

St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association

30, Mother Teresa Sarani (Park Street), Room No. 5, Kolkata – 700 016. India Phone: 2280-5566. Email: sxccaa.cal@gmail.com
Website: www.sxccaa.net

Secretary's Report for the Year 2024 - 2025

Revered Father President, Fathers, and Fellow Xaverians,

Let me begin by congratulating my teammates, the members of the alumni association because our tremendous success is the result of the dedication, energy and unique contribution of each one of you. Together we have proved that when hearts and hands unite, excellence becomes the mark of us, Xaverians. SXCCAA is a team that works in perfect harmony to fulfil the vision and goals of our beloved Reverend

Father President, Dr. Dominic Savio. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to you, Father President, for being our guide, mentor, and inspiration.

The Annual Report provides us with the opportunity to reflect on and document the initiatives, programmes, and milestones achieved collectively by the association—efforts made possible only through the dedication of each member, especially the Governing Council. I remain deeply thankful for your unstinting support and hard work.

Before we proceed, let us observe two minutes of silence and pray for the Jesuit Fathers, alumni members, students, teachers, and non-teaching staff who left for their heavenly abode during the year.

It is my humble privilege to now present before you a record of the initiatives and activities undertaken by SXCCAA, its wings, and its Chapters over the past year.

As Xaverians, nurtured by the Jesuit Fathers who lead us on the path of service as "Men and Women for and with Others" it is befitting to begin the Annual Report by highlighting the accomplishments of our Philanthropic Initiatives.

A. PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES

• Flood Relief at Khanakul & Arambag

On 26th September 2024, relief consignments for flood-affected clusters of Khanakul and Arambag were flagged off by Rev. Fr. President. St. Xavier's College and SXCCAA jointly coordinated with the Hooghly Rural Police to ensure timely delivery of essential supplies to distressed families.

• Camp at Paikhala Primary School

On 26th October 2024, SXCCAA, in collaboration with the Raghabpur Campus, organized a camp at Paikhala Primary School—an SXCCAA social undertaking. Led by eminent Nutritionist Ms. Koyel Pal Chowdhury, over 160 children participated in sessions on women's hygiene, nutrition, and environmental awareness. The day concluded with engaging interactive learning activities and nutritious meals facilitated by NSS volunteers.

• NSS Special Camp – Valedictory Session

From 24th to 30th October 2024, the Department of Social Work organised a special NSS Camp at Paikhala Primary School in collaboration with the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell. With the theme "The Digital Generation – Strengths and Challenges", the camp impacted over 100 village children. Rev. Fr. President graced the valedictory session, encouraging students and volunteers to continue bridging the digital divide for rural communities.

• Diwali – Spread the Light Initiative

On 2nd November 2024, SXCCAA observed Diwali with the *Spread the Light* initiative, reaching out to HIV-positive children, specially-abled youngsters, underprivileged children, and the elderly in homes for senior citizens. Food packets, clothes, and festive gifts brought light and happiness into their lives.

• Christmas – Share & Care Initiatives

The Yuletide season was celebrated with extensive philanthropy across multiple centres:

- ✓ At Paikhala and Raghabpur, Rev. Fr. President distributed 500 school bags, stationery kits, chocolates, and blankets. The Hony. Secretary also joined in applauding St. Vincent Society volunteers and distributing Christmas gifts.
- ✓ On 12th December, the Women's Forum visited the Little Sisters of the Poor, offering food, gifts, and companionship to elderly residents.
- ✓ On Christmas Eve, the North Bengal Chapter hosted a festive lunch and distributed blankets, stationery, and warm clothes.
- ✓ Essential items and winter supplies were dispatched to Christo Seba Ashram (Chamrusai) and Pandua.

• 9th Mega Medical Camp at Raghabpur

On 19th January 2025, SXCCAA organised its 9th Mega Medical Camp at Raghabpur Campus in collaboration with the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal, and several leading healthcare units. Over 1,200 villagers benefitted from free consultations in ENT, cardiology, medicine, gynaecology, paediatrics, and dental care.

• Donation to Premananda Christo Ashram

SXCCAA donated two wheelchairs to the specially-abled children of Premananda Christo Ashram, Chamrusai.

• Sishu Mela

On 23rd February 2025, the Department of NSS organised *Sishu Mela* with the theme "*Every Child Matters: Building an Inclusive Generation*". Supported by SXCCAA, more than 1,500 children from NGOs enjoyed a day of fun, games, and cultural programmes. Each child was gifted food packets, stationery, and goody bags.

• PRAYAS Camp 2025

From 19th–22nd June 2025, the *PRAYAS* Camp was hosted with students of Bholakhali Adibashi Shikshaniketan. The initiative created a bridge between rural and urban educational experiences. The camp culminated in a valedictory session attended by Fr. President and Jesuit Fathers.

• Philanthropy Day 2025 & Associated Celebrations

Philanthropy Day was observed on 20th July at Save the Child (Thakurpukur) and Raghabpur Campus, and again on 24th July at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, marking the birthday of our beloved President Rev. Fr. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ. The day combined festivity with service, reaching children, NGOs, and communities in need.

✓ **Save the Child Orphanage (Thakurpukur):** Members of SXCCAA, led by Hony. Secretary Mr. Firdausul Hasan, joined Father President and Jesuit Fathers in a meaningful programme. Students presented cultural performances, 61 balloons were released, and gifts were distributed among the children.

- ✓ **Raghabpur Campus:** SXCCAA collaborated with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to felicitate its dedicated volunteers. A water cooler, filter, wheelchairs, and first aid boxes were donated. Father President also handed over an E-Rickshaw to assist with emergencies and campus logistics. A Blood Donation Camp, supported by SXCCAA, saw active participation from members and students.
- ✓ Extending Support: SXCCAA also reached out to multiple NGOs and institutions, including Shoishob, Bholakhali Adivasi Siksha Niketan (Sundarbans), and Paikhala Primary School. Donations ranged from laptops, printers, sports kits, food grains, stationery, and water coolers to vocational support infrastructure.

B. WOMEN'S FORUM ACTIVITIES

Annual Tea Meet 2024

The Annual Tea Meet, the first flagship event of SXCCAA's calendar, was hosted on 22nd November 2024 by the Women's Forum. The evening was marked by lively music, engaging games, and vibrant food stalls that brought members together in a spirit of camaraderie. A special highlight of the evening was the felicitation of Hony. Secretary Mr. Firdausul Hasan by Rev. Fr. President on his election as President of the Film Federation of India.

• Skill-Building Workshops – Raghabpur Campus

The Women's Forum organised impactful skill-development programmes at the Raghabpur Campus, empowering women and students through vocational training.

- ✓ On 11th November 2024, a **Bridal Makeup & Skin Care Course** was conducted by Mrs. Shree Ghatak for girl students. Certificates were awarded on successful completion.
- ✓ A **Baking Workshop** was also held for the women of the Self-Help Group managing the Raghabpur Canteen, led by Mrs. Ruchi Chhandak. To support their livelihoods, baking appliances were distributed to participants, enhancing their entrepreneurial capacity.

• Workshop on Zero Waste Management

On 6th January 2025, the Women's Forum of SXCCAA organised a workshop on Zero Waste Management at The Outram Club. The interactive session, led by Mrs. Shital Bavishi, founder of Beejum, introduced practical strategies for adopting sustainable lifestyle practices, thereby raising awareness of environmental responsibility among members.

• Women and Beyond – Chapter 3

On 5th March 2025, the Women's Forum celebrated International Women's Day with *Women and Beyond – Chapter 3*. The event featured a performance by XADAM, the felicitation of Dr. Minu Budhia, a pioneering mental health professional, and Ms. Piyali Basak, the courageous mountaineer who summited Mt. Everest without supplementary oxygen. The programme concluded with an inspiring interactive session, reflecting on resilience, empowerment, and the role of women in society.

• Continuous Engagement – Workshops & Activities

The Women's Forum sustained its dynamic engagement through a series of creative, health-oriented, and lifestyle-based workshops across its chapters.

✓ North Bengal Chapter:

o April 28: Jewellery Awareness & Care session by Mrs. Vandana Daga.

- o May 28: Healthy Diet & Lifestyle workshop by Dr. Rashmi Agarwal.
- o June 25: Decoupage Art Workshop conducted by Mrs. Ekta Rana.
- o Saponification Workshop (Soap-making) by Mrs. Riki Agarwal.

✓ Kolkata Chapter:

- o April 10: Darts Workshop at Calcutta Punjab Club, conducted by members.
- o June 26: Strength Training Workshop at Aim Gym, led by expert trainer Mr. Bipro Sen.

These activities enriched both chapters, enhancing knowledge, skills, and wellness among participants.

• Professional Bakery & Confectionery Training – Raghabpur Campus

The Women's Forum marked a significant step in its philanthropic journey by conducting a **Professional Bakery & Confectionery Training** at the Raghabpur Campus. Renowned bakery chef and Forum member Mrs. Ruchi Chhandak mentored participants over several weeks through a hands-on training programme. On 8th July 2025, eight young women were formally assessed for certification by **FICSI** (**Food Industry Capacity & Skill Initiative**), a Sector Skill Council under NSDC and the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India. This certification, aligned with **NSQF standards**, ensures nationally recognized, industry-ready skills.

This pioneering initiative lays the foundation for future programmes to create a certified workforce in the food processing sector, driving empowerment through skill development and sustainable employment.

• Philanthropy Day 2025

The Women's Forum observed *Philanthropy Day* with touching programmes across chapters.

- ✓ **Kolkata:** At the Little Sisters of the Poor, the Women's Forum organised a heartfelt programme blending prayer, cultural performance, and service. Father personally handed over gifts to the elderly residents, followed by a festive lunch and goodie bags for all.
- ✓ **North Bengal Chapter:** The day was celebrated with 200 specially-abled children at the North Bengal Handicapped Rehabilitation Society under the theme "He Cares to Bring Smiles." The celebration included indoor and outdoor games, songs, dance, cake-cutting, and the distribution of gifts, spreading immense joy among the children.

C. <u>REMEMBRANCE</u>

Condolence for Rev. Fr. Patrick Eaton, SJ

On 26th December 2024, Rev. Fr. Patrick Eaton, SJ, former Vice Principal of the College in the 1990s, left for his heavenly abode. A solemn funeral service was held on 29th December in the College Chapel, where the Honorary Secretary of SXCCAA offered a floral tribute on behalf of the Association. We pray that his noble soul rests in eternal peace.

• Tributes to Xaverian Luminaries

The SXCCAA deeply mourned the passing of distinguished Xaverians whose lives were marked by excellence and service:

- **Jb. Manzoor Ilahi**, legendary entrepreneur and patron of the SXCCAA Bangladesh Chapter, who was also the recipient of the *Xaverian Business Award 2023*.
- Mr. Dilip Doshi, iconic cricketer and recipient of the Global Xaverian Award 2022.

Their legacy continues to inspire the Xaverian family, and their absence leaves an irreplaceable void in the community.

D. SPECIAL MENTION

• Interfaith Memorial Service for His Holiness Pope Francis

On 29th April 2025, a solemn **Interfaith Memorial Service** was held to pray for the eternal peace of His Holiness Pope Francis, who passed away on 21st April. The gathering brought together representatives of diverse faith traditions in prayerful remembrance, reflecting the Jesuit ideals of inclusivity, dialogue, and compassion.

• IAJU Assembly - Bogotá, Colombia

From 30th June to 3rd July 2025, Rev. Fr. President participated as a Delegate at the **IAJU** (**International Association of Jesuit Universities**) **Assembly** held in Bogotá, Colombia. In this historic gathering, Father met with Father General and contributed meaningfully to global dialogues on Jesuit higher education, reaffirming the College's place in the worldwide Jesuit academic fraternity.

College-level Celebration on 24th July

On 24th July 2025, the College-level celebration at Xavier Hall commenced with prayer and audiovisual presentations, setting the tone for a day of gratitude and festivity. Rev. Fr. President was warmly felicitated by the Governing Council, the Women's Forum, JAAI, WUJA, ALSOC, SXUKAA, SLOBA, Burdwan Unit, International Chapter Heads, and student representatives. The occasion also witnessed the release of **NEWS REEL 7**. Certificates were awarded to beneficiaries of the **Women's Forum Bakery Training Programme** at Raghabpur, and gifts were distributed to underprivileged groups. The evening concluded with a ceremonial cake-cutting and high tea, sealing the celebration with fellowship and joy.

Hyderabad Visit

During his visit to Hyderabad, Rev. Fr. President, in his new capacity as Secretary of CHSE and JHEASA, visited **Loyola Academy, Secunderabad**, accompanied by SXCCAA members. The visit strengthened bonds of collaboration within Jesuit higher education institutions.

E. SPORTS ACTIVITIES

• Fr. Joe D'Souza Memorial Cricket Match

On 1st March 2025, the **Fr. Joe D'Souza Memorial Cricket Match** was played between alumni members and college staff. In a spirited contest that reflected camaraderie and healthy competition, the alumni team secured a memorable victory.

ALSOC 6-a-Side Cricket Tournament

In March, the **SXCCAA Cricket Team** displayed outstanding performance at the **ALSOC 6-a-Side Cricket Tournament**, finishing as **runners-up** and lifting the *Silver Plate*.

• Xaverian Soccer League – Season 2

The much-anticipated **Xaverian Soccer League** (**XSL**) – **Season 2** was held on 10th and 11th May 2025. In a thrilling finale, **Digital Strikers** lifted the **Champions Trophy**, while **Credo Accelerate** finished as runners-up. Individual brilliance also shone through, with **William Damien Xavier** being adjudged *Player of the Tournament* and **Duane Dominic Andrews** emerging as *Top Scorer*.

• 2nd FIDE Rated Rapid Chess Championship

From 9th to 11th June 2025, SXCCAA, in collaboration with the **Sports Department of St. Xavier's College**, successfully hosted the **2nd FIDE Rated Rapid Chess Championship**, which drew nearly 400 participants. The tournament concluded with an inspiring valedictory session graced by **Grandmaster Dibyendu Barua** as Chief Guest.

• Pickleball Debut

The SXCCAA marked its presence in yet another sporting discipline, when its team, **SXCCAA Warriors**, participated in the **maiden edition of the AI Pickleball Tournament** organised by ALSOC. This initiative reflected the Association's encouragement of emerging sports and wider member engagement.

F. FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Beyond Barriers – Chapter 23

On **25th January 2025**, SXCCAA hosted its flagship annual musical extravaganza, **Beyond Barriers** – **Chapter 23**, at the College Grounds. The evening witnessed a spectacular performance by **Shalmali Kholgade and her troupe**, which enthralled the massive audience. A special tribute segment by the **Calcutta Youth Choir**, honouring the legendary contributions of **Raj Kapoor** and **Salil Chowdhury**, added nostalgic depth to the celebrations.

The occasion also served as a platform to celebrate alumni excellence. **Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ**, Principal of the College and President of SXCCAA, felicitated eminent alumni **Mr. K.K. Kanoi**, **Mr. Vikas Khosla**, and **Mr. Dharmen Trivedi** for their outstanding contributions. With more than **10,000 Xaverians and guests** in attendance, the evening reinforced the stature of Beyond Barriers as one of the city's premier cultural and fundraising events.

• The 31st Fr. Joris Memorial Nihil Ultra National Debate

On 3rd May 2025, the 31st edition of the Fr. Joris Memorial Nihil Ultra National Debate was organised at Fr. Depelchin Auditorium. The motion of the house — "This House believes that privacy is an illusion in the digital age" — drew powerful arguments from eminent debaters representing institutions across the country.

The debate was moderated by **Justice Sanjib Banerjee** (**Retd.**), whose incisive interventions enriched the proceedings. The Women's Forum also played a key role in the organisation, with **Mrs. Vritti Khosla** serving as *Timekeeper*. The event upheld the cherished tradition of intellectual exchange at SXCCAA while also contributing to the Association's fundraising initiatives.

G. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

President's Day Celebration

On **2nd November 2024**, SXCCAA joyfully celebrated **President's Day**, marking seven years of the inspiring leadership of **Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio**, **SJ** as Principal of St. Xavier's College and President of SXCCAA. The event was attended by the Hony. Secretary, GC members, Jesuit Fathers, Past Secretaries, and members of the Women's Forum, who together expressed their gratitude and admiration for Father's dedicated service.

• Community Picnic at Raghabpur

On **2nd February 2025**, a **community picnic** was organised at the Raghabpur Campus for Jesuit Fathers and SXCCAA members. The gathering was a gesture of thanksgiving for the constant encouragement and support of the Jesuit community and provided a day of warmth, fellowship, and bonding.

• Dashobhuja Bangali

To mark International Mother Language Day, SXCCAA, in collaboration with the Bengali Literary Society, hosted Dashobhuja Bangali on 22nd February 2025 at Fr. Depelchin Auditorium. The glittering ceremony celebrated Bengali heritage and honoured ten eminent Bengali personalities, who were felicitated for their invaluable contributions to literature, arts, and society.

• 40th Foundation Day of SXCCAA

On 13th April 2025, SXCCAA celebrated its 40th Foundation Day with great pride and solemnity. The day began with flag hoisting and cake-cutting, followed by a day-long orientation on Jesuit History and Values. The sessions, led by Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, Fr. Rector Jeyaraj Veluswamy, SJ, Rev. Fr. Joseph Kulandai, SJ, and Rev. Fr. Peter Arockium, SJ, inspired more than 100 members to repledge themselves as "Men and Women, for and with Others."

• Launch of the Deccan Chapter

On **2nd August 2025**, SXCCAA proudly launched its **6th National Chapter – The Deccan Chapter** (**Hyderabad**). Nearly 100 alumni attended the historic occasion. **Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio**, **SJ** graced the event as Chief Guest, while **Dr. Prashant Garg, Chairman, LV Prasad Eye Institute**, was Guest of Honour. The celebrations included cultural performances, film screenings, felicitations, and the ceremonial launch of *We Xaverian*. The new chapter stands as a testament to the ever-growing Xaverian network across India.

Visit of Fr. Provincial

On 21st March 2025, SXCCAA warmly welcomed Rev. Fr. James Arjen Tete, SJ, the 11th Provincial of the Calcutta Jesuit Province. His gracious interaction with members during the occasion proved enriching and inspiring, reinforcing Jesuit values at the heart of the Association's mission.

• Re-publication of *Imitation of Christ* (Bengali Edition)

On the **Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, 31st July 2025**, SXCCAA hosted the **re-publication and release of the Bengali edition of** *Imitation of Christ*, translated by **Fr. Paul Detienne, SJ**. The solemn ceremony, held at St. Xavier's College, was graced by Jesuit dignitaries and alumni members, adding spiritual depth to the day's celebrations.

H. FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

• Sangam – Annual Reunion Dinner

On **30th December 2024**, SXCCAA hosted its much-awaited **Annual Reunion Dinner**, **Sangam**, on the College grounds. With a vibrant **Goa-themed evening**, the event witnessed massive participation of alumni from across the globe. The evening was made even more memorable as the **Batch of 1999 celebrated their Silver Jubilee**, marking 25 years of Xaverian camaraderie.

• Friday Fellowships

The tradition of **Friday Fellowships** (**FFT**) continued to thrive as a cornerstone of SXCCAA's spirit of togetherness. These informal **chai–samosa gatherings** fostered warm bonds and collective joy throughout the year.

• On **4th April 2025**, an FFT was held that beautifully blended the festive hues of **Holi** with the celebratory spirit of **Eid**, symbolising unity in diversity.

• On **9th March 2025**, a **Holi-themed Friday Fellowship** filled the campus with colour, laughter, and fraternity, adding to the tradition's charm.

I. ACTIVITIES IN ASSOCIATION WITH COLLEGE

• Centenary Seminar on Rev. Fr. Paul Detienne, SJ at Raghabpur

On 16th November 2024, the PG Department of Bengali (Raghabpur Campus) and SXCCAA jointly organized a seminar to mark the birth centenary of Rev. Fr. Paul Detienne, SJ. Eminent scholars reflected on his rich literary contributions and enduring legacy.

• 163rd Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda

SXCCAA observed the **163rd Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda** on **12th January 2025** at the Park Street Campus, attended by alumni members and NCC cadets. A **parallel celebration** was also held at the Raghabpur Campus in collaboration with the **Department of Social Work – NSS Unit** and the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Cell**, spreading his timeless message of service and strength.

• 165th Foundation Day & Convocation at Santiniketan, Bolpur

On **16th January 2025**, St. Xavier's College celebrated its **165th Foundation Day and Convocation** with the traditional flag hoisting, the solemn convocation ceremony, and a delegate dinner, upholding the institution's proud traditions.

• Xavullash at Raghabpur

The Bengali Literary Society of Raghabpur Campus, in association with SXCCAA, hosted the first-ever Xavullash on 23rd February 2025. The day featured vibrant cultural programmes and contests. Certificates for the Baking and Beauty & Skin-care workshops were distributed by Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio and danseuse Jaya Seal Ghosh, celebrating student creativity and skill development.

Centenary of Rev. Fr. Paul Dantienne, SJ

On 28th February 2025, SXCCAA, in collaboration with the Bengali Department of Visva Bharati, celebrated the centenary of Rev. Fr. Paul Dantienne, SJ at Santiniketan. Eminent speakers delivered lectures on his legacy, while noted Bengali writer Mrs. Krishna Sarbary Dasgupta was conferred the Fr. Dantienne Memorial Centenary Commemoration Award. The day concluded with a thanksgiving Mass at Parashmani Chapel.

• International Labour Day

On 1st May 2025, SXC and SXCCAA jointly celebrated International Labour Day, felicitating the support staff and honouring their tireless service. The celebrations concluded with a community lunch in their honour, reinforcing the spirit of gratitude and solidarity.

• Rabindra Jayanti

On 9th May 2025, Rabindra Jayanti was observed with a soulful cultural tribute and an audio-visual presentation titled "Rabindranath Tagore: A Xaverian with an Eternal Legacy." The occasion beautifully highlighted Tagore's connection with the College.

• International Yoga Day

On 21st June 2025, International Yoga Day was observed on campus with the enthusiastic participation of Jesuit Fathers, faculty, alumni, staff, and students. The event embodied the harmony of mind, body, and spirit.

J. NATIONAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

• North Bengal Chapter Fellowship Dinner

On 4th October 2024, the North Bengal Chapter hosted a Fellowship Dinner in Siliguri in honour of the Jesuit Fathers and delegates of the JHEASA North Zone Conference. The evening was graced by Mr. Goutam Deb, Mayor of Siliguri. Rev. Fr. President felicitated Rev. Fr. Joe Arun on his appointment as Chairperson, State Minorities Commission (Govt. of Tamil Nadu). Former Hony. Secretary Mr. Snehashish Sur was also felicitated for his doctoral achievement, adding to the pride of the alumni fraternity.

• Looking Beyond V – 5th Annual National Meet

In association with the **South Zone Chapter**, SXCCAA organized **Looking Beyond V**, the **5th Annual National Meet**, from **18th–19th October 2024** at **Sheraton Grand, Bengaluru**. The two-day event was a grand success, featuring **cultural programmes, fashion shows, seminars, and talk shows** with eminent personalities. The Meet witnessed participation from **over 200 members and dignitaries**, strengthening the bond among Xaverians nationwide.

• West Zone Chapter Reunion

On 1st December 2024, the West Zone Chapter hosted a Reunion-cum-Meet in Pune, where members joyfully relived their college memories with music, camaraderie, and food, reinforcing the vibrant Xaverian spirit.

K. INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

• International Chapter Coordinators' Meeting

On **31st December 2024**, the Hony. Secretary convened a **meeting with International Chapter Coordinators** from **Dubai**, **UK**, **Singapore**, **and South Africa**. Rev. Fr. President reviewed their reports and engaged in meaningful discussions on the **future roadmap**, envisioning stronger global outreach for the SXCCAA.

• Our International Chapters located in Dubai, London, Singapore, Bangladesh and others have been organizing regular fellowship and philanthropic activities throughout the year.

L. EDITORIAL BOARD ACTIVITIES

1. The Editorial Board of SXCCAA published the Annual Edition of We Xaverians for the year 2024–2025 on 2nd August 2025, a day made more special as it coincided with the Official inauguration Ceremony of SXCCAA Deccan Chapter. The magazine was formally unveiled by Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ and the members of the Editorial Board Present in Hyderabad. Members can access the edition through the official SXCCAA website or collect a copy from our familiar Room No. 5 at the Association office.

2. Carrying forward its **flagship initiative**, the Editorial Board successfully published **three editions of** *Newsreel* during the **2024–2025 calendar year**. These vibrant updates, covering the Association's activities and milestones, were made widely accessible across **social media platforms** including Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp, ensuring outreach to the global Xaverian fraternity. The last and the 4th Newsreel of the calendar year to be published by September 2025.

M. PARTICIPATION IN JAAI & WUJA ACTIVITIES

- We are represented in the national alumni movement by our member Mr. Jeetu Rampuria as nominee of Calcutta Province in the Governing Body of JAAI.
- Within the Calcutta Province (comprising alumni associations of Jesuit educational institutions of Kolkata, Durgapur and Burdwan) our member Mr. Jeetu Rampuria as the SXCCAA representative works with the Province Co-Ordinator of Alumni (currently Rev. Fr. J.Felix Raj s.j.) and organizes meetings and seminars to keep the member associations of the province networked, exchange of ideas. Such initiatives help in pollination of various ideas for the alumni to work towards the objective of the movement and also acts as motivation and inspiration as learning from the activities of individual member associations.
- On 8th December 2024, the Burdwan Campus had the honour of hosting the JAAI Meeting for the very first time. The deliberations focused on the future of Jesuit education in India, with an emphasis on sustainability and collaboration. On this occasion, Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, Principal of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata, was felicitated for the institution's outstanding NAAC accreditation results, a matter of pride for the entire Xaverian community.
- The JAAI Calcutta Province Meeting was convened on 27th July 2025 at St. Lawrence High School. The agenda included the rejuvenation of the Raghabpur Alumni Association, the formation of a Province Newsletter Editorial Team, preparations for the North Zone Congress at Jaipur (Nov 2025), re-nominations to the JAAI Governing Council, and forward-looking discussions on the WUJA World Congress scheduled to be held at Yogyakarta in 2026.

N. MEDIA RELATIONS

- The activities of the College and Alumni Association have consistently drawn wide media attention throughout the year, reflecting the ever-strengthening bond of goodwill with our friends in the press and electronic media. We remain deeply grateful for the extensive and generous coverage that has highlighted our initiatives and successes.
- In parallel, SXCCAA has become increasingly **self-reliant in visibility and outreach** through dynamic use of social media platforms such as **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **and YouTube**. The meticulous and regular updates, along with the innovative introduction of the **Newsreel and engaging event reels**, have significantly enhanced our digital footprint, ensuring a **meaningful and impactful reach** among members and the larger community.

O. EXPANSION

1. It is our proud privilege to share that **St. Xavier's College is coming up with a new campus at Anandapur**, near the Eastern Metropolitan Bypass, envisioned as a **Media Hub and Research Facility Centre**. The stone-laying ceremony was held on **22nd September 2022**, in the presence of Fathers of the community, alumni members, staff, and well-wishers of the institution. Over the past

three years, vigorous construction work has been carried out, and the first phase is almost ready to be operational, with degree programmes expected to commence by June 2026.

- 2. SXCCAA takes immense pride in announcing the major expansion work at the Raghabpur Campus, where two new buildings have transformed the campus into a grand and vibrant centre of learning. The newly constructed facilities were formally inaugurated and blessed by the Fathers this year, and are already functional in the mission of forming men and women for others. The SXCCAA office at Raghabpur is also fully operational and working in close collaboration with the College in its endeavours. In addition, several new career-oriented courses, such as Hospitality Management and Event Management, have been introduced, enriching the academic offerings of the campus.
- 3. By the grace of the Almighty and through the visionary leadership of our President and Principal, Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, the expansion programme of our Alma Mater has continued with great speed and vigour. At every step, SXCCAA has extended its unwavering support and presence, contributing meaningfully to this journey of growth and excellence.

P. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association has successfully completed yet another financially sound and satisfying year. All programmes and initiatives of the Association have been conducted with careful planning and have generated the necessary resources for their smooth execution. A word of special gratitude is due to our Honorary Treasurer, CA. Manoj Mani Agarwal, and Honorary Assistant Treasurer, CA. Smarajit Mitra, for safeguarding the treasury with diligence and ensuring exemplary standards of accounting excellence. We also extend our sincere thanks to our Auditors, M/s. Anurag Mathur & Company, for their meticulous and professional work throughout the year.

SXCCAA further remains **deeply indebted to the Finance Committee** for their **timely guidance and valuable inputs**, which have enabled the Association to remain on a firm financial footing while pursuing its diverse endeavours.

Q. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE ACTIVITY

The **Membership Drive Committee**, led by **Mr. Ramesh Kakrania** and senior members appointed by **Rev. Fr. President**, worked actively throughout the year to strengthen SXCCAA's fraternity. Alumni orientation sessions were held in classrooms, seminars, and at the Annual Convocation through a dedicated assistance booth. Online membership facilities were also reinforced, making the process more accessible. These efforts brought in a **good number of new members**, ensuring both growth in numbers and quality engagement.

R. AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

The year under review has been truly remarkable, marked by a series of prestigious awards and recognitions conferred upon **Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata**, and the **St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association (SXCCAA)**. These milestones stand as testimony to the vision, leadership, and collective efforts of the Xaverian family.

- National Recognition for Father President:
 - Dr. Sam Higginbottom Award for Best Principal of India 2024 was conferred upon Rev.
 Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, acknowledging his transformative leadership in higher education.
 - At the Film Federation of India & Techno India Group's Media & Entertainment Convention (31st January 2025), Father President received the FFI Achiever's Award for Excellence in Media Education and Research, presented by Sri Babul Supriyo and Sri Sujit Bose, in the presence of Mr. Firdausul Hasan, President of FFI.

- o He was also **felicitated by the West Bengal Provincial Marwari Federation** (22nd March 2025), where he addressed the gathering on "What They Think About Us."
- At the 12th Gurukul Awards (24th January 2025), Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, received the Best College Principal Award, as part of a historic hat-trick of honours for the College and Association.
- On 17th August 2025, Father President delivered the 2025 Father Mervyn Carapiet Memorial Lecture at the Church of Christ the King, Park Circus.
- He has also been appointed **Secretary of the Conference of Jesuit Higher Education** (CSHE) at LIBA, Chennai, further strengthening his leadership within **JHEASA**.

• Institutional Achievements:

- St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, under the stewardship of Father President, achieved the highest NAAC grade of A++ (4th Cycle). This milestone was celebrated with heartfelt congratulations to Fathers, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and stakeholders.
- o The **Government of West Bengal felicitated the College** for this outstanding NAAC accomplishment, with Father President receiving the award on behalf of the institution.
- At the AIACHE Triennial Conference, XIM University, Bhubaneswar (27th–29th December 2024), the College received a Special Shield for being among the Top 100 NIRF-ranked colleges.
- o At the 12th Gurukul Awards, the College was named Best College of the Year 2025.

• Alumni Association Recognition:

At the 12th Gurukul Awards, SXCCAA proudly received the title of Most Active Alumni
Association of the Year 2025, completing the rare and prestigious hat-trick alongside Father
President and the College.

▶ Upcoming Programmes (Before the 39th AGM of SXCCAA)

- Silver Jubilee Celebration of Rev. Father Dominic Savio, SJ: On 10th September 2025, we shall come together to celebrate 25 glorious years of Father Dominic Savio, SJ's journey with St. Xavier's College, Kolkata. This milestone event, to be held in the College Auditorium, will be coupled with a commemoration of 40 years of SXCCAA's legacy, marking the Association's steadfast service and contributions to its alma mater and society. A special programme and gathering are being curated to make this dual celebration truly memorable.
- **Teacher's Day**: On **4th September 2025**, SXCCAA will join hands with the College in celebrating Teacher's Day, paying tribute to our mentors who shaped generations of Xaverians.
- Fr. Maliyekal Memorial Football Match: This much-awaited annual sporting tradition will once again bring together students, alumni, and well-wishers in the spirit of camaraderie and remembrance.
- Newsreel Publication: The fourth and final issue of Newsreel for the calendar year will be released in **September 2025**, capturing the milestones, memories, and moments of the past months.
- Xaverians Masters' League: On 6th September 2025, SXCCAA will actively participate in the Xaverians Masters' League, a soccer league for men aged 40 and above, comprising faculty, support staff, Jesuit Fathers, and alumni. Organized jointly by the College and the Association, this unique

event will strengthen bonds across generations of Xaverians. This is a program in continuation of the National Sports Day Celebration of the College.

• 39th Annual General Meeting: SXCCAA will host its 39th AGM on 23rd September 2025, a significant occasion to review our collective journey, deliberate on our plans, and reaffirm our commitment to the vision of our alma mater.

CONCLUSION

I take this opportunity to **congratulate every member of SXCCAA** for their honest involvement and unstinting support. Walking together under the guidance of our leader, **Rev. Father President**, we have grown into an exemplary body. Truly, when everyone moves forward together, success becomes inevitable.

My heartfelt thanks to **Rev. Father President** and all the Fathers for giving the alumni association an active role in the affairs of our alma mater. This privilege inspires us as Xaverians to contribute with greater responsibility towards the progress of the College and society at large.

I remain deeply grateful to Rev. Fr. Jeyaraj Veluswamy, SJ, Rev. Fr. Peter Arockiam, SJ, Rev. Fr. Joseph Kulandai, SJ, and Rev. Fr. Johnson Padiyara, SJ, whose constant encouragement strengthens our endeavours. Special thanks also to all Fathers and Brothers of the Jesuit community for their blessings.

I extend my gratitude to the **Governing Council**, **Advisors**, **Conveners**, **and Sub-Committee members** whose selfless service has made our achievements possible. I also acknowledge with appreciation **Mr. Dominic Anthony and Mrs. Tanima Ghosh**, who have been efficient and reliable points of support at Room No. 5.

Finally, we express our sincere thanks to all **sponsors**, **donors**, **and benefactors**. Your generosity has been the fuel behind our events, and without your support, this year's success would not have been possible.

Yours sincerely,

Firdausul Hasan

Filausul Haran

Hony. Secretary St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association 2024-2025