LOYOLA STUDENTS SUPPORT SERVICES (LSSS)

“Students Are Our Friends”

Annual Report 2014-2015

Introduction

‘Tempo Forte’ is what the Jesuits of Loyola College of Arts and Science called the five days, spread over a few months, of intense, no holds-barred, discussion on their ministry. The discussions were free ranging and ran their full course and resulted in concrete decisions and specific projects like the Loyola Students Support Service (LSSS). LSSS will provide financial. Academic and personal supports to students, particularly from our target groups. It will encompass counseling, mentoring, tuitions, and host activities that would provide platforms for self-articulation and for enhancement on self-esteem. The LSSS office was blessed and inaugurated on 22 May 2014 by Rev. Fr. Francis Jayapathy SJ in the presence of Jesuits and other well wishers. Rev. Fr. M.S. Joseph Antony Jacob SJ is the First Director.

1. LSSS helped in the admission process of identifying the Orphan and Semi-orphan students irrespective of caste and religion, poor and dalit Catholics, economically poor and vulnerable students, academically weaker, physically and visually challenged, refugees, Gypsy and Foreign students who have come to Loyola on academic exchanges and service learning.

2. LSSS conducted orientation programme for all Dalit and Poor students coming from the Tamil medium sections. Thus organized Special English Coaching Class in collaboration with Department of English. Nearly 250 students benefitted from it.

3. Remedial Programme: LSSS has undertaken Enabling Classes for the academically weaker students who have got more arrears in collaboration with the respective department.

4. XAT Training Programme: LSSS has undertaken XAT training classes for the deserving interested students of present UG 2nd year students in collaboration with Ignatian Institute for Competitive Exams (IICE). 16 students are benefitting from this programme due to the generous help given by LIBA.

5. Midday Meals Scheme: Nearly 315 deserving and poor students are benefitting from midday meals scheme.

6. Management Fee Concession & Other Concession: Nearly Rs.90 Lacs (Shift I – Rs. 32,12,570/- and Shift II – Rs. 58,75,715/-) was given to the deserving and the Poor students as Management Concession in their semester fees. All the Orphan and Semi orphan students were assisted through concessions in their semester fees after personal verification of their family conditions.
7. **Government Scholarship**: Nearly 75 lacs (Shift–I Rs.56,04,688/- and Shift- II Rs.18,72,580/- ) were given as Government scholarships so far. Details are given below.

### SHIFT I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Nos.</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>HOSTEL LOAN</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>12,78,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Scholarship (S.C./S.T./Adx – Renewal)</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>19,58,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Scholarship (S.C./S.T./Adx – Fresh)</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>14,83,140</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Scholarship (B.C. &amp;M.B.C. – Renewal)</td>
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<td>4,15,498</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Scholarship (B.C. &amp;M.B.C. – Fresh)</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>3,98,550</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>C.M. Award (Fresh &amp; Renewal)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>66,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu Educational Trust</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Minority Scholarship (Applied) (Fresh &amp; Renewal)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Central Sector Students Scholarship (Applied) (Fresh &amp; Renewal)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Ph.D. Stipend For Research Scholars (Applied)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1167</td>
<td>56,04,688</td>
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### SHIFT II

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<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Nos.</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>SC/SCC</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>18,72,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. **Other Scholarships**: This year we have received scholarships from various Corporate and Educational trust such as Sumitomo Corporation Delhi, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Kalki Sadasivam Memorial Trust, Sri Bhakthavatchalam trust and Association.
9. **Part Time Jobs**: All part time jobs in the college are brought under LSSS. The preference was given to Orphan, Semi Orphan and economically poor. Once a semester LSSS monitors the academic progress and attendance of students and approves them to continue their job. Students who failed to produce better results in their academics are removed from their part time jobs.

Nearly 90 students were placed on part time jobs inside the campus such as System Maintenance, Server Room, Loyola Alumni Association, Information Desk, Digital Library, Sports Gym, Give Life Café, Loyola FM and Class Room Cleaning.

10. **Art and Literary**: Art and Literary is a unit of LSSS to learn traditional folk media and subaltern culture. Nearly 80 students enrolled in this unit. Every Wednesday our unit conducts special study circle and guest lecture programme and also every Saturday we are conducting print, folk and electronic media workshops for these students.

**Projects Undertaken**

- Behavioural Communication Change Programme in collaboration with Tamilnadu Slum clearance Board to the tune of 10 lacs. Our art and literary students are performing various arts to impart education on Health & Hygiene.

LSSS and Tamilnadu Slum Clearance Board (TNSCB) jointly organized two days (22.12.2014 & 23.12.2014) workshop on “Behavioural Communication Change (BCC)” for 50 folk artists. The artists were given training on Street Theatre, Puppet Show, Folk song and Folk dance such as Karagattam & Oyilattam. Trained by Dr. R. Kaleeswaran, Coordinator, Art and Literary and the team will perform programme in 90 slums of Chennai Metropolitan.

- LSSS students participated in the communal harmony screening program organized by Social Reformation Department at Kalpakkam, Kancheepuram district. Government has appreciated the program and given a chance to conduct the programme in 20 colleges in city for promoting communal harmony among college students to the tune of 2 lacs.

- Cancer Awareness through Puppet Show: LSSS in collaboration with Tamilnadu Health System Project carries out Breast & Cervical Cancer message through Puppet show for pregnant women on every Wednesday from 3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. in Government Hospital, Triplicane.

11. **Veethi Viruthu Vizha**

Loyola Students Support Services (LSSS) and Alternative Media Centre organized “VEETHU VIRUTHU VIZHA” in Loyola College for suppressed folk artists all over Tamil Nadu.
The Jesuit officials, Fr. Rector, Fr. Secretary, Fr. Principal, and Fr. Vice Principal are in the traditional folk attire.

Nearly 700 folk artists from various art fora participated in the program. This program was conducted for two days on December 6th and 7th 2014. December 6th 2014 is Annal Memorial Day of Dr. Ambedkar. To remember this day we organised a seminar on Dalit Identity and Reality.

A session on Dalit reality and Identity was moderated by Fr. Jebamalai Raja, the Chennai Mission Superior.

In this seminar Dalit activist Dr.Tamilarasan, Amstrong, Jakkaiyan, Shanmugam, Ezhil Caroline and Samuel Raj gave their valuable speeches. Rev.Fr. Jebamalai Raja gave powerful thoughts on Ambedkar during the session.

Second session started with the help of Human Right Writers and the Activist. Throughout this session speakers had given the Human rights tips to the participants.
Mrs. Kavin Malar was the one who kick started the session. Dr. Sundaravalli, Writer Azhgiya periyavan, Transgender Priyababu, folk writer Hari Krishnan gave their thoughts provoking ideas on human rights. Finally writer Adhavan Deekshanya summed up the session.

During the third session, Fr. Joseph Antony Jacob S.J. appreciated and gave away the award to the human right based film director Mr. Ranjith for ‘Madras’ film and Mr. Susindaran for ‘Jeeva’ film. Mr. Ranjith enlightened the audience with the story line, Dialogue and technical work of the movie, ‘Madras’. First day program was ended with various folk performances by the folk artists.

Mr. Ranjith, the Director of “Madras” is awarded by the LSSS Director, Fr. M.S.Jacob SJ

Second day started with a big rally from Valluvar Kottam till Loyola College. Nearly 700 folk artists participated in that rally. Thanga Meengal Director Mr. Ram inaugurated the rally. All the folk artists participated in the rally with the cultural events and show.

Rally from Valluvarkottam to Loyola, inaugurated by Cinema Director Thanga Meengal Ram
During the first session, Veedhi Viruthu magazine writers were honoured by Editor Mr. Nakeeran Gopal.

During the second session, 50 elder folk artists were honoured with a Veethi Viruthu award by chief guest Thiru. Thol. Thirumavalavan.

The senior artists (like Kollangudi Karupayi) are honoured with Veethi Viruthu by Mr. Thol. Thirumavalavan.

Finally 32 districts street theatre teams were appreciated by famous patriot Sangaraiya (CPI-M).

The famous patriot Mr. Sangaraiya (CPI-M) was honoured by our officials.
Every session was ended with different cultural performances and all the artists were honoured in this program as a sign of appreciation and motivation.
Loyola Students Support Services director Fr. Joseph Antony Jacob S.J and Loyola Rector Fr. Francis Jayapathy S.J and Loyola College management were appreciated by the suppressed folk artists. Each and every participant admired Loyola’s effective work in this regard.

12. Religious Meeting

LSSS organized a meeting for all religious (priest & nuns) and seminarians on 6th September 2014 at 9.00 A.M in MCA Block. We had a panel discussion on “Giving witness to values of Jesuits Education. The panel discussion was guided by Rev. Fr. Henry Jerome SJ, Dr. Bernard D’Samy, Director of Outreach and MS. Christina, our college Counselor were the panelists and they shared how the religious and seminary students could play a vital role in the campus to develop the lives of the poor students and also bridge the gap between the management and stakeholders such as staff and students. Totally 120 religious people attended the meeting.
Second meet was organized on 8th February 2015 on the theme “Celebrating Consecrated Life”. Fr. G. Joseph Antony Samy, SJ, our beloved Principal addressed the gathering. He challenged the religious and seminary students how effectively and committedly they need to live out their own vows in the campus among the students community and how they can show real love to the students through words and deeds. How they can identify the real students and help them come up in life.

Fr. Secretary in his address gave the salient features of the papal encyclical on consecrated life. How we need to develop the joy of living our consecrated life in a meaningful way. Consecrated people should be first and foremost joyful people. As Pope invites all the consecrated people saying, “wherever are there consecrated people, seminarians, men and women religious and young people, there is joy and always joy!” Hence all of us need to possess this joy and hope that would cloud our hearts all the time. After the coffee break, Fr. Jerry Rosario kept the gathering spell bound with his talk.

Fr. Jerry Rosario, SJ, being a dynamic and simple personality, delivered a thought provoking inputs on consecrated life elucidating the reasons for pope’s declaration of this year as “Year of Consecrated Life”.

Officials were honoured with Bouquet.
Dr. Mary Swornambal honoured Dr. Jerry Rosario with Bouquet.

He said that religious life is really difficult and challenging amidst consumerism, modernism and he also said consecrated life suffers from 3’P’s

- P - Power
- P – Prestige and
- P – Position

He invited all of us how we need to become the consecrated people of conscience and compassion citing life of the pope as an example – how his own simplicity, humility, poverty and charity inspire the entire world.

13. International Students Get Together

The purpose of this “Get Together” is to survey the current state of International Students studying in our college and to briefly discuss the needs of the students, the campus culture and their life. Students are represented from 18 countries. The countries represented are Japan, China, Canada, US, France, Srilanka, Bangladesh, Rwanda, East Timor, Cango, Hong Kong, South Africa, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Maldives, Tanzania, Kenya and South Korea.

Rev. Fr. Jacob SJ delivers the welcome speech

Students sharing their views
The International students had a free and frank sharing with the LSSS Director and CIP Director. During the discussion it was learnt that the International students are facing many of the following challenges and problems, some to a greater degree than others:

- Cultural and Social Adjustment
- Listening Difficulties in Pronunciation
- Language Problems
- Dress code
- Part Time Jobs
- Rules of the College
- To have a forum for International Students

Everybody expressed their opinions according to their culture and upbringing. Students expressed freely about their life and campus culture positively and pinpointed some areas for growth. They appreciated the college for the various facilities, for good professors and for good administration. They are very happy that they are able to come together as one group from different countries.

Second meet was organized on 31st January 2015 at Lawrence Sundaram Hall. The meeting started with an invocation song by International Students. The meeting started with a welcome speech by Fr. M. S Jacob, SJ, Director, LSSS. Fr. Francis Jayapathy, SJ, Rector and Fr. Albert William, SJ, Secretary rendered their felicitations.

The Chief Guest Mr. Frank. M. C. Lin, Director General of Taipei Economic and cultural centre in Chennai gave an inspirational speech to the students saying how they can adopt themselves to the new places, new culture and how they can learn from the local students and local ethos of the culture.
14. **Pongal Celebration**: This year LSSS conducted folk performances during College Pongal celebration. During this programme our students performed Karagattam, Oyilattam, Paraiattam, Silambu and Sattaikuchi. All in the audience appreciated the special traditional folk rangoli.

15. **Sports Day**: During College Sports Day, Our ISSS students cultural team conducted the special performance through folk media like Oyilattam, Paraiattam and Silambattam. This programme is catalyst for young and energetic sports persons.

16. **EXODUS Camp**: EXODUS Camp is organized every year to assist the first generation, rural poor and Dalit students to enter into the realm of higher education. Nearly 380 students had a stay-in programme for three weeks from 21st April 2014 to 10th May 2014. During this camp students were given Basic English course, Soft skills, Interpersonal relationships and Motivation. Eleventh standard students were taught lessons from twelfth standard syllabus. Nearly 200 students were given admission to study in Loyola College immediately after the camp.

17. **DESAM Camp**: this year LSSS organized DESAM Camp for Gypsy children coming from Gypsy settlements in Chennai city. Nearly 75 Gypsy children had a stay-in programme from 10 days from 1st of May 2014 till 11th May 2014.

**Conclusion**: LSSS thanks the Jesuit Management and all the officials of the college for extending total cooperation during this academic year 2014-2015.

Rev. Dr. M.S. Joseph Antony Jacob SJ

Director-LSSS