

## **TWO DAY ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR ACADEMIC COUNSELLORS on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2014:**

Two Day Orientation Programme was organized for newly empanelled Academic Counsellors of all the LSCs under the jurisdiction of Regional Centre, Darbhanga on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2014 in Meeting Hall at Regional Centre, Darbhanga. The programme was initiated by Dr. Shravan Kumar Pandey, Assistant Regional Director. The inaugural session of the first day was inaugurated by Hon'ble Pro Vice Chancellor, L.N.M.U., Darbhanga, Dr. Syed Mumtazuddin by lightening the lamp jointly with the President, Prof. Ram Binod Singh, Retd. Prof. & HOD, Deptt. Of Economics, C. M. College, Darbhanga and Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre, Darbhanga. Guests were honored by Bouquet. Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director welcomed all the guests and outlined the important role played by the Academic Counsellors in Distance Education.

During the address by Chief Guest, Dr. Syed Mumtazuddin, Hon'ble Pro Vice Chancellor, L.N.M.U, Darbhanga, discussed on the need of orientation programme for providing better support services to the learners in Distance Education. He had also pointed that distance education is learner centric and academic counsellor should encourage and motivate the learners. During the presidential address, Prof. Ram Binod Singh had highlighted the keys of orientation programme and said that such programme is beneficial in providing quality education and conducting counselling session. The inaugural session ended with the vote of thanks by Mr. Anand Kumar, Assistant Registrar, IGNOU Regional Centre, Darbhanga.

During the second session, Dr. S. S. Singh had discussed in detail on the organizational structure of IGNOU through Power point presentation. Dr. S. K. Pandey, ARD discussed on structure and development of Distance Education with special reference to methodology of IGNOU. He also highlighted the role of IGNOU in Distance Education and activities performed by Academic Counsellors.

After the lunch break, the third session started in which Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director gave general information on Learner Support Services in Distance Education with special reference to the Regional Centre and Study Centre. He had also discussed in detail about the features of Study Materials of IGNOU.

The Second Day of the programme started by giving a review on the first days programme. In the next session, Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director had requested some selected participants to present mock counselling. Six participants of different courses had presented the sample of counselling classes. The sample academic counselling was analyzed jointly by Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director and Dr. S. K. Pandey, ARD. After completion of presentation by Academic Counsellors, Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director suggested them to make friendly environment in counselling classes. After lunch break, as a resource person, Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director mentioned that proper development of study skills is not done in primary and secondary level, so, the responsibilities of teachers in higher education is increased especially in Distance Education to develop the study skills among the students. As a resource person, Md. Ashfaq Hashmi, Assistant Programme In-charge, IGNOU PSC-05135P (Dr. Z. H. Teachers' Training College, Darbhanga) discussed in detail about the assignment evaluation and said that academic counsellors have also to work as an evaluator. He had also mentioned that during the writing of comments as an evaluator, only proper, positive and encouraging comments should be written. After that participants gave their feedback on the programme and said that the programme was very effective and helpful for them.

During the valedictory session, participants discussed their issues with the resource person Dr. S. S. Singh and solutions were provided to them. Certificate of participation was given to all the participants by Dr. S. S. Singh, Regional Director. Vote of thanks was given by Mr. Anand Kumar, Assistant Registrar. Total 28 Academic Counsellors participated in the programme.