



# CBCI EDUCATION NEWS LETTER

## CBCI Office for Education & Culture

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**His Grace Archbishop Thomas D'Souza,**  
Chairperson, CBCI Office for Education & Culture  
& Archbishop of Calcutta

**His Grace Archbishop Mar Andrews Thazhath**  
Member CBCI Office for Edu. & Culture  
& Archbishop of Thrissur

**His Grace Archbishop John Moolachira**  
Member CBCI Office for Edu. & Culture  
& Archbishop of Guwahati



Dear Friends,

Greetings from the CBCI  
Office for Education and  
Culture!

As we are getting this issue of the news letter ready it is the scrapping of UGC and replacing it by HECI that is the latest from the education sector. This is being done through a legislation "Higher Education Commission of India (Repeal of University Grants Commission Act) Act 2018" which the Government hopes to pass in the Monsoon session of the parliament. And as usual the MHRD after having put up the draft material on the public domain has given just about few days to respond (7th July 2018). I have already mailed to all the Bishops and Provincials and all Higher education institutions the draft HECI Act 2018 inviting responses to be sent to reformofugc@gmail.com before the 7th July 2018. I am sure those of you who are in the field of Higher Education will go through the 14-page-draft carefully and see how the reform intended by the MHRD may affect them. I hope the Xavier Board

of Higher Education and the AIACHE will take particular interest to study the draft and send responses.

Already some responses have appeared in the media remarking that the intended reform if it is rushed into implementation without sufficient thinking and consultation, it may result in messing up the higher education sector as did the demonatisation and the GST. We hope that wisdom will prevail and sufficient thought and planning and consultation will precede the implementation so that it will be an effort in the right direction.

Once again I invite those involved in Higher Education to follow it up closely so that we can be better informed and do our education ministry with greater enthusiasm and without any hindrance.

With all good wishes  
Yours sincerely



**Fr. Joseph Manipadam, sdb**  
*National Secretary,*  
*CBCI Office for Education and Culture, New Delhi*

## REPORT OF PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY THE CBCI OFFICE FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE

**25th – 27th April 2018, Global Catholic Education and Integral Human Development Seminar in Rome by Notre Dame Global gateway and Sacred Congregation for catholic Education:**

45 participants from across the globe participated in this colloquium on Global Catholic Education and Integral Human Development, organized by the Ntre Dame Global gateway and was Kellogs International School, in which the Sacred Congregation for catholic Education of the Vatican also participated. The Asian Continent was represented by Fr. J. Manipadam, Secretary CBCI Office for Education. The meeting dealt with concerns in imparting Catholic Education and the various challenges the Church encounters in fulfilling its mission of education. It was a three days of panel discussions and conversation.



## **29th- 30th April 2018: Visit to the Indian Students studying at St. Mary's School Fujaira, UAE:**

A quick visit to some of our Catholic Schools visiting the Indian students studying in our schools in Fujaira in UAE and giving them some interactive sessions to them was just a gesture of reaching the love and compassion and concern of Jesus Christ to them. It was so encouraging to see these children really living the values that we stand for even in a place so far away from home.



### **5th- 6th May 2018: Orientation programme for the Heads of Fransalian schools in India and East Africa:**

80 participants, all heads of schools and colleges run by the MSFS Fathers from India and East Africa, participated at the two days training programme animated by Fr. Joseph Manipadam at Alakrita in Hyderabad. The evaluation of implementation of catholic Education Policy in order to take care of the poor children and imparting faith formation and Value Education was the main theme. The present challenges in the field of education in India were also taken up. The meeting was both interactive and informative and placed a number of challenges for the participants.



### **15th May 2018: Orientation for the Correspondents and Heads of Schools of Thukalay Diocese:**

To the very small group of 18 heads of educational institutions of Thukalay diocese a day's programme was held animated by Fr. Joseph Manipadam regarding the evaluation of implementation of Catholic Education Policy in order to take care of the poor children and imparting faith formation and Value Education was the main theme. The present challenges in the field of education in India were also taken up. Thukalay is a Syro Malabar diocese in Tamil Nadu and it has very few educational institutions.



**16th May 2018: Animation Programme for the 600 Teachers of Schools of Thukalay Diocese:**

The animation and orientation programme conducted by Fr. J. Manipadam, Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education was about Positive disciplining without the use of punishment at all, on prevention of any type of abuse and ensuring the safety of children, on giving value education and faith formation, and looking after the poorer and the marginalized and taking care of the environment. The programme attended by more than 600 teachers also spoke about the importance of education for Peace and reconciliation and promotion of harmony and national integration.



**19th and 20th May 2018: Executive meeting of the Association of Catholic Schools in India in Lucknow:**

This executive meeting held at City Montessori School Lucknow was basically to plan and prepare for the Annual General Meeting of AINACS which is affiliated to the CBCI Office for Education and Culture. Fr. J. Manipadam is the ex officio member of this association and participates at the Executive and Annual General Body Meetings to ensure promotion of the Catholic Education Policy regarding especially the Care of poorer students and promotion of Catholic Values and Faith formation of students.



**26th May 2018: 400 Heads of Schools and Teachers study the "All India Catholic Education Policy":**

Fr. Joseph Manipadam in his orientation programme for 400 teachers and Heads of schools of Ramnathpuram Diocese in Coimbatore, made them study the "All India catholic Education Policy 2007" in the context of our present day and led them to make a self study report on the possible ways they are implementing it in their own educational institutions. Fr. J. Manipadam made them understand how such implementation of the Church's Education Policy can lead them to care for the poor and the marginalized, ensure rendering holistic education, care for the value education of all students and build the faith and conviction among the Christian students, care for the rights of children, safeguard the environment, maintain academic excellence and reach out to the needy neighbourhood. The day long programme was attended by his Excellency Mar Paul Alappatt and the Vicar General Fr. George Narikuzhi.



**2nd June 2018: Strategic Planning regarding Save Education Campaign with National Coalition of Private Schools in New Delhi:**

The day long programme was to chalk out future action plan to safeguard the interests of children in education vis- a- vis the emerging government policies that seemed to favour only the rich and the industrialists thus affecting the interests of poorer children adversely. The meeting was attended by 40 representatives of various clusters of schools by various private founder bodies. Fr. J. Manipadam representing the catholic schools, was a speaker at the meeting on 2nd July.



## CBCI Office for Education and Culture Reaches out to the Remote North Eastern Tribal Region

The Catholic Church cares for and appreciates the education mission being accomplished through the numerous schools in the North Eastern Meghalaya and Assam States and that too in the very inaccessible rural areas of the State. That was the message given through the week long programme conducted by Fr. Joseph Manipadam, the CBCI National Secretary for Education and his Regional Counterpart Fr. G. Amalraj and the three Diocesan Education Directors – Fr. Alex Kalayathinal of Guwahati, Fr. Roland Lyngdow of Nongstoin and Fr. Richard Majaw of Shillong. Catholic Church's mission is inclusive education, education for the poorer children and



The programme in Guwahati on 5th June 2018, was presided over by His Grace Archbishop John Moolachira and attended by over 90 priests and sisters involved in the education mission of the Church. The day long interactive sessions focussed on the importance of implementing the All India catholic Education Policy so that the mission of education is oriented to the poorer children and that we form in the children true values and enable them to become men and women of character and conviction. Reaching out to the neighbourhood, care of the environment and promoting the rights of children and educating the girl child were all topics discussed. Being prepared to face the increasing challenges in imparting value based education through proactive action plan was also part of the day long study and reflection. A self study report as to how effectively they are implementing the Catholic Education Policy was also submitted by the participants by the end of the day's programme.

***The programme in the very remote Nongstoin Diocese on 7th June 2018, was attended by just 25 Fathers and Sisters who are the education coordinators of a number of clusters of schools looked after by each of them. In fact some of them have as many as 35 to 40 schools – primary and middle schools – to look after in very remote and inaccessible rural areas of the diocese. The Chancellor of the Diocese Fr. Eugene and the Education Co-ordinator Fr. Roland were the ones who saw to the logistics of the day's programme. Imparting value education, faith formation of Catholic students and reaching out to the very poor children were the focus of study. Fr. Joseph Manipadam in his concluding message said, "Although you do not have a resident Bishop temporarily, the Church wants to tell you that we accompany you and appreciate the very challenging mission that is being carried out by you by educating the rural and tribal children living in this very beautiful and culturally rich part of our country."***



***The programme in Shillong on 8th June 2018, was presided over by His Grace Archbishop Dominic Jala SDB and attended by the Vicar General, the Chancellor and over 35 priests and sisters involved in the education mission. The day long programme focussed on fulfilling this compelling mission of education for the poorer children forming in them true values and enabling them to become men and women of character and conviction. Reaching out to the neighbourhood, care of the environment and promoting the rights of children, educating the girl child were all topics discussed as the participants were nudged to move from maintenance to mission mode and rising above just the academic excellence and campus glory alone. Being prepared to face the increasing challenges in imparting value based education through proactive action plan was also part of the day long study and reflection. How effectively are we implementing the Catholic Education Policy, was the main concern of the self study report presented by the participants by the end of the day. The programme was locally coordinated by Fr. Richard Majaw, the Education Coordinator of the Archdiocese and the parish priest of the Cathedral parish.***

