# **Jesus and Mary College**

University of Delhi Chanakyapuri, New Delhi - 110021 Accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade



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# **ACTION TAKEN REPORT**

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

In a meeting, the Department has comprehensively analyzed and discussed the data received from the IQAC regarding the feedback from various stakeholders. The 'self-assessment proforma' has been used to reflect on the various processes of the Department. We are cognizant of our strengths and shall work to address the challenges that lie ahead.

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Ms. Rajni Singh (Teacher-in-charge)



Please use the following format to assess your own Department over the last 5 years (from 2015 Onwards) along with a brief rationale for the same.

# **ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT SELF ASSESSMENT FORMAT (2015-20)**

	The departmen t:	1	2	3	4	5	Remarks/ Supportive statements (with examples and documents)
1	Indulges in curriculum enrichment	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Over the last 5 years, the department has conducted over 20 lectures, seminars and panel Discussions for our JMC students and for the general public too. We have also conducted 2 webinars. We have had the privilege of hosting lectures by several eminent personalities from diverse fields like academicians, policymakers including the Chief Economic Advisors of India, Advocates etc. We also have a Research cell (since July 2018) which acts as a platform for students to indulge in research and Social Service activities simultaneously in the Sanjay Camp slum. We have an MOU signed with QED for Data Visualization. The Meghanad Desai Academy in collaboration with the department had conducted a 3 days' workshop on Behavioral Economics in March 2020. The department from 2015 till 2018 has been regularly publishing our students' newsletter, Contrarian. Since 2018 we have been annually publishing our Magazine, Contrarian. The faculty members have guided students in learning new software like R and Latex through workshops and research projects. We also help our students in providing internship opportunities under the faculty members of the department.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 1-159, 170-280 299-525)
2	Takes feedback from students each semester	Almost always	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	The department regularly takes feedback from students. It's done both at a department level (physically) and by the Principal (online mode). Faculty members also take feedback regularly at an individual level.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 283-286)
3	Caters to student diversity	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Being a women's college, the Economics department caters to students of different religions, socio-economic groups from multiple parts of India, speaking different languages and following different cultures. We especially have students from South and North-East India.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:

							1. Department Reports have students' names over the last 5 years: Mentioned in the Final Supportive Documents (pages: 1-159)
4	Takes interest in promoting opportunities for experiential learning for students	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The department has always strived to provide students with several opportunities for experiential learning. One method that we follow is through team building activities. At the beginning of each Academic year, the department students elect their Economics Council who help in conducting all the academic and non-academic activities of the department throughout the year. This council along with the rest of the students organize the Annual Department fest, Ecovantage where each year we witness a footfall of around 2000 students. For Ecovantage they divide themselves into various teams to organize several competitions and other events. Adventure-Based Learning: The department organized an excursion (trekking to Triund ) to McLeod Ganj in October 2017 with 4 Faculty members and around 60 students. Service Learning and Theatre: The Research & Outreach Cell was established to train students in research and sensitize them through outreach programs for disadvantaged sections of the society. The Outreach Program for women living in the slum was conducted on 27th September 2019 in collaboration with Kahkasha —The Hindi Dramatics Society of JMC. Creativity and Management Games: During Ecovantage: Policy Simulation, International Trade Puzzled Pint, Stratezenith (collaboration with IIT Delhi), Brand Tambola, and Campus Surfers. Simulation-Based Learning: In October 2019, the department launched an APP for its students where students can get all their texts, department magazines and other sources that are helping them in a blended learning structure of education. This is the link for the app: https://bit.ly/31r0Law
							1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 1-159, 170-280 299-525): They contain department reports and yearly reports
5	Facilitates the students' cognitive, social and emotional growth through the teacher-student mentoring process	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	All the department teachers take regular Mentor Ward sessions for our students during which personal and professional/career-related issues are discussed with the teachers  Webinar on mental health and well-being during the lockdown period was conducted by Ms Ridhima Sharma, Clinical psychologist on 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2020  Workshop for trainers on understanding gender and sexuality by TARSHI: The Research Cell conducted a workshop on "Understanding gender and sexuality" by TARSHI. TARSHI (Talking About Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues) works towards expanding sexual and reproductive choices in people's lives. The workshop was conducted on August 10, 2019  Regular department assemblies on topics enriching students' social and emotional growth: 1.) Topic: Mental Health and Body positivity on 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2019, 2.) Topic: Consequences of Climate Change on 23 <sup>rd</sup>

							September 2019, 3.) Fast-paced economic growth vs sustainable development on 14 <sup>th</sup> October 2019 etc. Presentation of Department Board by students with the help of teachers on the topic "Water Crisis" on 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2019  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 195- 211, 231-277) 2. Department's Mentor-Ward Document
6	Identifies the strengths of students and encourages them with an appropriate level of challenges	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The department faculty members have regular meetings with the Council and other students of the department which has led to identifying the strengths of students. They are henceforth divided into teams like creativity, technical, sponsorship, organization, hospitality, publicity etc. Ecovantage students are also divided into various groups according to their interests for organizing various events. The puzzle club was formed in 2018-19 under the Economics Department as it was an initiative of the department students and the faculty members fully supported them. Today it's a fully functioning Society of JMC. During Alumni meets, Freshers' debate, and Farewell for the seniors, all students get opportunities to showcase their innate talents. Annually on Sports day, our department marching squad is formed. In 2020, the marching squad of the Economics department won the Runners Up Prize.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 1- 230)
7	Makes efforts to engage students in review and continuous quality improveme nt of the teaching- learning process	Almost	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Faculty members continuously collect regular feedback from students and have often included other methods of conducting internal assessments like Book Reviews, paper reviews, presentations, Quizzes, case studies etc.
8	Encourages student participatio n in co- curricular activities	Almost always	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Co-Curricular activities are the backbone of the functioning of the Economics Association. Our students are encouraged to participate in competitions like Debates, MUN, Group Discussions and Quizzes which further enhance their knowledge in the field of Economics. ECA attendance is given so that students do not lose out on their attendance marks because of their co-curricular activities.

							The department organizes multiple seminars & lectures each semester regularly. The Research and Outreach Cell of the department is another forum providing them with a platform to learn research especially in the field of development economics. Our Annual Magazine, Contrarian is another platform that enhances the writing and creativity abilities of students in the field of Economics. Events like Paper Presentation and International Trade organized during Ecovantage help students in going beyond their curriculum. Students have been involved in the NDMC project of the college under the supervision of department teachers.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents which contains the Department Reports, Monthly Reports, Research cell report & Contrarian e- copies of the last 5 years
9	Puts specific efforts to inculcate soft skills, life skills and employabili ty/ financial independen ce	Almost	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Faculty members keep forwarding internship opportunities that they come across to the students. They also regularly forward information on global and regional competitions for undergraduate students like SAESM Initiative Group Research Project Competition On COVID Pandemic and South Asia, Zonal level elocutions & debates, workshops on big data analysis etc. The department has also organized a talk on Sexual Harassment of women at workplace and Criminal law Amendment Act about women by Sr. Teresa Paul, Supreme Court Advocate on 20 <sup>th</sup> September 2019.  The faculty members have guided students in learning new software like R and Latex through workshops and research projects.  We have also organized a session on Interview preparation by Ms Surekha Nagpal (Transformation Leader, Genpact & Alumni, Department of Economics, Jesus & Mary College) on "Effective Management of the Interview Process" on 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2019.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents which contains the Department Report of
10	Systematica Ily encourages reflective practices in the pedagogy and	Almost always	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	2018-19 & Research cell report  The Faculty uses regular students feedback to improvise their teaching techniques. Post lockdown, recording lectures have been a norm which helps in self-assessing/reflecting on teaching techniques adopted by the faculty members.  The Supportive Documents are in the following attached file:  1. Final Supporting Documents (pages: 283-289)

	assignment s						
11	Changes the assignment s given to students each semester	Almost	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Every teacher of the department designs the question paper for the internal assessment using best practices. Every time the teacher frames a new question paper that has new sets of questions, whose solutions are provided to the students after evaluation. Method of taking internal assessment are also changed in order to ensure that students are getting exposed to different types of testing scenarios for better understanding and grasp on the subject  Page 283-286 details the feedback of students assuring the quality of assessment conducted
12	Has extension activities and outreach	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The Economics Department has actively conducted several extension activities and outreach programmes throughout five years. there is acell dedicated towards conducting extension and outreach programme within the department. Along with the cell, department regularly organises events and activities focused on extending help to the society  Page number 175-176 details all the events organised by the department focused on Extension and Outreach Activities
13	Uses student- centric methods for enhancing learning experiences	Almost	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	Along with using the off-line platform teachers actively use the online platform such as Google Drive, PDF files for books, PowerPoint presentation, along with using the off-line platform features actively use the online platform such as Google Drive, PDF files for books, PowerPoint presentation, are the use of ICT to enhance the learning process. Economics Department file is provided which details the mode of teaching used by teachers.  Page number 287-289 details all the different platforms used by the department.
14	Analyses student results	Almost always	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	The analysis of the internal assessment marks and final exam marks are done with the students regularly. It is also discussed in the annual department meeting. The strength and weakness of the students are discussed. On top of that, the Department has an active mentorward system in which one-on-one interaction with the students regarding their marks take place.  File named Department Mentorward Attendance contains the details of the mentorward programme which discusses with the student their results and problems.
15	Uses analyses of results for future planning	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The mentorward programme conducted by the department where the teacher discusses the results and internal assessment scores with the student one-on-one basis. The department meeting is conducted regularly where the teachers discuss the attendance and performance of the students. File named "Department Mentorward Attendance" contains the details of the mentorward programme which discusses with the student their results and future planning

16	Keeps track of student progression	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Internal Assessment Marks details are available at the JMC portal separately for students and teachers. In the online portal teacher uploads attendance and internal assessment marks of ETA students which are available for them as well as their parents.  JMC Online portal has a dedicated module where students can login and view their result as well as analyse it with the teachers.  Apart from that teachers also have their module on JMC website which keep records of all the details of the students
17	Tracks alumni	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Alumni whatsapp group is formed where the faculty actively connects with the alumni of the department.  Also the Alumni Meet was organized on 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2019 by the department.  The file named "Alumni Information" has the details about the alumni of the department, the file is provided separately
18	Organizes student activities	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Economics department has been very active in organising various events and activities. The details of the activities organised is provided multiple times in the Supporting Document <i>Page 170-173 details such events organised.</i>
19	Creates opportunity for enriching teacher quality	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The department has organised multiple events focused on enriching the skills of teachers.  Page 177-194 details the event organised.
20	Follows fair evaluation process	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The Review Report by the Students supports the claim that teachers follow a fair evaluation process without any bias. The feedback is ensuring the quality of evaluation process by the teachers  Page 283-286 details the feedback of students assuring the quality of assessment conducted
21	Has timely evaluation process	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Internal Assessment is done through presentations, projects, tests, case studies, assignments etc. Additionally, in class surprise quizzes and tests are taken.
22	Evaluation process is meaningful to the students	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Group submissions are encouraged to push peer learning among students. Surprise tests are taken timely to encourage students to be consistent in studies.  Software based projects are done to make students job market ready.
23	Has library support for research	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Remote access to around 5000 e-journals and 97000 e-books through INFLIBNET-N-List is available. The College has access to URKUND, the plagiarism checking software. E-books are also available through DU wifi.  Please see pages 290-291 in the Final Supporting Documents File for URKUND access.

							Please see pages 292-298 in the Final Supporting Documents File for INFLIBNET N-LIST subscription and remote access details.
24	Supports faculty for undertaking research	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Department of Economics in association with the QED group conducted a two day workshop for faculty on data visualization using Tableau.  A separate space has been created in the library for teachers where they can conduct research work.  Please see pages 180 - 194 in the Final Supporting Documents File for ecopies of certificates distributed for the Tableau workshop.
25	Provides opportunity to students for research outside curriculum	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The Research & Outreach Cell was established to train students in research and sensitize them through outreach programs for disadvantaged sections of the society.  The Meghanad Desai Academy in collaboration with the department had conducted a 3 days' workshop on Behavioral Economics in March 2020.  A 15 hour workshop on Software R for data analysis was conducted for students.  Please see pages 231- 238 in the Final Supporting Documents File for a detailed report on activities undertaken by Research & Outreach Cell. Please see pages 239-277 in the Final Supporting Documents File for a detailed survey report by Research & Outreach Cell. Please see page 230 in the Final Supporting Documents File for a report on the R workshop.  Please see pages 208-209 in the Final Supporting Documents File for a detailed report on the Behavioural Economics Workshop.
26	Supports in-house collaboratio n (intra and inter department collaboratio n)	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Department of Economics in association with the QED group conducted a two day workshop on data visualization using Tableau for faculty from different departments of the college.  The Outreach Program for women living in the slum was conducted on 27th September 2019 in collaboration with Kahkasha –The Hindi Dramatics Society of JMC.  Please refer to the Research Cell Reports on pages 231-238, 239-277 in the Final Supporting Documents File for the outreach programme details. Please see pages 180 - 194 in the Final Supporting Documents File for ecopies of certificates distributed for the Tableau workshop.

27	Supports collaboratio n with external bodies	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	The Meghanad Desai Academy in collaboration with the department had conducted a 3 days' workshop on Behavioral Economics in March 2020.  Department of Economics in association with the QED group conducted a two day workshop on data visualization using Tableau.  Please see pages 208-209 in the Final Supporting Documents File for a detailed report on the Behavioural Economics Workshop.  Please see pages 180 - 194 in the Final Supporting Documents File for ecopies of certificates distributed for the Tableau workshop.
28	Has physical facilities that supports your plan	Excellent	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	An Economics Department Room has been created for discussions, event preparation etc.
29	Has provision for learning resources	Excellent	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	There are around 49000 books in the library and a multitude of journals for the students to explore and learn from.  Access to e-books and e-journals through INFLIBNET N-LISTis available. The computer labs are equipped with the latest configuration hardware and a gamut of software services.  Please see pages 292-298 in the Final Supporting Documents File for INFLIBNET N-LIST subscription and remote access details.
30	Has access to learning resources	To a very great extent	To a great extent	To a moderate extent	To some extent	Not at all	Remote access to e books and e journals is available through INFLIBNET N-LIST.  Please see pages 292-298 in the Final Supporting Documents File for INFLIBNET N-LIST subscription and remote access details.
31	Has IT infrastructu re	Excellent	Above average	Average	Below average	Poor	Practicals for a few subjects are held in Computer Labs which are equipped with the latest configuration hardware and a gamut of software services.  Entire campus is wifi enabled.  Classrooms have LCD projectors.

# Q. What are your Best practices?

#### 1. Environmental Awareness

There are significant linkages between the environment and the economy, the discipline of economics makes one recognize the importance of the environment and the need to preserve it. The department strives to instill in students, environmental ethics and to make them sensitive to their surroundings. In this pursuit, the November 2019 edition of the annual magazine of the department "The Contrarian", focused solely on the theme "Food & Environment". The write-ups in the magazine explored various aspects of food and environment, aiming to establish a concrete link between food, governance and environment. Articles were also invited from our learned alumnae, who are now working in various fields like research and public policy.

### 2. Social Outreach

The Department of Economics has also established a Research and Skill Development Cell with the objective of training students in survey methods, data collection, research and social outreach. The research team comprises 23 students and is guided by the teachers of the department. One of the objectives of the project team was also to work on issues of menstrual hygiene, reproductive health and awareness in the slum under a collaborative participation network between the Anganwadi Centre, slum dwellers and the research team. For this purpose the students participated in a one day training workshop by TARSHI ( Talk about reproductive & sexual health) which equipped the students to take these issues forward in the field. An outreach programme was organized on the 27th September,2019 for girls and women of Sanjay Camp to spread awareness about menstrual hygiene, contraceptives and various laws through interesting skits, music and talks.

#### 3. Women Empowerment

The Department attaches great importance to women empowerment which is also reflected in the commendable work done in Sanjay Camp under the social outreach program.

The Department also conducted a speaker session with Sister Teresa Paul, Advocate, Supreme Court of India on September 20, 2019 on 'Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace and Criminal Law Amendment with regard to Women'. The objective was to make students aware about their rights and duties because ignorance of the law can be as deleterious to the society as its noncompliance is.

The theme of the March 2019 edition of The Contrarian was "Women Empowerment", this was in consonance with the Golden Jubilee theme of the college in 2018. This edition explored the entire gamut of aspects of women empowerment, establishing the connect between gender equality and the discipline of economics.

#### 4. Mental Health

The mentor-ward program schedules are followed regularly in the department. The students approach the faculty if they have any issues that they want to discuss. The students are also encouraged to meet the college counsellors, to seek professional help.

A webinar on Mental Health and Well Being During Covid-19 was conducted by the department in collaboration with Hope and Strength Initiative on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The aim was to address the concerns and issues faced by students during the pandemic.

# 5. Internships and Placements

The department encourages its students to undertake internships. Internships provide the training that helps students to put into practice, what they learn. Our students have had the opportunity to intern with big names like Amazon, PWC, NDTV, Deloitte, Bharti Airtel. Those who are interested in public policy and research also take up internships with Government ministries' and statutory bodies like Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Niti Aayog and Reserve Bank of India.

The college placement cell works tirelessly, to bring to the students a world of placement opportunities. The department takes pride in the remarkable placement record of its students. Our alumnae have forayed into the fields of banking & investment, actuarials, marketing, data mining & analytics, research & policy, making their mark.

# 6. Training in Data Analysis

The Department in collaboration with QED, organised training for faculty and students in Tableau software. The students of the department are also encouraged to participate in the online marathons organised by QED which gives them a hands on experience of data visualisation.

A certificate programme on behavioural and experimental economics was organised in collaboration with Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics. The students were introduced to a wide range of applications of Behavioural economics.

A 15 hour long certification workshop on R programming by the Economics department was conducted with the mathematics & commerce departments between 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and 27<sup>th</sup> march 2019, to train the students with the basics of R software. R and STATA training is also imparted to the students as a part of the curriculum.

#### 7. Sanskriti School Writer Programme

**Date** September-October in 2018 and 2019

In order to assist special students studying in the nearby Sanskriti school, economics Department students volunteered to write the exam for the students in special need. The participation by the economics Department students of JMC has helped the students to complete their exam. Every year around 20-30 students from Economics department participate in the volunteer program

#### Q. Do you align yourself with best practices of the college?

Jesus and Mary College has been consistently working towards creating and maintaining an eco-friendly and clean campus. The Department is cognizant of this fact and contributes its bit in this collective endeavor of building a plastic free, minimum waste, clean and green campus.

Talks and seminars are conducted on pivotal economic and social issues. The department assemblies focus on myriad issues like mental health and body positivity, consequences of climate change, economic growth vs. sustainable development and the like. These themes are in consonance with the beliefs and best practices of the college.

The college believes in giving back to the society and lays great emphasis on social outreach. The department has made a great effort through its social outreach program under the Research and Skill Development Cell.

The placement cell of the college works with various organizations for campus placements. The department plans to strengthen its engagement with the alumnae to rope in more internship and placement opportunities for its students.

#### Q. Reflect on the department's strengths and weaknesses.

Strengths: The faculty members of the department have undertaken research activities with the students in the Research Cell and outside the research cell as a part of co-curricular activities. This has resulted in students being able to write research papers guided by the faculty and conduct research and outreach related activities in the Sanjay Camp Slum. The biggest strength of the department is the dynamic faculty which has ensured that the students have exposure to a myriad of curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular events. Teachers have been actively engaging keeping their skills up to date by attending regular faculty development programs and workshops. There's a strong link between the department and alumni. They are now engaging with the current students by delivering talks and providing details of job and internship opportunities. Several outreach programs were undertaken in the previous academic year (2019-20). The Outreach Program for women living in Sanjay Camp was conducted on 27th September, 2019 in collaboration with Kahkasha. The programme included a thought-provoking play by Kahkasha addressing the stigma associated with menstruation to facilitate an open conversation with young girls. The students discussed various relevant subjects such as the importance of contraception, existing laws to safeguard women against violence & harassment, concept of good touch & bad touch etc. In addition, pamphlets were

distributed containing helpline numbers and outlining women's legal rights. The Department also organised a donation drive in collaboration with Chintan Environmental Research & Action Group which benefitted a large section of waste pickers in Delhi during the Covid-19 crisis. The Department has built capacities for online teaching to ensure uninterrupted progress of teaching during COVID-19 lockdown. The department on a regular basis brings out its Annual Magazine, Contrarian. The department organises a large number of seminars where learned people are invited to deliver talks.

Weaknesses: The number of publications has been low and the number of conferences attended by faculty members have been low.

## Q. What are your plans for next:

1 year: Depending on the return to business as usual, the research cell hopes to follow up the baseline survey with an online survey and conduct outreach activities depending on the findings of the field studies. To systematically encourage reflective practices in the pedagogy and assignments, faculty members plan to maintain Reflective Journals which would be updated every semester. The department plans to highlight students' achievements in various fields and maintain data and records of placements and progression after graduation. The department will introduce Add-On-Courses to bridge gaps between curriculum and market requirements. The department will maintain a proper record of student progression. Given the COVID-19 lockdown and the shift of teaching from physical to online mode, students and teachers are now very comfortable with web platforms. This has become an advantage as it will become easier to get academicians from across the globe to engage with students through webinars and this will add immense value to student's learning. The department aims to bridge international distances through web platforms to conduct seminars and workshops by academicians from across the globe. The department plans to take up mental health issues of students very seriously by organizing sessions with mental health experts at regular intervals.

3 years: The department would strive to expand its outreach programs by coordinating with other colleges to expand our reach. The department plans to be more proactive towards industrial collaborations through MOUs, internships etc. Faculty members would apply for UGC/ICSSR funding for undertaking research projects and for publishing their research. Department would try to organize Summer School training for students. The department plans to organize a Conference.

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