St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata

PRESENTS

A TWO-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

ON

Reframing the Ageing Agenda:
Advancing Equity and Dignity for the Elderly

IN COLLABORATION WITH

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL DEFENCE
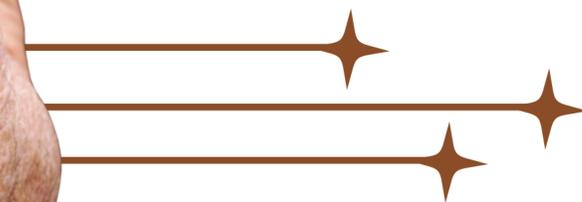MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
GOVT. OF INDIA**

16TH & 17TH
MARCH, 2026

St. Xavier's College
(Autonomous), Kolkata

NO REGISTRATION FEES REQUIRED

For further details: www.sxccal.edu

About St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata :

Founded in 1860 by the Society of Jesus, a Catholic minority religious order, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata, stands as a testament to the transformative power of Jesuit education within a Christian minority context. For over 164 years, the college has nurtured generations of students, fostering intellectual curiosity, ethical leadership, and a commitment to service. Initially affiliated with Calcutta University in 1862, St. Xavier's embarked on a journey of academic distinction, culminating in its well-deserved autonomy in 2006. This significant milestone marked a new era of self-governance and academic innovation. The University Grants Commission recognized the college's immense potential, bestowing upon it the prestigious "College with Potential for Excellence" status in the same year. St. Xavier's College's unwavering pursuit of excellence has garnered consistent recognition. In 2014, St. Xavier's was awarded the coveted "College of Excellence" status by the UGC, followed by "College with a Special Heritage Status," acknowledging its unique historical and cultural significance, in 2015. The college maintained the highest possible NAAC Graded A++ College (4th Cycle, 2024) a testament to its unwavering commitment to quality education. St. Xavier's College, Kolkata secured the All India 8th rank in the esteemed India Ranking 2025 for colleges, conducted by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of *India.*

About NISD :

The National Institute of Social Defence was set up originally as the Central Bureau of Correctional Services in 1961, under the Ministry of Home Affairs, in pursuance of the recommendations emerging at various National Forums. In 1964, the Bureau was transferred to the then Department of Social Security.

Since 1975, the Institute was a subordinate office under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The National Institute of Social Defence has become an Autonomous Body vide Government of India Notification No. 10-3/2000-SD. Vol. II, dated July 15, 2002, and is registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860 with the Government of NCT, Delhi.

The National Institute of Social Defence is the nodal training and research institute in the field of social defence. Though social defence covers the entire gamut of activities and programmes for the protection of society, it is currently focusing on human resource development in the areas of drug abuse prevention, welfare of senior citizens and transgenders, beggary prevention, and other social defence issues.

• NISD is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.
• NISD is a centre to carry out research on social defence.
• NISD coordinates and liaises between the government and the non-government organisations at state, national and international levels.
• The institute develops preventive, curative and rehabilitative tools, programmes and policies in the field of social defence, and also undertakes research, training, consultancy, documentation and publication in the field.

The mandate of the institute is to provide inputs for the social defence programmes of the Government of India through training, research and documentation.

Concept Note :

India is undergoing a demographic transition by a rapidly ageing population. A glance at some of the Indian statistics reveal - the decadal growth rate of the elderly population of India is estimated to be 41%, with percentage of elderly in the country doubling to be nearly 20% of total population by 2050 - a stark reminder of the gradual greying of the Indian economy. India's elderly population is vulnerable – increasing financial burden of healthcare, and rising instances of abuse by family members make it difficult for the elderly to maintain a dignified life. By investing in healthy ageing initiatives, leveraging the expertise of seniors, addressing age-related challenges, and creating supportive environments, India can tap into the demographic dividend of its ageing population. As a pay-off, it can emerge as a developed nation that values and respects the contributions of all generations. Elder abuse is a common issue, with 25% of elderly people in urban areas reporting that they have been victims of some form of abuse (Malik et al., 2021). The elderly population often faces chronic health conditions that can limit their mobility and increase their risk of isolation, especially during emergencies. Economic challenges include an expected decline in labour force participation rates and a relatively higher consumption rather than production by the elderly the fact that older people consume more than they produce, as highlighted by the Longitudinal Aging Study in India. In India, older people almost always rely exclusively on their social networks for care and economic support when in need. These support systems are mainly family based, and play a role of safety net for their older members. However, the limitations of family-based support systems, especially in the context of urbanisationand increasing nuclearization of the family system has opened up a huge scope for further research. There is a lack of clarity regarding the reasons for the poor adoption of government policies available. Simplified systems, either through the technological support or streamlining of existing schemes need to be developed. There is lack of comprehensive research which provides an overview of need, including the size and the characteristics of older people experiencing vulnerability. Insights into where the overlapping vulnerabilities (or multiple disadvantages) across domains are mostly prevalent are needed. To address the challenges faced by the elderly, and to create awareness on healthy ageing, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata would like to organize a two-day National Conference on the above-mentioned issues.

The conference in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence, New Delhi aims to address these critical issues through an interdisciplinary lens discourse. The conference aims to bring together leading academics, researchers, policymakers, social workers, healthcare professionals, NGOs, and students to engage in deliberations on the social, economic, and health implications of India's ageing population. It will explore the multidimensional vulnerabilities faced by the elderly, encompassing physical health challenges, such as the increasing burden of chronic diseases and mental health concerns, including the rising incidences of depression and cognitive decline. The conference further seeks to highlight the critical need for affordable and accessible healthcare services tailored to the elderly population. The conference also aims to emphasize promoting healthy ageing by centering on preventive healthcare measures, mental well-being, and initiatives that encourage active participation of older adults in society. It also aspires to generate momentum toward building a society that recognizes the skills, experience, and contributions of the elderly, ensuring that they remain valuable, active members of their communities.

Key Themes and Sub :

Theme 1: Demographic Shifts and the Ageing Population
Opportunities and Challenges of Ageing Societies
Trends, Projections, and Regional Variations of Ageing
Global and National Policy Responses to Ageing Populations
Socioeconomic Implications of Ageing on National Development

Theme 2: Economic Security, Livelihoods, and Financial Inclusion of Older Adults
Economic Insecurity and Financial Dependence in Later Life
Challenges and Innovations of Social Security and Pension Systems
Banking, Digital Payments, Financial Literacy for building Financial Inclusionfor the Elderly
Employment, Retirement, and Income Generation Opportunities for the Elderly

Theme 3: Healthcare Systems and Well-being of the Elderly
Age-related Health Issues and Geriatric Care Systems
Integrating Traditional and Modern Healthcare Approaches for Elderly Care
The Role of Technology in Healthcare Delivery
Addressing Mental Health Issues in Ageing

Theme 4: Social Inclusion and Community Support for Older Adults
Social Isolation and Loneliness: Understanding and Addressing the Issue
Family, Community, and Institutional Roles in Elderly Support Networks
Urbanization, Migration, and Changing Family Structures
The Role of NGOs, Civil Society, and Faith-Based Organizations in ElderlyWelfare

Theme 5: Technology, Innovation, and Ageing
The Role of Assistive Technologies and Digital Platforms in Enhancing ElderlyWell-being
Innovations in Health Monitoring for the Elderly
Addressing Digital Divide for the Elderly by enhancing Social Connectivity forthe Elderly
Ethical Considerations in the Use of AI and Robotics in Elderly Care

Theme 6: Policy Frameworks and Governance for an Ageing Population
Policy Innovations for Healthy Ageing at the National or International Level
Challenges in Implementing Social Security Programs for the Elderly
Urban Planning, Public Spaces, and Mobility Solutions for Older Adults
Public-Private Partnerships in Elder Care

Theme 7: Ageing and Social

Economic, Health, and Social Vulnerabilities in Ageing

Gender-Specific Vulnerabilities and Challenges Faced by Elderly Women

Preventing Elder Abuse by Identifying, Addressing, and Preventing Neglect &Mistreatment

Cultural, Religious, and Social Norms in Shaping Elderly Care Practices

Theme 8: Promoting Active and Healthy Ageing

Preventive Healthcare and Wellness Programs for the Elderly

Lifelong Learning and Skill Development for Older Adults

Encouraging Civic Engagement and Volunteering Among the Elderly

The Role of Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Mental Well-being in PromotingHealthy Ageing

Theme 9: Ageing, Society, and Intergenerational Solidarity

Intergenerational Relationships in Elder Care

Building Intergenerational Solidarity through Community Initiatives

Economic, Social, and Psychological Impact of Ageing on Younger Generations

The Role of Education and Awareness in Bridging Generational Gaps

Theme 10: The Future of Ageing in India

Exploring Future Directions for Research on Ageing in India

The Role of Sustainable Development and Ageing in India's Economic andSocial Future

Long-Term Planning for Ageing Populations by building Age-Resilient Societies

Balancing Institutional and Home-Based Care for Older Adults

Note: The themes and sub-themes listed above are not exhaustive, and authors can exploreadditional related topics that align with the overarching themes of Ageing and elderly care.

Who can Participate in the Seminar?

•Academics and researchers from various disciplines (sociology, economics, public health, etc.)
•Policymakers
•Healthcare professionals and geriatric care specialists
•Social workers and practitioners focused on elderly welfare
•Representatives from NGOs and civil society organizations
 •Students and research scholars interested in ageing-related issues

Important Dates:

Abstract (both short and extended) Submission Deadline: 3rd March, 2026
Notification of Abstract Acceptance: 5th March, 2026
Registration Deadline for Presenters: 10th March, 2026

Submission Details:

Format for Short Abstract:
The short abstract should contain the basic proposition and results of the paper. It should be within a word limit of 500 words, using Times NewRoman font, size 12, and a line spacing of 1.5. Paragraphs should bespaced with 1 line between them, and the margins should be set to 1 inch on all sides, with justified alignment. The file should be submitted in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx).

Format for Extended Abstract:
The extended abstract should follow a specific format with a word limit of 1000-1200 words, using Times New Roman font, size 12, and a linespacing of 1.5. Paragraphs should be spaced with 1 line between them, and the margins should be set to 1 inch on all sides, with justified alignment. The file should be submitted in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx).

Structure of Extended Abstract:

The structure of the extended abstract should include a title in bold and centered, using a 14-point font. The author(s) name(s) should be centered,with affiliations mentioned in footnotes. Following the title and author information, 3-5 relevant keywords should be italicized at the end of the abstract. The abstract itself should be structured with an introduction thatprovides a brief background and objective of the research, followed by an overview of the research methodology. The results/findings section should summarize key results or expected outcomes, and theconclusion/implications should highlight the importance of the findingsand their potential impact. References should follow APA citation styles.

Submission Process:

Submissions must be sent via email to **nisdsxcconference@gmail.com** by March 3, 2026.The file name should include the author's last name and the title withoutspaces (e.g., Roy_AgingPopulation.docx). All submissions must be original work that has not been published or presented elsewhere.

Publication Opportunities:

Selected high-quality research papers from the seminar will have the opportunity to be published in an edited book by a reputable publisher. Papers chosen for publication will undergo a blind rigorous review process to ensure they meet the standards required for inclusion in the book.

Conference Team :

Patron: Rev. Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, Principal , St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.
Convenor: Dr. Saswati Chaudhuri, Associate Professor of Economics, Postgraduate & Research Department of Commerce, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.
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Co-convenor: Dr Shoma Choudhury Lahiri, Assistant Professor at Postgraduate Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.
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