



Tel. : 080 - 25584020
Email : xavierboard@gmail.com
Web : www.xavierboard.org

XAVIER BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

31, PRIMROSE ROAD, BANGALORE - 560 025, SOUTH INDIA

ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

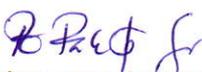
SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THEVARA, KOCHI

The Academic Audit of SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THEVARA, KOCHI was conducted from 19th to 21st December, 2018. The team comprised

- **Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip**, FMM, Secretary General, Xavier Board of Higher Education in India, (XBHEI), Bangalore and former Principal, Stella Maris College (Autonomous), Chennai,
- **Dr. Fr. Joseph Xavier SJ**, former Principal, Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai and former President, XBHEI,
- **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, former Prof. of Political Science, University of Bangalore and currently Hon. Professor at Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka
- **Dr. Ms. Ordetta Mendoza**, Member, XBHEI and former Head, Dept. of Bioinformatics, Stella Maris College (Autonomous), Chennai, and Co-ordinator, Xavier Board- Administrative & Academic Audit (XB-AA Audit).

Prior to the visit, the department completed and submitted the Audit Manual developed and deployed by Xavier Board of Higher Education in India.

Dr. Joseph Xavier SJ visited the Department of Commerce on 19th December 2018 and interacted with the Head of Department and faculty. Earlier, the HoD, made a presentation,


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which was followed by an interaction. Dr. Joseph Xavier also examined the relevant documents and available facilities in the department.

About the Department:

The department of Commerce was established in 1944. It is the first department that offered B.Com in the state of Kerala. In 1961, it began offering the M.Com programme in Commerce. The department became an approved research center in 1998. There are 10 Faculty members, of whom 3 have Ph.D. degrees.

This department has four programmes with one HOD and four coordinators, There is an aided course, one self-financing course which was started in 2004. There are two more B.Com programmes started in 2012. The department also has an add-on course in Capital Market.

The programmes have common examinations, Board of Studies and, and evaluation.

The mission of the department is to provide an environment that

- Facilitates the holistic development of the individual.
- Enables students to play a vital role in the nation-building process and contribute to the progress of humanity.
- Disseminates knowledge even beyond academia.
- Instills in the students a feel for frontier disciplines.
- Cultivates a concern for the environment.

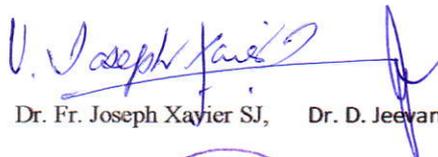
B.Com Aided

Commendations:

- The department has been bagging all the top ranks in the University both in UG and PG programs before it became autonomous.
- The department has a number of certificate courses like the Capital Market, SIDCO Certified practical accounting and tax practitioners



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- The curriculum is updated and new courses like IFRS, Environmental Science and GST are added
- Both the UG and PG programs have internship
- The department organizes a number of State Level Workshops
- The dropout rate is nil which shows the quality of teaching in the department
- Many students of the department pursue higher education
- There is an active mentoring program and counseling given to needed students
- The department is keen on the learning of the students and organizes programmes like 'Doc the Talk' and 'Walk with the Scholar'
- It organizes remedial and tutorial programs for the weaker students.
- It has many illustrious alumni like Member of Legislative Assembly, IAS and IPS officers and CEO of well known companies
- The placement record is good. Students get placed in companies like Deloitte, McKinsey and co., Golden Sachs and many leading banks.
- The department has many publications including four books
- The infrastructure is praiseworthy. They have ICT enabled class rooms, Wi-Fi connectivity and provide computer accessibility to the students.
- Many faculty members occupy administrative positions in the college
- Study materials are shared with the students via Email.

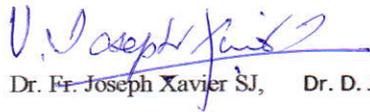
Recommendations:

Though the department is considered as one of the good departments of the college, there are certain areas that could be considered for improvement.

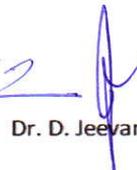
- The industry-institute interface could be improved
- The outreach program could be made more relevant and improved
- The faculty exchange programs could be considered seriously
- There could be more common meetings between the aided and the unaided faculty



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- There is a visible difference between the aided program and the unaided program.
This could be bridged
- While the students of the aided program are doing well academically, there seems to be a need to pay attention to the students of the unaided programs.

Commerce (SF)

The students generally prefer the aided program and if they do not get that then they opt for the self-financing program. Eighty per cent of the admissions to the aided are based on merit and the same is the case with the self financing programs.

Commendations:

- The faculty work hard to make the students come up to a standard
- PTA meetings are held regularly and the contact between the faculty and the parents are good
- Remedial classes are held regularly for the weaker students
- There are some experienced teachers who have improved the quality of the program
- The faculty contact the parents when the students are absent for a prolonged period

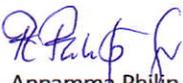
Recommendations:

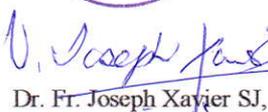
- As the dropout rate of the students is high, efforts could be made to improve the motivation of the students
- The attrition rate of the faculty is about 15 per cent. This could be due to the lower pay they get. The management could look into this
- The management could make greater efforts to improve the quality of the staff, as the students in the self-financing section may require more academic support.

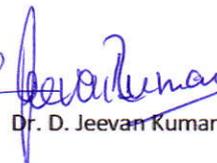
Date: 12/02/2019

Place: Bangalore




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