



The Education Ministry in Karnataka has a fruitful and revitalizing story to narrate. Most of our sisters are involved in this ministry of life and character formation. It is a vast Ministry where the Franciscan sisters are engaged with the students of various age groups, beliefs, caste and creed. They help them to focus on their future and mold them to be better citizens for society.

Our founder Blessed Mary of the Passion's vision of education is "Education to knowledge, Education to truth, Education to human development".

The motto of our schools is "Towards charity by truth".

The objective of the education ministry in the province is "To form responsible citizens and leaders with values of Christ".

We have four schools in Karnataka.

We have two schools in Mysore diocese:

1. Kollegal, Chamarajanagar District: R.C mission primary school up to 7<sup>th</sup> std (Kannada medium- Aided). English medium school is unaided. We have around 800 students altogether.

2. Otter Thotti, Chamarajanagar District: 1 -4<sup>th</sup> std Tamil medium aided school. We have around 150 students.

3. Chincholi taluk, Gulbarga district: we have Kindergarten, High school (9 &10) and PUC (Kannada medium- Arts and comers)

4. Koramangala, Bangalore: We have a Kannada medium school up to 10<sup>th</sup> std. Only primary school is aided. We have recently started an English medium up to 10 std. Number of students in Kannada medium is 320 and in English medium 450 students.

Franciscan Institute School was started in 1967 by the Franciscan Fathers under a tree. Later it was handed over to us Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. The school continued to function as a higher primary School until 2004. We then realized that most of our students, who left our school after completing their higher primary schooling, were not able to continue their studies

further due to poverty. Therefore we upgraded from primary school to high school in 2005. The high school is recognized but not aided by the government. We have 340 students and 15 teachers this academic year. All our students come from the neighboring slums whose parents have migrated to the city in search of employment and educational opportunity.

Most of the parents are uneducated and work for daily wages which is just sufficient for their survival. Due to poverty, children too go through the anxiety and tension of their parents. Some children are constantly exposed to domestic violence in the family which hampers their psychological wellbeing. Even though parents are unable to monitor their children's academic performance closely, they feel the importance of education for their children. This awareness of the parents has brought a gradual progress in children's education. Now our students are better motivated and interested in pursuing their studies and dreaming about achieving bigger goals in their lives. The weaker students are given extra care and special coaching after the class hours. We are happy to see steady progress in our students

The purpose of education is not only to pursue academic excellence but also to motivate and empower students to be lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and productive members of an ever-changing global society

