



EDUCATE TO EMPOWER

Founded in 1966

# CBCI OFFICE FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE *NEWS AND VIEWS*

CBCI Centre, 1 Ashok Place, New Delhi- 110001

Office: +91 11 23747290, +91 9968747667 (P), +91 9868141139 (O)  
Email: [cbcieducation@gmail.com](mailto:cbcieducation@gmail.com), Website: [www.cbcieducation.com](http://www.cbcieducation.com)

15 March 2023

**His Eminences, His Beatitudes  
His Excellencies, Your Graces.  
Dear Fathers, Brothers and Sisters,**

Greetings to you from the CBCI Office for Education and Culture!

We are glad to publish the talk given by His Eminence Cardinal Anthony Poola on the occasion of the Edu-Conference we had in the first week of March 2023 for the Principals and Managers of Educational Institutions of Telugu Region. His insights on the NEP 2020 is indeed worth listening to. He says, **"No Catholic student should be out of our Catholic institution in the name of excellence principle. Excellence without inclusion is not excellence; it is discrimination."**

The Global Compact on Education is a tremendous step taken by the Holy Father Pope Francis to unite all Catholic Schools across the globe on seven essential identities of universal Catholic Education. Three years have passed since his announcement. While some of our Dioceses and Schools have put in a lot of efforts to implement these principles in their schools, yet Indian Church has a long way to go in achieving this. A questionnaire has been sent from the Dicastery of Culture and Education, Rome to all our Catholic Educational Institutions. Please fill in the questionnaire by clicking the link below

<https://forms.office.com/e/kM7K9dPHRT>

You will find in the attachment a letter from Cardinal Tolentino, Prefect of the Dicastery of Culture and Education, Rome in this regard.

You will also find a few interesting news on Education, a couple of recent Judgments passed on some important educational issues. You will also find reports of two important meetings we had here in Delhi with Catholic Educators and the Leaders of Christian Educational Institutions. Happy Reading!

Please contact us at +91 9968747667 or our Office email id [cbcieducation@gmail.com](mailto:cbcieducation@gmail.com)

With best regards,

**Fr. Maria Charles SDB**

National Secretary

CBCI Office for Education and Culture

[Chairperson]

**Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves**  
Archbishop of Nagpur  
Archbishop's House  
Kampte Rd, Mohan Nagar  
Nagpur - 440 001 (Mah)

[Member]

**Most Rev. Eugene Joseph**  
Bishop of Varanasi,  
Bishop's House,45,  
Varanasi Cantt.,  
Varanasi - 221 002 (U.P.)

[Member]

**Most Rev. Vincent Aind**  
Bishop of Bagdogra  
Bishop's House,  
Pradhan Nagar P.O.,  
Siliguri - 734 403. WEST BENGAL

[National Secretary]

**Fr. Maria Charles SDB**  
National Secretary,  
CBCI Center, Ashok Place  
New Delhi – 110001

# Education in India in the light of NEP 2020

By His Eminence Cardinal Anthony Poola



It gives me great pleasure to address you on the preparedness to rollout the National Education Policy- 2020. The National Education Policy-2020 is a landmark policy that is aimed at transforming the education system in India to meet the needs and aspirations of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Though the government had extensive consultations with stakeholders across the country, and it is based on the principles of accessibility, equity, quality, and affordability, the minority character of the institutions are omitted in the policy, as it speaks only Public and Private.

As we all know, education is the key to unlock the potential of individuals, communities, and nations. The National Education Policy-2020 claims that it is designed to provide a holistic, student-centric, and multidisciplinary education system that will enable our

students to acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to succeed in the rapidly changing world.

When we look back to the Education history of India, the Christian Missionaries were the pioneers in bring Education in India even to the rural areas and villages in establishing number of educational institutions like schools, colleges, and hospitals. But the present Education Policy- 2020 did not acknowledge much about the contribution of the early Christian Missionaries to the cause of education. However, our presence in the field of education- the service that we render to the poor, marginalized and tribals cannot be side-lined or wiped out by anyone. Let us go ahead in our mission of enlightening the world, while we ourselves remain in the light of the world.

To implement this present policy NEP- 2020 effectively, we need to be prepared on multiple fronts. The managements of our institutions must wake up and work for its implementation at various levels. But I shall propose 4 important areas that we need to concentrate on before we rollout the policy:

1. Firstly, we have to educate our Principals and teachers with continuous professional development opportunities to upgrade their skills and stay relevant. They are to be adequately trained to deliver the curriculum. They should be equipped with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, such as **critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication so that they would be effective facilitators**. Whether the State Governments are going to implement today or tomorrow, the market for a good educational institution always has a great demand from the public. Hence, prepare your human resource at your institutions to engage the students using different teaching methodologies and technologies.
2. Secondly, about **the learning environment**: As I travel now to many places due to my present assignment and even earlier, we need to ensure that our infrastructure at our institutions are in place. The policy envisages the creation of vibrant and well-equipped schools that provide a stimulating environment for our students. We need to invest in the necessary infrastructure, such as classrooms with interactive boards, libraries, laboratories, and sports facilities. We should come out from the age-old practice of operation blackboard in a four wall rooms, and chalk and talk method. The smartphones have invaded all our old system of teacher centric education; it is student centric learning.

3. Thirdly, we need to work out to ensure that our students are **evaluated by 360 degrees** and feedback is offered to them for a corrective measure. The policy emphasizes the need of formative and continuous assessments that provide timely feedback to students, parents, and teachers.
4. Fourthly, we need to ensure that our education system is **inclusive and caters to the diverse needs** of our students. Being the Chairman of TCBC Commission for Education, I shall request/insist that our Catholic educational institutions should be inclusive. I mean, in terms of admission, in terms of fees, in terms of dealing with all the stakeholders. **No Catholic student should be out of our Catholic institution in the name of excellence principle. Excellence without inclusion is not excellence; it is discrimination.** The policy also emphasizes the need for education to be accessible to all, irrespective of their socio-economic background, gender, or physical ability.
5. **Holy Father Pope Francis** has spoken extensively about the role and importance of Catholic educational institutions at various occasions. He said:
  - i. The Catholic schools and universities have a special responsibility **to provide holistic education** that integrates faith and reason, fosters the development of the whole person, and promotes social justice.
  - ii. In a speech to Catholic educators in 2015, Pope Francis stated that Catholic schools should be **'inclusive schools capable of forming students and ready to seek together the good of all.'**
  - iii. In a speech to Catholic university leaders in 2017, he said, 'Catholic universities are called to be institutions of the common good, dedicated to the service of the human family and of creation.'
  - iv. Additionally, Pope Francis has called on Catholic educational institutions to be agents of social change and to promote a culture of encounter and dialogue. In a message to Catholic schools should be **'actively engaged in the transformation of society, promoting a culture of encounter and dialogue, a culture capable of overcoming conflicts and divisions and of fostering the dignity of every person and the common good.'**

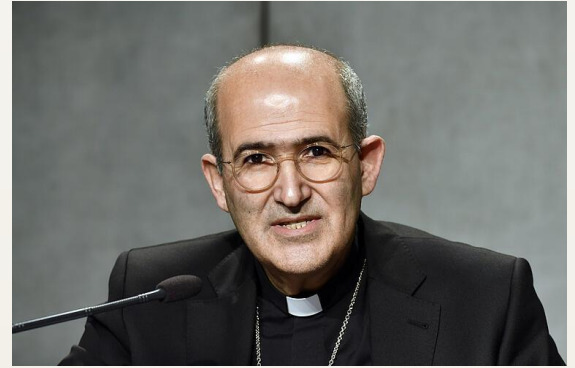
## Global Compact on Education: What is our Response?

As Cardinal Tolentino, Prefect of the Department of Culture and Education, Vatican, testifies in the attached letter, more than three years have passed since the invitation of Pope Francis to build together a Global Pact for Education . It is an invitation widely received, expressing a great universality. We are all concerned to see how this global alliance is accepted and implemented; as well as its construction is encouraged. This is why the OIEC, in collaboration with the UISG/USG, the CPAL and the LUMSA University have prepared this instrument which helps to work and to land the proposal. The invitation to complete the questionnaire can reach you in different ways and you can also distribute it: May it reach as many people as possible!



The questionnaire has three objectives:

- Understand how we are progressing in this process of building the pact.
- Inspire each other to redouble our efforts to make this local and global pact a reality.
- Collect a few significant initiatives and experiences of the way in which the pact invites itself and is built from the different institutions and contexts, uniting wills and listening to everyone.



So, I invite you, we invite you, to answer the following questionnaire, which you will find at the following link:  
<https://forms.office.com/e/kM7K9dPHRT>

- It will take you about 20-30 minutes and you can answer it all at once, or save the answers and finish it at different times, before finally sending it.
- The questionnaire is in 5 languages: Spanish, English, French, Italian and Portuguese.
- The questionnaire will close on May 7, 2023.

Likewise, I encourage you to share this questionnaire with others with different members of other educational communities; as well as with other Educational Centers (Catholic or not), public or private, and other actors.

Thank you very much for your participation, your collaboration and the distribution of the questionnaire.

I take advantage of this email to thank Juan Antonio Ojeda Ortiz for his collaboration with the Global Education Pact team.

Cordially.

**Hervé LECOMTE**

Secrétaire général de l'OIEC

# Private Unaided Schools maintaining Surplus Funds for Development of School is not Commercialisation of Education: Delhi HC

By Ashish Shaji | 17 Mar 2023

The Delhi High Court has observed that Schools are entitled to maintain a reasonable surplus for the expansion of the system and development of education. The Court noted that only if such funds are being used purely for commercial gain, rather than for improvement and development of the school, it can be construed as a form of commercialisation of education. The bench of Justice Sanjeev Narula observed, "The accumulation of surplus funds is essential for the long-term sustainability and growth of the school which enables them to invest in better infrastructure, equipment, and resources. Private unaided schools may need to invest in building or improving infrastructure, such as construction of new classrooms, libraries, laboratories, sports facilities or technology upgrades, such as new computers, tablets and software." The Court also added that unaided schools are entirely dependent on the fee collected by them, and would like to earmark funds for specific purposes, therefore, planning and maintaining a surplus per se cannot be construed as commercialisation of education. "Since the unaided schools are entirely dependent on the fee collected by them, they would obviously like to earmark funds for specific purposes and therefore, planning and maintaining a surplus per se cannot be construed as commercialisation of education. It is only if such funds are being used purely for commercial gain, rather than for improvement and development of the school, can it be construed as a form of commercialisation of education.", the Court observed.

The Court emphasized that the right of unaided schools to determine fees to be charged from students cannot be faltered purely only on account of presence of reasonable surplus in their books of account. The Court observed that the primary obligation to provide education lies with the State, and it is their responsibility that every child has access to education. Participation of private unaided schools has been permitted out of necessity since the State is unable to perform its function adequately. The Court added that "...there needs to be a collaborative effort between private unaided schools and the regulatory authorities to maintain a balance between the right to charge fees and the need for regulatory control to ensure the quality and affordability of education."

The Court made these observations while dealing with a school's plea against the rejection of its proposed fee hike. Advocate Kamal Gupta appeared for petitioner-schools whereas Standing Counsel Santosh Kumar Tripathi appeared for Respondent. The Directorate of Education asserted that notwithstanding the status of 'private unaided school', no fee can be fixed without their prior permission. The Court noted that Section 17(3) of Delhi School Education Act (DSEA) contemplates prior approval from DoE only if the school seeks to impose fee in excess of the structure specified in statement of fees during an academic session, and not otherwise. The Court observed that the statement of fee submitted by the School to increase its fees could have been rejected if the school was found to be indulging in 'commercialisation of education'.

The Court noted that commercialisation of education' encompasses two elements – charging of capitation fees and profiteering by the School. The Court observed that there was no allegation that the Schools have charged capitation fees. On the aspect of profiteering, the Court noted that the audited balance sheets of private unaided schools provide a clear and transparent picture of school's economic status and help in

assessing whether the school has sufficient resources to meet its expenses and whether a fee hike is justified. The Court held that DoE cannot act as an appellate body and reject the said financial documents, in absence of any evidence to show that the accounts were not prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards or were rejected by the tax authorities. "The School Managing Committee had carefully undertaken the exercise of deciding the budget for concerned academic year and sans a finding of profiteering or commercialisation of education, the DoE has acted in excess of its powers and impinged upon the autonomy of schools, protected by law, in rejecting Sr. School's proposed fee hike.", the Court held. Thus, the Court held that the petitioner-school shall be entitled to increase their fee. Cause Title- Mahavir Sr. Model School & Anr. v. Directorate of Education (Neutral Citation Number- 2023/DHC/001866) Click here to read/download Judgment

<https://www.verdictum.in/court-updates/high-courts/private-unaided-schools-surplus-funds-commercialisation-delhi-hc-1467404?infinitemscroll=1>

## Minister to launch self-assessment platform for Indian students: UGC Chief

The University Grants Commission (UGC) Chief, M Jagadesh Kumar announced that the Minister of Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, will soon launch a self-assessment platform for Indian students. This new platform will be called SATHEE (Self-Assessment Test and Help for Entrance Exams). It is a new initiative by the Ministry of Education, in association with IIT Kanpur. The aim of this new platform is to provide Indian students the opportunity for a self-paced interactive learning and assessment platform to prepare for competitive and other exams.

The SATHEE platform aims to "bridge the gap for the students in society who can't afford the costly entrance exam guidance and coaching," UGC Chief announced on Twitter. "SATHEE aims to make the students learn the concepts and focus on their weak topics, so they feel confident to give any exams by watching videos prepared by IIT and IISc faculty members," he added.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/sathee-education-minister-to-launch-assessment-platform-iit-kanpur-iisc-8475087/>

## India, Australia to sign agreement on mutual recognition of qualifications

March 2, 2023

On his visit to India from February 28 to March 3, Australian Education Minister Jason Clare will sign an agreement with his Indian counterpart Dharmendra Pradhan to enhance student mobility. He is leading a delegation of Australian higher education leaders to promote institutional partnerships and boost collaboration between the two countries.

"This week I will lead a delegation of Australian higher education leaders to India to promote our institutional partnerships and boost collaboration between our two countries. During this week's visit, Minister Pradhan and I will sign the Mechanism for the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications which locks in the rules for mutual recognition to access education in both our countries," he said in a statement. "This will be the broadest and most favourable recognition agreement India has signed with another country and will enhance student mobility between both countries," Clare added.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/australian-education-minister-pradhan-to-sign-agreement-on-mutual-recognition-of-qualifications-8472698/>

## Delhi DoE directs head of government schools to introduce skill subject.

March 3, 2023

The Directorate of Education (DoE) department in the Delhi government has directed the heads of government schools to introduce a skill subject from this session from 2023-2024 onwards for students studying at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels. However, in view of the NEP 2020, vocation education will be provided mandatorily to each student at the Secondary level (in classes 9th and 10th) in all the government schools from the academic session 2023-24, in accordance with the scheme of studies of CBSE, which will develop their knowledge through practical activities and boost the morale of students.

In this, a student can choose one subject at the secondary level, which helps the child to pursue what truly interests him/her. Further, concerned Heads of Schools are also directed to take up the matter with CBSE for the students of Class 10 appearing in Board Examination 2024 before finalisation of LOC (List of Candidates).

In the wake of NEP 2020, the Reimagining Vocation Education, states that this policy aims to overcome the status hierarchy associated with vocational education and requires the integration of vocational education programmes into mainstream education in all educational institutions in a phased manner.

## Article 30 - Minority Educational Institution Cannot Claim Exemption From Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee : Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has held that a minority educational institution cannot claim complete immunity from the exercise undertaken by the Admission and Fee Regularity Committee by claiming protection under Article 30(1) of the Constitution of India.

The Court was deciding the issue whether a minority educational institution in the State of Madhya Pradesh is required to get the fees charged by it fixed by the Admission and fee Regulatory Committee under the provisions of the Madhya Pradesh Niji Vvavsayik Shikshan Sanstha (Pravesh Ka Viniyaman Avam Shulk ka Nirdharan) Adhiniyam, 2007 (for Short, the Act of 2007)

The constitutional validity of the Act was upheld by a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in *Modern Dental College and Research Centre and others Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh and others* [(2016) 7 SCC 353].

The appellant Icon Education Society, in the present proceedings, raised a challenge to the provisions of the 2007 Act which empower the AFRC to scrutinize the fees proposed by a minority educational institution.

To decide the issue, the bench comprising **Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and PV Sanjay Kumar** referred to the *TMA Pai* and *PM Inamdar* cases.,

The bench noted that it was held that while an institution was free to devise its own fee structure, the State can regulate the same to ensure that there is no profiteering or charging of capitation fee.

'setting up a reasonable fee structure is also a component of the right to establish and administer an institution, within the meaning of Article 30(1) of the Constitution, and every institution is free to devise its own fee structure

subject to the limitation that there can be no profiteering and no capitation fee can be charged directly or indirectly or in any form. It was further held that it is permissible to regulate admission and fee structure for achieving that purpose, the bench observed after discussing the precedents.

The bench also held that the very same Act was upheld by the Supreme Court in Moden Dental College as a reasonable restriction and some provisions were read down.

It is, therefore, too late in the day for the appellant society to again seek to challenge the validity of the Act of 2007, as the provisions of this enactment have already been read down by this Court to mean that the AFRC would have the power only to regulate the fee once the same is proposed by the educational institution itself, keeping in mind the parameters encapsulated in Section 9(1) thereof.

At the same time, the Court stated that the role of the AFRC was to review the fees proposed by the society and not to unilaterally fix the fee.

“It is only by way of regulating the fees so proposed that the AFRC would exercise the power of reviewing the proposed fees, after giving due opportunity of hearing to the educational institution concerned. The contrary stand taken by the AFRC, as is evident from its communications to the appellant society, therefore cannot be countenanced. It is not open to the AFRC to seek to unilaterally fix the fees to be charged by the appellant society for the professional courses offered through its educational institutions. At the same time, it is not open to the appellant society to claim complete immunity in undertaking this exercise and seek exemption from any interference by the AFRC”, the bench observed.

The Court held that the appellant society must necessarily submit the fees proposed by it in respect of the professional courses offered through its institutions to the AFRC for the purpose of review and regulation, as per the provisions of Section 9 of the Act of 2007 and the principles laid down by this Court in the precedents.

<https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/article-30-minority-educational-institution-cannot-claim-exemption-from-admission-fee-regulatory-committee-supreme-court-224067>

## **West Bengal govt plans to hand over state-run educational institutions to private sector: JUTA**

With few months left for the start of the new academic year in colleges, the education system will be plunged into chaos, he claimed.

A representative body of university teachers on Monday accused the West Bengal government of planning to hand over state-run educational institutions to the private sector by “blindly” following the recommendations of NEP 2020. He said the idea to introduce four-year honours graduate course from the existing three is not feasible and implementable in the state considering its infrastructure problems. With few months left for the start of the new academic year in colleges, the education system will be plunged into chaos, he claimed.

“How can infrastructure come up at such a short time for implementing a four-year honours course which will necessitate a total curriculum overhaul,” Roy said.

Recalling that the state government had formed a committee of eminent educationists to discuss the features of NEP 2020 and suggest alternatives, if any, Roy said, “It now appears that there was no need to constitute the committee if the state government had already made up its mind.” He wondered if those having directly entered



into the field of research after securing 75 per cent in the honours course after four years will be able to get good research facilities.

The JUTA statement was issued in the wake of the higher education department writing to registrars of all state universities on March 18 for “implementation of new curriculum and credit framework for undergraduate programmes in all the higher educational institutions of the state for the forthcoming academic session.

Roy told PTI that the move is aimed at diluting the state’s stake in the higher education sector by corporatising education and inviting private parties gradually.

“If such steps are taken, in the long run the interest of poor meritorious students wanting to pursue higher education will be compromised.” The UGC letter of January 31 forwarded by the assistant secretary in the higher education department said the most important student-centric recommendation in NEP is the four-year undergraduate programme. Keeping in view the objectives of NEP 2020, the UGC has developed the curriculum and credit framework for undergraduate programmes.

The framework provides for holistic education by allowing students to experience courses from multiple disciplines through a three-year or four-year UG programme. It has multiple entry and exit options, flexible degree options with single major, double major, multidisciplinary-interdisciplinary education, integration with the vocational course, internship, and skill and ability enhancement courses.

Officials in JU, Calcutta University, Presidency University and other state-run universities confirmed having received the letter from the higher education department but were evaluating steps.

A senior higher education official said the move was in sync with the UGC recommendations to rationalise higher education curriculum, but there was no thinking to involve private parties in the academic activities of state-run higher educational institutions.

[https://indianexpress.com/article/education/west-bengal-govt-planning-hand-over-state-run-educational-institutions-to-private-sector-juta-8509309/?utm\\_source=whatsapp\\_web&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=socialsharebuttons](https://indianexpress.com/article/education/west-bengal-govt-planning-hand-over-state-run-educational-institutions-to-private-sector-juta-8509309/?utm_source=whatsapp_web&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialsharebuttons)

## News About Animations

1. Fr. Maria Charles, the National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture, addressed the Northeast Region Educators on the topic of “Empowering the Powerless- A Catholic way of Educating” on 24 January 2023. Over 200 educators had joined this animation. The participants were from all the seven States of North East and it was organized by Fr. Amalraj, Regional Secretary of North East Education Council and it was inaugurated by Most Rev. John Moolachira, Archbishop of Guwahati.



- AINACS had organized a UP-SKILL programme for the Principals in the last week of January 2023 and Fr. Maria Charles, the National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture spoke about “Catholic Education Policy- A Paradigm Shift in the way we educate today” on 31 January 2023.



- Fr. Maria Charles, the National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture addressed the Educators in Sundargarh and Jharsuguda districts. More than 250 of them had gathered in both places and he spoke to them about being ready for implementation of NEP 2020 and also about skilling teachers.



- On the **4<sup>th</sup> of March 2023**, Fr. Maria Charles, the National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture, addressed the Educators of Telugu Region where 350 Heads of Educational Institutions had registered for the one day seminar on our preparedness in implementing NEP 2020 and also about preserving rights of our minority educational institutions. He addressed the heads of the schools and institutions on the topic “The Role of Heads of Education Institutions in today's context” and “Skills needed for Teachers today in the context of NEP 2020”.



5. Online meetings were organized by the CBCI Office for Education and Culture on:

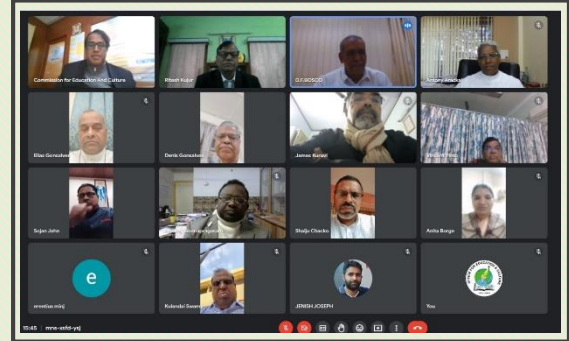
**19 February 2023: Meeting with CBCI Regional Education Secretaries**

**20 February 2023: 2nd Consultation on emerging issues of Education**

**14 February 2023: CBCI Consultation on Training Principals and Teachers**

**23 February 2023: CBCI Education Experts Meet**

**09 March 2023: OIEC Asian Meet**



6. Fr. Maria Charles, the National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture had addressed around 200 Teachers of Srikakulam Diocese and the Religious Schools of that region. The training programme took place on 11 March 2023 at Srikakulam near Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The teachers had enjoyed the various sessions conducted for them.



## 10th Year of the Pontificate of Pope Francis: Meeting with the Catholic Educators of New Delhi!

On 10th Year of the Pontificate of Pope Francis, a meeting with Catholic Educators of New Delhi was organised on 14 March 2023 at CBCI Centre, New Delhi on 14 March 2023. It was Presided over by Most Rev Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur and Chairperson of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture. The meeting was organized by CBCI Office for Education and Culture.

After the prayer, Fr. Maria Charles made a short presentation on "Pope Francis on Education" on the occasion of the Decennial celebration of the Pontificate of Holy Father Pope Francis. Fr. Charles presented ten perspectives of Pope Francis on Education based on his talks, interventions and from his Encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti' which includes his Global Compact on Education.

10th Year of the Pontificate of Pope Francis  
Meeting with the Catholic Educators of New Delhi

Presided over by  
**Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves**  
Archbishop of Nagpur and  
Chairperson of CBCI Office for Education and Culture  
Tuesday, 14 March 2023

**Programme**

5.30 pm Prayer  
Welcoming and Felicitating the Chairperson -  
Most Rev Elias Gonsalves and  
Welcoming the Participants - Fr. Maria Charles SDB

5.45 pm A short presentation on "Pope Francis on Education in the  
10 Years of Pontificate"

8.10 pm Chairperson's introductory words  
8.20 pm Discussion on following Issues:  
• Challenges faced by the Catholic Edu Institutions in Delhi  
• Preparedness to implement NEP 2020  
• The working of the Catholic Principals' Association - New Delhi  
• The need for CBCI - AINACS - CPA Delhi to work together.  
• Concerns of Catholic Educational Institutions in India  
(In what way CPA can be of help?)

7.20 pm Concluding words by the Chairperson

7.30 pm Dinner

CBCI OFFICE FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The members shared their concerns in the education ministry.

There was also a discussion on why the Catholic students were not motivated and a participant expressed that understanding the socio-economic background of the students is important. The following questions were raised:

- What are the support systems created for following up the students – parents are not able to help with home works; the school also makes them feel worthless.
- What is our engagement with these types of students? Time, motivation and other investments
- Why Catholic students go to other schools? Why do the parents take away their students to other schools?

Some responses to these questions were:

- The private schools run 'integrated school' having coaching centre with schools
- We give moral support, financial support and social support to the families.
- We do have very good catholic students but majority are from migrant families but they need to be motivated – good in sports but are weak in academics

Some of the challenges faced by Catholic Schools today are:

- Catholic institutions are targeted with so many taxes
- We ourselves are fighting the political climate and have to be very cautious
- It is not just about what is happening on a day today basis in our schools but about our existence in the future.
- In some places the Government has interest our land
- In some States it has been told that land should not be given to missionaries
- They do not want the Church and the Schools to in the same campus but in many rural areas the school and the church in the same campus.
- In some States, the Governments are claiming that their schools are better than Christian aided schools. So they have stopped appointment of teachers in our schools.

(For a full report please read the report in the annexe)

## **United We Stand: Meeting with the Leaders of Christian Educational Institutions**

A meeting with the Leaders of Christian Educational Institutions was organized by the CBCI Office for Education and Culture on 15 March 2023 at CBCI Centre, New Delhi. Presided over by Most Rev Elias Gonsalves, Archbishop of Nagpur and Chairperson of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture.



## The meeting was attended by the following people:

1. Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves, Chairperson, CBCI Office for Education and Culture.
2. Fr. Maria Charles SDB, National Secretary of the CBCI Office for Education and Culture.
3. Fr. John Ravi SJ, National Coordinator.
4. Fr. Joseph Manipadam SDB, National Coordinator.
5. Rev. Abraham Mathew, NCCI National Office.
6. Dr. Michael Williams, Mount Carmel Schools.
7. Rev. Ribin John, NCCI National Office.
8. Dr. Nalini Abraham, Development Practitioner.
9. Fr. Sojan, AINACS Secretary.
10. Fr. Varghese Vinayanand OIC, Syro-Malankara Church.
11. Rev. John Wesley, Evangelical Church of India.
12. Fr. Biju Kannampuzha, Syro-Malabar Church.
13. Dr. Nirmala, YWCA President.
14. Dr. Monodeep Daniel, Dean, St. Stephen's College, New Delhi.
15. Dr. Abhi Sethia, Leader Evangelical Teachers Fellowship of India.
16. Dr. Pushpa Joseph, Editor: Magnet CRI New Delhi.
17. Sonia Daniel, Director, Communications, EFI.

The meeting commenced with Bishop Elias Gonsalves saying a prayer. Fr. Charles moderated the meeting, and welcomed and felicitated the Bishop. Fr. Charles said that it is time to stand together once again. Then he spoke about the agendas of the meeting; The challenges faced by the Christian Education Institutions in India, Concerns we need to take to the Ministry of Education, and the need for Christian Education Institutions to work together.

Then the Bishop said that it is good to discuss and deliberate on time. Different Churches have contributed to education, but NEP has no mention of it. We should make a difference to all our Institutions which all our churches want. We need to see how we can move forward. Then everyone present introduced themselves. Dr. Nalini thanked Fr. Charles for the initiation for the meeting. She informed everyone that she had a lot of conferences on different aspects of education. She said that everything is rapidly changing, and people will not remember Christian Education if we do not do something about it.

(For a full report please read the document in the annexe.

**Meeting with the Leaders of  
Christian Educational Institutions in India**

Presided over by  
**Most Rev. Elias Gonsalves**  
Archbishop of Nagpur and Chairperson of CBCI  
Office for Education and Culture

Wednesday, 15 March 2023

Programme

11.30 am Prayer  
Welcoming and Felicitating the Chairperson -  
Most Rev Elias Gonsalves and  
Welcoming the Participants - Fr. Maria Charles SDB

11.40 am Chairperson's introductory words

11.50 am Discussion on following Issues:

- Challenges faced by the Christian Edu Institutions in India
- Preparedness to implement NEP 2020
- Concerns we need to take to Ministry of Education
- The need for Christian Educational Institutions to work together.
  - To form a national Alliance/Forum of Christian Educational Institutions
  - To work together on need basis
  - An Executive Body of National Leaders of Christian Educational Institutions

12.50 pm Concluding words by the Chairperson

01.00 pm Lunch

CBCI OFFICE FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE