

Siliguri Media Fest : National Level Workshop

Organized by Salesian College, National Institute of Social Communications, Research & Training (NISCORT), Society of St. Paul and SIGNIS Bengal

Salesian College in collaboration with National Institute of Social Communications, Research & Training (NISCORT), Society of St. Paul and SIGNIS Bengal organized the Siliguri Media Fest, a national level workshop on 22 to 24 February, 2013 at Salesian College, Siliguri Campus. The inauguration of the workshop was graced by the presence of Dr. Uday Gobinda Burman Roy, one of the senior journalists of Siliguri and former member of the Press Trust of India as the Chief Guest of the event. The Chief Guest, in his inaugural speech pointed out that the need of media education and the workshop of this kind is welcome and shared his rich experience as a senior journalist. The workshop was attended by Professors, Pastoral leaders of the Catholic Church, Students and social workers of schools and Colleges of North Bengal like North Bengal St. Xavier's College, Rajganj, St. Joseph's High School, Matigara, Nirmala Convent School, Auxillium Convent School, Alphonsa School, St. Joseph's Convent, Kalimpong etc. The resource persons were Fr. (Dr.) George Plattotham, Director of NISCORT and Secretary of Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI), Fr. (Dr.) C. M. Paul, President of SIGNIS Bengal, Former Member of the Central Board of Film Certification, Visiting Professor, Mass Communication Department, Calcutta University, Fr. Alfonso Elengikal, former Editor of The Teenager and author of best seller 'You can make a Difference' and member of Society of St Paul, Fr. (Dr.) Robin Gomes, Radio Programmer – Radio Veritas Asia, Director of Diocesan Catechetical Commission, Kolkata and Br. Jesudas, a veteran Film maker and Social Worker. The program consisted of five sessions per day for the three groups namely Church Pastoral Leaders, Students and

Teaching Professionals. Different sessions were held simultaneously at three different locations for the respective groups.

The topics and thrust areas of the Media Fest consisted of Media Education, Effective use of Media in teaching profession, Public Speaking, Interview Skills, Media Skills, Film Critiquing, Uses of films in Pastoral Communication, Issues in Media, Crisis Management, News Reporting, Cyber Law & Ethics in Communication, responsible use of Internet, Importance of Feedback in Communication etc. The sessions were interactive and the participants were asked to do activities accompanied by serious input sessions and the discussions on case studies. The Siliguri Media Fest came to a close with the valedictory session on the last day. Mr. K. K. Choudhury, Vice President, The Statesman was the Chief Guest of the valedictory session. He encouraged the participants by his inspiring and thought provoking speech which urged everyone to be responsible and neutral in reporting and reading/watching what media offers to us. He elucidated his concern with his own experience as a journalist. Mr. Sandeep Singh, Head of the Department of Management, Salesian College, Siliguri Campus who was the Co-ordinator of the Siliguri Media Fest, expressed his deep sense of gratitude to all resource persons and congratulated all the participants.

Reported by :

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