

CHRONICLES

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Welcome to the latest edition of SXCA Chronicles, your go-to source for updates, insights, and achievements at Xavier's Ahmedabad. From staff and student participation to events and awards, all the chronicles can be found here.

MAKING THE NATION PROUD

77TH REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

The 77th Republic Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad. The ceremony was graced by former alumnus Commandant Devansh Trivedi as the Chief Guest. The programme commenced with the spirit of national pride, bringing together students and staff to honour the values of our Constitution.

In his address, Commandant Trivedi inspired the gathering by emphasizing discipline and dedication towards the progress of the nation. He encouraged students to contribute actively to unity and development in their respective areas. Adding to the celebration, the NSS team presented a play on national integration, beautifully conveying the message of unity in diversity. The event concluded on a patriotic note, leaving the college community with a sense of pride and responsibility towards the nation.

MILESTONE IN XAVIER'S HISTORY

Ms. Zeel Thakkar, a volunteer in the NSS Unit, and former campus ambassador, was selected for the *Republic Day Parade Camp* in New Delhi from the 1st till the 31st of January. She was a part of the NSS Contingent where 148 students from across the country participated in the parade.

She is the first NSS volunteer to receive this honor marking a proud moment for NSS and SXCA.



ZEEL THAKKAR AT THE REPUBLIC DAY PARADE



EVENTS & LECTURES

A LECTURE ON GRAVITATIONAL WAVES AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

The Physics and Electronics Department conducted the third session of the Experimental Lecture series. On January 10, at the XICA auditorium, Dr. Suresh Doravari, a scientific officer from the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune, delivered a lecture on "Research and Career Opportunities in Gravitational Wave Detectors."

The session provided insights into gravitational waves, their milestone discovery by LIGO, and the international network of detectors including LIGO, VIRGO, GEO600, and KAGRA.

Dr. Doravari also informed the students about the prime technologies driving these detectors and highlighted the scope for research and career development in this rapidly advancing area of astronomy. The lecture grabbed keen participation from students and faculty and proved as an engaging and inspiring academic experience.

FROM NUMBERS TO KNOWLEDGE

The Department of Statistics arranged a full day academic programme titled "From Data to Decision: The Power of Statistical Thinking" on January 10 at the Fr. Herbert deSouza Hall. The event witnessed participation from more than 123 students. Coordinated by Dr. Nandita Christy, it highlighted the importance of statistics in efficient decision making across diverse fields.

The programme included expert talks by Dr. Ramkrishna Lahu Sinde, Dr. Subhankar Dutta, and Mr. Hiren Kakkad, who shared valuable practical experiences. The programme was held in organization with Symbiosis IAS and KAPSUN Air Coolers, and was an engaging and enriching experience, emphasizing on the role of statistics in today's information driven world.

BUILDING CRITICAL MINDS IN AN INFORMATION-DRIVEN WORLD

With misinformation spreading as fast as anything in today's digital age, the NSS Unit organized a Fact Checking Workshop to uplift student's knowledge about media literacy and critical thinking skills. The event was led by Mr. Parth Trivedi—Senior PRO at the Ahmedabad Management Association, a communication student, editor, and writer. The theme of his talk centred on the idea that "In a world full of information, critical thinking is the real power."

Exercises like analysing viral social media posts, role-playing fake news situations, and discussions based on real-life case studies aided the participants in developing systematic verification practices. Students were introduced to practical methods of fact checking, such as verifying claims, images, videos, and news reports using trustworthy sources and cross-verification techniques. The session also highlighted ethical communication and the supportive role of AI in various verification processes. Conclusively, the workshop guided students on critical thinking and information management.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON NAVIGATING RESIDENTIAL STATUS AND CROSS-BORDER TAXATION

The Department of Commerce organized a National seminar on "Navigating Residential Status and Cross-Border Taxation" on January 13 at the XICA Auditorium. The session was conducted by CA Harsh Khoradia, a specialist in NRI taxation and FEMA, who described the idea of residential status under the Income Tax Act and its effect on taxation across countries. He used explanations, practical examples, and real-life cases to help students understand concepts such as ROR, RNOR, deemed residency, and the scope of total income. He also covered Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAA) and legal ways of tax planning. The session had active student participation and discussions from all 78 participants.



DR . T.C. PANDYA MEMORIAL LECTURE; QUANTAM PHYSICS SEMINAR

The Department of Physics and Electronics organized a seminar titled "From Planks to Qubits: 100 Years of Quantum Science" on January 23. The seminar commemorated a century of quantum science and highlighted its profound impact on modern physics and technology. The academic event was followed by the prestigious T. C. Pandya Memorial Lecture.

The memorial lecture was delivered by Dr. P. C. Deshmukh, Professor at the Centre for Atomic, Molecular and Optical Sciences and Advanced Nanotechnology, IIT Tirupati. Dr. Deshmukh provided deep insights on the evolution of quantum theory, its foundational concepts, and its applications in emerging technologies such as quantum computing. The seminar offered students and faculty an opportunity to engage with advanced scientific ideas and appreciate the transformative role of quantum science in contemporary research.

ACADEMIC INTERACTION SESSION WITH AN ALUMNA CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

An academic interaction session was organized for the third-year Psychology students. The session featured Ms. Noopur Oza, an alumna of the Psychology Department and a practicing Clinical Psychologist at GIPS Hospital. The interaction aimed to bridge the gap between academic learning and professional practice in mental health.



GUEST LECTURE ON SYNTHETIC POLYMERS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

An engaging guest lecture was conducted by the Department of Physics for the undergraduate students on the topic of Synthetic Polymers. The session was delivered by Dr. Rohitkumar Vora, who explained the structure, properties, and everyday applications of synthetic polymers in a clear and absorbing way.

ACADEMIC SESSIONS CONDUCTED BY THE ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT

The Department of Economics organized two sessions to help students develop their academic and financial skills. An 'Academic English Writing' session was conducted by Fr. Dr. Sunil Macwan, Vice Principal (Arts) and Professor of English. In this session, students learned how to improve their writing, idea presentation, and organize their thoughts in a proper academic format. A total of 38 Economics students attended and were benefited from the session.

The department also held a special session on Investment and Financial Awareness for women students, which was delivered by business expert Mr. Hitesh Pujara. Around 117 Economics students participated and learned about financial planning, saving money, and making smart investment choices.

SERIES OF MATHEMATICS PROGRAMMES AND NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad organized several mathematics programs and national-level exams during December 2025 and January 2026, inviting students and teachers from Gujarat and nearby states. An Indian National Mathematical Olympiad training camp (25 December–1 January) was held with support from the National Board for Higher Mathematics (HBCSE–TIFR) in collaboration with Gujarat Ganit Mandal at Gujarat Vidyapith. During the same time, the 11th Problem Solving Workshop and Enrichment in Mathematics program was also conducted.

The college served as the main center for the National Level Madhava Mathematics Competition on 11 January, with around 120 students participating. This was followed by the Indian National Mathematical Olympiad on 18 January, in which 44 selected school students appeared, and the NBHM Entrance Examination on 24 January, with 34 candidates. During the Annual Conference of Gujarat Ganit Mandal, Mr. Udayan Prajapati was honored with the 'Prof. A. R. Rao Special Mathematics Service Award' for his valuable contributions to mathematics education.

DESIGN THINKING, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Xavier's Center for Incubation, Technology and Entrepreneurship Development (XITED), in collaboration with the Innovation Club, KCG at St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad, organized a series of interactive sessions between November 2025 and January 2026 to introduce students to innovation and entrepreneurship. These included "Vision Quest: Unleashing Creativity in Science and Technology" and two workshops on "Design Thinking, Innovation & Entrepreneurship," led by resource person Mr. Karamjitsinh Bihola, founder of Innodesk Designovation Services. Engaging activities, group discussions, and hands-on exercises helped students to learn how to generate ideas, understand user needs, and develop solutions using the design thinking process. The sessions helped participants improve teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving skills while also giving them a better understanding of how to turn ideas into real projects. Overall, the programs successfully encouraged students to think innovatively and explore entrepreneurship as a future career path.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad (SXCA) organized two Faculty Development Programme (FDP) workshops for its teachers on 31 January, focusing on their professional growth and campus well-being. The first session was conducted by Michel Christian, who encouraged teachers to work together with responsibility, respect, and honesty to create a better academic environment. The second session, led by Dr. Khusnuma Banaji, focused on how teachers can support students emotionally and create a caring atmosphere on campus.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

The Campus Ministry volunteers organized a visit and interaction session with the children at Madurai Bhuvan, Bapunagar on January 10. During the interaction, the volunteers engaged the children through informal conversations and group activities. The experience proved to be mutually enriching, as it helped students become more aware of social realities while spreading happiness among the children. The visit reinforced the values of service, empathy, and community outreach, aligning with the broader mission of holistic education promoted by the institution.

The Department of Statistics organized an educational field visit to Anand Agricultural University (AAU), Anand on 17 January 2026 for TY students. The visit aimed to provide practical exposure to agricultural research and demonstrate the real-life application of statistical concepts, particularly Design of Experiments. Students observed experiments based on RBD, CRD, factorial and split-plot designs at the Department of Agricultural Statistics. They also visited the Sardar Patel Agricultural Educational Museum and the Departments of Tissue Culture and Horticulture.

The Department of Gujarati organized an educational visit to Nandigram, Valsad on January 31 and February 1, for third-year students as part of the sixth-semester paper Literature and Sociology.

The Departments of Sociology and Sanskrit conducted a three-day educational field visit to Somnath and Veraval from January 10 to 12. They visited Shree Bhalka Tirth Mandir and the Somnath Temple, and interacted with the Siddi community at Jambur Village. The students also visited Osho Ashram, and the Castlerock Fish Trading Company, Veraval Fishing Port, and Shree Somnath Sanskrit University.



STAFF ACHEIVEMENTS

Dr. Saurabh Vaishnav, Assistant Professor of English, was invited as the resource person for a guest lecture under the UDISHA initiative on January 20. Government Arts College, Maninagar organized it as a part of its academic enrichment activities for students of B.A. English.

Dr. Atman Shah, NSS Program Officer, attended a one-day NSS training programme organized by the Gujarat University NSS Unit on January 16. The training was conducted from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and aimed at strengthening the functioning and effectiveness of NSS activities at the institutional level.

Dr Disha Khetani received the Best Paper Award (Oral Presentation) at the "International Seminar on Research Innovations and Chemical Sciences", organized by MG Science Institute. The seminar was held between January 12 and 13.

Dr. Atman Shah published a research paper titled "Ethical Consumerism and Sustainability: A Gandhian Perspective". It is published in Liberal Studies, Volume 10, Issue 1, a peer-reviewed UGC CARE Group-I journal.

Dr. Ishwar Mahera was invited as a Resource Person at the National Conference on Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) held at Gandhinagar University on 22 January 2026. He contributed to the conference deliberations by sharing his academic insights on the relevance and application of Indian Knowledge Systems in contemporary education and research.

Dr. Puran Makwana attended a five-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) at the Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat (KCG), focusing on enhancing academic competencies and professional growth in higher education.

Dr. Khushboo Shah participated in the Seventh International Conference on Soft Computing and its Engineering Applications organized by CHARUSAT. Her involvement in the international conference reflected active academic engagement and contribution to contemporary research discussions. These accomplishments highlight the continuous professional development and scholarly involvement of the faculty members of the institution.

Dr Mallika Sanyal participated in a *Two-Day National Workshop on Professional Development Training Program on Best Practices and Green Initiatives* held on the 19th and 20th of January 2026. The workshop was organized by Government Science College, Idar, and focused on enhancing professional competencies and promoting sustainable practices in educational institutions.

STUDENT ACHEIVEMENTS

PARTICIPATION IN PSYCOFORMAN 2026

On January 4, forty-one students participated in PSYCON 2026, the 4th Annual Psychology Conference organized by GIPS Hospital, Ahmedabad. The conference was held at the Ahmedabad Management Association (AMA) on the theme "Future of Mind: Brains, Bots and Beyond". The event provided an academic platform to explore the evolving intersections of psychology, neuroscience, and artificial intelligence.

Students actively participated in sessions and discussions focused on contemporary issues such as mental health in the digital age, AI-driven therapeutic interventions, and emerging brain technologies. Exposure to cutting-edge research and interdisciplinary perspectives enriched the students' understanding of modern psychological practice.



Departments of Biochemistry and Biotechnology and Microbiology participated in the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the Gandhinagar Biosafety Level-4 Laboratory Facility and attend a day-long seminar at the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre on 13 January 2026.

This event gave students firsthand exposure to the inception of India's first state-government-operated BSL-4 laboratory, a facility designed to enhance the country's biosafety and health security against high-risk pathogens.

Ms. Shreem Shah (Department of Psychology) was awarded the Best Paper Presentation award for her paper "Exploring the Influence of Social Contact Shaping Attitudes Towards Homosexuality" at the 5th International Conference, Envisioning Viksit Bharat 2047: Synergizing NEP-2020, Allied Healthcare and Psychological Well-being for Holistic Growth, organized at Gujarat University.

L.D. Arts College hosted the Geeta Jayanti Samarabh On 30th January 2026, in Elocution competition. **Mr. Nayan Acharya** from the English Department took 1st prize, while **Mr. Prerak Thakker** from the Chemistry Department earned 3rd prize. **Ms. Isha Manoj and Ms. Kena Trivedi** also represented the college with enthusiasm.

Ms. Mahi Joshi, a second-year Economics (Div-A) student, claimed second place in the intercollege elocution competition organized by Yuva Vikas Trust and received a ₹2,000 cash prize under the guidance of Prof. Vijaysinh Dhandhukiya and Dr. Atman Shah.

A final-year M.A. English student, **Ms. Isha Rami** has published her research paper, "Going Beyond Translation: The Trans-creation and Cultural Reimagining of The Bhagavad Gita," in the International Review of Literary Studies, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2025). Her paper offers diverse ideas of the Bhagavad Gita, explores its cultural reinterpretation beyond translation.

Ms. Kayana Daruwala and Ms. Diya Patel participated in the Indus Cup National Level Basketball Championship held from January 5th-10th, 2026 and secured second place with effortless team spirit.

Ms. Saloni Tanna from the Economics Department participated in cricket tournament for Gujarat University representing Gujarat at National level.

Ms. Vishwa Panchal from the Commerce Department secured second place in a basketball tournament in Muscat.

The women's basketball team secured the **second rank** at the **Indus Cup** 2026 on January 11.

Mr. Vraj Shah from the Department of English won the High Commendation Award with a cash prize of ₹6,000 at the GLS MUN 4.0, which was organized at GLS University on January 3rd-4th, 2026. He represented the Gujarat Legislative Assembly Committee.

Mr. Shashwat Pandya also took part in a live discussion on the India-EU trade debate that was held on Nirman TV on 27th January 2026.

Ms. Akanksha Tripathi secured 1st Rank at the National Level in the IIT Bombay's Mood Indigo in the Reportage (News Reporting) competition.

Mr. Prithviraj Singh, from the Department of Economics, has been chosen as a Global Shaper in the Ahmedabad Hub of the World Economic Forum. Selected from 550 applications, he underwent a three-month probation period, working on projects that bring about environmental and social impact. He is now a part of the Ahmedabad representation in the global network of 540 hubs across the world.

Mr. Joshi Soham Kalpeshkumar, Mr. Patel Meetkumar Rajubhai , and Mr. Trivedi Atman Nileshbhai attended a specialized training program organized by Employees' State Insurance (ESI), enhancing their practical skills and knowledge in their respective fields.

Mr. Satyam Sahil (Economics) secured a Top 5 national position and finished as runner-up in the final round of the Ka-Ching X EJCon 2026 National Policy Challenge. The competition was organized by NMIMS in collaboration with Tata Pension Fund Management on January 9th and 10th, 2026. This showcases his strong analytical and policy making skills.

Mr. Pruthvirajsinh Jadeja from the Department of Zoology participated in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (VBYLD) at Bharat Mandapam. The four-day national event held on January 9th-12th, 2026 brought together 3,000 student leaders to discuss India's development vision for 2047, bridging academic knowledge with real-world policy challenges. A key highlight of this conference was the interactive session with Narendra Modi, where youth recommendations were presented, emphasizing active youth participation in nation-building.

Mr. Dikshant Joshi secured first rank in the regional Best out of Waste competition held at Sardar Vallabhai Global University.

Several students from SXCA appeared for the **GSET** exam.

- **Ms Meera Pandya** (Department of Psychology)
- **Mr. Misamraza Charaniya** (Department of Chemistry)
- **Ms. Vidhiben Patel** (Department of Chemistry)
- **Ms. Shruti Lakhani** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Mr. Kshiti Vyas** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Mr. Gopika Vadagama** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Mr. Preet Vyas** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Ms. Deepika Sanghadia** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Mr. Darshan Kacha** (Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology)
- **Ms. Khushi Shah** (Department of Mathematics)
- **Mr. Ramesh Shetty** (Department of Physics)
- **Ms. Avni Prajapati** (Department of Gujarati)
- **Mr. Rutwik Kalariya** (Department of Gujarati)
- **Mr. Rutwiksinh Parmar** (Department of Gujarati)
- **Ms. Pratikshaba Jhala** (Department of English)
- **Ms Isha Rami** (Department of English)
- **Ms. Vaishnavi Sharma** (Department of English)

qualified for the exam.

Saamy Patel and Harshil Mevada from the Department of Computer Science participated in a *Cyber Security training programme* on January 16. The programme was organized with the objective of equipping students with practical knowledge and awareness of contemporary cyber threats and security practices. The training introduced students to key concepts related to cyber safety, digital security, and responsible use of technology. Participation in such programmes supports skill development and prepares students to meet the growing demands of the technology-driven professional environment.

ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

The NSS unit of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad organized a campaign on 24 January 2026 to promote road safety as part of National Road Safety Month. Volunteers conducted awareness activities at two city locations and assisted the traffic police in managing traffic and educating the public on safe road practices.

PLACEMENT IN XAVIER'S

The Placement Cell facilitated 11 placements across 4 companies, bringing the total placements this academic year to 39, during January 1st-31st, 2026. An online placement drive with Bank of America was also conducted.

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You can reach us at: iqac@sxca.edu.in

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