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# 7.1.8: SOCIAL INCLUSION

#### Regional Inclusion

- Pie Charts reflecting intake of students from outside the state
- Proof of activities reflecting regional diversity

### Linguistic Inclusion

- Reports of Language Lab 2016-2017 to 2019-2020
- Language Lab Sample of footfall of students
- Digital copies of magazines by different language departments
- Proof of activities and festivals conducted by different language departments

#### Socio-economic Inclusion

- Policy document of Scholarship Committee and Student's Beneficiary Fund (SBF)
- Sample of Ledger entries of amount spent under SBF

#### Secular Inclusion

- Interfaith Prayer services and Mass
- Proof of activities conducted promoting secular culture



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# **REGIONAL INCLUSION**

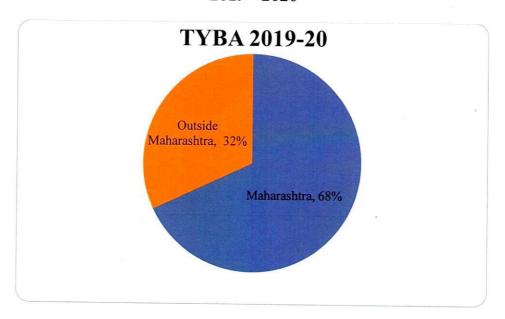


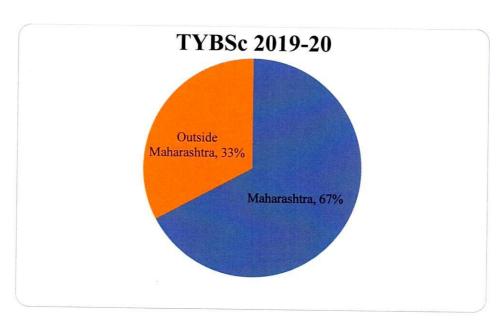
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# Initiatives taken by the Institution to promote Regional Inclusion

The admission of students in various streams of the college reflects intake of students from all over the country, the Pie charts of demographics of place of residence collated through admission forms – show the percentage of students from the state of Maharashtra and from outside the state.

2019 - 2020







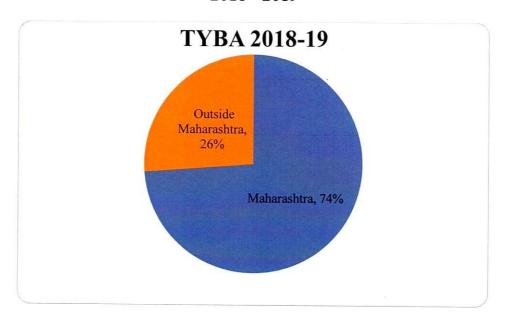


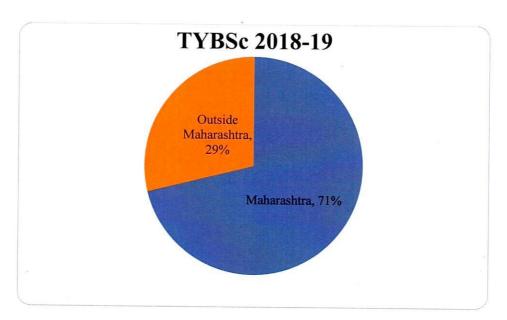
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2018 - 2019



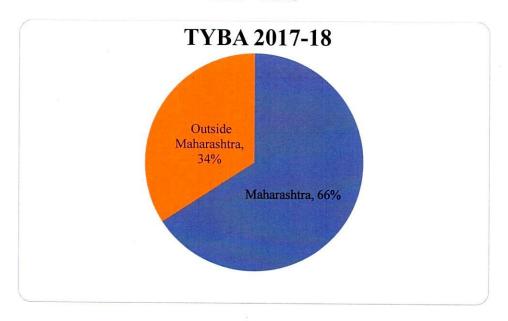


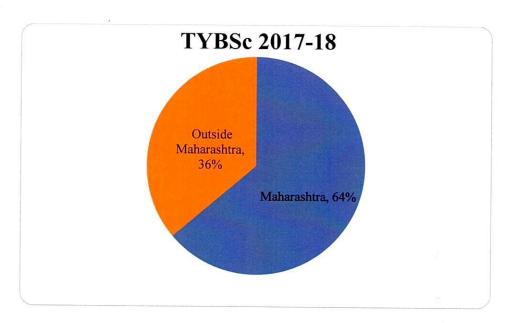




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2017 - 2018



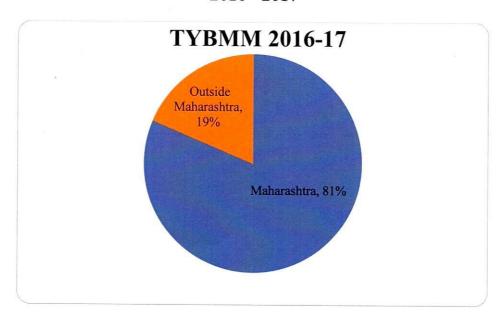


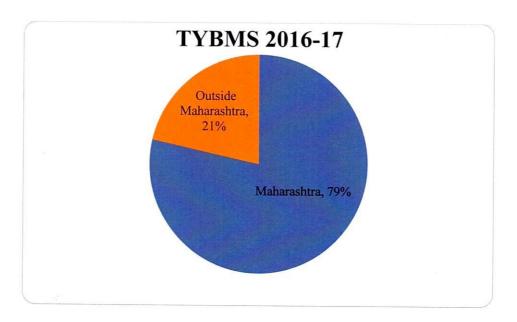




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2016 - 2017



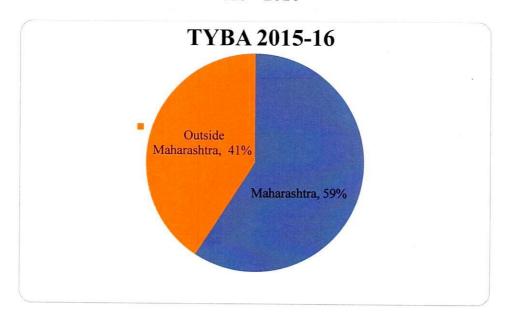


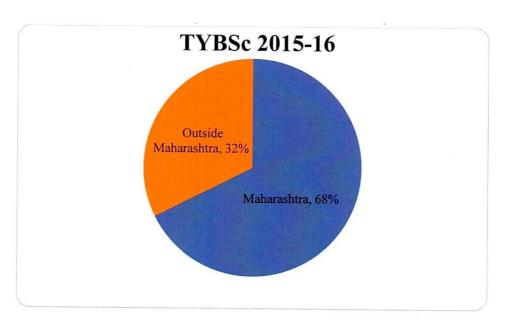




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2015 - 2016









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2019 - 2020

# National Conference on Celebrating Indigenous Literature

A two day (RUSA - supported) National Conference on Celebrating Indigenous Literature, was held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The eminent speakers included Dr Desmond L. Kharmawphlang, a poet and a folklorist, who has published several collections of poetry, and has also compiled folk narratives and songs of different communities of the North East. MrKachoAsfandyar Khan, a Ladakhi writer, who has done, a compilation of the religious poetry of two famous rulers of Baltistan, *Dam-e-Khayal, Kaliman*, both compilations of original poetry, and *Ancient Wisdom from Ladakh (Sayings and Proverbs)*.



Dr Desmond L. Kharmawphlang







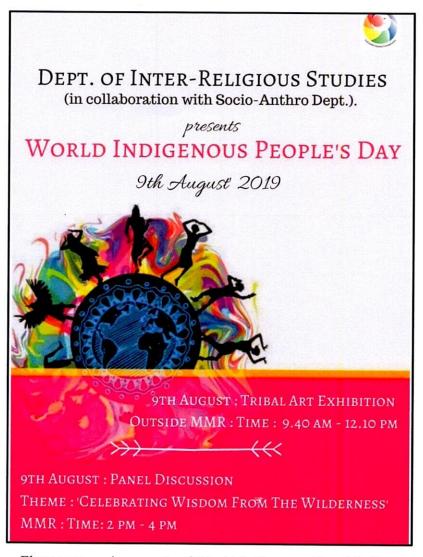
NAAC SSR Cycle 4 (2015-2020): 7\_1\_8\_Social\_Inclusion2015-2020



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# World Indigenous People's Day, 9th August, 2019

World Indigenous People's Day was celebrated by the DIRS in collaboration with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. This entailed events designed to highlight the culture and present condition of indigenous people in India, and especially in Maharashtra. The aim of this celebration was to promote awareness and inclusion of tribal communities, their culture, religion, and ways of life.



Flyer announcing events of World Indigenous People's Day





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# Panel Discussion on World Indigenous People's Day

Another important event as a part of the World Indigenous Peoples Day celebration was the panel discussion which took place on 9<sup>th</sup> August, in the MMR. The panelists included Pradip Prabhu – founding activist of the KasthakariSangathana and co-author of the Forest Rights Act, 2006; and Prof. Indira Munshi – an academician who has worked extensively in the area of tribal rights, and authored "Adivasi Life Stories: Context, Constraints, Choices". The panelists offered insights into the social injustice faced by tribal communities, and the importance and uniqueness of their culture.



Pradip Prabhu (L) and Prof. Indira Munshi (R) at the Panel Discussion





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#### 2017-2018

# Tribal Dance Workshop- 8th September 2017

AICUF conducted a Tribal Dance Workshop on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The workshop was facilitated by Naomi Monteiro, Assumpta Fernandes and Namrata Soreng. The aim of the workshop was to provide an opportunity to understand the rich cultural heritage of the tribes of India. The workshop began with a brief introduction about various art forms and how it is a medium to communicate across generations. Further, Ms Monteiro and Ms Fernandes taught the group a few steps of different forms of tribal dance from North East India.



Tribal Dance Workshop





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#### 2015-2016

#### **National Tribal Festival**

9 students from SXC attended the Jesuit national tribal festival at Ranchi from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October and participated in the soul stirring experience of understanding the culture of a variety of tribes from all over India. Its topic was "Promoting Livelihood of Tribals in India."





Students of St. Xavier's College interacting with the tribals





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# **LINGUISTIC INCLUSION**



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# Language Lab Report 2019-2020

St. Xavier's Language Laboratory is aimed at helping students acquire proficiency in language and soft skills necessary for effective communication. Students get the freedom to learn at their own pace with the help of language learning software installed on 25 computers in this spacious air-conditioned lab and the most recent books on soft skills. The infrastructure of the lab makes it possible for the instructor to provide assistance individually and collectively. The year commenced with a diagnostic test administered across all divisions of FYBA. Students for the special course in Language Lab for the first semester were selected based on their performance in the test. The second semester had a special course for the students of FYBSc, who were selected through a diagnostic test conducted in coordination with the SPC teacher's team. This course included essential soft skills, phonetics and vocabulary.

#### International Programme

Language Lab was instrumental in organizing an *Intensive English Language Course* for the students of Soka University, Tokyo as a part of the International Programme in February, 2020.

#### Ongoing Activities

In addition to regular courses in English language and soft skills, Language Lab conducted group discussion, story-telling, Interview Skills practice and presentation skills sessions post lunch hours. These sessions aimed at confidence building. Students got a chance to practice fielding conference questions in a setting that is more like real life. Also, senior students volunteered to mentor the juniors on public speaking skills and built-in situational conversations. Writing Skills practice included books and movie review writing and collocations based article drafting.

Students in 'audio-video interpretation' listened to radio talks, watched short videos on Language Lab PCs followed by review writing/presenting or practice speaking language by interacting with students from different streams on select topics. Reading Club comprising of students from Arts and Science discussed favourite aspects of books they read in the Language Lab and the characters they liked. Students realized that their speech partners require them to speak more clearly and listen more carefully. The first activity for newcomers included Introduce your Partner, Pick and Speak and Tongue Twisters.

The SIP department also provided volunteers for content creation and mentoring for vernacular medium students on campus so that these otherwise bright students could cope with their academics on St. Xavier's campus.

Ms. Jyoti P More, Coordinator, Language Lab





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### Language Lab Report 2018-2019

St. Xavier's Language Laboratory has been one of the most valuable facilities available on St. Xavier's campus aiming at helping students acquire proficiency in language and soft skills necessary for effective communication. Students get the freedom to learn at their own pace with the help of language learning software installed on 25 computers in the spacious air-conditioned lab and the most recent books on soft skills. The infrastructure of the lab makes it possible for the instructor to provide assistance individually and collectively.

The Language Lab is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The instructor, Ms. Jyoti More, a *British Council* certified IELTS trainer, is available for ongoing courses and for student consultation. She joined as the new full-time instructor in the academic year 2013-14. She brings along the professional expertise required for computerized and audio visually aided Language Lab due to her prior association with organizations like Google Inc. and All India Radio.

The year commenced with a diagnostic test administered across all divisions of FYBA. Students for the special course in Language Lab for the first semester were selected based on their performance in the test. The second semester had a diagnostic test conducted in coordination with the SPC team. The Language Lab was kept open from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm where the instructor was available for ongoing courses and for student consultation.

#### Vacation Workshops

During the Summer Vacation, Language Lab hosted a series of workshops. The objective was to enhance communication skills of undergraduates, post graduates who require help with expressing themselves and their knowledge efficiently along with their academic records. These workshops covered aptitudes corresponding to speech skills, group discussion, role play, extempore, debate, vocabulary, grammar skills and PPT presentation (non-technical). Certificate of participation was provided to students after the completion of each workshop.

| Workshop                                    | Date          |
|---|---------------|
| Drafting Formal Letters and Emails          | 3 April 2019  |
| Handling Career Interview Questions         | 9 April 2019  |
| Advanced Vocabulary for Campus Conversation | 11 April 2019 |
| Crafting Effective Presentations            | 23 April 2019 |





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### International Programme

Language Lab was instrumental in organizing an Intensive English Language Course for the students of Soka University, Tokyo as a part of the International Programme in February 2019. The highly interactive audio visual sessions held in the Language Lab also provided a platform to the participants for interacting with St. Xavier's students from different faculties.

### Ongoing Activities

In addition to regular courses in English language and soft skills, Language Lab conducted group discussion, storytelling, Interview Skills practice and presentation skills sessions during post lunch hours. These sessions aimed at confidence building. Students got a chance to practice fielding conference questions in a setting that is more like real life. Also, senior students volunteered to mentor the juniors with valuable guidance and timely feedback on public speaking skills and built-in situational conversations based on parameters recommended by the Language Lab. Writing Skills practice included books and movie review writing and collocations-based articledrafting. Students in interpretation' listened to radio talks, watched short videos on Language Lab PCs followed by review writing/presenting or practice speaking language by interacting with students from different streams on topics selected by the Language Lab instructor. Reading Club, comprising of students from Arts and Science discussed favourite aspects of books they read in the Language Lab and the characters they liked. Students realised that their speech partners require them to speak more clearly and listen more carefully. Hence, the fundamentals of communication were practically simplified. The first activity for new comers included Introduce your Partner, Pick and Speak and Tongue Twisters.

The SIP department also provided volunteers for content creation and mentoring for vernacular medium students on campus so that these otherwise bright students cope with their academia on St. Xavier's campus.

### Looking Forward

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Principal who resolutely believes in the potential of Language Lab in making our students industry ready by incorporating the necessary skills besides acquiring subject knowledge. Special thanks to all the professors who motivated our students to walk into the Language Lab for consultation. Language Lab is looking forward to its educational, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities as we enter the new academic year 2019-20.

Ms. Jyoti P More, Coordinator, Language Lab





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### Language Lab Report 2017-2018

The Language Lab aims at helping students acquire proficiency in the language and soft skills necessary for effective communication. Students with the help of language learning software installed on 26 computers in the spacious air-conditioned lab and the most recent books on soft skills experience the freedom to learn at their own pace.

The year commenced with a diagnostic test administered across all the divisions of FYBA. Students for the special course were selected based on their performance in the test. At the Language Lab, which was open from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., the instructors were present for student consultation and for other ongoing courses.

Advanced English Workshops: A series of workshops, open for all students, was hosted by the Language Lab during the summer holidays of 2018. Certificates of participation were given on completion of the same.

Spoken English Workshop through Regional Languages

A 42 hour workshop on Spoken English through Hindi/Marathi was conducted for vernacular medium students. The objective was to enhance communication skills of learners who had difficulty in expressing themselves in English. Students received certificates of participation at the end of every workshop.

#### International Programme

The Language Lab was instrumental in organizing an Intensive *English Language Course* for six students of Soka University, Tokyo as part of the International Programme in February 2018. The highly interactive audio-visual sessions held in the Language Lab also provided a platform to the participants for interacting with St. Xavier's UG and PG students from Arts, Science and Management Studies.

#### Looking Forward

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes, who resolutely believes in the potential of the Language Lab in making our students, industry-ready by incorporating the necessary skills besides acquiring subject knowledge. The Language Lab is looking forward to its educational, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities as we enter the new academic year 2018-19.

Jyoti P More, Faculty-in-Charge, Language Lab





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# Language Lab Report 2016-2017

The Language Lab is a facility to help students polish their language skills and improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

The lab is an air-conditioned space with twenty-five computers that promote self-learning, using language learning software. Instructional guidance is provided, the intensity of which depends on the need of the learner. The sessions focus on different activities that can help students develop both language and confidence skills. This includes group reading sessions where students choose any reading material: newspapers, classic texts and reference books from the college library or their own write ups. This is combined with speech, reading and pronunciation activities as well as an understanding of grammar.

In February, a group of students and a professor from Soka University, Japan spent 15 days in the lab, participating in the 'Intensive English Language Programme.' This was the fourth year of this programme. The course modules included lectures, role plays, group activities and individual powerpoint presentations by the participants. Interactive audiovisual lectures were held in the Language Lab and certificates were awarded at the end of the successful completion of the programme.

In May, an English language and confidence building program was held in the Language Lab for the students of Jeevan Vidya Trust and Jan Seva Mandal, Nandurbar from 14<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017. Twenty enthusiastic young girls from the Bhil tribe participated in this workshop. The girls were accompanied to Mumbai by Fr. Adolf. They were hosted at the XIMR on campus.

We are looking forward to more activities and a year just as exciting as 2016-17.

Ms. Rashmi Mehta Instructor - Language Lab





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# Data indicating footfall in the Language Lab showing optimum utilisation of the facility

Sample of scanned copy of the Attendance muster signed by students in the Language Lab for the academic year 2019-20

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Sample of footfall in the Language Lab





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| 21. |                 | A Jamus   |  | Conv.        |       |        | - tour    |
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| 23  | Ashishok        | fy BSCTE  | IQ CO.C.   | 6.D.         |       |        |           |
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| 29  | #Yu)1 (Cobap    | W SYBA  |  | G-D.         | 245   |        | Tur       |

Sample of footfall in the Language Lab





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|  | an Nax                 |  | PYJC/B            |                 |                   | rkhar      | +                        |      |
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| Lora   | FYJC                   |  | Mentoning         | 7,28            | 10:30             | tore       | 12                       |      |
| Paintla  | Er own                 | 174  | Largrand          | 30              |                   | Paris      | 13                       |      |
| Naoue  | FYJL                   |  |                   | 145             |                   | Nasau      | 14                       |      |
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| Nikhir   | FYBSe                  | 192502   | Reading           | 10:40           |                   | Likhal     | 16                       |      |
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| SARAH  | SYBA                   | 18/1008  | Reading           | 11:40           |                   | HELKEND    | 21                       |      |
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| AYUSH  | 9FYBSC                 | 192485   |                   | 12:45           | 1.20              | 61.0       |                          | 22   |
| Rebekah  | 548A                   | 181321   | Reading Malayalan | 12:45           | (bee              | . Ookeball | 1                        | 28   |
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Sample of footfall in the Language Lab





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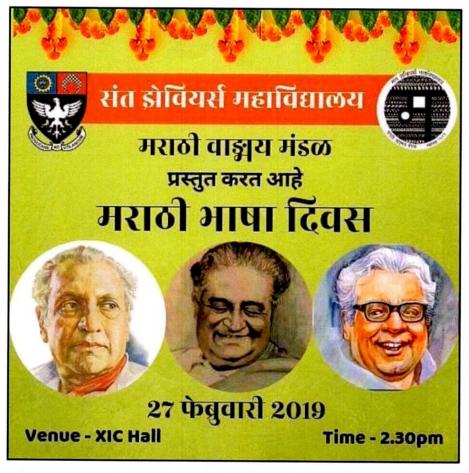
Linguistic inclusion is also reflected in a thriving culture of student journals of various language departments

Marathi Vangmay Mandal publishes 'Tejomay' and 'Pakhran'

English department 'Ithaka'

French department 'A la française'

Festivals by different language departments highlighting rich and diverse linguistic cultures



Flyer announcing Marathi Divas Event





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Flyer announcing events of the Lingua festival comprising all language departments





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#### **FRENCH DAY 2019**

On the occasion of 150 years of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, the Consulate General of France in Mumbai, Alliance Française de Bombay, French Institute in India, Campus France India and the Indian Association of Teachers of French (IATF) organised "French Day" in our prestigious institution on 6th July 2019. The event was graced by the Consul General of France in Mumbai, Ms. Sonia Barbry.



Consul General of France in Mumbai, Ms. Sonia Barbry with Principal St. Xavier's College French Day 6 July 2019





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# **SOCIO ECONOMIC INCLUSION**



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# SCHOLARSHIP AND STUDENT BENEFICIARY FUND (SBF) POLICIES

#### **Scholarships**

St. Xavier's College awards several Scholarships [128 in 2018-19] every year on 31st July. The scholarships have been instituted by donations from well-wishers and are awarded with strict adherence to the conditions laid down by the donors.

#### Scholarships have been instituted for students who are:

- 1. Academic toppers
- 2. Excelling in sport
- 3. Meritorious and Economically Deserving
- 4. Meritorious and Differently Abled
- 5. Outstanding in social work

#### Selection:

Selection is based on merit after following the stipulations laid down by the donors.

- 1. The academic toppers are selected by the committee based on their marks
- 2. The scholarships for the economically deserving students are awarded based on their academic merit, attendance of lectures through the academic year and considering the letter of recommendation provided by the faculty
- 3. The Sports scholarships are decided by the Sports Director Dr. Thomas Pires based on performance
- 4. Students with disabilities are awarded scholarships based on merit lists prepared by the XRCVC
- 5. The scholarship for students who have been Outstanding in social work is decided by the SIP coordinator

In keeping with the Jesuit tradition to take education to the underprivileged, SXC supports a venture called the SBF (Student's Beneficiary Fund). The fund is supported by donations from well-wishers and seeks to assist economically/physically challenged students who choose to apply for aid and whose cases are recommended by the SBF committee following a scrutiny of their application and verification of the records. In addition, the fund also supports several scholarships. Through this fund students are eligible to avail of the following concessions:

- 1. Tuition fees concession in/complete waiver
- 2. Honours programme registration and activity fees
- 3. Books loan for the entire academic year
- 4. Purchase of Journals for laboratory work Subsidised payment of entire amount
- 5. Field trips and any other similar requirement in the curriculum funded in part/entirely
- 6. Hostel fees funded in part/entirely
- 7. Meals One/two (sometimes) meals are provided to students who ask for it
- 8. Medical Expenses funded in part/entirely
- 9. Accommodation assistance

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#### **Award**

- 1. These concessions are generally granted to students irrespective of academic performance
- 2. Only Financially Deserving/physically challenged students are granted these concessions
- 3. A recommendation from teachers is taken into account before deciding the concessions to be granted

**Scholarships through SBF** Certificates are given to the selected students along with some cash on College day. Selection is based on the above-mentioned criteria and Student performance and attendance through the academic year.





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# Sample Ledger entries for SBF

#### St. Xavier's Establishment Student Beneficiary Fund Ledger Account

| Date     |    | Particulars  | Vch Type      | Vch No. | Debit       | Page<br>Cred |
|----------|----|--|---------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| 6-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745598 Paid towards fernandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Saurabhi<br>Pandhare TYBSCIT     |               | BP-5    | 3,000.00    |              |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745599 Paid towards fernandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Shweta Bhare<br>SYBSCIT          | Payment       | BP-6    | 3,000.00    |              |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>1745600 Paid towards fernandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Neesha Mistry<br>SYBSCIT         | Payment       | BP-7    | 3,000.00    |              |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>1745601 Paid towards fernandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Simran Gslipott<br>SYBA          |               | BP-8    | 2,000.00    |              |
| 7-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>"745602 Paid Realmbursement of medical<br>exp to commerce Section Student Deepak<br>Kumar Valmiki  | Payment       | 6P-41   | 22,155.00   |              |
| 8-4-2015 | Сг | Cash Establishment<br>paid femandes bonet Fund to sagar Shinde<br>for to Pay FYBA Fees for the Year 2014<br>-2015                                    | Cash Payment  | CP-28   | 4,170.00    |              |
| 9-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>\$745603 Being PAid to Uday Shetty toward<br>providing Mess to Hostel Students                     | Payment<br>ds | BP-57   | 20,974.00   |              |
| 1-4-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment<br>paid towards SBF to Mayekar Rohan for to<br>pay TY IT Fees   | Cash Payment  | CP-78   | 15,000.00   |              |
| 0-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>#745604 being paid to Uday Shetty toward:<br>Mess bill for 15 students for the year 2014<br>-2015. |               | BP-160  | 79,300.00   |              |
| 2-5-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>\$749916 Being Paid to Uday Shetty toward<br>Mess Provided to Hostel Students, bill no<br>-430.    |               | BP-3    | 5,768.00    |              |
| 9-5-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment<br>paid ttowards SBF to Student for to pay<br>Convocation Fees  | Cash Payment  | CP-68   | 100.00      |              |
| 1-5-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund) paid SBF to Ciana Amelia D'souza.   | Payment       | BP-93   | 1,750.00    |              |
| 4-6-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment Paid SBF to Shawn Dais for to pay TYBCOM Fees   | Cash Payment  | CP-20   | 3,000.00    |              |
|          |    | Carried Over   |               |         | 1.63.217.00 | -            |



PRINCIPAL ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) MUMBAI - 400 001.

continued ...



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#### St. Xavier's Establishment Student Beneficiary Fund Ledger Account

| Date     |    | Particulars  | Vch Type                      | Vch No. | Debit       | Page |
|----------|----|--|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|------|
| 6-4-2015 | Cr |  | Payment                       | BP-5    | 3,000.00    | Orda |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745599 Paid towards femandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Shweta Bhare<br>SYBSCIT           | Payment                       | BP-6    | 3,000.00    |      |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745600 Paid towards femandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Neesha Mistry<br>SYBSCIT          | Payment                       | BP-7    | 3,000.00    |      |
|          | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745601 Paid towards fernandes Bonet<br>Fund to Deserving Student Simran Gslipoth<br>SYBA          | 00.000 <b>-</b> 0.000 - 90.00 | BP-8    | 2,000.00    |      |
| 7-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>*745602 Paid Realmbursement of medical<br>exp to commerce Section Student Deepak<br>Kumar Valmiki  | Payment                       | EP-41   | 22,155.00   |      |
| 8-4-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment<br>paid femandes bonet Fund to sagar Shinde<br>for to Pay FYBA Fees for the Year 2014<br>-2015                                    | Cash Payment                  | CP-28   | 4,170.00    |      |
| 9-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Aic (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>\$745603 Being PAid to Uday Shetty toward<br>providing Mess to Hostel Students                     |                               | BP-57   | 20,974.00   |      |
| 1-4-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment<br>paid towards SBF to Mayekar Rohan for to<br>pay TY IT Fees   | Cash Payment                  | CP-78   | 15,000.00   |      |
| 0-4-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>#745604 being paid to Uday Shetty towards<br>Mess bill for 15 students for the year 2014<br>-2015. |                               | BP-160  | 79,300.00   |      |
| 2-5-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank Alc (Students' Bneficiary Fund)<br>\$749916 Being Paid to Uday Shetty toward.<br>Mess Provided to Hostel Students, bill no<br>-430.   | Payment<br>s                  | BP-3    | 5,768.00    |      |
| 9-5-2015 | Cr | Cash Establishment paid ttowards SBF to Student for to pay Convocation Fees  | Cash Payment                  | CP-68   | 100.00      |      |
| 1-5-2015 | Cr | 605 Corp. Bank A/c (Students' Bneficiary Fund) paid SBF to Ciana Amelia D'souza.   | Payment                       | BP-93   | 1,750.00    |      |
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|          |    | Carried Over   |                               |         | 1.63.217.00 |      |





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# **SECULAR INCLUSION**



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#### 2019-2020

## Interfaith Services at the beginning of the academic year

On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 the inaugural Interfaith service for the students and staff was held with putting together of interfaith and cosmic prayers. These were read out by students from various faiths. As per usual, the service was essential in making the mass more inclusive, and creating a sense of inter-religious harmony among the attendees. Fr. Keith D'Souza spoke about the vision and the values of the college, while Fr. Francis DeMelo reminded the students of the infinite possibilities they possess as Xavierites. The event was held in the College Hall.



Rector Fr. Keith D'Souza and Fr. Francis DeMelo at the Interfaith Service, 11 June 2019





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# Activities organised by associations and departments to promote Secular Inclusion

At St. Xavier's College various associations and departments organise activities and events which give our students an exposure to diversity, help them in understanding different cultures, and promote harmony.

### Samvaad: Major World Religions (3rd to 7th February, 2020)

Over a span of 5 days, the "Samvaad" an Honours course created a dialogue among the three major world religions: Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. The course sought to present the futility of inter-religious conflict and provide a platform for objective learning and discussion. Religious inclusion and awareness were the central aim. Conducted by experts on the three religions – Dr. Radha Kumar, Dr. Irfan Engineer, and Fr. Joshan Rodrigues – the course included lectures and field visits. It was concluded with a panel discussion featuring the three facilitators, which enabled the students to gain a holistic understanding of the similarities, differences, and connections between the three religions.



Students attending a session of Samvaad





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# Diversity Exposure Course, 23rd October to 11th November, 2019

This Honors course was organized by the DIRS, in collaboration with the Centre for Study of Society and Secularism (CSSS). Its aim was to generate a sense of awareness, appreciation, and inclusion towards the range of diverse cultures and communities that exist within Mumbai. These cultures were discussed in a series of lectures by eminent personalities such as Mr. Ram Puniyani and Mr. Anjum Rajabali.



Students of Diversity Exposure Course on a field visit

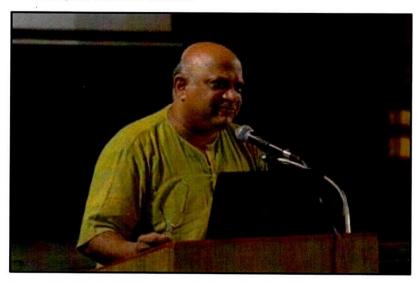




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#### 2018-2019

An Interfaith service was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 in the College Hall for the students and staff. The theme based on the college vision – Innovation - Integration - Inclusion – was clearly presented by the Rector, Fr. Keith D'Souza.

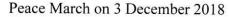


Rector Fr. Keith D'Souza at the Interfaith Service, 18 June 2018

# Feast of St. Francis Xavier 3rd December 2018

The Feast of St. Francis Xavier was celebrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 with a Peace March. At the end of the Mass there were Prayers for Creation from diverse religious traditions shared by a variety of students and staff.





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NAAC SSR Cycle 4 (2015-2020): 7\_1\_8\_Social\_Inclusion2015-2020



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#### 2017-2018

This year the annual theme of the college is "Enhancing Inclusion on Campus". Hence we started the academic year with an Opening Prayer Service on "Inclusive Mindset" on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017. It began with the participants singing and moving together with a spirit of gratitude to the music video "Grateful."



Interfaith Prayer service, at the beginning of the academic year, 6 June 2017

# Feast of St. Ignatius Founder's Day, 31 July 2017

The Founder's Day St Ignatius Day mass was a collaborative effort, organized by the DIRS and the AICUF in the College Hall. The theme chosen was "Ego to Eco", which called upon us to open our minds, look beyond ourselves, and extend our spirit of inclusion to the environment. The main celebrant, Fr. Joel Noronha SJ, shared personal experiences from engagement with tribals in Nashik, and gave the audience inspiring insights on how to move from Ego to Eco.



Day 31 July 2017 Fr. Terence QuadrosS.J. and Fr. Tony J D'Souza S.J.

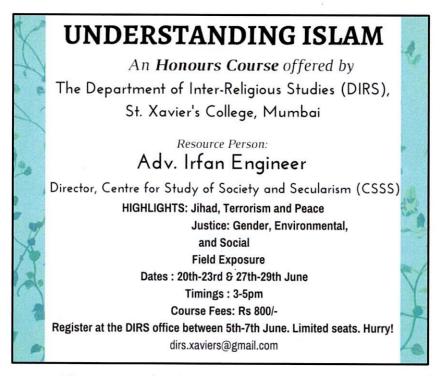
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# Understanding Islam, 20th to 29th June 2017

The "Understanding Islam" Honours course was open to students of St. Xavier's, facilitated by Dr. Irfan Engineer. It brought into question the concept of religion and our various perceptions towards it.



Flyer announcing the event 'Understanding Islam'

# Feast of St. Francis Xavier, 3rd December 2017

'Solo-darity to Solidarity' was the theme chosen for the feast of St. Francis Xavier on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017. It began in the College Hall with a brief prayer service highlighting the rise of violence and peace initiatives from the local to the global. Then a unique peace procession on the campus was led by the Principal Dr. Angelo Menezes, followed by staff and students representing various departments of the college.





Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes in the Peace March, 3 December 2017



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Fr. Prashant Olalekar delivering a lecture before the Peace March on 3 December 2017





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#### 2016-2017

### Feast of St. Ignatius Founder's Day

The Eucharistic celebration on Founder's Day, held on 30<sup>th</sup> July, began with a rousing street play on Communal Harmony introducing the theme "To Be Religious is to be Interreligious". John Cyriac SJ, in his fiery homily challenged the staff and students to be "fires that kindle other fires".







Feast of St. Ignatius, 30 July 2016

# Panel Discussion on Communal Harmony, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2016

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August the AICUF and DIRS organized a Panel Discussion on the theme "To Be Religious Is To Be Inter-Religious." The panel members who were professors from different faculties and different religious traditions briefly shared about the meaning of religion in their personal lives. They also shared views on corporate terrorism and its impact on different communities. The questions posed by students after the session led to a stimulating discussion on atheistic movements, religious terrorism, commercialization of ritualistic festivals and the purpose of religion in our individual and collective lives.





Panel Discussion on Communal Harmony, 2 August 2016





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#### 2015-2016

# Feast of St. Francis Xavier, 3rd December 2015

For the first time a new tradition was set by holding an InterFaith Prayer service on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015, for the feast of St. Francis Xavier, the patron of our college. Both Fr. Prashant, who gave a brief background to the theme: Be The Voice of Mother Earth, and also Fr. Tony J. D'Souza, the rector, challenged us to explore new frontiers following in the footsteps of St. Xavier and the contemporary Jesuit mission. The hall was enthralled by the evocative 'Heal the World' sung by Frs. Terry and Roy. This new venture was highly appreciated by staff and students who actively participated in it.



InterFaith Prayer Service: Be the Voice of Mother Earth, 3 December 2015

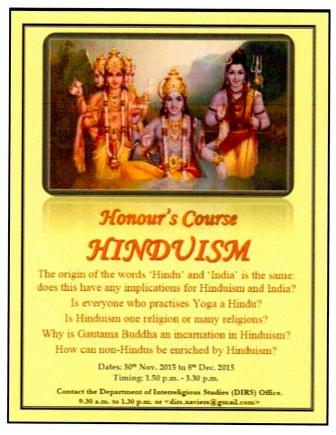
#### Hinduism - Honours Course

In an effort to understand different faiths and diversity of cultures the DIRS organized an Honours Course on 'Hinduism' from 30th November to 8th December, 2015. This course facilitated by Dr. Noel Sheth SJ. It was quite enlightening and well appreciated.





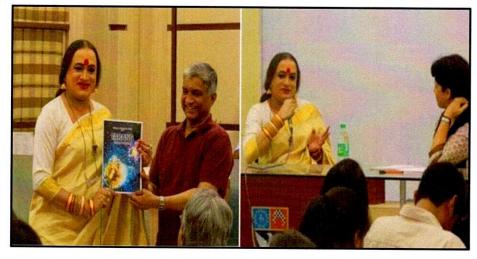
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Flyer announcing the Honours course on Hinduism

# Interaction with Lakshmi Tripathi

As part of Gender Inclusion initiative, Lakshmi Tripathi, the first transgender Indian who had addressed the UN, spoke to our students in November 2015 on "Religion: Oppressive or Liberative for LGBT"?



Lakshmi Tripathi The LGBT Lens on Religion with our Principal Dr. Agnelo Menezes



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