

## **Sr. Annamma Philip fmm**

(Seventh Principal)

Name: Sr. Annamma Philip fmm

Education: Ph.D. in Chemistry

State & Country: Kerala, India

Active years as Principal: 1990-2008



Dr. Sr. Annamma Phillip fmm, Principal of Stella Maris College from 1990 to 2008 steered the Institution through its tremendous growth and progress over a long stint of 18 years. She began her teaching career in the Department of Chemistry in the year 1976 and served as Vice-Principal for five years after which she became the Head of this prestigious Institution in 1990.

She initiated two undergraduate and five postgraduate courses; Bachelors in Computer Science, Social Work and Masters in International Studies, Bio-Informatics, Chemistry, Public Relations and Biotechnology. She introduced the Choice-Based Credit System in 1997 to facilitate flexible and broad based education. Add-on certificate courses were introduced to enhance the academic input of the students and to give them the competitive edge needed for the job-market. Several MOUs were signed with Universities abroad and the industry-institution bond was strengthened.

Dr. Sr. Annamma introduced socially relevant programmes such as Functional Literacy, Environmental Education and the Social Awareness Programme (SAP) to uplift socially disadvantaged women. She continued the efforts taken by Sr. Helen Vincent fmm to develop the Community colleges. She placed special emphasis on soft skill training programmes for first generation learners and students from regional language medium. She built up the scholarship fund to increase access to quality education for students from the less-privileged backgrounds. In recognition of her contribution in the field of higher education, the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi appointed her as a member of three national committees, namely Committee on autonomous colleges, vocational education and identification of colleges of excellence. In her capacity as member of the Peer Team for Accreditation by NAAC, she contributed significantly to uphold quality

standards in higher education. She was also the University of Madras nominee on the Governing Body of several colleges in the city and is a member of the Senate and the Academic Council of the University of Madras.

Sr. Annamma held several important positions, specifically, Vice-President of The International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), France (1994-97), She was deputed by the UGC to be part of the the International Visitors Programme to study Community Colleges in USA (1995) and Member of the Syndicate, University of Madras for two consecutive terms (1992-98). As a distinguished citizen of Chennai, she was the Chairperson of the State Minorities Commission, Government of Tamil Nadu (2001-2004).

In her capacity as Principal of a prestigious Institution, she had travelled widely and the college had benefited from this rich and varied experiential learning. Her 36 years of dedicated and committed service to the cause of higher education won her many awards in recognition of her contribution to the cause of women's higher education in India, testifying to her eminence as an educationist and administrator. In 1994, she was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation by the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey, USA. In 1995, she received the Mahatma Gandhi Award for Service in the Field of Education from the National Integration Committee. Apart from the Social Awareness programmes and Extension Projects like Sangamam, Sr. Annamma was instrumental in involving the college in issues of social concern as and when the need arose. She led the college in playing a multi-faceted role in Tsunami relief and rehabilitation. She was privileged to lead the College through its Golden and Diamond Jubilee years and made the college one of the outstanding Institution in the field of higher education.