

## FIRST BATCH OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS TO GET DEGREES

# *Xavier's convocation on July 27*

### OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

New Town: St Xavier's University will confer postgraduate degrees on 166 students at its first annual convocation to be held on its campus here on July 27, vice-chancellor Father Felix Raj said on Tuesday.

The university's New Town campus was set up in 2017 on a 17-acre plot that is located 3km beyond Tata Medical Center.

In its inaugural year, the fledgling university had started postgraduate courses in four subjects — English, mass communication, social welfare and commerce.

The university has nearly 350 postgraduate students at present.

The number of postgraduate courses has also been increased from four to six. Two postgraduate courses — master's in business management and master's in economics — were added last year.

Bengal governor and the visitor of the university, Keshari Nath Tripathi, and chancellor Father Raphael J. Hyde will be present at the convocation.

Students' demand for seats in the Jesuit-run university, that is backed by a legacy of excellence, had been high from its very first



St Xavier's University

year of inception, a source said.

It had received more than 3,000 applications for admission to four postgraduate and two undergraduate courses in its first year. Only 400 could make it to the first batch.

In Calcutta it is often believed that students would only choose an institution situated within the city or closer to it.

The huge number of applications that were received by St Xavier's University had proved that the location of an institution was not an issue for choosing an institute. Students would want to study in an institute located even on the outskirts of the city if it offers quality education and provided suitable facilities for students are available at the institution.

St Xavier's University, equipped with all modern facilities, had to increase its total seats in undergraduate

and postgraduate courses together from 400 in the first year to 1,100 in the following year. In the 2019 current session the total seats will be almost 2,500, the vice-chancellor said.

"At St Xavier's University, students are selected strictly on the basis of merit," vice-chancellor Father Felix Raj said.

Undergraduate courses are offered in five subjects at the university at present. The subjects are commerce, management studies, economics, English and mass communication. In its first year the university had opened undergraduate courses in two subjects.