

# JESUIT HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATIONS SOUTH ASIA (JHEASA)

Report to Annual Meeting of

## International Conference of Jesuits in Higher Education (ICJHE)

October 16 – 18, 2009 in Rome

Fr Albert Muthumalai, S.J.

So far Higher Education in South Asia was a part of Jesuit Education Association (JEA). Given the new thrust in the Society, the Jesuit Conference of South Asia (JCSA) has approved the setting up of a New Secretariat for Higher Education in their meeting in October 2008 at Patna. The JCSA deliberated on the Constitution in their Meeting at Pune in March 2009. Intellectual Apostolate has influenced and enhanced our capability to serve the Church and secular culture. Serious intellectual work and reflection will impact on our global capacity to give the level of excellence that evangelization needs today. Hence the Provincial of South Asia (POSA) was happy to promulgate the Constitution of JHEASA in 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009. JHEASA will comprise of all the Institutions beyond Higher Secondary Education. That will include the Graduate, Post Graduate Colleges and Research Centers; B. Ed. Colleges, MBA, Engineering, Law and other Profession Institutions; and Theologates and Philosophates. Taking into account Fr. Albert Muthumalai, S.J. (MDU) has been appointed Secretary of JHEASA.

### Province Coordinators for Higher Education (JHEASA)

Andhra	: Fr Rex Angelo
Bombay	: Fr Frazer Mascarenhas
Jamshedpur	: Fr Kuruvilla Verunkal
Karnataka	: Fr Daniel Fernandes
Kerala	: Fr K.P. Mathew
Madhya Pradesh	: Fr Oscar S. Tirkey
Madurai	: Fr Samuel Jeyaseelan
Nepal	: Fr Antony Antonysamy
Patna	: Fr Thomas Karthanam
Pune	: Fr Robert Das
Ranchi	: Fr Nabor Lakra

The JEA Secretary and National Adviser of AICUF are permanent invitees to this meeting.

- Total: 59 Institutions; Colleges: 25; Colleges of Education: 11;  
Management Schools: 12; Engineering Colleges: 02; Research Institutes: 09
- Central Zone 5 Provinces: 10 Institutions

- Northern Zone 6 Provinces: 09 Institutions
- Southern Zone 5 provinces: 28 Institutions
- Western Zone 4 Provinces: 12 Institutions
- Xavier central University
- National Seminar for Staff: Implementation of IPP in our colleges held at St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai in January 2009
- National Workshop for Students in AICUF, Chennai in January 2009
- Annual Meeting of JHEASA at Chennai to be held in November 2009
- National Seminar for Staff to be held in January 2010
- National Workshop for Students in AICUF to be held in January 2010
- Annual Meeting of Province Coordinators of Higher Education to be held in February 2010

## Challenges in South Asia:

- Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization (LPG) has opened up new challenges and frontiers. It also provides many opportunities. Are we aware of the subtle ways in which they affect our institutions?
- The communal fire is spreading everywhere. It has not spared the educational institutions. In it is often the people whom we are educating are the ones who are against us. The continuing communal violence did not spare even our well known XIMB in Orissa or St. Aloysius College in Mangalore. Are our Professors and students with us in condemning such inhuman attacks and killings? Have we been able to conscientize our own students and staff to the social reality of our country? Have we missed something fundamental in the type of education that we give? How can we challenge the system and bring transformation?
- Today education has become corporate, with huge money and multi connections. When we try to expand or try to create linkages with corporate sector in view of becoming the best colleges, what are we trying to do? What is the uniqueness of our form of education?
- How far are we imparting value oriented education?
- Our contribution to education has been tremendous. In the recent years, due to our pro-dalit or tribal policies and options, we have educated a lot of people from our priority groups. I think this is a tremendous contribution. How do we strengthen this? How can we empower or accompany our priority groups in such a way that they become leaders with conscience?

- How could our Jesuit colleges provide academic/ intellectual base to grass root organizations and movements?
- How can our Colleges and institutions collaborate with the university/research institutes in terms of socially relevant research projects, seminars/workshops which can help in the policy decisions of the government?
- Educational sector is a 'powerful' sector as it has always been. But how much does the education sector recognize the social responsibility?