

## NGO Mela at Christ University



Visitors to our Stall

The Department of Social Work, Christ University invited Azim Premji Foundation, Karnataka State Institute to participate in the NGO Mela organised in its campus on Monday, the 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2012.

The Foundation was represented at the Mela by the members from Communications & Engagement, University Admissions, Academics & Pedagogy and Library & Activity Centre of the Karnataka State Institute.

11 NGOs including the Foundation participated in this daylong event. Niratanka (Old Age Home), APSA (Association for Promoting Social Action), BOSCO (Bangalore Oniyavara Seva Coota), Sukrupa (School for Slum Children), SICHREM (South Indian Cell for Human Rights, Education and Monitoring), Akshay Patra (Free Meals for Children in Government Schools), Child Rights Trust, Nightingale Trust (Working for Underprivileged elders, nutrition and health), Richmond Fellow Society (Working in the area of mental health) and Azim Premji Foundation participated.

Students visiting the Foundation's stall participated in activities such as a quiz on elementary education in India, draw & color "Your Dream School", slogan writing "The most memorable quality of my favourite teacher is" and "School reminds me of ". The winners were given copies of the graphic novel titled "Tagore: A life of learning" published by the Foundation.



Students participating in the activities

Presentations were made by the NGO representatives in the Christ University auditorium during the afternoon session. Each NGO was allotted 10 minutes for the presentation. A Q&A session was held after all the presentations. Nearly 350 students from Dept. of Social Work, Sociology, Law and Faculty members constituted the audience. Some students from the Dept. of Social Work of St. Josephs College participated.

Nilanjan spoke about the vision and mission of the Foundation, efforts to improve the quality of education in the government schools, challenges faced and our future plans.



Nilanjan addressing the audience

Many students wanted to know from the representatives of all NGOs on the dais about opportunities to do internships. Nilanjan replied to a question on challenges faced while working with the Government. The program ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Hema from the Dept. of Social Work at Christ University. She thanked all the NGOs who participated in the Mela and mentioned that such events will inspire the students to take up work in the social sector and also enable them to know more about the employment opportunities that exist in this sector.