Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC)

The XRCVC's Annual Report for 2018-19 (June to May)

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The quality of life of most disabled persons can be bettered simply by providing them equal opportunities and effective access to rehabilitation measures. Ironically, though, a person with disability often lives the life of a second-class citizen.

And this is where the Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged (XRCVC) tries to make a difference.

The XRCVC was initially set up as a resource and advocacy centre for persons with visual impairment. However, as an enabling unit on campus at St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, it has now expanded its offering to include services to students with hearing / speech impairment, autism, learning disabilities, and those with orthopaedic disabilities as well.

XRCVC endeavours to transform lives for persons with disability both at the micro and macro levels. Along with providing direct and indirect support at the micro level, it works closely with government agencies, corporates, researchers and educational institutions at the macro level on advocacy and sensitisation initiatives — particularly in the areas of education access, financial access, print access, and independent living.

From left: Reverend Fr. General Arturo Sosa, S.J., Superior General of the Society of Jesus, during his visit to XRCVC; an assistive technology awareness workshop at Accenture; a science kit for the visually impaired being demonstrated in NCERT, Delhi

XRCVC disseminates information about its work to members and other stakeholders on an almost real-time basis through its website (www.xrcvc.org) and on social media through its Facebook page (XRCVC—Xavier's Resource Centre for the Visually Challenged) and Twitter handle (@XRCVC).

In the academic year 2018-19, St Xavier's College (Autonomous) had 110 students with disability on it rolls. The Enabling Committee of the college — a staff-cum-student representative committee that looks into all inclusion and accessibility needs on campus —

ensured that each of these students had an enriching curricular and extra-curricular experience. The Coordinator, Students with Disability, who coordinates the working of this committee, works out of XRCVC and is the main resource person to process all student requests and needs.

Along the way, there was recognition as well. For its efforts to promote inclusion and its commitment to inclusive education, St Xavier's College was awarded The Nipman Foundation Microsoft Equal Opportunity Awards 2018 in the Enabler category (Inclusive Schools — Higher Education). This is a recognition for the hard work that the college has put in to make the campus inclusive in every sense of the word. The winners for the Nipman awards were announced after a rigorous selection by an independent jury chaired by Ms. Stuti Kacker, Founder and Former Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India. Ms Neha Trivedi from XRCVC collected the award on behalf of the college at a function organised in New Delhi on November 16.

From left: An awareness event at Empower 2018 in Sonepat; Dr Sam Taraporevala addressing employees of DOW; Gouri Bhuyan receiving the Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship

In March 2019, the XRCVC was also honoured to host Reverend Fr. General Arturo Sosa, S.J. — Superior General of the Society of Jesus — during his visit to St Xavier's College (Autonomous).

In addition to meeting requirements of students on campus, the XRCVC is also actively involved in promoting inclusion and access across the country through its range of training, advocacy and awareness programmes.

Membership base

In 2018-19, XRCVC's membership base expanded to 678 persons. But the centre does not restrict its offerings solely to its members. Its advocacy work allows it to touch — and hopefully transform — thousands of lives across the country.

The XRCVC offers a range of direct support and training services to persons with disabilities, caregivers, educators, and institutions.

Direct support provided included scanning, demonstration of and training in the usage of assistive devices, career advice, basic computer training, software assistance, mobile phone usage training, smartcane usage training, Braille printing, follow-up with publishers for accessible copies of books, coordinating with educational institutions, banks and other financial bodies, etc.

Volunteer support

Despite all the technology and advancements, human assistance cannot be eliminated completely for persons with disability. The XRCVC provides volunteer services for:
- Reading
- Converting material into accessible formats for people with visual impairment – through typing, scanning, editing, recording
- Teaching — for any subject
- Examination taking — scribe facilities (this service is provided in collaboration with the Student Inclusion Cell of St Xavier's College)
- Any other requirement on a need basis

Depending on the member's needs and requirements, the XRCVC provides volunteers both for short- and long-term needs.

Ninety volunteers and five interns worked with the centre during the year, sourced mainly from the Social Involvement Programme (SIP) and ECC programme of St Xavier's College (Autonomous).

Assistive technologies

The XRCVC houses an exhaustive list of assistive technologies (AT) that can be explored by visually challenged persons — as also employers, government bodies, and any other group that would like to know more about AT. Anyone is welcome to drop in at the XRCVC, with prior appointment, to explore the full range of assistive technologies and their use.

The centre procured a wide range of new technologies in 2018-19. Some of these include Google Home Mini, MI TV, Vernier - Talking Labquest 2 (LQ2 - TLKPKG-EN) with braille keyboard, I-Phone SE 32 GB, Braille Me devices, Moto G6 - 4GS- 64 GB, Google Chrome Cast 3, MI A2 mobile phone, Logitech - Wireless keyboard, Squirrel rulers, Indo NVDA Software with 17 regional languages, plus software upgradations including Corel draw.

XRCVC is happy to share that the E-waste generated every year is handed over to an organization that is committed to creating a greener future by recycling and disposing end-of-life electronic products in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Focused work areas

During the year, the centre's activities were channelised through three main focus areas:

a. Education & Learning (KG to PG)
b. Accessibility Solutions and Inclusive Services
c. Awareness

Given below is a summary of the centre's activities in 2018-19 under each head.

From left: A content creation training workshop at XRCVC; an awareness event in Cathedral School, Mumbai; an event organized by the Blind Graduates Forum of India

A. Education & Learning (KG to PG)

While Right to Education has become a fundamental right in India, this right is far from being actualised for persons with disabilities. During the year, the XRCVC continued its work towards inclusive education practices and services at school, college and higher education levels. A plethora of activities were conducted during the year in this connection, some of which are described below.

● XRCVC provided all the resources and manpower to St Xavier's College that was required to ensure the smooth conduct of the Enabling Committee's activities during the year.
● Ongoing work continued with students who are part of the XRCVC's comprehensive educational offering. During the year, the centre also regularly conducted training and sensitisation sessions at Prime Academy, and other institutions.

- Work pertaining to book content creation and accessible study material creation continued through the year. Both staff and volunteers are engaged in this work.
- Ongoing work on Geometry Tools Research for students with visual impairment continued during the year.
- In July 2019, Dr Sam Taraporevala was a speaker and panelist at the 6th Annual Drishti Symposium being organised on the theme, 'Leading Mixed Ability Classrooms' at ADAPT, Mumbai.
- In September, Dr Taraporevala was a speaker and panelist at the National Conference on Social Integration, 'Know your Rights' organized in Keshav Vidyapeeth, Jaipur.
- The centre also collaborated with NCERT in its efforts to make science kits for the blind at the upper primary school level.

From left: A team from Curry College at XRCVC; a CPR training workshop for the visually impaired; testing of a Braille display machine developed by Assistech, IIT Delhi

- The centre continued to collaborate with Inclusive Stem (I-Stem), comprising a group of young persons who are blind or visually impaired from India pursuing science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and careers. The group organized its second hackathon in Bangalore in January 2019. The aim was to bust myths about blind programmers and start the process of making the tech industry in India accessible. The hackathon brought blind and visually impaired developers, industry professionals and sighted computer science students together to work on exciting and challenging projects for 24 hours. Not only did participants learn technical skills from the hackathon, but also developed a better understanding of each other's strengths and weaknesses.
- In May 2019, XRCVC was invited by Vision Empower to train its staff and volunteers to create accessible Science and Maths content for the visually impaired. Vision Empower is incubated in IIIT Bangalore.
- During the year, a team from XRCVC also visited IIT Madras to provide inputs on the assistive technology laboratory they are working on.
- The centre also held a meeting with Desai Foundation for Change to discuss the working of the resource centre at Swami Vivekanand College.

- During the year, XRCVC worked with Drishti on potential collaborations in the area of inclusion in classrooms.
- The centre also held discussions with the Maharashtra Dyslexia Association and Unique Ability Consulting on spreading awareness among educational institutions about the needs of students with disability.
- The XRCVC, through the year, continued its ongoing pioneering work in the area of mathematics and science education. Students were provided direct support services. The centre created accessible electronic textbooks, Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs), and provided conceptual training to these students. In addition, it continued to build on its Teaching-Learning-Aids (TLA) resource library for mathematics and science education, starting Std 1 onwards.

Awareness workshops at Xavier's Institute of Communication, IITGn, and Jaipur

- Ongoing work continued on the production of Concept Teaching Manuals (CTMs), which have been designed for use by teachers working with blind or low vision students. Special educators or parents working on a one-on-one basis, as well as classroom teachers and tuition teachers in an inclusive classroom can incorporate the information and ideas from these manuals. These CTMs cover interactive ways to teach concepts to blind or low vision students including the use of Teaching-Learning Aids (TLAs) in the form of activities, real objects, 3D educational toys and models, 2D tactile diagrams, etc.
- I for Inclusion training sessions were conducted by XRCVC during the year for numerous stakeholders.
- XRCVC continued to give critical inputs to the Bangalore-based company Tactopus, which creates tactile graphics, and also has an interactive audio companion through a smartphone app, that makes it possible for blind children to learn independently.
- XRCVC worked closely with IIT Kanpur to make their laboratories more accessible, and helped Ashoka University (Sonipat) and St. Andrews College (Mumbai) to build their resource services.
- The centre shared tactile diagram guidelines with the National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organization (NATMO) and also held a meeting with NATMO's director.

- The centre also worked with ATMA, Next Genius LD Workshop Consultants, Curry College, and Foreman School on inclusion-related activities.
- The centre initiated a conversation with Thinker Bell Labs for a possible partnership. Thinkerbell Labs works in the area of inclusive education and is driven by intuitive engineering and design.

Personal and Career Guidance

Guidance was also provided to members and their families across disabilities to identify needs, interests and aptitudes as also troubleshoot and cope with concerns.

From left: A workshop in Chennai; an assistive device for low-vision users being tested in XRCVC; students from Podar School, Mumbai during a visit to XRCVC

Scholarships

Recognising the high costs for higher education and assistive technologies, the XRCVC provides scholarship and access technology lending schemes to deserving students. New higher education avenues have been pursued by students with disability over the last decade. Along with new opportunities come new costs of higher education courses. Similarly, while assistive technologies and computers have provided immense aid to disabled students, what is often considered a luxury for those without disabilities is a necessity for the disabled. In June 2019, during the third anniversary of XRCVC-Viviana Extension in Thane, laptops and smartcanes were distributed to deserving candidates as part of the centre's IT lending scheme.

The Lions Club of East Bombay Scholarship for the year was awarded to Gouri Bhuyan for being the most deserving visually impaired student graduating from St Xavier's College, Mumbai.

Training

The XRCVC imparts training in Computers, the use of specific assistive devices, Braille, Orientation & Mobility, Maths & Science, English language, and Life skills through various training programmes. These are available for diverse learner groups — disabled persons, special educators, teacher trainers, and other stakeholders.

Training sessions during 2018-19 included customised workshops by various members of the XRCVC team including Calveena D'Sylva, Rebecca Carvalho, Vikas Dabholkar, Neha Trivedi, Sushil Pandit, Shizanne D'Mello, Keshavan Nadar, Krishna Warrier, and Elisha Lopez.

These training sessions were held at XRCVC and XRCVC-Viviana Extension as well as at other locations across the country.

Through the year, the XRCVC's training services reached out to 1496 persons (see Table 1).

Table 1: Training Services June 2018 – May 2019

Direct Training	No of beneficiaries	Indirect (Stakeholder) Training	No of beneficiaries
Computer & Assistive Technology (AT)	196	Indirect Stakeholder Training	205
English	10		
Orientation and Mobility	27		
Activities of Daily Living	8		
Education Support (Including Mathematics & Science)	220		
Guidance Support	720		
Inclusion Cell	110		
Total	1291		
		Total	1496

B. Accessibility Solutions and Inclusion Services

Alongside Education Access, XRCVC's advocacy initiatives work in three main areas to create accessible environments: Print Access, Financial Access, and Independent Living.

Print Access

The access to printed works for the visually challenged depends on its availability in accessible formats and the permissibility of the legal systems to convert material to accessible formats. The XRCVC has been working relentlessly to overcome these challenges.

During this period, the XRCVC produced 50 accessible books (totaling 5400 pages) in addition to 1692 Word pages of class notes. All accessible DAISY titles are uploaded onto a national accessible online library (sugamyapustakalaya.in).

From left: Reading Without Seeing workshops in Chiplun and Satara; smart cane usage training being conducted in XRCVC

Some of the activities conducted under the Print Access initiative during the year are appended below.

- XRCVC continued to work closely with Benetech, a global non-profit social entrepreneurial venture harnessing the power of technology for social benefit on many print access-related initiatives, and also followed up with vendors who could create accessible books. In August 2018, Brad Turner, VP and GM, Global Education and Literacy, Benetech visited the centre to discuss common initiatives.
- Accessible Book Production Standards 1.3 training sessions were conducted regularly during the year by XRCVC for numerous stakeholders.
- Through the year, XRCVC provided support and feedback to many organisations which were conducting research on Refreshable Braille Display devices. These included Innovision, a startup from IIT Bombay which successfully launched its Refreshable Braille Display device named BrailleMe, IIT Delhi's Assistech, Orbit

Research, Dot Incorporation - Korea, and a group of students from Don Bosco Institute of Technology.

- During the year, Dr Taraporevala, Director, XRCVC, attended the Daisy Forum of India (DFI) board meeting and regularly participated in con-calls for various committees of the DFI, including the publisher committee, higher education committee, and periodicals committee.

Reading Without Seeing

The XRCVC had launched an extremely effective national-level awareness programme in 2012 under the banner of 'Reading Without Seeing', which takes access technologies to blind and low-vision users across locations, and ignites in its audiences the curiosity and basic knowledge to begin their journey of accessing the printed word independently. The programme equips participants with the basic knowhow of a host of assistive technologies.

The programme gained added momentum this year with 15 workshops reaching out to 402 persons (see Table 2) in locations as diverse as Chiplun, Satara, Pune, Kolhapur, Dhule, Thane and Mumbai. These workshops were conducted by the XRCVC team comprising Sushil Pandit, Keshavan Nadar, Aniket Gupta, and Vikas Dabholkar.

Table 2: Reading Without Seeing (RWS) Workshops (June 2018 – May 2019)

No.	Date	Organisation Name	Venue	Participants
1	26-06-18	Helen Keller – Mahape	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	15
2	28-08-18	Pragnya Centre of SIES	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	13
3	13-10-18	NAB Dhule	Dhule	28
4	14-10-18	NAB Dhule	Dhule	18
5	13-11-18	NAB Worli – Teacher Trainees	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	29
6	02-12-18	Brahamashram, Kolhapur	Kolhapur	26
7	02-12-18	Brahamashram, Kolhapur	Kolhapur	30
8	16-01-19	Pune TTI	Pune	28
9	17-01-19	Pune TTI	Pune	26
10	21-02-19	Lions NAB Satara	Satara	29
11	22-02-19	Lions NAB Satara	Satara	26
12	24-02-19	Maratha Mandir Night School	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	22
13	16-03-19	ACTC – TCS Maitree	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	20
14	31-03-19	NAB Chiplun	Chiplun	62
15	17-05-19	NAB – DOR Teenager group	XRCVC Viviana Extension (Thane)	30
			Total	**402**

Testing and Research

During the year, XRCVC tested the following devices / software for accessibility:

BrailleMe (refreshable braille device) | Google Drive new version with NVDA | MI 3 with Talkback 5.0 | Leco with Talkback | Vivo Y21 with Talkback | MyJio app testing on android phone | Calculator with narrator | Oppo Color OS 5.0 with Talkback | Itel it5250 phone | Ubuntu 18.04 LTS — Linux OS, Orca Screen reader | Amazon Alexa with latest updates at Echo Dot | Office 13 | Windows 10 New Narrator | My JIO app | Moto G 3rd Generation | Micromax with Talkback | Shineplus screen reader | Moto E4plus phone | XL cinema app | Mi A1 with TalkBack | Alexa (new features) | M-Indicator App with Talkback | 6By6 Apps (Currency Detector, Light Detector, Basic Magnifier) | Redmi Note 4 | Visor App for low vision | Colour Detector by Ramel Tec | K6 Note with Talkback | E5 Plus with Talkback | Samsung Galaxy J4 2018 with Talkback | Paytm App | Jio App | Redmi 5 with Talkback | Dolphin Supernova 16.06 version | Vivo V9 | Vivo Y66 | SBI App | Windows 10 Ease of Access | SBI YONO App | Lenviz - AVI Currency Recognition App | EMUI OS 9 | Poco F1 | Oppo F9 Pro | Asus Max Pro M1 | Koryo AC & Office accessibility with MI Remote Apps | Jio qwerty phone | Lens App with Talkback | Oppo A83 | Chromecast on TV | Mi TV | Moto G6 | Youtube Webpages with NVDA, JAWS 2018 with different browser | Seeing AI app for currency recognition features in comparison with 6by6 and AVI | Buzz Clip devices (similar to Smartcane but portable version) | Mi A2 Phone | OCR App Divya Nayan developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) | Paytm App | Realme U1 based on Android 8.1 OS Color OS 5.2 | Cortana, Dictation Bridge, Voice recognition in windows 10 | Read aloud features of Adobe Reader | Swiggy App on Android and iOS | Band App | Moto One | Nokia 3.1 Plus | Hear2Read Website | Tactopus stand with OCR app | Ashoka University website | Museum website | Jio website | SIC website | Fire TV stick | Feedback given to Reliance Jio, Bank of Baroda, Xiaomi and Paytm | Libre Office Software 6.1 | Samsung J6 2018 | M-connect plus App

Financial Access

The ability to independently manage, operate and execute one's financial transactions is key to independent living. Lack of effective guidelines and lack of optimum use of technology in financial instruments has traditionally denied financial access to blind and low vision persons. The XRCVC has been striving to change this reality.

- During the year, XRCVC worked with Paytm, Reliance Jio, State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, etc. to make their Apps accessible.
- The centre also collaborated with SEBI to organise a workshop on investing for persons with disability in November 2018.

From left: Awareness workshops in Sophia College and for a group of volunteers in Vile Parle; assistive technology on display at an exhibition in Standard Chartered Bank

- During the year, XRCVC collaborated closely with the State Bank of India's Centre of Excellence (CoE), providing inputs for its various projects and programmes. The Centre of Excellence for PwDs is one of the SBI Foundation's flagship programmes. It was conceptualised with a goal to be a centralised support centre for persons with disabilities. It primarily works on empowering PwDs through skill enhancement to make significant and measurable improvement that enables individuals to enjoy a more productive and satisfying life by optimising their cognitive, physical, social and vocational functioning.
- In October 2018, Sai Bhagat and Prashant Naik presented a poster on talkingATMindia.org on behalf of XRCVC at the Empower 2018 conference in Sonepat, Haryana.

Independent Living

Each of us, as we pass through our day, interact with a range of products, environments and services from transport services, to kitchen appliances, and entertainment products. How accessible are these daily living services and products for the visually challenged? The XRCVC's Independent Living initiative questions and works towards rectifying shortcomings in these areas. Some of the activities covered under this initiative during the year are appended below:

- Collaborated with accessibility expert Parul Kumtha to conduct an Accessibility Audit of St Xavier's College (Autonomous).
- Collaborated with XL Cinema Apps and Viviana Cinepolis, Thane to organize an audio-described screening of the film 'Sanju' in July 2018.

From left: Two I for Inclusion sessions and an awareness workshop at St Stephen's College

- Collaborated with Hinduja Hospital to organize two workshops for visually impaired persons on 'How to administer Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)' during medical emergencies.
- Worked with CSMVS Museum, Mumbai on accessibility initiatives.
- Worked with Adventures Beyond Barriers (Pune) and DOW Chemicals Mumbai on the on-boarding of a few visually impaired employees in DOW.
- Followed up with officials from the BEST on Onboard, a bus identification system for the visually impaired.
- Provided inputs to Tech Mahindra on creating a Job Training Strategy for Visually impaired persons.
- Provided inputs to Orcam – an Israeli company working on assistive technology for visually impaired persons which has developed a device named MyEye.
- Provided inputs to the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation on how to set up a resource centre.
- Collaborated with Social Alpha, an organisation that is building a programme and a platform for assistive technology-based solutions that empower people with disabilities.
- Provided inputs to students from Xavier's Institute of Engineering for their Accessibility Projects.
- Collaborated with Saksham, Enable India and Bookshare for the See A Million programme, a unique time-bound outcome-based mission focusing on digital empowerment of one million persons with vision impairment by 2025.
- During the year, XRCVC continued ongoing research and development work on visual / auditory / tactile teaching-learning aids and other independent living aids. Worked on integrating diverse technologies which could create a composite system to read through fingers, see through eyes, or hear through ears. The research also has immense potential for the teaching-learning process as it can promote paired reading and can assist a non-Braille literate person to function effectively.

From left: A magnifier being demonstrated to a person with low vision; an assistive technology exhibition in Reliance Jio; Braille Day being celebrated in Viviana Mall

C. Awareness

Creating awareness about the lives and capabilities of visually impaired persons and those with other disabilities is one of the key areas that will open doors for them in a world where the rules are made for and by persons without disabilities.

The XRCVC has been working on a number of such initiatives through its mega awareness and sensitisation event Antarchakshu® — The Eye Within.

This year, Antarchakshu® took on a new avatar — Antarchakshu® 2.0.

The aim of Antarchakshu® 2.0 was to combine the power of bespoke workshops in a marathon run reaching out to larger numbers at the location of participants.

Under this initiative over around 35 need-based sensitization and awareness workshops were conducted during the months of February-March 2019, reaching out to 1190 diverse stakeholders such as college students, corporates, professionals and the public at large.

This approach ensured that the session reached the participant, reducing the need for participants to commute, thus making available flexible and customized workshops for target audiences, all leading to a basic premise of how every individual can contribute towards #CreatingAnAccessibleWorld.

During the year, a total of 93 awareness events (including Antarchakshu®) were conducted at many places and for a variety of target groups, covering 3552 beneficiaries (see Table 3 at the end of this report).

Some of the other awareness initiatives conducted by XRCVC during the year are appended below:

- Dr Taraporevala addressed over 225 participants at a seminar on the theme 'Explore, Experience and Empower' at Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Mumbai in September 2018.
- He was Keynote Speaker at Sameeksha 2019 — a student festival at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai in February 2019.
- He was also invited as chief guest for the annual day function of Snehankit, a non-government organization working towards empowering visually impaired youth.
- During the year XRCVC developed and conducted a unique course called 'Diversity Discourse' at the Xavier's Institute of Communication (XIC). The objective was to sensitise participants to the many communities that society implicitly and explicitly ignores, and make a case for why it is necessary to bring these communities into mainstream public discourse. The content was imparted mainly through interactive workshops to over 250 students at XIC.
- In July 2018, XRCVC was invited by IIT Gandhinagar (IITGn) to conduct 7 sensitisation workshops as part of the 'Foundation Program' for freshman students. Around 190 students benefitted from the same. A team from XRCVC also held discussions with Prof Jason, Dean of Students Affairs, about inclusion practices at IIT Gandhinagar.
- Likewise, in October 2018, XRCVC conducted 7 awareness workshops at St Stephen's College, Delhi organized by 'Parivartan', a student body.
- XRCVC conducted a lecture on accessibility in August 2018 at St Xavier's College for 60 students pursuing the BScIT course.
- The Student Inclusion Cell of St Xavier's College organized a screening of the film 'Wonder' to spread the message of inclusion.
- An awareness workshop on Assistive Technology was conducted at Standard Chartered Bank, Mumbai in October 2018.
- Two sensitisation and awareness workshops were conducted in October 2018 during the Empower 2018 Conference in IIT Delhi's Sonipat campus.
- Sensitisation workshops were also conducted for Lilavatibai Podar High School, Reliance Jio, Snehankit, Jesuit Scholastics, Wilson College, Sophia College, IITB-Monash Research Academy, Thakur College, Viviana Mall.
- On January 4, on the occasion of World Braille Day, an access technology exhibition was organized by XRCVC at Viviana Mall.
- A workshop on STEM education was organized in March 2019 at St Xavier's College for members of the Blind Graduates Forum of India (BGFI)

Conclusion

We would like to extend our gratitude to our funders, partners, and sponsors who have played a major role in making us what we are today.

We would like to specially thank Great Eastern CSR Foundation, Dhun Pestonji Parakh Discretionary Trust, Sightsavers, State Bank of India, Godrej Industries Ltd, Sir Jamsetji Jejeebhoy Parsee Benevolent Institution, SBIMF, Sheth Developers and Realtors, BLAQ, BPCL, Techmahindra Foundation, Dinamai Antia Charitable Trust, Tata Sons Ltd, The Executors & Trustees of the Estate of Late Shirinbai K Doongaji, Lions Club of East Bombay, Suryavanshi Ads & Promotions LLP, Ms Violet Eustace, Ms Vahbiz H Pestonjamasp, and Ms Persis H Pestonjamasp.

A big thank you to our large pool of volunteers as well.

Their commitment ensures that a small organisation like the XRCVC is able to make a significant contribution and touch the lives of countless people all over the country.

In conclusion, our deep appreciation goes out to St. Xavier's College — the management, staff members and students — for demonstrating to educational institutes all over the country how a centre of learning can be truly inclusive to persons with disabilities.

Special thanks to Dr Rajendra Shinde, the principal, whose ongoing support and guidance has helped the XRCVC continue as a centre of excellence of national repute.

(… Table 3 on next page …)

Table 3: Awareness Workshops (June 2018 – May 2019)

No	Date	Participant profile	Venue	Beneficiaries
1	17-07-18	Employees of DOW Chemicals	Dow, Vikhroli	36
2	17-07-18	MBA Students from IITM Kharghar	XRCVC-Viviana	58
3	28-07-18	XRCVC members	XRCVC-Viviana	16
4	30-07-18	Batch 1: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	30
5	30-07-18	Batch 2: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	30
6	30-07-18	Batch 3: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	30
7	01-08-18	Batch 4: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	30
8	01-08-18	Batch 5: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	30
9	01-08-18	Batch 6: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	20
10	01-08-18	Batch 7: Freshers attending the Foundation Program	IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat	20
11	06-08-18	Mass media students from Sophia College	Sophia College	16
12	11-08-18	Mass media students from St Xavier's College	St Xavier's College	56
13	20-08-18	Film and TV Production students in XIC	XIC	31
14	01-09-18	Optometrists from Swaraashi Netralaya Hospital	XRCVC-Viviana	6
15	01-09-18	Staff of Pi Communication	XRCVC-Viviana	4
16	05-09-18	BSc IT students at St Xavier's	St Xavier's College	60
17	12-09-18	Students at Dhirubhai Ambani International School	DAIS (BKC)	233
18	20-09-18	Staff of Great Eastern Shipping	GE, Worli	35
19	08-10-18	Advertising & Marketing diploma students in XIC	XIC	28
20	11-10-18	Standard Chartered Bank staff	BKC, Mumbai	125
21	20-10-18	Journalism diploma students in XIC: Batch 1	XIC	25
22	20-10-18	Journalism diploma students in XIC: Batch 2	XIC	29
23	25-10-18	Empower 2018 at IIT Delhi (Sonipat): Session 1	IIT Delhi (Sonipat)	14
24	25-10-18	Empower 2018 at IIT Delhi (Sonipat: Session 2	IIT Delhi (Sonipat)	16
25	25-10-18	Standard Chartered Bank event at Trident Hotel	Trident Hotel, Mumbai	35
26	26-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 1	St Stephen's, Delhi	43
27	26-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 2	St Stephen's, Delhi	29
28	26-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 3	St Stephen's, Delhi	19
29	26-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 4	St Stephen's, Delhi	40
30	27-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 5	St Stephen's, Delhi	30
31	27-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 6	St Stephen's, Delhi	22
32	27-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 7	St Stephen's, Delhi	20
33	27-10-18	Students at St Stephen's College, Delhi: Session 8	St Stephen's, Delhi	30
34	30-10-18	Viviana Mall Retailers	XRCVC-Viviana	11
35	14-11-18	PR&CC students in XIC: Batch 1	XIC	30

36	14-11-18	PR&CC students in XIC: Batch 2	XIC	28
37	24-11-18	SEBI	XRCVC-Viviana	24
38	26-11-18	Lilavatibai Poddar school students	St Xavier's College	108
39	3-12-18	Reliance Jio staff	Jio office, Ghansoli	265
40	6-12-18	Marathi JR and C4D students in XIC	XIC	25
41	8-12-18	Snehankit volunteers	Vile Parle	32
42	11-12-18	Jesuit Scholastics from Vinayalaya	XIC	22
43	15-12-18	Cathedral School students: Batch 1	Cathedral School	35
44	15-12-18	Cathedral School students: Batch 2	Cathedral School	37
45	17-12-18	Accenture staff	Accenture, Vikhroli	125
46	20-12-18	Housekeeping + Parking staff at Viviana Mall	XRCVC-Viviana	12
47	17-01-19	I-Stem Hackathon participants	IIIT Bangalore	35
48	04-02-19	Visitors to Viviana Mall on World Braille Day	Viviana Mall	55
49	02-02-19	First Year BMS students: Batch 1	St. Xavier's College	22
50	02-02-19	First Year BMS students: Batch 2	St. Xavier's College	18
51	04-02-19	Third Year BVOC (Software) students	St. Xavier's College	11
52	04-02-19	Second Year BVOC (Software) students	St. Xavier's College	24
53	05-02-19	Third Year BVOC (Tourism) students	St. Xavier's College	39
54	05-02-19	Second Year BVOC (Tourism) students	St. Xavier's College	33
55	07-02-19	First Year BSc IT students	St. Xavier's College	48
56	07-02-19	First Year Master's in Public Policy students	St. Xavier's College	15
57	08-02-19	Second Year Master's in Public Policy students	St. Xavier's College	15
58	09-02-19	XIMR Management students	St. Xavier's College	53
59	11-02-19	Third Year BMS students	St. Xavier's College	45
60	14-02-19	Third Year BSc IT students	St. Xavier's College	28
61	14-02-19	Third Year BMM students at Wilson College	Wilson College	27
62	21-02-19	Students of St. Xavier's College	St. Xavier's College	7
63	21-02-19	FWPL staff (Corporate)	FWPL, Ballard Estate	20
64	23-02-19	Students and staff at IIB-Monash Research Academy	IIT Bombay	33
65	25-02-19	First Year BMS students at Wilson: Batch 1	Wilson College	86
66	25-02-19	First Year BMS students at Wilson: Batch 2	Wilson College	55
67	26-02-19	Second Year BMS students at Wilson: Batch 1	Wilson College	39
68	26-02-19	Second Year BMS students at Wilson: Batch 2	Wilson College	68
69	26-02-19	Students of St. Xavier's College	St. Xavier's College	13
70	28-02-19	Third Year BMS students at Wilson	Wilson College	49
71	01-03-19	Third Year IT students at XIE, Mahim	XIE, Mahim	65
72	01-03-19	Third Year Computers students at XIE, Mahim	XIE, Mahim	53
73	05-03-19	Nirmala Niketan students of Human Development	St. Xavier's College	23
74	06-03-19	Wilson College: Certificate in Disability Studies	St. Xavier's College	31

75	11-03-19	BMM and BMS students in St. Andrews College	St. Andrews, Bandra	30
76	11-03-19	SBI Foundation Team	St. Xavier's College	14
77	11-03-19	Nirmala Niketan students: MSC Part 1	St. Xavier's College	12
78	12-03-19	FYBA English students in St. Andrews College	St. Andrews, Bandra	38
79	12-03-19	Nirmala Niketan students: MSc / BSc	St. Xavier's College	30
80	13-03-19	BPCL staff: Batch 1	BPCL, Sewri office	27
81	13-03-19	BPCL staff: Batch 2	BPCL, Sewri office	43
82	14-03-19	FYBA English students in St. Andrews College	St. Andrews, Bandra	36
83	15-03-19	Final Year students at XIE, Mahim	XIE, Mahim	48
84	16-03-19	FYBA English students in St. Andrews College	St. Andrews, Bandra	7
85	16-03-19	Lions Club International - district 3231 A1 members	St. Xavier's College	31
86	04-04-19	MAAC counsellors (Aptech – Corporate)	Jaipur	43
87	08-04-19	Nirmala Niketan students: Batch 1	Nirmala Niketan	17
88	08-04-19	Nirmala Niketan students: Batch 2	Nirmala Niketan	16
89	09-04-19	Nirmala Niketan students: Batch 3	Nirmala Niketan	28
90	10-04-19	BPCL staff: Batch 3	BPCL, Sewri office	33
91	12-04-19	Students in Industrial Design Centre	IIT Bombay	23
92	12-04-19	Students of Bombay international School	Churchgate	38
93	14-05-19	BPCL staff: Batch 4	BPCL, Sewri office	28
			Total	**3552**