

IGNOU Induction Programme at Salesian College Siliguri

With over 1200 students, the Salesian College IGNOU Study Centre is emerging as one of the largest IGNOU Study Centres in Siliguri and North Bengal. For the July 2012 session 625 new students have taken admission in various courses at Salesian College Study Centre. An Induction Programme for all the new students was held at Salesian College Auditorium on Saturday 13 October 2012. The Programme began at 11.00 with Dr. Yonah Bhutia, The IGNOU Regional Director, Siliguri, as the Chief Guest.

Fr. Mathew George, the Coordinator of the Study Centre welcomed all the guests, teachers and participants and spoke about the facilities available in the campus that are being placed at the disposal of the students. He remarked that throwing open the college campus to IGNOU students is a concrete manifestation of the commitment of the institution to higher education in the region, especially for the needy, and that too by taking education to the doorstep of the students under the distance mode. Fr. George Thadathil, the Principal, in his message to the new batch spoke about the priorities in mass education today as creating access, equity and quality. He observed that while in India there are districts where 47 percent of the youth are in colleges, there are also districts where the percentage is only two. Jalpaiguri is one such district and creating access to higher education is crucial for socio-economic development. Equity aims at bridging the gap between brilliant performers and poor performers in education by help raising the performance level of the latter. Quality refers to the services rendered and curriculum evolved to make students job-worthy and adept in facing the world. Fr. Nirmol Gomes, the Vice- Principal, through his prayer song, welcome songs and short message gave a Salesian touch to the event and made the new comers feel at home in the campus.

Dr. Yonah Bhutia, the Regional Director of IGNOU Centre in Siliguri, congratulated Salesian College for the excellent facilities placed at the disposal of IGNOU students and the efficient and prompt services rendered to them. He acknowledged Salesian College Study Centre as the best study centre in Siliguri and remarked that the students are lucky to belong to such an academic institution of excellence. He explained at length to the students the academic programmes and requirements of IGNOU and took questions from

them to clarify their doubts. This was the main aim of organizing the Induction Programme. IGNOU offers through Salesian College Study Centre programmes in MA, M.Com, BA, B.Com, BCA, BSW, and several Certificate and Diploma Courses. Counsellors are available on Saturdays and Sundays for classes. Dr. Bhutia took the opportunity to thank Fr. Principal for all the arrangements made and logistical support given for the smooth conducting of the B.Ed. admission test recently for which 1200 students appeared in the two venues of Salesian College and Don Bosco School. The Induction Programme ended at 1.30 pm with lunch for all the invited guests and refreshments for all the students.

Fr. Mathew George

Coordinator, SCSC Study Centre





