

Report on CBCI Consultation on Training Principals and Teachers

The meeting on CBCI Consultation on Training Principals and Teachers was organized by the CBCI Office for Education and Culture. This meeting was attended by Fr. Maria Charles SDB, Fr. Joseph Manipadam, Fr. John Ravi SJ, Fr. Paul Pudussery, Sr. Adelaide Vaz, and Sr. Teresa csst.

The meeting began by Fr. Maria Charles giving a short prayer for the guidance to develop a model for the holistic and comprehensive training program for the principals and teachers. Fr. Paul Pudussery then shared a document on Vision to develop effective leaders in Education, committed to a better world. He talked about conceptualization where you have hands on learning, and operationalization on how to help our administrators and teachers.

Fr. John Ravi talked about NEP 2020 and how the problem with both administration and teachers is the motivational level and are not motivated to do anything extra than they need to do. Secondly, he talked about the low esteem and inspiration of the teachers. Most teachers are negative and not positive.

Sr. Adelaide next talked about how she spoke with the principals and teachers of various schools, and how they need to have the awareness of the NEP 2020. She proposed to focus on training the teachers and principals with regard to the new curriculum.

Fr. Joseph Manipadam spoke about how we can train the principals and the teachers to go about implementing NEP 2020 and be focused on how should our teachers and administrators be prepared for this situation. The teachers should have training on personality development as well. The Bishops also want people to reach out to everybody because the principals are not aware of the implementation of NEP 2020. He spoke about how our teachers should be focused on conceptual teaching, thinking out of the box, and life skills development.

Fr. Paul gave a lot of sessions on teacher's training in different locations and can combine lots of dimensions on NEP 2020 for training the teachers. Instead of giving a theoretical construct, we should give our teachers an experience of what pedagogy should be like. Take into consideration the 5 dimensions, i.e, the cognitive, emotional, behavioural, social, and the most important, spiritual.

Fr. Joseph said that the main concern for all the principals and teachers is how to implement NEP 2020 and the new curriculum in their schools and colleges. Sr. Adelaide shared that she trained over 5000 people in many schools in accordance with NEP 2020. Fr. John implied that our focus should be on ECC and the foundational period. He also liked the idea of TOT (Training of Trainers) program. Sr. Teresa brought to our notice that nobody in India is sure of what will happen to Higher Education after NEP 2020.

Fr. Maria Charles proposed that everyone present in the meeting should make modules for the training of the principals and teachers, and then he would compile all of them and circulate among them so that everyone can choose from those modules that can be used as a training program for the principals and teachers. He said that in developing the modules we should keep in mind the academic structure that is changing, the new pedagogy that is emerging, and the new 21st century skills that are expected from the teachers to be doing.

Fr. Paul then spoke about MyLoft, a digital British library, and how exceptional this resource is. Institutes can learn a lot from this. Students can learn about skills, opportunities, motivation, spirituality, and can build up their capacity. He then said that it is important to bring in people who know what education actually is.

Fr. John asked to pick up lay people as resource people for Networking and Academic Collaboration. Thereafter, Sr. Teresa informed that the Xavier Board has already practiced Networking and Academic Collaboration. She then mentioned that a group of people should be trained so that they can help in training the schools.

Fr. John suggested that the TOT (Training of Trainers) should be conducted in July as May and June may not be conducive. After a brief discussion on when to conduct the training, they decided to conduct it sometime in June.

The meeting was concluded with Fr. Maria Charles saying the Hail Mary and wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.