## St. Xavier's Celebrates Diwali, Children's Day, Brings Smile to Special Children

Kolkata: 12 November 2020

St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, in collaboration with its Alumni Association, in a new effort, brought special significance in the celebration of Diwali and Children's Day this year. It stood by those who generally remain out of the purview of festivity. At a solemn function held on the eve of the festival on Thursday at College campus, Principal, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) Kolkata and President, St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association, Rev. Father Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, inaugurated a special initiative entitled "Share to Care" to stand by the specially abled, marginalized and downtrodden children to bring little joys in their lives during this festival of joy.

In his inaugural address Father Dominic Savio said, "Feeling of love, care and share, especially to those who require them more, is the true spirit of any festival. This embodies true human values in oneself. We try to inculcate these Jesuit values among our present and past students. We, in St. Xavier's, do not see any barrier of caste, creed and religion in celebration of a festival. We particularly come forward to bring a smile among the marginalized children, so that they feel good, at least during this festive time, and this makes the celebration more meaningful", he added.

This initiative came after a similar drive taken up by the College and the Alumni Association during Durga Puja, entitled, "Festival of Giving", where gifts were distributed to the victims of the cyclone Amphan in the districts of 24-parganas (South). During the present "Share To Care" initiative on the occasions of Diwali and Children's Day, dress materials and essentials were given to the specially abled boarders of Bodhona and Asha Niketan and also to the students of Navajiban and a primary school run by the St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association at Paikhala village in South 24-Parganas. Some of the boarders of the homes and students of the schools, who came along with their teachers, received the festive gifts and participated at a joyful celebration of Diwali and Children's Day.

The Secretary of the St. Xavier's College (Calcutta) Alumni Association Sanjib Koner said, "The association has been taking up only philanthropic activities regularly during last eight months for the needy people troubled by Covid pandemic and cyclone Amphan, which also included bringing back helpless labourers from Dubai and supporting cyclone victims in

Kakdwip and p districts".	oroviding supp	ort in house b	uilding in Raલ્	ghabpur areas	in South 24-	Parganas







