# Dr. Muneesh Kumar

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# 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

Dr. Alka Marwaha Coordinator, IQAC Department of Commerce Jesus & Mary College (University of Delhi) Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

Dear Dr. Alka,

Please find attached with this letter Academic Audit Report in respect of Department of Commerce, Jesus And Mary College, University of Delhi

Best wishes!

(Muneesh Kumar)

# ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT IN RESPECT OF

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE,

# UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

I had the pleasure of examining the reports and supporting documents regarding the activities and achievements of Department of Commerce, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi during the five year period 2015-2020. The activities and achievements have been evaluated primarily on the basis of curriculum enhancement, pedagogies, student centric services, enrichment of learning experience and research and innovation, to name a few. The strengths and recommendations for improvement for the Department have been highlighted below:

#### <u>Strengths:</u>

The Department of Commerce, Jesus and Mary College is known for its highly competent, committed and motivated faculty. This is ably demonstrated by the fact that it is on the list of ivory league institutions for students seeking admission to the business related programmes of University of Delhi.

The Department is able to attract highly ranked students from all over the country. The student population is highly diversified group and come from different ethnic, social and economic strata of the society. This provides a learning environment which is full of highly ambitious and motivated students with high competitive spirit.

The mentorship programme introduced by the Department is an important step towards ensuring that the students are able to get personal attention/counseling from the teachers. It also provides emotional support to the students and help in planning their career and other life ambitions.

The Department has taken a number of initiatives towards enrichment of curriculum and pedagogy. A review of the documents evidencing the invited lectures, particularly from the industry indicates that students and teachers are exposed to intense discussions about the principles and practices in business.

Students' participation in organizing and participating in a variety of extra-curricular activities another important hallmark of the learning experience for its students. As most of the extracurricular activities in the Department are student driven, they provide opportunities for students to learn planning and execution of their plan. Such an experience is expected to not only help in increasing their leadership qualities but also in honing their soft skill such as team-building, communication, etc.

# **Recommendations**

Though, the efforts of the Department in enriching the learning environment for its students are laudable, there is ample scope for improvement. The following suggestions may be considered in while planning the future efforts in this direction:

Research efforts of the Department need to be strengthened further. Involvement of students in the research can prove to be highly useful in improving the research output of the Department and promote the spirit of enquiry and out-of-box thinking. Company sponsored research will also expose the students to the real-life challenges of the business but also help them earn while they learn.

As an important step towards curriculum enrichment, the Department should increase its efforts in engaging with business firms. The students may be encouraged to take up real life projects on business challenges. These projects may be made an integral part of the internal assessment process.

The Department should take initiatives to increase its engagement with its alumni. Alumni network needs to be widened and take steps to promote a sense of belonging for the institution. The Department needs to approach alumni and engage them with its activities. Special motivational lectures by distinguished alumni could be very useful. Inviting them as judges in the competition events of the Department could be another way. Institution of "Distinguished Alumnus Award" could also be useful. The Department can exploit the wider reach of social media to obtain information about them for updating and adding to the alumni data base.

The Department should strengthen its mentorship programme. Involvement of some distinguished alumni in this programme could also be explored.

In order to promote innovation and entrepreneurial spirit among students, the Department should step up its efforts in the direction of developing a more vibrant "Entrepreneurship Cell". Efforts need to be made to identify some of the pain-points of business and encourage students to offer innovative solutions for such business challenges. The Department may organize events such as business plan competitions, innovative products mart, etc. Some of the young entrepreneurs and angel investors may be invited to share experiences to motivate students.

Dr. Muneesh Kumar 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020