## Inaugural Function of the PhD Programme July 2023

The inaugural of the PhD programme for the July session of 2023 was held on Tuesday, 11 July 2023, in the Conference Room in Magis Block.

Prof Padmanabhan Balaram, former director of Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, graced the occasion as the chief guest.

Rev Dr Victor Lobo SJ, the Vice-Chancellor of St Joseph's University, outlined the vision and mission of the university. He urged the new doctoral candidates to seek excellence.

Prof. P Balaram, in his address, highlighted the relevance of research in today's context. He advised the candidates to observe nature and think independently.

Fr Roshan Castelino SJ, the Research Director, congratulated the students on their decision to pursue research in an era where scholarship is looked down upon and is suspected. He informed the assembly about the process of admission as more than 170 candidates appeared for the entrance test, but only 29 were selected.

Fr Swebert D'Silva SJ, the Pro-Chancellor, explained the ethos of Jesuit universities. All research in Jesuit universities proceeds from the Ignatian directive that the world is created by God, and the creator manifests itself in the creation.

The programme came to a close with the vote of thanks proposed by the compere Ms Sayantani Banerjee. The rest of the day was organised in sessions where the regulations were explained to the candidates. The candidates interacted with their supervisors and were made aware of the various resources.

For the Images of the PhD Programme Inauguration July 2023, kindly refer to the Photo Gallery: https://www.sju.edu.in/gallery/21