



RLLE Mela– XSRM, Xavier University

January 02, 2020

The **Xavier School of Rural Management (XSRM)**, **Xavier University, Bhubaneswar (XUB)** conducted the **Rural Living and Learning Experience (RLLE) Mela** at the Xavier City campus, on **January 02, 2020**, which was inaugurated by **Dr. Fr. Antony R. Uvari, S.J.** (Vice-Chancellor, **XUB**), **Prof. Fr. E.A. Augustine, S.J.** (Registrar, **XUB**), **Prof. S. Peppin** (Dean, **XSRM**), Guest of Honour **Mr. Liby Johnson** (Executive Director, **Gram Vikas**), **Prof. Sagarika Mishra** (Co-ordinator, **Rural Living and Learning Experience**), and other faculty members alike. RLLE Mela is a flagship annual tradition of displaying the culture, costume, developmental activities, challenges and opportunities observed by the students visiting various rural regions across India.

RLLE aims at promoting willingness, ability, and drive to learn from people's lives, sensitizing them to certain sections of the society. Students are divided into groups to visit different villages across India and each selected village will be studied using multiple parameters such as demographics, livelihood, market, migration, infrastructure, governance, and culture using different methodologies such as sampling, surveying, focused group meetings, etc. for the same purpose. The Mela marked the final event of the RLLE component and also the end of the second term.

This year, over seventeen states were represented at the Mela namely Odisha, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, and Kerala. A variety of artefacts, food items, and other commodities representing various aspects of each state were kept for display by the students at their respective stalls throughout the duration of the event, clad in traditional attire. The students provided explanation with respect to their stall items as and when the professors and other guests visited them as a part of evaluation. The students also performed a skit to sensitise the viewers of the latent issues prevalent and the various hardships faced by the rural people in India.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by **Prof. Satyendra Nath Mishra** (Coordinator, **Rural Living, and Learning Experience**) to the presenters, faculty members, and everyone who contributed in making it a grand success.