XAVIER OUTREACH SERVICES (XOS)
St. Xavier's College, Thumba
Activity Report 2025–2026

Xavier Outreach Services (XOS) of St. Xavier's College, Thumba continued its mission of promoting social responsibility, leadership, and compassionate engagement with society during the academic year 2025–2026. Through a variety of outreach programmes, workshops, campaigns, and service initiatives, XOS provided students with meaningful opportunities to interact with communities, understand social realities, and contribute positively to society. The activities undertaken during the year are presented below in chronological order.

1. **Month-long Communicative English Workshop--- 07 April – 07 May 2025**

Xavier Outreach Services conducted a month-long Communicative English Workshop for thirty-five students from the neighbouring communities. The programme was organised with the objective of improving the participants' spoken English skills and boosting their confidence in communication. The workshop was led by **Ms. Jency James**, who conducted interactive sessions focusing on pronunciation, vocabulary development, basic grammar, and conversational practice. The programme also included group activities, role-plays, and discussions that enabled the participants to practise English in real-life contexts. The initiative significantly enhanced the communication skills of the participants and contributed to their personal and educational development. The programme also strengthened the college's relationship with the surrounding community.

2. Cultural Exchange Programme with Singapore Students--- 16–20 June 2025

Xavier Outreach Services, in collaboration with the **Department of English**, organised an **International Cultural Exchange Programme** with students from **ITE College, Singapore** from 16 to 20 June 2025. The programme aimed to promote intercultural understanding, global awareness, and meaningful interaction between students from different cultural backgrounds. During the programme, the visiting students participated in interactive sessions, cultural exchanges, and collaborative activities with the students of St. Xavier's College. These engagements provided an opportunity for participants to share cultural traditions, ideas, and perspectives. As part of the outreach component of the programme, the participants also visited **Santhwana Destitute Centre, Puthenthope**, and **Fathima Palliative Care Centre, Thumba**. These visits offered students an opportunity to engage in acts of service and develop empathy toward the underprivileged and the ailing.

1. **Drive to Prevent Sea Erosion at Pallithura--- 30 June 2025**

Xavier Outreach Services organised a **community service drive to prevent sea erosion** along the coastal region of Pallithura on 30 June 2025. The initiative was conducted in collaboration with the student volunteers of **NCC, NSS, AICUF, and other college clubs**. As part of the activity, volunteers filled sand sacks and placed them along the vulnerable sections of the shore to help reduce the impact of sea erosion. The drive was undertaken in response to the recurring environmental challenges faced by the coastal community. The programme not only contributed to protecting the shoreline but also helped sensitise students to environmental issues and the socio-economic challenges faced by fishing communities living along the coast.

1. **Music Event for Social Empathy--- 15 July 2025**

As part of its social outreach and cultural engagement initiatives, Xavier Outreach Services organised a **music event in collaboration with the Gandhi Ashram Music School, Darjeeling** on 15 July 2025. The programme was conceived as both a cultural celebration and a **fundraising initiative** to support the educational needs of Dalit and Adivasi children studying at the music school. The event showcased musical performances that reflected the rich cultural heritage of the region and highlighted the transformative power of music in education. The programme provided an enriching platform for students to develop leadership, organisational, and interpersonal skills while fostering empathy and solidarity with marginalised communities.

5. Orientation Programme for First-Year Students--- 18–19 August 2025

Xavier Outreach Services organised a **two-day Orientation Programme for first-year students** of St. Xavier's College on 18 and 19 August 2025. The programme aimed to introduce new students to the values of social responsibility, service, and leadership promoted by the outreach initiatives of the college. The sessions were animated by **Smt. Harsha S. Jacob** and **Fr. Toby Joseph SJ** from **Athma Mithra, Kalady**, who served as the chief resource persons. Through interactive discussions and activities, the resource persons encouraged students to develop self-awareness, empathy, and a commitment to community engagement. The programme helped the newly admitted students understand the importance of social involvement and inspired many of them to participate actively in the outreach activities of the college.

1. **National Seminar on Social Science Research---**25-26 September

A two-day national seminar titled *"Methodological Innovations in Social Science Research: Interdisciplinary Perspectives"* was organised on **25–26 September 2025** at the **Education Theatre, Loyola College of Social Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram**. The programme was jointly organised by the **Xavier-Loyola Institute of Interdisciplinary Research (XLIR)**, **Loyola Extension Services (LES)**, **Loyola College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), Thiruvananthapuram**, and **Xavier Outreach Services (XOS), St. Xavier's College, Thumba**. The seminar was inaugurated by **Prof. Rajan Gurukkal**, Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, who also delivered the keynote address on *"Interdisciplinarity as a Method and the Future of Social Sciences."* The inaugural session included felicitations by **Dr. (Fr.) Sabu P. Thomas, SJ**, Principal of Loyola College of Social Sciences, and **Prof. Dr. Thomas Scaria**, Principal of St. Xavier's College, Thumba. The programme witnessed the presence of **Dr. Ranjit George**, **Dr. Saji P. Jacob**, and **Dr. Dominic Joseph**. The seminar featured a series of expert sessions addressing various methodological aspects of social science research, including philosophies and epistemologies of research, knowledge production, qualitative research traditions, and tools for qualitative data collection. Resource persons included **Dr. Augustine Pamplany**, **Dr. Rajeev K.**, and **Dr. Jasmine Sarah Alexander**, who provided valuable insights into contemporary qualitative research practices. The second day focused on **quantitative approaches, qualitative** data analysis, and emerging research tools, with sessions led by **Dr. Rajesh P.**, **Dr. Reena Merin Cherian**, and **Dr. K. Satheesh Kumar**, who introduced participants to software and AI-assisted literature review methods. The seminar also featured a **panel discussion on "Writing to Publish in Academics,"** followed by a hands-on session on academic writing and publishing

conducted by the XLIR team. The programme provided participants with a comprehensive exposure to interdisciplinary research methodologies and practical tools for academic writing and publication, fostering critical engagement with contemporary approaches in social science research.

1. **Observance of World Fisher Women's Day--- 04 November 2025**

Xavier Outreach Services organised the **observance of World Fisher Women's Day** on 4 November 2025 on the college campus in collaboration with the **NCC Naval Wing, Women's Study Centre, and NSS Units** of St. Xavier's College. The programme recognised the invaluable contribution of fisher women to the coastal economy and community life. Representatives of the fisher women community were felicitated during the event as a gesture of appreciation and solidarity. An awareness session was conducted highlighting the challenges faced by fisher women, including livelihood insecurity, occupational risks, and social marginalisation. The programme served as a meaningful platform to acknowledge their resilience and to create awareness among students about the socio-economic realities of coastal communities.

1. **Children's Day Celebration at Karuna Nivas--- 15 November 2025**

As part of the Children's Day outreach initiatives, the **NCC Naval Wing of St. Xavier's College**, in collaboration with Xavier Outreach Services, organised a **Children's Day Celebration at Karuna Nivas, Vettuthura** on 15 November 2025. The programme began with informal interaction sessions followed by cultural performances presented by NCC cadets and the children of the institution. The lively dances, songs, and skits created a joyful and engaging atmosphere for everyone present. A series of games and recreational activities were conducted, encouraging teamwork and participation. The celebration concluded with a shared lunch and the distribution of sweets. As a gesture of support to the institution, a **gas stove** was donated to Karuna Nivas to assist in their daily needs. The programme was animated by **Sub Lt. Rajesh Martin** and **Dr. Fr. Dominic Joseph**, along with nearly fifty NCC cadets. The event brought joy to the children and strengthened the spirit of compassion and service among the participating students.

9. Three-Day Youth Leadership Workshop--- 05–07 December 2025

Xavier Outreach Services, in collaboration with the **AICUF Unit of the College**, organised a **three-day Youth Leadership Workshop** from 5 to 7 December 2025. The residential programme was attended by thirty-five students. The workshop aimed to nurture leadership qualities, critical thinking, and social commitment among young people. The sessions included group discussions, team-building exercises, leadership training modules, and reflections on social issues. The programme provided a dynamic learning environment where students were encouraged to explore their potential as responsible leaders capable of contributing to social transformation.

1. **Christmas Outreach Programme--- 19 December 2025**

The outreach programme **"Be a Secret Santa 2.0"** was organised on 19 December 2025 at **St. Martha's Special School, Menamkulam** by the **Department of English and Media Studies** in collaboration with Xavier Outreach Services. The programme was organised to share the joy and spirit of Christmas through acts of kindness, generosity, and companionship. The event included cultural

performances by both the college students and the children of the special school, creating a warm and lively atmosphere. A special highlight of the programme was the arrival of **Santa Claus**, who distributed gifts to the children. The visit also provided students with an opportunity to interact with the children and teachers and gain insight into the learning environment designed for children with special needs. The programme encouraged students to reflect on the importance of inclusion, empathy, and social responsibility.

11. Environmental Sensitization Programme--- 20–21 March 2026

An **Environmental Sensitization Programme** was organised on 20 and 21 March 2026 by **AICUF in collaboration with Xavier Outreach Services** with the objective of promoting ecological awareness and responsible environmental action among students. The first day included awareness sessions, discussions, and a panel interaction. An informative talk on **"Climate Crisis and Disaster Management"** was delivered by environmental activist **E. P. Anil**. A panel discussion on **"Youth Engagement in Addressing Climate Change and Building Sustainable Communities"** featured distinguished panelists including **Dr. Ranjit George**, **Dr. Sheeja Mol G. P.**, and **Dr. Jisha Joseph**. An environmental quiz conducted by **Mr. Rahul Albert** further engaged the participants. The second day focused on experiential learning through a **trekking programme to Ponmudi**. During the trek, students held a discussion on sustainable living and individual responsibility for environmental protection. The participants also conducted a **cleaning drive at the Meenmutty Eco Tourism Zone**, removing plastic waste and contributing to the preservation of the natural environment. The programme concluded with a reflection session led by **Fr. Baby Chalil SJ**, Director of AICUF Kerala, who encouraged students to become responsible stewards of the environment.

1. **Anti-War Campaign and Silent Protest 14 March 2026**

Xavier Outreach Services joined hands with **AICUF Kerala** to organise an **Anti-War Campaign and Silent Protest** on 14 March 2026 at **Martyrs' Square**. The programme aimed to express solidarity with the victims of war and to raise awareness about the humanitarian consequences of armed conflict. Around twenty-five students from St. Xavier's College participated in the campaign. The programme was inaugurated by **C. P. John**, who emphasised the urgent need for peace, dialogue, and international cooperation. The event was presided over by **Fr. Baby Chalil SJ**, State Advisor of AICUF Kerala. During the programme, **David Beckham**, the College Union Chairman, addressed the gathering and highlighted the responsibility of young people in promoting peace and justice. Through placards and silent demonstrations, the participants conveyed a strong message against war and violence. The initiative attracted the attention of the public and successfully created awareness about the suffering caused by conflicts across the world, reaffirming the commitment of the students and Xavier Outreach Services to the values of peace and human dignity.

1. **Awareness Campaign on Menstrual Hygiene & Menstrual Cup Distribution----- 24 March 2026**

Xavier Outreach Services (XOS) of **St. Xavier's College, Thumba**, in collaboration with the **Rotary Club of Trivandrum Suburban**, organized an **Awareness Campaign on Menstrual Hygiene and Menstrual Cup Distribution** on **24 March 2026** at the **Parish Hall, Marianad**. The

programme was conducted in association with **Our Lady of Assumption Church, Marianad**, with CSR support from **Caidya India Private Limited**, Technopark. The initiative aimed to promote menstrual hygiene awareness and encourage the use of sustainable menstrual products. The programme began with a prayer song followed by the **Welcome Address by Dr. Baiju Ramachandran**, Project Coordinator. The **Presidential Address** was delivered by **Rev. Fr. Melkon J., Parish Priest of Marianad**, and the programme was **inaugurated by Fr. Sunny Jose SJ**, Manager of St. Xavier's College, Thumba. **Rtn. Vinod Narayanan**, President of the Rotary Club of Trivandrum Suburban, presented the **project briefing**, explaining the objectives of the initiative. **Prof. Dr. Thomas Scaria**, Principal of St. Xavier's College, Thumba, and **Ms. Uma Jayadevan**, Director Finance of Caidya India Private Limited, offered felicitations. Mementoes were presented by **Rtn. Ajesh Pillai**, Executive Director. The highlight of the programme was the **awareness class on menstrual hygiene** conducted by **Dr. Sarika P. S. Krishna**, Project Associate at **HLL Lifecare Limited**, who explained the importance of menstrual hygiene and the safe use of menstrual cups. This was followed by the **distribution of menstrual cups** to the participants. Around **200 women from Marianad and nearby areas** attended the programme and benefited from the awareness session. The initiative helped create greater awareness about menstrual health and promoted sustainable hygiene practices. The programme concluded with a **Vote of Thanks by Dr. (Fr.) Dominic Joseph**, Director of Xavier Outreach Services, followed by refreshments.

Conclusion

Throughout the academic year 2025–2026, Xavier Outreach Services continued to inspire students to become socially conscious citizens through meaningful engagement with communities and pressing social issues. The diverse programmes conducted during the year helped nurture empathy, leadership, environmental awareness, and a strong commitment to justice and service. Through these initiatives, XOS reaffirmed the vision of St. Xavier's College, Thumba, to form young people who are not only academically competent but also socially responsible and committed to the welfare of society.

Secretary

Dr Legio Meril