



JESUIT
CHENNAI PROVINCE



All Lives Matter



VOLUME - II

VALUE INSPIRED NURTURING



From Fr. Provincial, Jesuit Chennai Province

Dear Friends and Partners of Jesuit Chennai Province,

We, the Jesuits of Chennai Province, feel glad to be in touch with you through this magazine 'Value Inspired Nurturing (VIN)' education. It is an initiative of our Province to transform the children of the underprivileged, providing them quality education through your generous support.

Though education is a fundamental right of every child in India, access to education is being denied due to various social and economic factors. Knowledge is power and it is essential to bring about changes in the lives of the poor and the marginalised. Education breaks not only the cycle of poverty and oppression but also brings a brighter, more prosperous future by transforming the lives, families, and communities of the marginalised.

It is our duty to make education accessible to children of the Dalits, Tribals and other Marginalised sectors of the society and to create opportunities to schooling, learning and succeeding in their lives.

Your support in fulfilling this duty will change many lives and build brighter futures. Yes together, we can make their dream for a quality education come true.

I believe that together we can make a difference in providing the gift of knowledge and training children with skills to overcome their obstacles in the process of fulfilling their dreams. Through this collaboration and contribution, you become a champion of hope for the deserving children. The impacts of their education will transform the world in bringing equality and justice in all walks of life. Our vision is by providing quality education, forming them as men and women for others. This is the vision we strive for, and we invite you to be our friends and collaborators to make that a reality.

My appreciation to Fr Vasanthakumar the PDD and his team, for bringing out this magazine in a meaningful way and for the contributors of articles in elucidating the struggles of the marginalised children in our apostolic Institutions and Centres. Thanking you for your continuous support and encouragement in this process of empowering the children of the poor and the marginalised, in providing them opportunity for quality education.

With Loving Regards,

- Fr Jebamalai Irudayaraj SJ





From The Province Development Director

Greetings to all!

The Province Development Office of Jesuit Chennai Province is dedicated to promote the empowerment of individuals and ensuring the sustainability of the ministries of Province through eight key pillars: Education, Skill Development, Women’s Empowerment, Tribal Welfare, Human Dignity, Migrants support, Health care, and Disaster management.

Education stands as a formidable pillar, embodying our steadfast faith in the transformative potential of knowledge. Offering high-quality education to marginalized communities serving as a fundamental starting point for their empowerment, employment, and eventual liberation.

Jesuits in Chennai Province provide educational support to over 7,500 rural underprivileged children through our evening study centers, as well as 4,200 school students and 14,000 college students in our Jesuit institutions. Among these students, more than half hail from marginalized communities: Dalits, Tribals, Migrants, Refugees, and others. They possess a strong aspiration to excel academically, yet

their economic circumstances often become a barrier to achieving their educational goals. We extend our support to these students through our scholarship programme annually to overcome these barriers. However, the demand for monetary assistance increases each year, as many first-generation learners seek our financial support.

This impels us to invite our alumni, friends, well-wishers, and family members to extend their support to realize the dreams of these students. To contribute to this noble cause, we would like to introduce an educational support fund scheme named “*Value Inspired Nurturing (VIN)*.” You are encouraged to participate in this noble venture by contributing to our collective fund, sponsoring individuals, or establishing endowment scholarships. Let us work together to witness their growth.

This magazine includes insights from four Jesuit friends who have made substantial contributions to the education of many marginalized students. Their sharings offer a comprehensive view of our commitment to educating deserving children. Followed by the detailed information about the “Value Inspired Nurturing (VIN)” initiative.

With Loving Regards,

- Fr Vasanthakumar SJ

Let us come together, collaborate, cooperate, and celebrate their growth

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VALUE INSPIRED NURTURING



To see them **grow...**

Jesuits are known for educating men and women for others. At Jesuit Chennai Province, we're excited to unveil a transformative initiative aimed at empowering the marginalized and underprivileged individuals in our society. The VIN Education Fund goes beyond the confines of traditional education. It's a beacon of hope, a pathway to empowerment, and a vehicle for a positive change. We provide opportunity for socially responsible, value inspired individuals to extend their support.

The Jesuits believe that education is not just about acquiring knowledge; it's about shaping lives, fostering values, and nurturing holistic development. The VIN Education Fund embodies this belief by ensuring that every child, regardless of their background, has access to a quality education that can open doors to endless possibilities.

Through the VIN Education Fund, we are dedicated to providing the necessary tools, resources, and opportunities for personal and socio-economic growth. Our approach is holistic, aiming to nurture responsible citizens who not only excel academically but also

contribute positively to the betterment of society. Your involvement in the VIN Education Fund can make a substantial impact in several ways: Collective Fund, Individual Scholarship and Endowment Scholarship. Education is a powerful tool for transformation, and the VIN Education Fund stands as a testament to this fact. We invite you to join us in this endeavour to unlock the potential, empower individuals, and build a brighter future through education.



— “
Empower today, ignite a brighter tomorrow through education.
”



Vision

Transforming the lives of poor students, through quality value-based and holistic education.



Mission

To facilitate the education of students by collaborating with like - minded people.

To nurture responsible young students towards an egalitarian society.

LOOKING FORWARD TO NURTURE

RURAL STUDENTS - 7500+



RURAL POOR STUDENTS



SCHOOL GOERS - 4200+



SCHOOL STUDENTS



COLLEGE YOUTH - 14000+



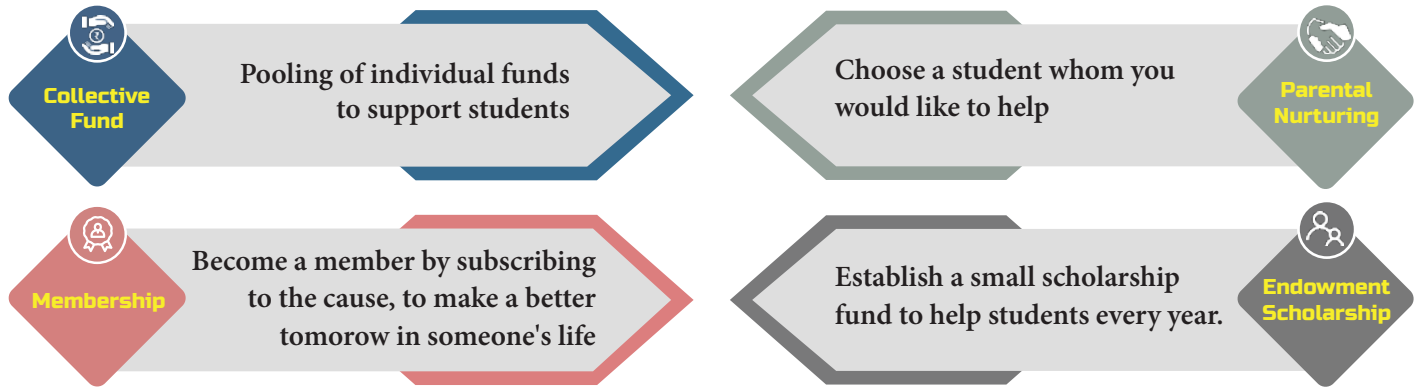
COLLEGE STUDENTS



We ensure that contributions from the donors reach deserving students for a valid purpose. Only economically poor, underprivileged and marginalized students will be given aid.

- First-generation learners.
- Poor economic background, marginalized sections.
- Orphaned / semi-orphaned / broken families children.
- Differently abled parents.
- Those with high interest in studies.

SHARE OUR MITE THROUGH



Collective Fund

An educational collective fund refers to creating a financial pool or corpus that is invested and held as the seed money, with the sole purpose of providing continuous financial assistance with the income generated, to deserving students over a prolonged period of time.



Donate on special occasions

Make your special day like birthdays, marriages etc., even more special by contributing to deserving students.



Donate regularly as per your ability

Feel the joy of contributing regularly to the collective fund.



Donate through CSR

CSR Funds can make a big difference.



Membership

By becoming a member, you can actually contribute towards making a difference in someone's life. Your financial contribution will be collected and directed towards the provision of educational scholarships for underprivileged and needy children in the upcoming year. The contribution amount is only **3,000 INR** academic and **300 INR** Monthly.



It can be made...

 **300 INR Monthly**

 **3000 INR Annually**

Parental Nurturing



There is a joy in being a catalyst in the life of one or more students, thereby transforming the entire generation to come.

Rs. 20,000 / 10,000 for a school student per year

Rs. 40,000 / 20,000 for a college student per year

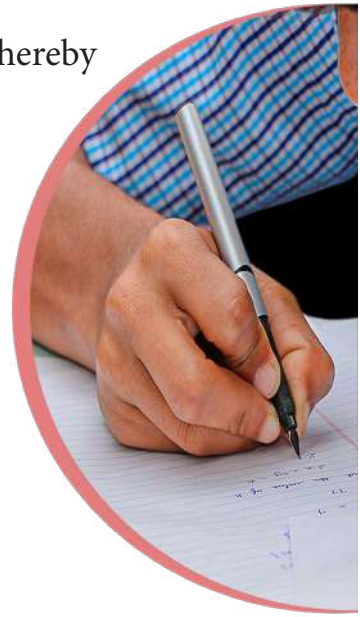
Full Accompaniment

Committing to help till they complete their studies or a course.



Partial Accompaniment

Committing to help for a year or two in their studies.



Endowment Scholarship



Create a fund that will provide scholarships to students for years to come. An endowment scholarship is invested in the bank and its interest is used to give scholarships to students over the years. The minimum amount that could be invested for an endowment scholarship is Rs. 1,00,000 (One Lakh).

Donate for a reason

You can make your dreams come true. You donate to support academically sound, deserving students.



Name after someone special to you

The fund is in memory of somebody you like who can also be gratefully remembered by the society.

Donate on special occasions

Make your special day like birthdays, marriages etc., even more special by contributing to deserving students.



Your Contribution is tax-exempt through 80G

It can be made...



Annually



Bi-annually



Quarterly



Monthly



Transforming Lives Through Education

Since 2000, the author has devoted his life to uplift marginalized communities. His journey began by empowering the scavenger community children in Kodaikanal and he subsequently assumed various roles and responsibilities in Higher Education Institutions . As a Mathematics Professor, he positively inspires and empowers countless individuals from marginalized backgrounds.



Fr Justine Emmanuel SJ
Dean of Students, LICET, Chennai

Throughout the Indian history, there has been a profound and persistent educational divide, perpetuating inequality. While strides have been made in expanding primary and secondary education, the dream of higher education often eludes marginalized communities, hindering individual growth, Social transformation and national measures. In recent decades, India has made significant strides in expanding educational opportunities, particularly at the primary and secondary levels. Many Government initiatives have aimed to bridge the gap, but the journey towards equitable higher education remains a challenging one.

While primary education is more accessible than before, the dream of higher education continues to elude many. For many marginalized communities, especially those in remote areas, pursuing a degree is often considered an unattainable dream. It is in this context that the role of individuals and institutions committed to breaking these barriers become paramount.

I would like to share something personal. I come from a village where pursuing higher education peacefully was an unattainable dream due to my birth in a specific community. It was my parents

who encouraged me to leave my village in search of a proper, peaceful, and holistic high school education. At a pivotal moment, the Jesuit School became my asylum and later, my alma mater. The entire Jesuit fraternity has provided me with countless opportunities to transform myself into a capable instrument of change. I had the privilege of teaching for the past ten years, imparting knowledge to more than 2500 students.



I take great pride in the fact that the majority of my students come from marginalized backgrounds. In this journey I'm deeply convinced that I need to dedicate my life to break down the barriers that deny marginalized communities access to education.

"Education not only Empowers individuals but also Amplifies marginalized voices".

I witnessed the tangible process of transformation in the lives of many students I encountered. For example, one of my most gratifying experiences was witnessing the transformation of Kanagaraj. When he first came to me, he had lost his father and was timid and desolate. Through education and mentorship, Kanagaraj blossomed into an embodiment of an abled leader. He serves as District Revenue Officer, a high-ranking government position. Kanagaraj's journey shows how education can create leaders that marginalized societies really need.

I firmly believe that God is just, not just in terms of time but also in the context of human life, especially in granting the gift of intelligence. However, opportunities for development and transformation have been unjustly denied, driven by economic, social, and religious factors that perpetuate inequality.

The journey from darkness to a bright future is ongoing, and it is the collective duty of every educated individual to acknowledge and address the harsh realities of injustice. Jesuit institutions serve as beacons of hope, offering a lifeline to the poor and marginalized. They exemplify the transformative power of education, proving that with dedication, compassion, and the right opportunities, we can build a more inclusive and just society for all. As we



continue on this path, let us remember that education is not just about acquiring knowledge; it is about empowering individuals to be agents of social change, in line with the principles of justice and equality.

All along my journey of accompanying marginalized students, one valuable lesson that I have learned is that we must provide opportunities. Unfortunately, educational opportunities are often a bit out of reach for the marginalized. I believe the **VIN Fund** is a guiding light that enables us to extend the transformative power of education to marginalized communities. It guides our efforts in breaking down barriers and nurturing the potential of those who have long been denied access to quality education. With the VIN Fund as our compass, we can collectively work towards a more just and equitable society, where education is not just a dream but a reality for all.



— “ —

*Education is our only true hope.
Education is our only true liberty.
Education is our only true salvation.*

” —



Empowering Girls Through Education



The author has been working with rural Dalits and Tribals since 2009. He has been an instrument in educating the girl children by serving as the director of women hostels and community colleges (Grihini). He animated evening study centres in the villages. He identified deserving bright girls and guided them for a brighter future through higher education.

In a society where culture and responsibilities often intertwine, the empowerment of a girl holds the potential to uplift not only her life but of an entire generation. Meet Sasi, a living example to the incredible transformation, education can bring in their lives. Her journey, from overcoming hurdles to achieving triumph, underscores the immense potential, education holds for girls, especially for those from marginalized backgrounds. Sasi's story embodies the nurturing essence of Tamil culture, transitioning from familial responsibilities to chasing dreams and aspirations.

Sasi, a young girl from the Irular tribal community, had always displayed remarkable determination to focus on education. At the age of 10, she eagerly came to a hostel to pursue her studies. Unfortunately, things didn't go as planned. She had to leave the hostel due to her family circumstances and complusion. For the next five years, she lived at her home while her mother worked far away and her father's irregular job kept Sasi taking on roles beyond her age. She became a second mother to her younger brother and a dependable pillar of support for her family. Throughout these responsibilities, she managed

to continue her studies until the 10th standard, showcasing her resilience eventhough her grades weren't as high as she had hoped.

At the age of 16, a turning point happened. The desire of Sasi's ardent desire to pursue studies and the encouragement of well-wishers, made her parents understand of the importance of education to a girl child. Hence Sasi's parents decided to send her back to a hostel to resume her education at the 11th standard.

Now, at the age of 16, Sasi approaches this opportunity with new found determination. She is filled with profound happiness as she embraces the hostel life once again. She makes use of all the opportunities to shine in every way possible. Her dreams to excel in the upcoming exams and pursue higher studies shine brightly, radiating promise and hope. Now, Sasi finds joy and fulfilment in the very hostel life.

In my service, I identified many girls who like Sasi aspire to achieve in life. I personally feel, when girls are given a chance to embrace education, the results are not only individual

growth but also societal transformation. Education reshapes their worldviews, expands their horizons, and equips them with tools for empowerment. Educated girls become confident, capable women who can contribute as leaders and agents of change. They shatter stereotypes, advocate against child marriages, and actively promote the significance of education within their communities. Similarly, Sasi's journey isn't just about her; it's about empowering communities. When girls like Sasi succeed, they shine as ray of hope. Sasi's victory isn't confined to herself; it's an inspiration to others. Her transformed life can ignite a movement, inspiring families to redefine their outlook on girls' education.



Girls who break the shackles that stall education, lay the foundation for a more inclusive society. Their journey becomes a source of inspiration, compelling younger girls to follow them and motivate families to reconsider their attitudes. Empowerment is a ripple effect, transforming individuals, families, and communities at large.

Sasi's story is a testament to the transformative power of education. The Jesuit Chennai Province, is dedicated to harnessing this power through the **VIN Education Fund**. VIN is not just an educational initiative; it's a movement to empower the marginalized. When you support VIN, you're lighting up dreams, removing barriers, and shaping a future, filled with possibilities. Just imagine the impact. Think of countless girls like Sasi, emboldened to chase their dreams. Your involvement can make their dreams a

reality. Whether contributing to the Collective Fund, sponsoring a student, or establishing an Endowment scholarship, your support creates a lasting change.



Empower a girl today, and you empower many generations to come.



Nurturing Talents and Potentials: Giving Face to the Faceless

The author served as the Director of Loyola Students Support Service (LSSS) at Loyola College, Chennai where he helped students from the marginalized sections of the society to realize their capabilities and goals. He continues to guide and inspire budding talents to reach their full potential.



Jesuit Chennai Province holds the unwavering dedication to nurturing talents and unlocking the immense potential hidden within the marginalized sections of our society. Through our pioneering education initiatives, we have embarked on a journey of profound impact, offering a guiding light to the underprivileged, rural poor, vernacular medium learners, tribal communities (Irular and Urali), Dalits, refugees, migrants, orphans, semi-orphans, children of folk artists, those from mixed marriages, and even trans persons.

Loyola Student Support Services (LSSS) is a vital initiative of Loyola College, Chennai dedicated to guiding and supporting students from marginalized sections of the society. LSSS provides academic assistance, financial aid, and holistic support, ensuring these students can pursue higher education and brighter futures. It embodies Loyola College's mission of empowering those in need to let their light shine.

Our approach goes beyond the traditional education. It's a holistic, all-encompassing endeavour designed to provide unwavering accompaniment to each student, from the moment they step through our doors to their triumphant exit as

empowered individuals. We provide the following opportunities to nurture their talents and potential.

Exodus Camp : We begin with the Exodus Camps, where we meticulously select students from these diverse backgrounds. These camps aren't just about academic preparation; they are about igniting confidence and fostering personality development. We understand the cultural shocks these students face in the mainstream colleges and strive to equip them with resilience, enabling them to navigate challenges with grace.



Career Counselling and Financial Aid: Career guidance forms the cornerstone to our approach. Every student is personally guided and accompanied through the maze of possibilities, aligning their aspirations with the right academic path. Financial obstacles are met head-on through a network of resources: government scholarships, Jesuit education support, private scholarships, alumni contributions, and private sector partnerships. We believe financial hurdles should never hold back a passionate mind.

Peer Learning and Remedial Classes: We foster peer learning and offer remedial classes to ensure every student's learning curve is met.

Access to Microscholarship English Program:

A partnership with the US consulate opens doors to English proficiency and exchange programs, expanding horizons.

XAT Coaching: Needy students receive free coaching for the Xavier Aptitude Test, enhancing their prospects.

Beyond the Exit: Our commitment transcends the educational journey. We continue to follow up, ensuring each graduate's seamless transition into the professional world.

Art and Literary Wing: Fostering Creative Expression and Skill Development. Our educational initiative also boasts an Art and Literary Wing, celebrating folk arts that not only build different skills but also foster critical thinking and self-expression. Social analyses, book reviews, documentaries, and workshops create a space for dialogue and capacity building.

Earn While You Learn : We believe in the power of self-sufficiency. Through part-time jobs within our campuses- from library assistants to classroom cleaning and running a student-managed canteen-students earn as they learn, instilling a sense of responsibility and ownership.

I had the privilege of watching our students grow year-after-year, and it fills my heart with joy. Witnessing young minds from rural backgrounds advancing to higher levels of education is deeply moving. Those who once grappled with fear now radiate confidence; once entangled in confusion now have discovered the sense of purpose and clarity; Once limited by their circumstances now thrive with opportunity and potential. I am pleased with the remarkable changes happening around us. It's all possible because of the teamwork, including our volunteers who act as mentors, helping students along the way. We're delighted with the good impact we're creating together. Students into determined individuals warms my soul. These progress is not about individuals. Rather, I find it as a collective search. We also have dedicated volunteers who serve as mentors in guiding these students throughout the journey.

I believe that the seeds of change have been sown at Loyola College, Chennai, where this model thrives. Our goal is to replicate this success across our institutions, creating a ripple effect that transforms lives. However, we cannot achieve this alone. We invite you to be a part of this journey, to share in the lives you can touch, and change through the power of education.





Unlocking Opportunities: Our Role in equipping them for Workforce



Fr Berkman SJ
Principal, Loyola ITI, Ranipet

The author is an academically well qualified and professionally experienced person to lead a technical institution. With his simple nature and charismatic personality, he, as the Principal of Loyola ITI, Ranipet, is a mentor and friend to the students, helping them to unlock their latent potentials to be an effective work force.

Being the principal of Loyola ITI, Ranipet I have witnessed many ITI graduates from our college stepping into their entrepreneurial journey. One such example is a story of Mustapha. He comes from a poor background, but through his hard work and dedication, he made use of the opportunities available in our ITI and with the support of Loyola ITI Ranipet, he got placed in Dubai. More remarkably, he returned to Arcot to start his own service company. Now, he is an entrepreneur giving opportunities to our students. Mustapha's story embodies the transformative power of education in the Technical Institutions of our Province.

Our Technical institutions at Ooty and Ranipet are deeply committed to transform the lives of dropout students from socially marginalized background including Dalits, tribals, refugees, and economically disadvantaged individuals, by equipping them with technical skills essential for socio-economic development. Beyond imparting knowledge, we instill hope in them. In a country where unemployment rates continue to rise, our institutions stand as a firm pillar, ready to empower its students with the confidence to tackle future challenges.

The education provided at our Institutions goes beyond the conventional classroom setting. Students benefit from practical, hands-on training in well-equipped labs, gain exposure through industrial visits, internships, seminars, and engage in various skill-oriented activities. Alongside technical skills, the institution places great importance on holistic development, offering training in spoken English, cultural enrichment, leadership development, computer literacy, life skills, and literary talents. This approach ensures that students are not only prepared for jobs but also for life.



— “ —

*Alone, we can do very little;
together, we can do so much*

” —



We offer a diverse range of carpentry trades, each serving as a gateway to success. From mechanics and welding to refrigeration, and air-conditioning, students graduate with specialized skills in high demand across various industries. In keeping with the evolving demands of the modern world, we are also introducing two additional trades: automobiles and fitter programs, further enhancing our students' readiness to tackle contemporary challenges. We collaborate with renowned companies and service sectors, where we facilitate internships and apprenticeships that expand student's horizons and enhance their employment prospects.

The true measure of an institution's success lies in the achievements of its alumni. Graduates of our institutions have ventured into diverse careers, becoming the backbone of various industries. Some have become certified technicians, while others have embarked on entrepreneurial journeys. A few have pursued higher education, broadening their horizons and contributing to the society in different capacities. These successes reflect the determination and excellence instilled in our institutions.

Adding to what I mentioned at the beginning of the article, our students namely Sunnil Raj, Suria, Ranjath, and Balaji, secured positions at Samsung Companies. Also we have Johnson who have worked for four years in a private firm in Chennai, gaining valuable experience and seized an exciting opportunity, joining CMC Vellore as an AC technician. Their success serves as a testament to the quality of education and training they received from our institutions.

Indeed, the journey of our technical institutions is a story of empowerment, resilience, and unwavering belief in the transformative power of education. As our institutions continue to script tales of triumph, they invite all of us to join in its mission to unlock the potential of every student and equip them for a brighter, and more prosperous future.

Our Technical Institutions are not just unlocking opportunities; they set souls on fire with the flames of transformation. Will you be a part of this extraordinary journey? Join hands with us and support the **VIN Education Fund**, a beacon of light that illuminates the path to a brighter future for the marginalized. Together, we can ensure that education continues to be the catalyst for change, lighting up their lives of those who need it the most. Connect with us today, and let's make dreams come true.



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela

To see you Grow

- ▶ is our joy...
- ▶ is our hope...
- ▶ is our future...



ACCOUNT DETAILS

Name of the Account	:	The Society of Jesuit Chennai Province-Donation Fund
Name of the Bank	:	South Indian Bank
Branch	:	Nungambakkam
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IFSC CODE	:	SIBL0000110



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