chinnapillaiammal and Ramasamy velar the trustee of Ayyanar manibam. The approximate cost of land was Rs. 500 per acre. Correspondent and Secretary Rev. Sr. Rose’s letter to the Revenue Divisional officer dated 26th March 1956.**

12. **Revenue Divisional Officer, Madurai letter to the Correspondent of Fatima College, dated 4th September 1958.**

13. **Registrar, University of Madras, letter No. 7213**, Fatima College, dated 17th December 1995.

14. **Annual Report**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1958-1959, p.1.

15. **Ibid**, p.4.

16. **Leaves of Ivy**, Branch-1, Leaf-5, February 1959, pp. 31,32.

During the year 1962-1963, three blocks of hostel buildings were built, and a branch post office was also started in the college premises.<sup>17</sup> In 1963, a non-residential students center was constructed with the help of the U.G.C. assistance.<sup>18</sup> In 1966, the Textbook Library was established. In 1969, the construction of a new building of the college library, that is, the Rosa Mystica Library was completed.<sup>19</sup> On 4<sup>th</sup> November 1974, the Indian Bank opened an Extension Counter in the Mary Land Campus.<sup>20</sup>

### **THE PIONEERS OF THE COLLEGE**

Rev. Mother Rose, the founder of the college, Sr. Annonciade and Rev. Mother Sr. Anne Xavier were instrumental in the origin and growth of this institution. The first principal of the college Miss Shakuntala, should be given due credit for the shaping of the institution.<sup>21</sup>

Rev. Sister Annonciade was the correspondent of the college during Rev. Mother Rose's absence. She was closely associated with Rev. Mother Rose in the development of the college. The Annonciade Hall named after her and Don Bosco Colony was the last bit of work planned by her. Rev. Sister Annonciade passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1965.<sup>22</sup> Rev. Sister Marie du Carmel took care of distributing the wages, and maintaining the accounts during the early years of the construction of the buildings of Fatima College. Rev. Sis. Marie du Carmel died in January 1967.

Rev. Sr. Yvonne Marie, a student of the American College, Madurai and later of Bombay University, entered the service of Fatima College as a Lecturer in Politics and Sociology. In 1971, Rev. Sis. Yvonne Marie became the Provincial of

---

17. **Magazine**, 1962-1963, pp.1,2.

18. **Madurai Kamaraj University, General Inspection Commission**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1983. p.1.

19. **Ibid**, p.2.

20. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1974, 1975, p.19.

21. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1969, p.53.

22. **Ibid**, pp. 41,42.

the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyons and remained in that position till 1977. In 1977, she left India, when all the Missionary Sisters returned back to their home country. Then she became the Superior General of the Congregation of St. Joseph of Lynos. Rev. Sis. Yvonne Marie visited Fatima College again in the capacity of Superior General in 1982.

Rev. Sr. Anne Xavier became the first Vice-Principal of the college in 1956 and held that post till 1972. She taught History and Moral Science. She also served as the warden in the hostel. She had to leave India in 1972 on health grounds. In 1981, when the college celebrated the Platinum Jubilee of the St. Joseph's of Lyons; she attended it as a representative of the Missionary Sisters. The College has created the Sr. Anne Xavier endowment prize for the students for their best performance in music and Rev. Sr. Anne Xavier endowment prize for the best rank holder in History. Rev. Mother Joseph Albert came to India in 1920. She took charge as the Mother Superior of St. Joseph's Convent in Madurai and in 1954 as Mother Superior of the Usilampatti. She became the Mother Superior of the newly installed convent at Fatima College in 1961.<sup>23</sup> Rev. Mother Bruno came to India in 1946. In 1950, she became the Mother Superior in Usilampatti and in 1954, she took care of the boarders at St. Joseph's Girls' High School. Rev. Mother Bruno became the Mother Superior at St. Mary's High School, Devakottai in 1957 and she came back again to St. Joseph's Girls' High School in 1961 where she took care of the boarders in the school as well as the staff members of Fatima College. She also served Fatima College as the Correspondent in 1970. After the departure of the Missionary Sisters, the institution was left in the hands of a provincial team led by Rev. Sr. Marie de Britto assisted by Sr. Teresa Chandy and Sr. Flora Mary.<sup>24</sup>

---

23. **Mary Land Echoes Silver Jubilee 1953-1978**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1979, p.8.

24. **Annual Report**, 1979-1980, p.12.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Fatima College is a Catholic college founded and administered by the religious Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph's of Lyons.<sup>25</sup> The affairs of the college are managed by the Managing Body. The day to day administration is looked after by the College Council, the Principal and Correspondent, Vice-Principal, the college office and the staff of the college both teaching and non-teaching.<sup>26</sup>

## **THE MANAGING BODY**

The Managing Body is responsible for the management of the college. The society is named as "the Governing body of Fatima College". The office and the society registered under the societies, as it is located at the state of Madras Catholic Mission, Madurai. The main objective of the society is to promote the welfare and education of women.<sup>27</sup>

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE MANAGING BODY**

The Managing Body of the college consists of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a University representative and other members. The Arch Bishop of Madurai or his canonical representative is the President of the society. The Vicar General of the Madurai Diocese who is the Vice-President of the society will act as the President in his absence. The Correspondent of Fatima College is the Secretary and the Mother General of St. Joseph's Convent is the Treasurer. One of the remaining members is a representative of the University. The University representative and the Principal of the college are the ex-officio members of the body.<sup>28</sup>

---

25. **College Calender**, 1984-1985, Madurai, 1984, p.17.

26. **Ibid**, 1967-1968, Madurai, 1967, p.15.

27. **Inspection Commission**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1972, p. 4.

28. **Ibid**, p.3.

## THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

The college council was formed in the year 1953.<sup>29</sup> The College Council consists of the Principal, the Vice- Principal, the Heads of all Departments, Physical Directress, Librarian and two other Senior Lecturers.<sup>30</sup> There is a President who is an ex-officio member and a Secretary in the council. The meetings of the council are convened whenever the Principal deems it necessary.<sup>31</sup>

## THE PRINCIPAL

The general administration of the college on the academic side is vested with the Principal. She is the ex-officio member of the Managing Body and the President of the College Council. The Principal and the Correspondent correspond with the University and the Education Department and look after other related matters. The Principal has a hand in the appointments, terminations and confirmation of services of the faculty members. The Principal takes classes for a minimum number of hours prescribed by the University.<sup>32</sup>

Miss. Shakunthala was the first Principal of the Fatima College. She was appointed as the Principal in 1953. Previously she had served in Anne's College, Bangalore for three years and in the Nirmala College, Coimbatore for a period of three years. During her Principalship, new courses of study were offered. It became a full-pledged college offering Post Graduate Courses in 1964. In short, the rapid progress made by Fatima College in the three decades, can be attributed to the relentless service of Miss. Shankunthala. She was elected as one of the members of the first syndicate of the Madurai University in 1966. She retired from service as Principal in 1983. The next principal of the college was Rev Sr. Marie

---

29. **Ibid**, p.4.

30. **Madurai Kamaraj University General Inspection Commission**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1983, p.2.

31. **College Council Minutes**, 1981-1982, p.13.

32. **Proceedings of the Director of Collegiate Education**, R. C. No. 28218 S2 / 72 dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 1972.

Teresa. She entered the service of the college as a Lecturer in Mathematics and served the college as the Vice-Principal and Correspondent simultaneously from the academic year 1971-1972.

### **CORRESPONDENT**

The Manager of the college is the Correspondent. She is the Secretary of the Governing Body. Both the Correspondent and the Principal are responsible for the administration of finance. The Correspondent appoints both the teaching and non-teaching faculty members in consultation with the Principal. The first Correspondent was Rev. Mother Rose, the founder of the college. She remained in office till she died in 1968. Sis. Annonciade also served as a Correspondent when Rev. Mother Rose went to States. Rev. Mother Rita and Rev. Mother Bruno were respectively the Correspondents of the college before Rev. Sr. Teresa became the Correspondent in the academic year 1971-1972.

### **THE STAFF**

In 1953, there were ten members of the teaching staff, a full time Physical Directress and a Librarian. The strength of the staff has increased, as new courses of study were started.<sup>33</sup> At present the number of teaching staff are hundred and three and non-teaching staff are thirty seven. In self-finance, the teaching staff are sixty one and non-teaching staff are twenty eight. In other Diploma Courses, the teaching staff members are ten.<sup>34</sup>

### **STAFF ASSOCIATION**

The members of the staff of Fatima College have a staff club. It is aimed at providing recreation to the staff members. The non-teaching of the college staff has also an association of their own. Some of the members of the college are the members of the Madurai University Teachers Association (MUTA).<sup>35</sup>

---

33. **College Calender**, 1955-1956, Madurai, 1955, p.18.

34. **Hand Book**, Fatima College, Madurai, 2002-2003, pp.12-16.

35. **Indian Express**, Madurai 4<sup>th</sup> December 1985, p. 5.

## **THE COLLEGE OFFICE**

The college office in 1954 had one clerk, five attenders and five peons.<sup>36</sup> At present, the college office consists of a Manager, a Manager in-charge, Head Clerk, Assistants, Junior Assistants, Typists and Office Attenders.<sup>37</sup> The college has a good maintenance of registers and records. The records are arranged in individual files, subject wise and indexed.<sup>38</sup>

## **ADMINISTRATION OF FINANCE**

The major services of income for Fatima College are the State Government Grants and the U.G.C Grants. Equally important sources are the fee collections and income from endowments. The donations from local and foreign agencies, contributions made by the Management and the Alumnae are the other sources of income for the college.

### **FEE INCOME**

The fees are collected from the students of the college under the following heads viz, the tuition fee, medical fee and special fee.<sup>39</sup>

### **DONATIONS OR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE MANAGEMENT**

The donations or contributions made by the management form part of the income for Fatima College. The deficit if any, under the foresaid sources of income will be met by the management.

### **EXPENDITURE**

The financial statements of the college clearly show how the income is expended for the proper maintenance and further development of the college. The expenses incurred by the Fatima College can be categorized under two heads namely the capital expense and recurring expenditure .<sup>40</sup>

---

36. **Financial statement with Audit report**, 1954 - 1955, Fatima College, Madurai, Statement No. 43.

37. **Financial Statement**, 1978 – 1979, Fatima College, Madurai, pp. 1-5.

38. **General Inspection Commission**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1983, pp. 51,52.

39. **Proceedings of Director of Collegiate Education**, Rc. No. 5295351 / 70 dated 5 – 12 – 1970.

40. **Information received from office**, Fatima College, Madurai, 2004.

The capital expenditure incurred is on the construction of buildings, laboratory, playgrounds and purchase of equipments. The recurring expenditure are the salary paid to the teaching and non-teaching staff, maintenance, scholarship, outlay expenses, caution deposit, expenses out of U.G. C. grants and miscellaneous expenses.

### **ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES**

The Fatima College aims at attaining the goal of academic excellence. The performance of the students in the examination to a greater extend, determine the efficiency of the teaching faculty and the reputation of the college. Measure is taken to build a high moral character in the students. They are given opportunities to develop their job- oriented skills and thus play a better role in their career and life also. In addition to all these, the college has an environment conducive to studies.

### **MODE OF ADMISSION**

The Fatima College has a committee consisting of the Principal, the Vice-Principal and the Head of Departments, which selects the students for admission. The college had taken care to admit students in such a way that the students belonging to different schools and villages are adequately represented. Preference is also given to the girls belonging to the family of the alumnae and to the first generation learners.<sup>41</sup>

### **COURSES OF STUDY**

The College offers the following courses of study viz:

Under graduate courses (Autonomous)

Semester System

Medium-English

Part I : Tamil, Hindi, French

Part II : General English

a. Communication skills – Basic

---

41. **College Council Minutes**, July 1998 – 1999, p.3.

- b. Communication skills – Intermediate
- c. Communication skills – Advanced.

Part III : Major, Applied & Application Oriented Papers

Part IV (a) :

1. Value Education
2. Human rights Education
3. Environmental Awareness
4. Our Heritage

Part IV (b) : (Each student should opt for any one of the six activities) Physical Education, Adult Education, Women's cell, AICUF, N.C.C.and N.S.S.

Part IV (c) : Inter disciplinary optional, Computer Education

The Major Subjects offered under Part III are viz:

1. History
2. Sociology
3. Bachelor of Business Economics
4. English
5. Tamil
6. Mathematics
7. Physics
8. Chemistry
9. Zoology
10. Home science
11. Computer Science
12. B. Com.

Under the Self Finance stream the following courses are offered:

1. B. Com. With Computer Application
2. B.B.A.
3. B.Sc. computer Science

### Post Graduate Courses

4. M.B.E.
5. M.A. Tamil
6. M. Com.
7. M. Sc. Physics
8. M. Phil., Tamil

### Self-Financed Post Graduate Courses

1. M.B.A.,
2. M.C.A.,
3. M.S., (IT & M)
4. M.S., (C.S., & I.T.)<sup>42</sup>

### **THE COLLEGE UNION**

The College Union has a student President, a Student Secretary and three Representatives.<sup>43</sup> The main purpose of this college union is to direct and control the academic and extra curricular activities in the college. All the students of the college are members of the union. It has many branches in the form of associations or clubs especially Tamil Manram, English Literary Association, Junior Union, Current Affairs Club, Science Club, Biology Club, Home Science Association, Astronomy Club, Quiz Club and Economics Association.<sup>44</sup>

### **STUDENT'S COUNCIL**

The elected representatives of all associations are members of the student's council. The functions of the council are to regulate the student's activities of the college. The Principal gives the members the necessary guidance.

### **SEMINARS**

Seminars are conducted in the college from time to time. International level seminar, National level paper presentation, State- level paper presentation,

---

43. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 2003-2004, pp. 61-78.

43. **Ibid**, p. 8.

44. **Annual Report**, 1971-1972, n.pg.

Regional seminar, workshop, Inter-University seminar/Workshop, Inter collegiate level seminar, Guest lectures are given. Radio/ T.V talks, Publications, Book release and Material production are convened.<sup>45</sup>

### **EXCURSIONS**

The students of Fatima College organize educational tours and visit places of historical importance, scientific and technological centers.<sup>46</sup>

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Fatima College students enjoy almost all categories of scholarships awarded to the student community by the Government. Further, fee concessions are given to the marginalized. Many students receive financial assistance from Trusts, benefactors like TVS Charities, Sitalakshmi Trust and individual benefactors. The college started a Care Fund, which gives monetary help to the tune of Rs. 55,341,85 per year to the students.<sup>47</sup>

### **MORAL AND RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION CLASSES**

The religious and moral instruction classes are held in the college for the Catholic and Non-Catholics respectively to strengthen the moral character of the students. The Catholic students of the college have catechism classes every week. The Reverent Fathers conduct these classes for them. The Catholic students appeared annually for the Inter Collegiate Religious Examination conducted by the Xavier Board. An annual retreat is arranged for the Catholic students and staff members of the college. A life guidance course and Bible classes are also conducted for the outgoing Catholic students.<sup>48</sup>

### **ALL INDIA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FEDERATION (A.I.C.U.F)**

The Fatima College Catholic Students Union is one of the branches of All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) which is affiliated to the Pax

---

45. **Annual Report**, 1992-1993, p.3.

46. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1995, p.12.

47. **Annual Report**, 1998-1999, p.4.

48. **Ibid**, 1962-1963, p.6.

Romana, the International Catholic Movement. This AICUF unit of the college arranges various activities. The members attend regional camps, social service camps, conventions and seminars and participate in the Inter-Unit and Inter-Collegiate competitions arranged by the AICUF. They do social service.<sup>49</sup>

### **PLACEMENT SERVICE**

The college also took measures to secure jobs for the students after graduation. The Canara Bank and the Union Bank offer employment opportunities to some of the students of B.Com Major who had done part time Short Hand and Typing courses.<sup>50</sup>

### **SCIENCE LABORATORIES**

Every Science Department of the college has laboratories fully equipped with instruments and apparatus necessary for doing practicals. The Department of Home Science has separate laboratories for Home Management, Foods and Nutrition, Biochemistry and Textiles and Clothing. A kitchen garden is also attached to the laboratory. The Department of Biology has also a separate laboratory with an animal house and a Botanical Garden attached to it. The Department of Chemistry has two laboratories, one for B.Sc Major and another for B.Sc Ancillary. The Department of Physics has a laboratory with a dark room attached to it. The U.G.C has given lot of financial assistance to the college particularly towards the equipment of laboratories.

### **CONVERGENCE**

Since Fatima College is located in the outskirts of the Madurai City and being a women's college it had to provide conveyance facilities to the students to help them reach their destination safely. On 15<sup>th</sup> November 1958, the College purchased a bus for this purpose. The TVS came forward and shouldered the responsibility by plying many special buses for ladies to the college, till the coming of the Pandian Roadways Corporation (PRC). At present, the Tamilnadu

---

49. **Ibid**, 1979-1980, p.8.

50. **Ibid**, 1977-1978, p.16.

State Transport Corporation (TNSTC) is running special buses between the college and all-important places in the city.

### **ALUMNAE**

There is an Alumnae Association. The college maintains a record of the old students with their photos and permanent addresses.<sup>51</sup>

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The Fatima College accords equal importance to extra curricular activities. As education is for the integrated personal development of an individual, the college is very much concerned not only with good examination results, but also seeks to discover the hidden talents of the students in fine arts and athletics and to give ample opportunities to develop it.

### **HOBBY CLUBS**

Various hobby clubs were started in the College during the year 1955-1956 namely the Music club, Stamp club, Pen- Friends Club and the Type-Writing Club. Nearly 10% of the students learnt instrumental music in this year and they formed the Fatima College Orchestra. This Orchestra gave its maiden performance in the College Day held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1956.<sup>52</sup> In 1967-1970, a few more clubs namely, the Cooking Club, Tailoring Club, Languages Club, and the Painting Club were started. In the Tailoring Club, dressmaking, doll making and embroidery were taught, and the Usha Sewing Company lent machine for this purpose. The Tennis Club and the Table Tennis Club were formed in 1970-71. Many students joined these clubs with interest.

### **FINE ARTS CLUB**

The Fine Arts club is functioning as a branch of the college union to give opportunities for the students to exhibit their artistic talents. This club conducts inter-class competitions in the college. This club celebrates the Fine Arts week annually. The programme for the Fine Arts Week is prepared by the students'

---

51. **Mary Land Echoes**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1959, p.16.

52. **Annual Report**, 1956-1957, p. 4.

advocatory committee that in turn is approved by the College Council. The various competitions like painting, drawing, rangoli, flower dying, dance, cooking, just a minute, music and duet competitions are held. New items like cross talk and advertisement were introduced. The staff members have donated a rolling cup to be awarded to the Major getting the highest number of points in the Fine Arts week competitions.<sup>53</sup>

### **CINE FORUM**

In 1969, the Cine Forum was formed in Fatima College. It was intended to guide the students to have a right approach in the appreciation of films. This Forum meet three times in a term to review the films screened in Madurai and published them in the local magazines. Film Appreciation Club was started. This club carries out the evaluation on films. For instance, on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1986, twenty students participated in the evaluation of the film Thenmazhai.

### **GLEE CLUB**

The Glee Club was formed in 1958, by the Vice-Principal of the college, Rev. Sister Anne Xavier. The membership in the club was opened only to those who were good at singing.<sup>54</sup>

### **MARY LAND ECHOES**

The Fatima College publishes the **Mary Land Echoes**. Kumari Jeevanandam the Professor of Tamil released the first issue of the college magazine on 4<sup>th</sup> March 1959, and a copy of it was presented to Dr. A. L. Mudaliar. A “Magazine Editorial Committee” consisting of some staff members and students, working under the auspices of the college union, does the work of collecting the articles and editing it. Articles in English, Tamil, Hindi and French are entertained from the staff and students of the college. A magazine was specially published in view of the Silver Jubilee year of the college, that is in 1978. The college magazine published in 1983 was issued in honour of the first

---

53. **Ibid**, 1971-1972, p.6.

54. **Union Report**, Fatima College, Madurai, 1985-1986, pp. 4,5.

Principal of the college, Miss. Shakunthala, when she retired from service that year.<sup>55</sup>

### **ALL INDIA RADIO PROGRAMME**

The students of the college have given various programmes over the All India Radio. They have participated in debates, quiz programmes, group discussions, variety entertainment in the form of songs and orchestra compressing of Veenas.

### **ATHLETICS**

In the athletic field also, the students of Fatima College have won many laurels by participating in the competitions held by the University and other organizations like Jaycees, Rotary Club and Lions Club. The Athletic Association of the college organises the annual sports day. Intramural tournaments in volleyball, basketball, tennykoit, netball, caroms, chess, kho-kho, and badminton are conducted. All the students of the college are given opportunities to participate in the sports day events. There are also provisions for the staff, non-teaching staff and the office bearers to take part in some of the competitions. The staff members versus students competition and fancy dress competitions are some of the special events organised during the sports day.

The championship award is given to the class getting the highest number of points and the individual championship is awarded to the student for her overall performance in the sports day events. The athletic association also offers courses in Yoga and Karate to the students who are interested in it. Central Y.M.C.A., Madurai conducted a table tennis tournament for college girls in 2000.<sup>56</sup>

### **NATIONAL CADET CORPS**

The college started N.C.C. on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1958. The students who have opted for N.C.C. and N.C.C. Rifles have training every week. They appear for the G1 and G2 examinations. The results through out have ranged between 90% and

---

55. **Annual Report**, 1983-1984, n.pg.

56. **Magazine**, 2000-2001, p.45.

100%. Some of the cadets have participated in the Republic Day parade in Delhi. The N.C.C. cadets of the college form the rifle club and won prizes in the inter-shooting competitions also. The college had eighty cadets. Three of the cadets represented Madurai Unit at state level. Inter- group competitions on first-aid and home nursing, firing and signals held at Coimbatore. Cadets donated blood for the Indian Red Cross Society.<sup>57</sup> The cadets were selected for the Republic Day events to represent the Madurai Group at state level. Inter- group competition was held at Dharapuram near Coimbatore from 26-08-2000 to 06-09-2000.<sup>58</sup>

### **NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME**

The Fatima College was the first womens' college and one among the five colleges in the Madurai University to have implemented the National Service Corps presently known as National Service Scheme (N.S.S.) in 1969-70. It is a service-oriented scheme aimed to direct the students' service towards national development. Fatima College has four hundred and forty eight volunteers, five programme officers. It organises summer camp and winter camp. The students hear great lectures on aids awareness, communal harmony, national integration, and environmental protection. The volunteers encourage themselves as scribes for handicapped school children who are studying in different schools in Madurai.

### **ROTRACT CLUB**

The Rotract club was established in the college in 1973-1974. This is also a service oriented club, whose activities are centered on service to community. The Rotractors also visit Mother Teresa's Home every year and distribute old cloths and medicines and spent sometime with the children. The "Leo club" was started in 1982. It aims at offering service to the mentally retarded, physically handicapped and the aged.<sup>59</sup>

---

57. **Ibid**, 2001-2002, p.43.

58. **Ibid**, 2000-2001, p.47.

59. **Annual Report**, 1983-1984, p.9.

## **LIBRARY**

The College Library is situated amidst placid surrounding covering area of 21,461.13 sq. ft with all necessary infrastructure and facilities. Being the information source for learning, the college library has built up a vast and rich collection of 76,350 volumes of books and 120 journals and magazines. The College Library subscribes six leading newspapers (English and Tamil). In addition to the regular features the library has added certain special facilities leading to development in the quality of the library services. One among them is computerizing all the information available in the library. The college Library uses CDS/ISIS package for this purpose. The library has also developed an additional special package, which provides the facility of On-line Access System to the users. It has special display racks for the best book collection in order to increase the reading interest of the students. Closed circuit monitoring system has been established to enable effective supervision. Through other institutional membership like British Council Library and DELNET, the library is able to borrow videocassettes on various relevant topics and information of books, periodicals and journals available with these institution or agencies. Science department has their own respective libraries.<sup>60</sup>

The college library maintains registers and records such as the 'Accession Registers', 'Issue Registers' and a 'Subject Register'. The books bought with the U.G.C grant are accessioned in separate registers for the purpose of supervision and inspection by the U.G.C officials. The issue registers are maintained for staff and students separately. If the students find it difficult to find the books in the shelves, the subject register helps them to locate it. The catalogue cards also serve the same purpose.

They also maintain postal magazines register, stray magazines register and local magazines register. For all the magazines bought by the library, entry cards

---

60. **Annual Report**, 2002-2003, p.49.

with the title address, the number of copies and volumes per year are maintained. Entry cards are maintained for the daily newspaper too, namely the Daily Newspaper checking card with the number of volumes per year and number of copies received by the college. The college receives six daily newspapers viz Indian Express, Financial Express, The Hindu, Dinakaran, Dinamani and Dinamalar.<sup>61</sup>

## **HOSTELS**

There are four hostels, which have six hundred and seventy students. Hostelers are given a lot of opportunities to exhibit their leadership qualities, allow their talents to blossom forth and develop fellow feeling and concern. Students are given counseling on regular basis to revitalize their life and their relationships by obtaining psychological healing. Yoga classes are also offered to them for external healing and to keep their body fit. With their occasional entertainments and celebration, the hostelers keep alive the positive aspects of life. In the hostel, students from different states and countries live in harmony. A new hostel building and a waiting room for the parents are the newly constructed during the year 2002-2003.<sup>62</sup>

## **ARULANANDAR COLLEGE**

The Arul Anandar College, situated in a backward village, is managed by the Jesuits with an avowed purpose of working for the literacy of the poor and the rural masses. The Arul Anandar College is located at Karumathur village, which is twenty-two kilometres away from Madurai City. It is located on a sprawling campus of sixty-two acres. Though the land in which the college is situated is under Kovilankulam Panchayat, for all practical purpose, it is identified with Karumathur.

---

61. **Union Report**, 1999 - 2000, n.pg.

62. **Annual Report**, 2002-2003, p.50.

Karumathur is declared as the most backward area by the Government of Tamilnadu. The primary occupation of the people in this area is agriculture. Organized industry of any sort does not exist. Irrigational facilities are very limited; Commercial crops such as cotton and sugarcane are also raised in small patches. Making use of well water, paddy is cultivated only when water for irrigation is available from the Vaigai River. Most of the students of this college come from this most backward area and many of them are first generation learners.<sup>63</sup>

Of the people in Karumathur, 80% belong to the backward classes out of which 70% are Piramalai Kallars. The Scheduled Castes form 17% of the population. Forward communities constitute 3%. Karumathur is a historic place in Madurai District. The Piramalai Kallars who are the predominant community of this locality, hailed from Cholanadu presently the Thanjavur District. After the decline of the Cholas the army was dissolved and disseminated towards the South. At that time a group settled in Karumathur.<sup>64</sup>

The Arul Anandar College is one of the Constituent colleges under the jurisdiction of the Jesuit Madurai province of the Society of Jesus. This college comes directly under the chairmanship of the Jesuit provincial of the Jesuit Madurai province, having its head quarters at Dindigul.<sup>65</sup>

### **History of the College**

Arul Anandar College was founded in 1970, by His Grace, the most Rev. P. J. Diraviam J.V.D., the former Archbishop of Madurai. It was then known as De La Salle College, named after St. John De La Salle, founder of the De La Salle Brothers<sup>66</sup> Bro. C. Fernando F.S.C., a product of oxford was the first Principal.<sup>67</sup>

---

63. **Selfstudy Report** for institutional Accrediation Submitted to National Assessment and Accrediation Council, Volume No.1, December 2000, p.7.

64. **Record**, Chellampatti Panchayath Union, 1981, p.34.

65. **Hand Book**, Arul Anandar College, Karumathur, 2002 – 2003, n.pg.

66. **Magazine**, Arul Anandar College, 1970-1975, n.pg.

67. Fr.Vima Amalan, **Archdiocese of Madurai, Origins, Development**, Madurai, 1983, p.272.

With the Pre- Degree class, the college offered three-degree courses in Economics, Mathematics and Philosophy. The Philosophy course was of special significance because students who attended this course were mostly seminarians drawn from the various dioceses of Tamilnadu and Sri Lanka.

In 1972, the Archbishop requested the Jesuits of Madurai Province to administrate the college on a temporary basis as the De La Salle Brothers had withdrawn from the scene. On the suggestion of the Archbishop, the college was renamed Arul Anandar College after St. John De Britto (Arul Anandar) a Jesuit missionary from Portugal who was martyred at Oriyur in Ramnad District. He is the patron of the Madurai Diocese and the Jesuit Province of Madurai. On 25<sup>th</sup> October 1977, the Jesuits accepted the ownership of the college and the full responsibility of running the institution.<sup>68</sup>

This college was founded to educate the Catholic students of Madurai Archdiocese and also the other youth of Tamilnadu without any distinction of caste or creed. However it was more concerned about the education of the homemates. Being a minority institution, it enjoys all the privileges and rights for minorities entrained in the constitution of India. It aims in particular at raising the standards of education and of living of the people of this area considered which is classified as a backward area. Hence the college gives priority to moral and spiritual values and desires to inculcate a strong sense of social justice in the students hoping to make the institution both in theory and practice an agent of social change, towards a more just and equitable social order.<sup>69</sup> Thus this institution stands for the formation of the whole man religiously oriented morally upright, intellectual alert, socially conscious and committed and nationally integrated.<sup>70</sup>

---

68. **Ibid**; p.273.

69. **Ibid**; p. 7.

70. **Ibid**; p. 8.

The college added two more courses to the curriculum namely Chemistry in 1979 and History in 1980. In 1980, the college began to offer Post-graduate courses in Economics. In 1983, M.Sc in Rural Development Science was introduced. In 1984, M.A. in Philosophy was introduced. In 1999, Master of Computer Applications and B.Com. with Computer Applications were introduced. In 2001, the college was granted permission of the Madurai Kamaraj University to offer Ph.D programme in Economics and Rural Development departments and they switched over to co-education mode in 2001.<sup>71</sup>

In June 1987, the Madurai University granted the Autonomous status to Arul Anandar College in concurrence with the recommendations of the Tamilnadu Government. The Autonomous College has the freedom to determine its own courses of study and syllabi, prescribes rules of admission, evolve methods of evaluation and conduct examinations. The Degree will be awarded by the parent Madurai Kamaraj University in the name of Arul Aananadar College will be mentioning in the diploma.<sup>72</sup>

The college has the following Departments viz: Tamil, English, Economics, History, Philosophy, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Rural Development Science, Commerce and Master of Computer Applications<sup>73</sup>

The table furnished underwere provide the complete details regarding the courses offered, the year of affiliation of each course and the sanctioned strength: -

---

71. **Dinakaran**, dated 28-06- 2003, p.2.

72. **Ibid**; dated 28-06-2003, p.3.

73. **Selfstudy report**, 2000, p.10.

Degree	Course	Year	Strength
B. A	Philosophy	1970- 71	60
B. A	Economics	1970- 71	40
B. Sc.	Mathematics	1971- 72	40
B. Sc.	RDS	1973- 74	40
B. Sc.	Chemistry	1979- 80	40
B. A.	History	1980- 81	40
M. A.	Economics	1984- 85	20
M. Sc.	Rural Development	1978- 85	20
M. A.	Philosophy	1986- 87	20
B. Sc	Physics	1988- 89	32

Degree	Courses	Year	Strength
M. Phil.	Economics	1989-90	20
M. C. A.	Computer Applications	1999-2000	60
B. Com.	With Computer Applications	1999-2000	40
M. B.A	Business Administration	2001-02	20
Ph. D	Economics	2001-02	12
Ph. D	Rural Development Science	2001-02	36
B. B. A.	With Industrial Training	2002-03	40
B. S.	Information Technology and Management.	2002-03	40
M. Sc.	Applied and Industrial Psychology	2002-03	20

## UNDER GRADUATE COURSE

CBCS-(Credit System) was introduced in 2003-04. The curriculum components at present conform to the pattern of one Major and two Ancillaries, but are supplementary by Foundation and Additional courses.<sup>75</sup>

Part I	Tamil
Part II	English
Part III	Major, Ancillaries, Foundation courses, Additional courses
Part IV	Physical Education / NCC / NSS / ARISE

**PART I & II:** The Course in Tamil and English are offered for four semesters with the objective of making the students communicative efficiency.

The course content varies for different majors to suit their specific needs.

Degree	Major
M. BE	Economics
M. A.	Philosophy
M. Sc.	Rural Development
M. C. A.	Computer Application
M. Sc.	Applied and Industrial. Psychology
M. Phil.	Economics
Ph. D	Rural Development
Ph. D	Economics

76

---

75. Dinakaran, 28-6-2002, p.2

76. Hand book, 2003-2004, pp. 29,30.

Degree	Major	Ancillaries / Specification
B. B. E.	Economics	Economics Statistics, Financial Accounting, Cost Accounting
B. A.	History	General Economics Tourism
B. A.	Philosophy	General Psychology, Social Psychology
B. Sc.	Maths	Physics Application of Mathematics
B. Sc.	Physics	Mathematics, Chemistry
B. Sc.	Chemistry	Mathematics / Soil Chemistry, Physics
B. Sc.	R. D. S.	Agriculture, Animal Husbandry
B. Com.	Commerce	Computer Application
B. B. A.	With Industrial Training	
B. S.	Information Technology and Management	

#### **FOUNDATION COURSES**

##### **Personality Development and Social Analysis: -**

These two courses are given in the third semester for one hour per week with a view to inculcate moral and spiritual values in the students. The paper “Religions in Society” is offered in the fourth semester for one hour per week to critically understand the meaning of religious and their role in society with a view to promote good-will and harmony between religious neighbours.

##### **Computer Education**

This course is introduced as a compulsory component of the entire subject. Per year sixty hours have been allotted to develop computer skills.

##### **Additional Course: -**

Of the following additional courses offered every student has to choose any two courses.

General Science

General Mathematics

Economics for Competitive Examination I & II

History of world Religion, Christianity in South India

Renewal movements in World Religious

Principles of Accountancy

Numerical methods

Bio Chemistry

Medical Chemistry

Physics for Competitive Examinations I & II and

Human Rights Education.

#### **Part IV**

Of the three courses offered for four semesters viz: physical education, N.C.C and N.S.S. each student select any one of these three branches in the first semester itself. Theory and practical will be conducted throughout the semester and examination will be conducted at the end of the year. ARISE is obligatory for all second years.<sup>77</sup>

#### **Strength: - Past and Present**

In the beginning, the college was started with the students' strength of hundred and fifty and with seventeen members of the teaching and twelve members of the non-teaching staff. In 2002, the strength of the students has crossed thousand with more than hundred teaching staff and fifty non-teaching staff.

The college is mainly covered under the Grant in - aid scheme of the Tamilnadu Government.<sup>78</sup> In Arul Anandar College, many committees are constituted to run the administration smoothly. They are viz; Board of Management, Executive board of Management, Administrative Committee, Governing Body, Academic Council, Planning and Evaluation Committee, Finance Committee, Grievance and Appeals Committee, Admission Committee,

---

77. **Dhinakaran**, 28 -06 -2003, pp.3, 4.

78. **Selfstudy Report**, 2000, pp. 2, 3.

Examination Committee, Students welfare and Extra Curricular Activities Committee, Library Committee, Staff Council, Disciplinary Committee, Physical Education Committee, Alumni Committee and Hostel Committee<sup>79</sup>

The Provincial is the Head of all Jesuit Institutions in Tamilnadu. He is the President of the Governing body and Board of management. Ultimately, he is the authority over the administration of the institution. He Visits the Jesuits institutions periodically. The Coordinator for Jesuit Higher Education Coordinates the appointments of teachers in the institutions of Jesuit Higher Education. The Rector is the Vice- President of governing body. He is the Secretary and Treasure of the Board of management. He is the Superior of the house of Jesuits in the college. He is the local authority for appeal. He ensures the norms and guidelines and policies of Jesuit. Higher Education is adhered to him in the Institution. The Secretary is the Administrative Head of the college management. He is the Representative before the Government. He is the Local authority for appointments of teaching and non-teaching staff. He is the Signing authority for all matters relating to finance.

The Principal is the Head of the institution for all academic and administrative matters. He is the Secretary of the Governing Body. He is the Chairman of all the committees except Boards of studies. He is responsible for the day-today and general affairs of the college. Vice – Principal I is responsible for Students' discipline. He is the Director of college hostels. He is responsible for the general administration of the library. He maintains furniture, electricity, water etc. He is in charge of college store; purchase, distribution, audio – visual room. He supervises the work of the staff members. He helps the Principal in the day- to-day activities. He is also responsible for the administration of the college. Vice – Principal II is also responsible for students' discipline. He looks after the activities of Associations. He arranges meetings of Parent - Lecturers Association. He is the

---

79. **Hand Book**, 2003-2004, pp. 14-23.

conducting elections to various student associations. He is the Co-ordinator of Part IV subjects. He is in charge of day scholar's concession and bus passes. He is the Overall Supervisor of tests and exams. He helps the Principal in day-to-day administration of the college.

The Director of M. C.A co- ordinates the activities of the M.C.A. Department. The Vice-President of Evening Courses Looks after the activities of the courses. The Dean convenes all the meetings of U.G.C. statutory bodies. He makes arrangements for interviews and selection of staff for faculty. He is in charge of Improvement Programmes. He takes the responsibility of sending the staff for Orientation and Refresher Courses, choosing the person and studies them for seminars, workshops etc. The Controller of Examination fixes question paper setters and examiners. He convenes Examination and Awards Committee meetings. He arranges internal and external valuations. He takes the responsibility of preparation of question papers timetable etc. He publishes the results through Internet –WWW. ArulAnandarCollegeKarumathur.com and issues mark sheets.

The Heads of Department are the Chairmen of respective Boards of studies. They are members of the Academic Council. They are responsible for the day - today administration of the respective departments. They take care of the academic growth and needs of the students. They check the attendance of the irregular students. They meet the parents and procure books, laboratory equipments etc. They give personal as well as academic counseling to students.

The Chief Superintendent of Examination is in charge conducting internal assessment. He is in charge of tests and end semester exams. He allots invigilation work to the faculty. He takes the responsibility of distributing answer scripts to the Departments. He deals with malpractice cases. The office Superintend is the Ex-officio member of the Staff Council. He is responsible for the administration and day-to-day administration and functioning of the college office.<sup>80</sup>

---

80. **Selfstudy Report**, Vol. II, 2000, pp. 271-273.

The Academic and Disciplinary Councils of the college meet regularly and discuss academic and discipline related matters.<sup>81</sup> The following Department Associations cater to the academic requirements of the students. Tamil Association, English Literary Association, History Association, Economics Association, Philosophy Association, Mathematics Association, Physics Association, Chemistry Association, RDS Association and Commerce Association.<sup>82</sup>

The Rural Development Science Course at the Degree level was started in 1973. This course is different from an agricultural course in content and in emphasis. Whereas an agricultural course emphasizes “Soil and Crop” this course emphasizes the human aspect that is “man in development”.<sup>83</sup> The department of Rural Development Science has the following support services on the campus such as Piggery Farm, Fish Farm, Dairy Farm, Model Agricultural Farm, Bio - Mass Gassifier, Feed Mixed Unit, Agro- Meteorological Observatory and Gibas Gas Plant.<sup>84</sup> In 1976, the Mother and Child Health Programme was started with the help of Madurai Multi- Purpose Social Service Society. It imparts Health Education in villages situated near the college. It also identifies under nourished babies and provides nutritious food. Periodical health visits are also conducted.<sup>85</sup>

#### **Kannanur Farm**

The area of the college agricultural farm at a near by place called Kannanur is 40.73 acres.<sup>86</sup>

#### **OPERATION OUT - REACH; YMCA**

This was started with the following objectives:

81. **Magazine**, 1970-1971, pp.18, 19.

82. **Selfstudy Report**, Vol II, 2000, pp. 262, 263.

83. **Ibid**; p.25.

84. **Selfstudy Report**, Vol. I, 2000, pp. 31-34.

85. **Annual Report**, 1977, p.4.

86. **Self study Report**, Vol. I, 2000, p.6.

To organize health education particularly with regard to nutrition, personal health and sanitation,

To provide co-coordinated health care including communication and screening for defects with reference to appropriate agency, as necessary and

To disseminate family planning advice in co-operation with Government and other agencies. A medical team consisting of two doctors, seven staff nurses and health workers is carrying out these activities.

### **Adult Education Programme**

The National Adult Education Programme was started in April 1979 with the help of U.G.C. Later this was gradually extended to thirty centres. Persistent problems of unmotivated adult illiterates, their migration during the harvesting season, failure of electricity and on the side of instructors, their examinations, holidays all these factors are almost stifling the growth of the programme.<sup>87</sup>

### **All – India Catholic University Federation (AICUF)**

AICUF has been functioning as an agent of creating socio-political awareness in this locality and extended its help of legal aid and educate the needy people of this area. Similarly the Vincent De Paul Society has been creating socio-political awareness among the people and also identifying the very helpless poor families and extending financial help to them. Legal, medical and educational helps are also provided. In 2003, Youth Red Cross Society was started in order to give training in first - aid and social services to the students.<sup>88</sup>

### **National Service Scheme**

The activities of the National Service Scheme include adult education, special coaching classes, road repairing, temple cleaning and creating social awareness.<sup>89</sup> The nearby Poosaripatti village was adopted. In that village, the students built a small community hall. A radio was presented to the village. The

---

87. **Magazine**, 1980-1981, n.pg.

88. **Dinakaran**, 28-06-2003, p.6.

89. **Annual Report**, 1974-1975, p.6.

villagers co-operated with the students in the construction of the Community Hall.<sup>90</sup>

The N.S.S also selected a plot for planting sugarcane. This is considered as a model farm. Further Special English coaching classes are conducted for the students of S.S.L.C and XII standard.<sup>91</sup> The students of the National Service Scheme are divided into four groups viz; Adult Education Programme Group, Education Group, Village Adoption Group, Kitchen Garden and Campus Beautification Group.<sup>92</sup> On the Hiroshima Day, NSS Day, Human Rights Day, Aids Awareness Day, Nutrition Day and New Millennium Day Consumer Awareness Seminars were organized.<sup>93</sup>

### **SPORTS**

The college students are divided into Gold House, Blue House and Maroon House for the purpose of sports. Intramural committee consists of Rev. Fr. Principal as President, Physical Director as Intramural Director and three House Masters. Games like Football, Volleyball, Badminton, Tennikoit, Chess, Khabaddi helped not only to bring out the latent talents but also to foster a healthy competitive spirit and to create sound sportsmanship among the students.<sup>94</sup> Inter-collegiate matches are also conducted in the college every year.<sup>95</sup> Competition in chess, caroms and table tennis are organized for the non-teaching staff.<sup>96</sup>

### **Extension Programmes**

The college organizes extension – programmes such as Rural Action for Development And Research (RADAR), Arul Anandar Initiative for Social Change (ARISE), Arul Anandar Network of Schools And Colleges (ANSAC) were started

---

90. **Magazine**, 1970-1971, p.24.

91. **Ibid**, 1973-1974, p. 62.

92. **Ibid**, p.63.

93. **Self Study Report**, Vol VI, 2000, p.742.

94. **College Magazine**, 1971-1972, p. 96.

95. **Annual Report**, 1972-1973, p. 3.

96. **Self Study Report**, Vol. VI, 2000, p.719.

long back. The other programmes such as Basic Computer Course for Rural Girls (BCCRG), Integrated Development of Women's and Supportive Education For Rural (IDWERC) have also been added.

### **Rural Action for Development and Research (RADAR)**

#### **Aims and Objectives**

This center aims at providing social conditions and facilitating in the creation of an environment in which the powerless poor and the marginalized recognize themselves as persons human dignity and actively participate as individual and in groups, in the historical task of creating humane society based on Gandhian values and the tenets of the constitution of India. RADAR Centre also acts as a catalyst. It animates the poor in the rural area of Chellampatti Panchayat in the process of community building and in helping the people to organize themselves as a co-operative movement. It also collaborates with the Department of Rural Development of Arul Anandar College and it trains the students to help the cause of the poor. It also imparts social orientation to the staff and students of the college as whole and implements research projects of different aspects of community building and cooperative movement. It extends training facilities to all those who are committed to, or involved in such community development.

Appropriately on Advent Sunday 1986, the center was inaugurated, in a simple but meaningful ceremony. The meeting was presided over by shri Devendra Kumar, Vice - Chancellor of Deemed University of Gandhigram.

Fr. L. M. Doss was appointed as Assistant Director.

#### **Methodology**

The animation process of centre RADAR will have four components. The creation of critical awareness regarding the social system, the right and responsible as citizens of the country, skills and capacities of various forms of indigenous reserved as the need for organized political action and community development

efforts.<sup>97</sup> The RADAR conducted a six – month tailoring course for the students who failed in X std examination.<sup>98</sup> The centre for Rural Action, Development and Research is a new venture of the Jesuits of the Arul Anandar College in Madurai Province in giving a new orientation to an educational institution situated in a rural area.<sup>99</sup>

#### **ARISE (Arul Anandar Initiative for Social Change)**

This programme aims at providing opportunities both for the student and the college to reach out to the people as learners with the knowledge and the skill gathered to animate the people and help them develop themselves by mobilizing the locally available resources. It aims at creating a sense of social concerns in the minds of the students, the rough direct contact and exposure to the rural community and to lead the educated to committed action and dedicated service to the poor.<sup>100</sup> With the collaboration of the Tamilnadu Polytechnic, Madurai it started a computer course for boys and girls in and around Karumathur.<sup>101</sup>

#### **ANSAC (Arul Anandar Network of Schools and Colleges)**

This programme, functioning under the auspices of ARISE is meant to serve as an effective instrument for social transformation. It aims at training the school going children academically and morally strong to enhance the quality of life in their respective areas. It has extended its activities to schools in Karisalpatti, Kesavanpatti, Meenakshipatti, Nagamalai and Nathanpatti villages.

#### **BCCRG (Basic Computer Course for Rural Girls)**

This unit functions under the department of Rural Development Science. It is meant for the rural girls who are school dropouts. The basic objective is to provide educational empowerment to these girls; thereby equipping them with

---

97. Leonard Fernando.S.J, and Bernard Sami, **Born Again Jesuits Back in Tamilnadu**, Dindigul, 1952 – 2002, p.368.

98. **Self-study Report**, Vol.VI, 2000, p. 744.

99. Leonard Fernando.S.J, and Bernard Sami, **op.cit**, p.371

100. **Ibid**, p.371.

101. **Self-study Report**, Vol. VI, 2000, p.744.

strength to fight against certain social evils like female infanticide rampant in this part of India.

### **IDWERC (Integrated Development of Women's and Supportive Education for Rural)**

This extension programme aims at helping rural women to form 'self-help groups', giving training for self employment and lending a hand for supporting education for students of nearby villages. This project houses as a model cattle farm for twenty houses and the returns of the farm are utilized in various development activities for the villages around the college.<sup>102</sup>

### **Project Work**

At the end of the final semester, each student of the P.G courses has to undertake a project work. The student has to select a topic in consultation with his guide for the project work. The projects thus prepared are submitted to the Controller's of Examination. The respective guides conduct viva - voce for the projects, which are assessed for fifty marks. This is the internal mark for the project. The external examiners appointed by the controller evaluate the projects and award marks.

### **Dissertation**

All the M. Phil students submit a dissertation in the second semester. The student selects the topic with the help of the guide, writes dissertation and submits it to the controller's office. The external expert appointed by the controller and the guide together conduct viva – voce and assess the dissertation for hundred marks. The distribution of marks is; fifty marks by the guide and fifty marks by the external expert.

### **Method of Valuation**

Before 1997, the college followed central valuation. Both the external and internal examiners came to the college, valued the papers, and consolidated the marks awarded by both. After November 1997, the system of valuation for

---

102. **Dinakaran**, dated 28-06-2003, p.6.

internal examiner and door valuation for external examiners is followed. They follow double valuation for U.G., P.G. and M. Phil courses. They follow single valuation for Foundation Course, Additional Course and part IV subjects - NSS, NCC, and Physical Education.<sup>103</sup>

### **Library**

In the year 1970, Arul Anandar College was started under the name De La Salle College at Karumathur. The college library was also started in a month after the college started functioning with thousand five hundred volumes as library collection and it touched two thousand seven hundred volumes in the academic year 1970 – 1971. In the beginning, the college had no separate library building. The Principal allotted a classroom as library. In 1989, the college library was shifted to a convenient place. As a result, the library operation became easier. Books were divided into three sections namely Reference Section, Humanities Section and Science Section. Journals and recreation material are kept separately. Hence the number of users increased two fold within one academic year.<sup>104</sup> A separate library building was constructed with all modern facilities. Most Rev. Dr. M. Arockia Samy, Archbishop of Madurai laid the foundation stone on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1993.<sup>105</sup> In 1996, the library had thirty one thousand books and subscribed to hundred periodicals.<sup>106</sup> In 2000, the library had thirty four thousand books and subscribed hundred periodicals.<sup>107</sup>

### **ARUL ANANDAR HOSTEL**

The Arul Anandar College Hostel is meant for students who come from long distance.<sup>108</sup> Arul Anandar College Hostel consists of five blocks namely Xavier Hall, Valluvar Hall, Gandhi Hall, Tagore Hall and Loyala Hall.

---

103. **Selfstudy Report**, Vol. VI, 2000, p.143.

104. **Magazine**, 1970-1975, n.pg.

105. **Annual Report**, 1993, p.2.

106. **Ibid**, 1996, p.3.

107. **Selfstudy Report**, Vol. VI, 2000, p. 740.

108. **Hand Book**, 1994-1995, p.21.

The Arul Anandar College Hostel is working under the control of a Director. He is the guardian of the students. He is assisted by a Deputy Director and Assistant Directors. In the mess, dividing system is followed. More than ninety percent of the inmates of the hostel have come from rural areas.<sup>109</sup>

### **Universal Prayer Hall**

To inculcate in the minds of the students religious tolerance a universal prayer Hall is located on the campus of the college. It has symbols of fourteen religions.<sup>110</sup> A Prayer Hall common for all faiths is situated behind the main building. The students and the staff pray there whenever they have free time. The presence of the common prayer hall enhances the atmosphere of spirituality. The prayer service is conducted by every day.<sup>111</sup> There is also an Alumni association called Arul Anandar College Alumni Association.

### **WAAC (Women Forum of Arul Anadar College)**

After the inception of MCA course, the strength of girl students is slowly increasing with a corresponding increase in women teachers. The programme and activities of the women student forum are:

- To contribute to fine arts and cultural activities,
- To promote academic and personal counseling to girl students and
- To guide them on their career opportunities and higher education.

### **Parent Teachers Association (PTA)**

The parent-teachers association was set up on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1994. The main objectives of the PTA are:

- To facilities the parents to pay more attention to education, discipline, cultural, hygiene of the students,
- To make them act in coordination with the teachers and the principal,

---

109. **Ibid**, pp.2-5

110. **Dinakaran**, 28-06-2003, p.7.

111. **Self study Report**, **op.cit**, Vol. I, 2000, p.24.

To serve as a link between the society and the college and to express suggestions related to this,

To encourage them to participate in College Day, Sports Day, Convocation Day etc,

To help the management to solve the problems that may arise in the college hostels and

To encourage them to establish endowment scholarships for the benefit of students.<sup>112</sup>

The college has collaborations with National and International institutions such as Jesuit province of Toulouse, France, World of Jesuit Alumni, Columbia, Andheri Hilfie, Germany, Caritas Antonia, Italy, Xavier Board for Higher Education, All India Association for Christian Higher Education (AIACHE),

United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia (UBCHEA) and the Federation of Jesuit Alumni, Calcutta. Apart from these collaborations and linkages, various departments and individuals have also links with many institutions source of funding Donation.<sup>113</sup>

#### **National Accreditation and Assessment Committee (NAAC)**

The function of autonomy in the college has been evaluated now and then by Autonomy Review committees of UGC and of State Government. The College itself had made arrangement for the review of autonomy once in five years by the external expert committees. But such committees confined themselves to the evaluation of autonomy. The college felt that there should be an over all analysis of all aspects of the college. Hence this self – study report is to be accredited by this NAAC.

A committee comprising the following members of the faculty and the staff was set up to prepare this self – study report.

---

112. **Ibid**, Vol.II, p.261.

113. **Ibid**, Vol. I, pp. 45,46.

Rev. Dr.G.Lawrence Amalraj S. J. - Chairman.

Prof. S.Krishnamurthy - Co-ordinator

Prof. M.Lourdusamy - Member

Dr. S.Arockiadoss - Member

Prof. M. George Joseph - Member

Dr. John Joseph - Member

Mr. P. Kader Maideen - Member

Mr. A. Berkman - Member

The committee took nearly eight months to prepare these reports.<sup>114</sup>

Jesuits have four colleges all over Tamilnadu. But this is the only one college, which is situated in a remote area, where most of the inhabitants belong to the kallar caste. It works for the development of the socially, economically and educationally backward people. It gives education to the students who are the first in their families to become a graduate.

#### JAYARAJ ANNAPACKIAM COLLEGE FOR WOMEN PERIYAKULAM

The Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women is located in Periyakulam, which comes under the Theni District of Tamil Nadu. Periyakulam is situated sixteen Kilometres away from Theni and located in the foothills of Kodaikanal.<sup>115</sup>

It consists of three parts namely the Thenkarai, the Vadakarai and the Kaikalankulam and has a historic past. Rev.Mother Lucy Crescentia, the Superior General of the Sisters of St.Anne's, Trichirapalli during 1970's, with the help of Mr.J.Chelladurai initiated steps to establish this college in Periyakulam.

Sr.Lucy Crescentia thus was the foundress of Jayaraj Annapackiam Collge for Women in Periyakulam. In 1970, Minister M.Mathiyazhagan laid the foundation. In 1971, the college was opened with the

---

114. **Ibid**, Vol. I, pp.2, 3.

115. **www.theni.com**.

blessings of Mgr. Justin Diraviam.<sup>116</sup> Mother Lucy Crescentia started the college on 05-07-1971 with one hundred and fifty four students in P.U.C and twenty-four students in B.A History and Miss. Iona Gomez was the first Principal. The college and hostel buildings were opened by the Honourable Minister V.R.Nedunchezian.<sup>117</sup> The College was affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University and later it was affiliated to Mother Teresa University, Kodaikanal. The college became an Autonomous Institution from the academic year 2004 – 2005.<sup>118</sup>

The main objectives of the college are to empower women through education, to monitor women's education at all levels in the state and to offer consultancy services for the development of women's education in the state. The college was founded with the noble aspiration of uplifting the moral and educational standards of the women of this area, which is largely rural and is economically and educationally backward. The motto of the college is "**Serve with Love**".<sup>119</sup>

Rev.Sr. Paulvency served as the first Secretary of Jayaraj Annapackiam College also served as the Superior of the community from its inception till 1979. She took all the steps to build up the institution. Her simplicity, spirit of sacrifice, and motherly affection attracted many to the college. Sr.Clarance worked in close association with Sr.Paulvency from the inception of the college.<sup>120</sup> Sr.Dolores

---

116. **Mr.J.Chelladurai donated a sum of Rs.2 lakhs and 6.53 acres of land toward the construction of building. 40 acres of land was obtained for the College. The college is christened after the names of the parents of Mr.J.Chelladurai. A large number of rural girls joined the Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women. The college is situated on hillock, which is 2.k.m.away to the west of Periyakulam. The campus has the calm atmosphere congenial to studies and research as it is away from the town. It is affiliated to Mother Teresa University since 2003-2004.**

117. **Silver Jubilee Souvenir**, Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women, Periyakulam,1996,p.34.

118. **Hand Book**, Jayaraj Annapackiam College for women, Periyakulam, 2003-2004, p.4.

119. **Hand Book**, 2003-2004, pp.6,7.

120. **Silver Jubilee Souvenir**, pp. 39,40.

known for farsightedness and administrative skill from Holy Cross Congregation worked as sixth Principal.

The exquisite distinction of being the first Principal from the Congregation of Sisters of St. Anne's goes to Sr. Canisius who has already served as Vice-Principal while she was in the faculty of English. She gives top priority to student discipline, academic excellence, social awareness and moral uprightness of students. Sr. Maria Alphonsal having a few years of experience in the field of social work at Madurai Multipurpose Social Service Scheme (MMSSS) she endeared herself to the students spiritually and morally. Sr. Hercule served as the first warden of St. Anne's Hostel. She was kind, considerate and affectionate towards the students. Due to her efforts, the bushes of Mount St. Anne were converted into a green valley, full of plants and trees. Sr. Reginal, a simple, able and efficient administrator is the present Secretary of this college. She steers the ship of Jayaraj Annapackiam College to a steady progress with her strong will and determination.<sup>121</sup>

#### **COURSES OF INSTRUCTION**

The college offers the following under graduate and postgraduate courses viz: History, Economics, English Literature, Tamil Literature, Mathematics, Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Commerce. Tamil and English are offered as Part I and Part II for all these courses. At the Post-Graduate level courses on History, Mathematics and Zoology are offered.

The unaided courses offered by the college are viz:

M.Sc., computer Science and Information Technology, Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications, Physics (Main), Zoology (Main), B.Sc., Computer Science, B.B.A, Diploma in Computer Application, Certificate Course in Desk Top Publishing, Computer application, Computer Maintenance, Communicative

---

121. **Ibid**, p.42.

and Functional English, Tourism and Travel Management, P.G. Diploma in Watershed Management and P.G. Diploma in NGO and Self Help.<sup>122</sup>

### **ADMINISTRATION**

The Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women, a Catholic college is administered by the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Anne's of Tiruchirappalli. The following committees manage the day to day affairs of the college viz: The Governing Body, Admission Committee, Appointment Committee, Staff Council, Departmental Staff Meeting, Discipline Committee, Physical Education Committee, College Union, Associations of Department Library Committee and Old Students Association.

The functions of the above mentioned committees are furnished hereunder.

The Governing Body has a President, a Vice – President, a Secretary, five to six members and a University Representative. The Superior General of Sisters of St. Anne's of Tiruchirappalli, is the President, the Provincial of Madurai Provincialate is the Vice- President and the Secretary of the College is the Secretary of the Governing Body. The Principal, the Vice – Principal, Mother Superior, the General Secretary of the Sisters of St. Anne's, Tiruchirappalli, and two members from the donor's family are the members of the Governing Body. The University Representative is nominated by Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.<sup>123</sup>

The Admission Committee consists of the Principal, three senior teachers each representing the Arts, the Science and the Scheduled Caste.

The Admission Committee admits students according to the guidelines issued by the Government.

The Appointment Committee consisting of the Secretary, the Principal and Head of the concerned Department appoint faculty members depending upon the vacancy position. The Staff Council consisting of the Principal, the Vice-Principal,

---

122. **Hand Book**, pp.8-10.

123. **NAAC Criteria**, Volume VI, Organisation and Management, p.2.

the Head of the Departments, the Librarian, the Physical Directress, the N.S.S. Programme Officer and the Associate N.C.C. Officer looks into all academic issues and evolves a timetable for the conduct of examinations which are discussed in the Staff Council.

### **Old Students Association**

A team of staff members in-charge of Old Students Association is responsible for the preparation of Annual Convocation.<sup>124</sup> The Alumni was formed on 19-3-1976.<sup>125</sup>

### **Details of Financial Aid from Government**

The students receive all the scholarships awarded by the central and state governments. The students also enjoy scholarship given by trust like Tamilnadu Educational Trust. Every year around thousand students are awarded scholarships. In the year 1991-1992, a maximum of thousand and eighty three students were benefited.<sup>126</sup> Nine hundred and fourteen students were recipients of various scholarships in 1994 and a total amount of Rs.7,28,748 had been released and distributed to the students.<sup>127</sup> In 1995, a total sum of Rs.8,69,535 was distributed to nine hundred and forty three students.<sup>128</sup> A sum of Rs.14,52,275 was issued to six hundred and ninety eight students in the year 1997-1998.<sup>129</sup>

### **Moral Formation**

In this age of moral chaos, where life sustaining values are pushed to the background they take special care in fostering values among the students and form them to be harbingers of a new society and order. "Live Your Values" a priceless book has been prescribed for moral instruction classes. Individual attention is

---

124. **NAAC Criteria**, Volume VI, Organisation and Management, pp.5-9.

125. **Magazine**, 1976-77, p. 6.

126. **Annual Report**, 1991-92, p.10.

127. **Magazine**, 1994-95, p.8.

128. **Annual Report**, 1995-96, p.4.

129. **Magazine**, 1997-98, p.17.

given to students through WARD system. Every staff member is in charge of ten to fifteen students who assist them in every way.

#### **All India Association for Christian Higher Education (AIACHE)**

A seminar on Effective Classroom Communication was sponsored by AIACHE in 1990-1991.<sup>130</sup> With the liberal grant of AIACHE the women cell of this college organized a one-day inter collegiate conference on womens' problem on 26-11-1990 attended by eighty-five participants.<sup>131</sup> Three days course on Holistic Approach to Health by Dr.Amala ICM, Srivilliputtur, sponsored by AIACHE for teaching community.<sup>132</sup>

#### **National Service Scheme (NSS)**

Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women, Periyakulam, was selected for implementing the National Services Scheme for the first time in the academic year 1976 – 1977 as the 55<sup>th</sup> unit of Madurai University and the inauguration took place, on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1976 with hundred students who had the mind to serve the community and the staff organizer was Mrs. Josephine Mary Pappu. Every year, the activities are carefully planned and carried out by the programme officers under the Chairmanship of the Principal. An orientation course is conducted every year in order to revive, rekindle and invigorate the enthusiasm of students so that they may not forget the motto of NSS “Not me But You”. Preservation of trees, College campus cleaning and beautification, maintenance of NSS, raising garden, organizing Science Club, conducting evening classes too are usual activities.

Educating the illiterate adults in the adopted villages like Irumalai Nayakkan Patti and Endapuli Pudupatti, special coaching to school going children, slum visit, hospital visit are some of the regular activities of our NSS volunteers. The NSS has done remarkable services by conducting one-day camps like free medical camp, blood donation camp, tree plantation and small saving campaign.

---

130. **Annual Report**, 1990-91, p.2, 3

131. **Annual Report**, 1990-91, p.4

132. **Magazine**, 1993-94, p.6

The NSS Day, Literacy Day and Women's Day are also celebrated in a fitting manner. In order to keep up the spirit of the villagers and students, cultural items on social awareness and national integration are conducted frequently in the adopted villages namely Kallupatti, ThamaraiKulam, Chemmankuzhi, and Erumalainayakkanpatti.<sup>133</sup>

The following special camps conducted as specified below are the crowns of the NSS activities and they provide ample opportunities to the volunteers to come into close contact with the village life and the existing social atmosphere. In 1976-1977, ten days camp was held at ThamaraiKulam imparting youth construction. In 1977-1978, ten days camp was organized at Marampadi for flood relief. In 1978-1979, ten days camp was held at Kailasapatti for fire relief. In 1979-1980, ten days camp was held at Bangalapatti giving importance to flood relief. In 1980-1981, ten days camp was conducted at Endapuli Pudupatti for rural development. In 1981-1982, ten days camp was organized at Manjalar Dam imparting eco development. In 1982-1983, ten days camp was held at Kallupatti for eco development. In the same year another ten days camp was conducted at Thasildar Nagar for rural reconstruction. In 1983-1984, ten days camp was arranged at Manjalar Dam for eco development. In 1984-1985, ten days camp was conducted at Kailasapatti for rural reconstruction.<sup>134</sup>

In 1990-1991, ten days camp was conducted in Deivendrapuram for road formation and adult-education.<sup>135</sup> In 1991-1992, a camp was arranged at Palapatti for mass literacy and personality development.<sup>136</sup> In Sundaranadappu, Sivagangai a NSS camp was organized in 1994-1995 for tree plantation and road formation.<sup>137</sup> In 1996-1999, a camp was held at Melmangalam, Devadanapatti for pulse polio

---

133. **NAAC Criteria**, Volume VI, Student Support and Progression, p.5.

134. **Magazine**, 2001, p.100.

135. **Magazine**, 1990-91, p. 6.

136. **Annual Report**, 1991-92, p.4.

137. **Annual Report**, 1994-95, p.3.

campaign.<sup>138</sup> In 1997-1998, the camp was conducted in Pomminayakkanpatti on social awareness.<sup>139</sup> In 2000-2001, two special ten days camps were arranged in East and West of Irumalai Nayakkanpatti for new roads, soak pits, trainages.<sup>140</sup> In 2001-2002, two special ten days camps are organized in Renganathapuram and T.Meenakshipuram for road formation, village cleaning, medical camp and awareness programmes. The ten days special camp was conducted at Thamaraiikulam for the construction of rain water harvesting, tree plantation, free eye camp, free veterinary camp, personality development programme and AIDS awareness programme in the year 2002-03.<sup>141</sup>

### **National Cadet Corps (NCC)**

The NCC was started in the college. Mrs. Kalyani was the first NCC officer of the college. She went for Republic Day Camp (RDC) with the banner-winning contingent in 1978-1979. When she left the college Mrs. K.G. Chandini took charge of NCC. Every year the college cadets got selection for RDC in Delhi. Our NCC cadets get regular training in strive subject and leadership activities. The cadets monitor the discipline in all extraordinary celebration in the college. They also take part in March-past in every Annual Sport Meet. Major achievements of the NCC unit in the inter state level competitions are given below:

1. Cadet Angeline and Bhanumathi attended RDC Camp in 1982 – 1983 and Cadet Meenambhigai completed the Parachute training.
2. Cadet Meenambhigai attended the RDC camp in 1983 – 1984.
3. Cadet Esther Rani attended RDC camp in 1984 – 1985.
4. Cadet Sophia Gnanasothy attended RDC Camp in 1985 – 1986.
5. Cadet Sankuthala attended RDC in 1986 – 1987.

---

138. **Magazine**, 1996-97, p. 7.

139. **Annual Report**, 1997-98, p.4.

140. **Annual Report**, 2000-01, p.3.

141. **Magazine**, 2002-03, p. 8.

6. Cadet Jamuna and Anitha attended RDC in 1988 – 1989.
7. Cadet Lakshmiprabha attended RDC in 1989 – 1990.
8. Cadet Y.S. Asha and Anupama attended RDC in 1991 – 1992.

The Cadets attend various All India camps such as BLC (Basic Leadership Camp), Trekking and Rock Climbing. Two of the cadets Asha Banu and Shaunmugapriya attended Home Nursing and Signal Competition in the RDC camp representing Tamilnadu in 1991- 1992.

### **Adult Education**

The student volunteers of the college visit the adopted Kallipatti village and educate the school dropouts. The rural womenfolk of this area are supplied material for handwork at Nayagam School campus, Kallipatti to promote economic empowerment of women.

### **Youth Red Cross**

The Youth Red Cross undertakes many social welfare activities. In collaboration with the NSS, a blood grouping campaign was launched. TB and Cancer awareness programmes were arranged. Two-day orientation programme for all Youth Red Cross district organizers was held in Madurai Kamaraj University guesthouse in November 2000. Mrs. Southamani, a faculty member of the Chemistry Department served as the district co-ordinator for the Youth Red Cross, Theni. Self-defence is the best defence. The students of the college attend Karate classes twice a week. They participated in all India Invitational Karate Championship held in Ajmer, Rajasthan and won prizes.<sup>142</sup>

### **Sports**

Every year the students of the college participate in inter-collegiate and inter state competitions. In 1994, Volley Ball players of the college were selected to represent Madurai Kamaraj University in the inter-university and all India University Tournaments organized at Pondichery.<sup>143</sup> Madurai Kamaraj University

---

142. **Magazine**, 2001, p. 100.

143. **Magazine**, 1995-1996, p. 13.

selected four Kho-Kho players of the college at Inter-University tournament in Gwalior.<sup>144</sup> In 1997, a Volley Ball player M.Bhuvaneswari represented Tamilnadu in the Junior Nationals held at Varangal, Andra Pradesh.<sup>145</sup> The Volley Ball team has won the Madurai Kamaraj University Inter-Collegiate Trophy for eight consecutive years up to 2001.<sup>146</sup> Kho-Kho team was adjudged as winners in the Madurai Kamaraj University Inter-Collegiate match held at Mepco Engineering College, Sivakasi.<sup>147</sup> Kho-Kho players retained their Inter-Collegiate winner title in Madurai Kamaraj University Kho-Kho tournament for the four consecutive years. Two Kho-Kho players were selected in the Senior National Kho-Kho to represent Tamilnadu in Haryana.<sup>148</sup>

### **Women's Cell**

Jayaraj Annapackiam College has been serving the cause of Women's higher education for more than a quarter of a century. The Women's Cell of the college trains the students to spearhead changes in their homes as well as in the communities through women awakening activities. The Women's Cell organized many seminars and guest lectures. Dr.K.Nirmala, Department of Education, Mother Teresa University spoke on "Job avenues and Employment Opportunities for Girls" and "Women Their Rights and Responsibilities". Dr.N.Kala, Dept. of Economics, Mother Teresa University addressed on "Consumer Awareness- Impact on Women" and "Impact of Mass Media on Women".<sup>149</sup> Miss.Deivakani B.A.,B.L., Advocate, Madurai, one of the alumni exposed the students to "Legal Rights of Women". Mr.Chandran M.A.,B.L., District Employment Officer, Theni, addressed the members on "Carreer Guidance". Compettions with women as the theme were held.<sup>150</sup> The women cell

---

144. **Annual Report**, 1996-1997, p. 6.

145. **Magazine**, 1997-1998, p. 10.

146. **Annual Report**, 2000-2001, p. 9.

147. **Magazine**, 2001-2002, p. 11.

148. **Magazine**, 2002-2003, p. 8.

149. **Magazine**, 1997-1998, pp. 11,12.

150. **Magazine**, 2000-2001, p. 11.

strives to sensitise the students to issues related to women. A programme on adolescent health was conducted on 27.07.2003 with Dr.Radha Subbulakshmi and Dr.Nandha Gopal as the chief guests.<sup>151</sup>

### **St.Anne's Rural Women Development and Extension Programme (SARWODEP)**

Under this Extension Programme various activities and experiences are arranged on a regular basis for the students in and out of the college to mould them into persons of high morality and worthy citizens of India. SARWODEP and National Adult Education and Extension Programme provide a number of activities for students to become socially responsible.

The objectives of SARWODEP are:

To promote the spiritual, educational, cultural, social, technical, agricultural, benevolent and other interest of the society,

To cater the needs of the educationally, economically and socially backward, especially women and such other weaker section of the society,

To conduct training programme for the betterment of the downtrodden and to help them stand on their own feet,

To create awareness on the Government schemes and to act as catalyst to reach the Government schemes to the target group,

To empower rural women economically, educationally and socially to achieve self-reliance and independence,

To provide facilities for health care and hygiene,

To create awareness among the people on the Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Leprosy and other infectitious diseases and

To form Self Help Groups (SHG's) among women and to initiate credit and savings scheme for their own betterment financially, socially and economically,

### **Activities of SARWODEP**

SARWODEP organizes self employment and vocational training programmes to women volunteers from the adopted villages- Endapuzhi

---

151. **Magazine**, 2002-2003, p. 8.

E. Puthupatti, Chemmankuzhi, Erumalai Nayakkanpatti, Melmangalam, T.Kallipatti and Thamarai kulam. Its activities include literacy programme, adult education, health and hygiene, road formation, tree plantation, blood donation camp, eye camp and other social awareness programmes in collaboration with N.S.S, N.C.C, Adult Education, Youth Red Cross and Women Cell. THADCO, TRYSEM offered financial assistance to the poor.<sup>152</sup> The college was selected as one of the best colleges in rural development activities in Madurai District for the year 1994-1995 and the District Collector awarded a shield on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 1995. Sr.A.Alphonsal the active director of SARWODEP received the most coveted award “Vijayashree” for her achievements in the field of social work, from Indian International Friendship Society in 1999.<sup>153</sup> Fifteen Self Help Groups (Mahalir Mantrams) are formed and they enjoy Rs.1,25,000 financial assistance from the Government of Tamilnadu. These self-help groups are engaged in “Calf Rearing”. Twelve Mazhalayar Mantrams are founded to take care of the children between the age group of three to five of the daily wage earners. A deep interest in studies has been created in them. Twenty-one girls underwent a four-month computer programme and Tamilnadu women Development Corporation provided them Rs. 1 lakh as fund. 90% of the girls are employed in various concerns and 10% of them pursue higher studies. Rs.1,14,000 has been released by the Central Social Welfare Board, Delhi to provide a Computer Training Programme for girls, hailing from financially and socially backward classes. The self-help Groups undergo periodical vocational training programmes for successful execution of the task assigned.<sup>154</sup>

SARWODEP promotes the status of women through various welfare programmes of women and children in the adjoining villages. Twelve pre- school centers with three hundred and fifty seven children function under SARWODEP at

---

152. **NAAC Criteria**, Volume III, Research Consultancy and Extension, pp.30,31.

153. **NAAC Criteria**, Volume VI, Organisation and Management, p.33.

154. **Magazine**, 2000-2001, p.11.

the hamlets in and around Periyakulam. Nearly two hundred children who had been trained in Pre School Centers were admitted in primary schools. SARWODEP has submitted the particulars of the destitute widows to the Government for pension. The physically handicapped are provided with vehicles by SARWODEP. Printing and binding section was started at the college on 1-1-2003 and furnished with advanced machines to offer job opportunities to destitute women.<sup>155</sup>

This is the only aided college for women in Theni district. It gives higher education for the economically backward rural people around Periyakulam. Beyond education it renders the service to destitute women and the children who are cared less through extension programme.

The next chapter discusses about the services of Christian Missionaries through technical institutes in detail.

---

155. **Magazine**, 2002-2003, p.9.