

Technology in Society - Challenges and Opportunities

A UGC sponsored National Seminar on “Technology in Society: Challenges and Opportunities” was organized at Salesian College Siliguri Campus by the Department of Computer Science in collaboration with National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT), Darjeeling on 5th October, 2010 at the College auditorium.

The Seminar was divided into four segments viz., Inaugural Session, Technical Session I, Technical Session II and Valedictory Session. Fr MA Joseph, Rector and Principal Don Bosco School and Fr George Thadathil, Principal Salesian College welcomed the participants. Prof. T.K. Chatterjee, Director, Distance Education, NBU delivered the inaugural address and highlighted the importance of technology in society, its impact and pitfalls. The Keynote address was delivered by Mr. Rakesh Almal, National Head Campus

Recruitment, Wipro BPO. Mr. Migsang Yolmoo. The Co-ordinator of the Seminar Committee briefed about the dynamics of the Seminar proper. The prayerful music and welcome dance by the students added colour to the intellectual tenor of the inaugural session.

The two Technical Sessions were divided into these themes: **‘Technology - Communication & Networking’** and **‘Technology: Outsourcing, Community & Literacy’**.

In the first session there were four papers presented by Ms. Smriti Rai, Department of Mass Com and Journalism, St. Joseph’s College Darjeeling, on - Social networking sites – Impact and Effects on social relationships in hills of Darjeeling, Dr. Arnab Baul, Department of English, Surya Sen College, Siliguri on – Dialectics of Identity in a Techno-Society, Mr. Jayanta Loha & Mr. Praveen Mukhia Titimus, Department of Computer Science, St. Joseph’s College on – Mobile computing and Communication and Sr. R. Shantha Mary Joshitta, Department of Computer Science, Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy, Tamil Nadu, presented her paper on - Open Source Software for Image Processing: A Comparative Study.

In the second session Sr. Arul Anitha, Department of Computer Science, Jayaraj Annapackiam College for Women (Autonomous), Trichy, presented the paper on – Rural outsourcing: Opportunities and Challenges, followed by

Mr. Mithun Chakraborty, NIIT, Siliguri with the paper on – Bringing People & Computer together. Mr. Jeewan Pradhan of Salesian college presented his paper on E-Waste management and other scholars of the second technical session were Mr. Amitabha Bhattacharya, Department of Physics, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling with the paper – Indulge your wanderlust: e-savvy queen of hills beckons; and Ms. Priyanka Sinha, Department of Commerce, St. Xavier's College, Patna who presented her paper on – Computer Literacy in Bihar: A step towards Development.

The Valedictory Speech was delivered by Dr. Nupur Das, Secretary, Under Graduate Council, North Bengal University. The seminar was concluded by the presentation of the proceedings of the seminar by Mr. John Gaurav and vote of thanks by Fr. (Dr.) Nirmol Gomes, Vice-Principal, Salesian College Siliguri, Campus.

On Gandhi Jayanthi, October 2, 2010, in remembrance of the Mahatma, the second year students of Salesian College Siliguri Campus, organized a Free Dental and Eye Check up Camp for the welfare of the people residing in and around the College, who cannot afford a good quality medical service.

The camp commenced with the lighting of the lamp by Fr (Dr) George Thadathil, the Principal and Dr Swarup K Roy. It was followed by a prayer song and garlanding of the doctors by the students in the presence of the teachers as well as the beneficiaries of the Camp. The students of the college bore the entire expenses towards the Camp and intend to make a donation from the collections of the day for the treatment of under privileged patients.

Doctors of Indian Dental Association, North Bengal Branch volunteered for the dental check up and a team from North Bengal Eye Centre headed By Dr Swarup Kr Roy assisted for the eye check-up. Around 250 patients were treated on the same day.

