

## RLE Mela on 16 January 2017 Xavier School of Rural Management, XUB

The **RLE Mela** for the MBA-RM 2016-18 batch was held on **16 January 2017** in the Xavier City Campus. This marks the last event of the Rural Living and Learning Experience (RLE) Component for the Rural Management students of Xavier School of Rural Management. Fr. Paul Fernandes, Vice-Chancellor of Xavier University inaugurated the Mela at 10.30 AM. The Mela continued till 4.00 PM. Faculty members, students and XUB community and people from outside visited the Mela and appreciated the effort put by the students.



During the RLE programme for this batch, **90 students of MBA-RM** stayed in **45 villages, covering 12 States and one (1) Union Territory** spread across of India (from Himanchal Pradesh to Kerala, and from Manipur to Rajasthan). In all, 19 field based development organization involved in varied domain of rural developmental activities hosted the students in the village. As part of the RLE, students of Rural Management stay in a village for 45 days, and undertook various activities like preparation of a village report, working on the development project with the host organization, and develop a case study. After the return from villages student have made formal presentation (12-13 January 2017) RLE deliverables. The RLE Mela one of deliverables provides an opportunity to display their creative learning from villages to express the culture, costumes, developmental activities, challenges and opportunities from across rural India. The students also displayed a skit on issue of 'Beti Padhao, Beti Bachao', which showed the changing perception of villages toward female with time.

This year Mela had **23 stalls** where students displayed the following aspects of rural life:

- Various artifacts collected from the respective villages
- Unique food materials and food habits

- Attires and other cultural aspects
- Models of village depicting landscape,
- Ongoing development interventions in the villages
- Slide show of photos of rural India.
- Towards the end, the students also performed a skit titled '*Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*'.



The RLLE Mela for this year was able to display a diverse range of cultural and social aspects of rural society. This was also an opportunity to understand what the students have gained through this process of experiential learning.

