**SACRED HEART COLLEGE, TIRUPATTUR, VELLORE DISTRICT**

**REPORT ON THE EXTERNAL AUDIT OF**

**THE COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**Members:**

1. Prof. W.A. Jerome Chairman

2. Dr. L. Arockiam Member

3. Dr. T. Santhanam Member

The team is pleased to submit to short report on the exercise conducted on 11.12.2006. The programme as per the scheme suggested by the department and followed meticulously.

There was a visit to the Computer Lab and the team apprised itself of the available facility. There were two interactions with the faculty in group mode and individual consultation on the functioning of the department. There was a meeting with the Non-Teaching staff and students were met as select groups.

**The following are the highlights.**

1. The team is very much impressed with the general quality of the teaching, learning, research and inter-personal relationships.

2. The infra-structure available is of good quality and quantity.

3. The ambiance appears to be conducive to learn and work.

The team felt that since it shared most of its findings in details with the Principal and the staff members, it would suffice at this point to report in the following structure.

**Strengths**

* The department is catering to the needs of the most deserving rural youth.
* The number of students indicates the brand equity.
* The concern of the management for scholarship is appreciable.
* There is a mechanism for periodical enrichment of curriculum.
* There is a progressive expansion in the Hardware requirement.
* The interface between students and faculty is active.
* Extracurricular activities are productive and highly commendable.
* The scope for Internet browsing is more than adequate.
* The technology tools are routinely used.

**Weakness**

* The profile of students in respect of competence attitude, aptitude and financial capacity is for below the requirement for the course.
* There are several gaps in the effectiveness of the bridge and remedial courses.
* There is a dichotomy between the Day College and the Evening College in respect of Autonomy and University mode.
* There is a High attrition of faculty.
* There is a limitation in teaching skills available with many staff members.
* There are gaps in procedures and processes in teaching and learning.
* There is inadequacy in the mechanism of staff interaction.
* Evaluation and feedback are neither analyzed nor interpreted for improvement.
* Several gaps in the concept of the Autonomy and the resultant teaching, teaching aids, evaluation methods and remedial action.
* Inadequate job placement mechanism.
* The motivation commitment level of the students is below par.

**Recommendation**

* Need analysis of Orientation, Training and System Development is critical.
* Bridge and remedial courses needs to be strengthened.
* Facility to staff needs to be fine-tuned in respect computers and library.
* There is a need for external facilitation for review and planning annually.
* Visits from external for Soft and Tech Skills may be enhanced.
* Mid-term and long term planning exercise should be conducted early.