



*SIES College of Arts, Science & Commerce  
(Empowered Autonomous), Mumbai  
Institution's Innovation Council*

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# **ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026**

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**IIC 8.0**

**&**

**NIRMITEE KENDRA (E-Cell & Skill  
Hub)**

## **About Us**

### ***About the IIC Institute***

The SIES Arts, Science and Commerce College was inaugurated on 20th of June 1960 by Shri Y. B. Chavan, the first Chief Minister of Maharashtra to serve the ever-growing educational needs of students from North and Central Mumbai Suburbs, was the gift of the South Indians in Mumbai to the then newly-born State of Maharashtra. The Commerce Stream at the Degree level was started in 1980-81. Affiliated to the University of Mumbai, the college has an impressive strength of over 4,000 students drawn from all sections of this cosmopolitan city. Excellent results at various University and Board examinations, and coveted awards and merit positions bagged by the students have placed the S.I.E.S. College among the most outstanding institutions in the city. The Institute upholds the vision to facilitate a student-centred environment where the intellectual, cultural, social, physical and recreational needs of the students are fulfilled.

### ***About the IIC – SIES ASCS***

The Institution's Innovation Council at SIES ASCS envisions a vibrant community where curiosity sparks discovery and ideas are shaped into meaningful solutions. We are committed to nurturing a culture of research, creativity, and entrepreneurship that empowers both students and faculty. Our vision is to inspire responsible thinkers, creators, and changemakers who leave a lasting impact on the world.

A key part of our mission is to encourage and support the creation of student-led startups, providing them with platforms to experiment, learn, and succeed. Through collaboration and guidance, we strive to transform curiosity into enterprise and potential into progress. Our objectives include – 1. Promote innovation and creativity among students and faculty, 2. Foster research culture by promoting discipline-specific and interdisciplinary research, 3. Nurture student startups by offering mentorship, incubation support, and access to resources, 4. Build entrepreneurial skills through workshops, speaker sessions, and hands-on training in various areas related to innovation and entrepreneurship, 5. To act as a platform for collaboration between students, faculty, industry experts, and incubation centres to strengthen innovation and entrepreneurship and, 6. Inspire students to design solutions that are not only economically viable but also socially relevant and sustainable.

## Institution Innovation Council Members 2025-2026

### Faculty Council Members

Sr. No	Name	Department / Organisation	Role
1	Mr. Sampath V. Sambasivan	Economics	President
2	Mr. Saravanan Nadar	Management Studies	Convenor & Social Media Coordinator
3	Dr. Subi Yoosuf	Biotechnology	NIRF Coordinator
4	Dr. Krishnan Ramachandran	Commerce	IPR Activity Coordinator
5	Ms. Deepika Gawade	Management Studies	Start-up Activity Coordinator
6	Ms. Supriya Shetty	Management Studies	Internship Activity Coordinator
7	Mr. Ankit Kanojia	Management Studies	Innovation Activity Coordinator
8	Dr. Pallavi Roy	Chemistry	R&D Cell Coordinator
9	Dr. Ajinkya Gaikwad	Politics	Member
10	Mr. Mahesh Falake	Physics	Member
11	Mr. Rajesh Yadav	Computer Science	Member
12	Ms. Smita Junnarkar	Data Science	Member
13	Ms. K. Sarojini	Information Technology	Member
14	Ms. Vinaya Patil	Botany	Member
15	Dr. Surabhi Mishra	Zoology	Member

### External Members

Sr. No	Name	Organisation	Role
1	Adv. Dr. Kajal Dipen Chheda	Atlas Skill Tech University	Patent Expert
2	Mr. Smit Oswal	Speaking Dumpster	Startup/Alumni Entrepreneur
3	Mr. Jenil R Maru	BP Wealth and Midas Enterprises	Expert from nearby Industry/ Industry association/Ecosystem enablers
4	Mr. Akhil Nair	SIES Incubation Centre	Incubation Centre Representative
5	Mr. Yash Hajare	Scienotech Innovatics Prvt Ltd	Startup/Alumni Entrepreneur

### Student Council Members

Sr. No	Name	Department	Role
1	Ms. Ananya Jayantha Salonkar	Management Studies	IPR Coordinator
2	Mr. Biranchi Behera	Management Studies	Innovation Coordinator
3	Mr. Aaron Gerald Mathew	Management Studies	Startup Coordinator
4	Ms. Shrinkil Sakre	Commerce	Internship Coordinator
5	Mr. Aditya Ajit Nair	Management Studies	Social Media Coordinator

### **Resource strength (human capital and physical capital) of the IIC institution**

Resource	Details
Total No. of IIC Members	25
Total No. of IAs (Teaching/Non-Teaching and Students):	Nil
Total No. of faculty mentors from portal	Nil
Pre-Incubation Units	Nil
Incubation Units	01 (SIES Incubation Centre)
IP Facilitation Unit	Nil

## **Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem on Campus**

### ***A. The SIES Incubation Centre***

The SIES Incubation Centre was set up by The South Indian Education Society in late 2023. It is actively supported by IIMA Ventures for making it a prominent centre. The Centre is exclusively for the students and alumni of all SIES Institutions. It conducts speaker sessions, workshops, masterclasses, bootcamps, business plan competitions to nurture and promote entrepreneurial talent amongst students of all SIES institutions. In addition to these it has acceleration programs (1-3 months duration) and incubation programs (3-6 months).

### ***B. Nirmitee Kendra (E-Cell & Skill Hub Under RUSA)***

The Nirmitee Kendra is the Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub of the College established and funded under the Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). It was digitally launched by the honourable Prime Minister in 2019. The SIES College of Arts, Science & Commerce has been one among the sixty six colleges across the country which received a grant under the scheme. The project envisions to develop skills among students and create successful entrepreneurs.

Programmes like Startup India, launched in 2015, have opened up myriad avenues for Indian business. It has created a policy ecosystem that accommodates novel business ideas and models. It has created a business environment that works towards innovation, development, deployment or commercialization of new products and services driven by technology or intellectual property. The Nirmitee Kendra wishes to make use of this conducive policy environment by attempting to transform students into job providers from being just job seekers. The main objectives of the Cell includes: 1. To instill entrepreneurial spirit and skill among students. Conduct relevant workshops and training programmes required for the same. 2. To act as a platform of vibrant interaction between students and successful entrepreneurs.

During the recent years the Nirmitee Kendra has become an active and vibrant platform with enthusiastic participation of hundred plus students cutting across academic disciplines. All activities of the IIC-SIES ASCS during 2025-2026 were conducted in collaboration with Nirmitee Kendra.

The RUSA grant helped Nirmitee Kendra grant seed money to eight students' projects namely:

Serial No.	Year	Name of Project	Name of Student/s
1	2019-20	Smart Switch Board	Yash Hajare
2	2019-20	Sharing Cycles	Siddque Pathan
3	2019-20	Fog Handwash Machine	Mridula Iyengar & Sonali Panday
4	2020-21	Green Paper	Ravi Bohra
5	2021-22	Aaharnutra	Ganesh Bommeri, Jaiba Malpekar & Shrutilaya Shastri
6	2021-22	Speaking Dumpster	Smit Sachin Jain
7	2021-22	Hire Value	Jeet Pravinchand Jain
8	2021-22	Spectrophotometer	Yash Hajare & Chirag Kothari

### ***C. Research & Development Cell under IIC***

The Research and Development Cell (R & D Cell) has been established under IIC - SIES ASCS in November 2025 to have a full-fledged research ecosystem that would support entrepreneurship and innovation on campus. However, the Research Hub - 'Jignyasa' (curiosity) had been functional in the college since 2017. It serves as a platform/forum to encourage research scholars/students to participate, discuss and share their views on ideas, concepts, research articles, research papers, book reviews, current affairs among others. It also enables a healthy interaction amongst faculty and students representing different disciplines thereby inculcating an interdisciplinary/cross disciplinary approach in pursuing higher education. The relevance of this forum is to inspire and motivate students, especially undergraduates to be innovative, creative, explore topics/subjects beyond the curriculum, stimulate 'out of box' thinking, brainstorm over ideas/concepts, and propagate recent developments in different fields.

The establishment of this best practice led to the following outcomes:

1. SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion (W) bagged Overall Championship Award in Avishkar-2019-2020 from Mumbai university in Zone-II.
2. During the years of pandemic, an online competition on research proposal writing was conducted, and the winners were selected for zonal round of Avishkar Research Convention of Mumbai University 2020-21. Four students were successful in reaching the final round.
3. During the year 2021-22 also, an online competition on research- proposal writing was conducted, and the winners were selected for zonal round of Avishkar Research Convention of Mumbai University 2021-22. A total of eight Research Proposals were selected for the Zonal Level Final rounds, and the following students secured ranks in the final round. Ms. Mansi Rawat secured third rank in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry category, PG level and Ms. Akshaya Ajay Bhosale secured third rank in Pure Sciences category, PG level.
4. SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion (W) was awarded Overall Championship in the 16th Avishkar Research Convention 2021-2022 from Mumbai University in Zone-II. Well placed Alumni is valuable evidence who constantly support the students at present The results clearly indicate that the students are benefitted and equally motivated to write as well carry out independent research proposals.

### Events Conducted by IIC during the Year 2025-26

Serial No	Program Theme	Program Type	Activity Name	Date of Activity
1	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level I – Expert Talk (Self-Driven)	Entrepreneurship 101 & Movie Screening by Mr. Krishnan Ramachandran	24/07/2025
2	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level I – Expert Talk (Self-Driven)	ThinkTech – Where AI Meets Ethics by Mr. Rushabh Vora, Co-Founder & CEO, Innovision	05/08/2025
3	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level I – Expert Talk (Self-Driven)	GenAIus – AI Competition as part of Utkarsha 2025	25/08/2025
4	Innovation and Research	Level IV – Demo Day (Self-Driven)	Research Innovation Week: From Jigyasa to Nirmitee (in collaboration with riidl, Somaiya University)	15/09/2025 to 20/09/2025
5	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level I – Expert Talk (Self-Driven)	National Entrepreneurship Day – Online Interaction with Mr. Aljo Joseph, Founder, BharatNXT	10/11/2025
6	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level III - Demo Day	Business Mela in collaboration with Cultural Association, SIES ASCS.	02/12/2025 to 03/12/2025
7	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level I – Expert Talk (Self-Driven)	The Blueprint for Marketing Success & Pitching Competition by Ms. Anjali Nadar	12/12/2025
8	Innovation and Research	Level II – Workshop (IIC Driven)	Problem Solving & Ideation Workshop by Mr. Akhil Nair & Mr. Chintan Bakshi	20/12/2025
9	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level IV – Demo Day (IIC Driven)	Zero Day Hackathon powered by Nexa Works – first intercollegiate hackathon in SIES ASCS	25-26/12/2025
10	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level II – Expert Talk & Idea Storming Session (Self-Driven)	Yuva Samvaad (National Youth Day) – Storytelling for Startups by Dr. Yogesh Kamath & Youth Icons session	12/01/2026 to 13/01/2026
11	Innovation and Research	Level I - Workshop	AI for Future Managers	03/02/2026
12	Research and Development	Level III - Research Conclave	Annual Research Conclave - Jigyasa	20/02/2026
13	Entrepreneurship and Startup	Level 1 - Seminar	Ecopreneurship - Innovating for a Sustainable Future	21/02/2026

## **Achievements in 2025-26**

### **Institutional Achievement:**

The IIC-SIES ASCS won the Best Poster Award in the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) Regional Meet 2025 organised by the IIC-Western Region Office and hosted by SVKM's Dwarkadas J. Sanghvi College of Engineering (DJSCE) on December 2, 2025. The IIC-SIES ASCS poster was chosen as one of the five best posters of Regional Meet 2025 from among 50+ posters submitted by various institutions. The four other institutions that received the award are all technical and professional institutes, which include IIT Bombay. SIES-ASCS was the only arts, science, and commerce college that made it to the list of the best five.

### **Student Achievements:**

- Biranchinarayan Behera (TYBMS, Vice President of Nirmitee Kendra & Student Innovation Coordinator of IIC-SIES ASCS) and Lisha Jagadish Padhy (FYBSc-IT) won Third Position in the case study competition conducted by IIC-IIT Bombay as part of National Entrepreneurship Day celebrations held on November 9, 2025. Around 160+ students from colleges across Mumbai and Pune participated. The selected students also received a Research Internship in Innovation and Entrepreneurship at IIT Bombay.
- Ms. Ananya Salonkar, Secretary of Nirmitee Kendra & IPR Student Coordinator of IIC-SIES ASCS, won Elite + Gold certificate in the NPTEL course titled 'Understanding Business Incubation and Entrepreneurship'.
- Ms. Safa Syed (SYBMS), who led the Nirmitee Kendra – IIC SIES ASCS team, won the Best Contingent Leader (CL) award in the intercollegiate competition 'Finfeista' organised by SIES Nerul.
- A team of students from Nirmitee Kendra won certificates in 'FinFiesta', a business conclave organised by SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Nerul.
- A team of students from Nirmitee Kendra won certificates in 'Arithmos', a business conclave organised by N.M. College of Commerce and Economics, Vile Parle.

## **Key Activities – Highlights 2025-26**

### ***1. Research Innovation Week: From Jigyasa to Nirmitee (September 15-20, 2025)***

SIES ASCS organised Research Innovation Week titled 'From Jigyasa to Nirmitee' in collaboration with Jigyasa, SIES ASCS. SIES ASCS signed a Letter of Collaboration with Research Innovation Incubation Design Labs (riidl), Somaiya Vidyavihar University for the programme. The event included 12 discipline-specific department-level speaker sessions on research & innovation and four main speaker sessions in collaboration with riidl from 16th to 19th September 2025:

- 'The Art of Pitching' by Mr. Gaurang Shetty, Chief Innovation Catalyst of riidl – September 16, 2025.
- 'Design Thinking' by Ms. Hetal Mundra, Community Architect of riidl – September 17, 2025.
- 'From Research to Enterprise: Ethics & Communication in Innovation' by Dr. Hemanidhi Gupta, CSR & Training Co-ordinator of riidl – September 18, 2025.
- 'Introduction to the Basics of IPR' by Ms. Bhavna Pandya, Chief Incubation Officer, riidl – September 19, 2025.
- Thirteen subject specific sessions on research methodology were conducted at the department levels.

### ***2. Business Mela in collaboration with Cultural Association (December 2 - 3, 2025)***

A two-day event organized by the SIES Cultural Association and the SIES ASCS Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) brought together creativity, collaboration, and innovation on a shared platform.

The event showed a strong commitment to student entrepreneurship by blending cultural expression with forward-thinking ideas, creating a space where participants could explore their ventures, talents, share perspectives, and contribute to a vibrant, enriching experience and selling space.

### ***3. Zero Day Hackathon (December 25-26, 2025)***

The first intercollegiate hackathon in SIES ASCS – 'Zero Day Hackathon' – was powered by Nexa Works and organised in collaboration with IIC-SIES ASCS and Nirmitee Kendra on December 25 & 26, 2025. Students competed in teams to build innovative tech solutions within 24 hours. The prize winners received trophies and certificates from I/C Principal Dr. Satish Sarfare.

### ***4. Annual Research Conclave - Jigyasa (February 20, 2026)***

Jigyasa – Annual Research Conclave (2025–26) was organized by SIES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion (W), Mumbai, on 20 February 2026 in the college auditorium. The event aimed to provide a platform for undergraduate and postgraduate students to exchange ideas, present research work, and encourage interdisciplinary learning among students and faculty.

A total of 106 students from SIES College and other institutes across Mumbai registered for the conclave, out of which 98 students presented their research posters under various academic categories. The inaugural keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Mushtaq Patel, Technology Leader at Eastman Chemical India Private Limited, who highlighted the importance of research, innovation, sustainability, and digital transformation in modern industries, particularly the chemical sector. This was followed by the poster presentation session, where students showcased their research projects across disciplines such as Arts, Commerce, Management, and Pure and Applied Sciences.

### ***5. HEI Pre-Summit Engagements towards the India AI Impact Summit 2026 (February 3, 2026)***

IIC-SIES ASCS, BMS Association, and Nirmitee Kendra proudly organised a workshop titled "*AI for Future Managers*" on 3rd February 2026, as part of the HEI Pre-Summit Engagements towards the India AI Impact Summit 2026 — an initiative under *AI for Atmanirbhar Bharat*. The online session, hosted on Microsoft Teams from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM, featured Mr. Smit Jain — Founder of Speaking Dumpster, AI Expert, and Alumni Representative of IIC-SIES ASCS — as the keynote speaker. The workshop provided students with valuable insights into the evolving landscape of Artificial Intelligence and its

growing relevance in the professional world. Attendees explored emerging AI trends shaping tomorrow's workforce, discovered how managers leverage AI to lead teams and drive projects efficiently, and gained practical, actionable skills to begin their AI journey immediately. The session was open to all students, reflecting the organisers' commitment to inclusive, future-focused education.

### **Celebration Days**

#### ***1. National Entrepreneurship Day Celebrations (November 10, 2026)***

The event featured two esteemed speakers: A. Mr. Aljo J., Founder Bharat NXT, who shared his inspiring entrepreneurial journey, highlighting the challenges, learnings, and key principles that shaped his venture. He offered valuable insights into how determination, innovation, and adaptability play a vital role in building a successful startup. The session was moderated by Mr. Krishnan Ramachandran- IPR Coordinator, IIC- SIES ASCS.

B. Mr. Akhil Krishnan Nair, Manager - SIES Incubation Centre, provided an in—depth overview of the entrepreneurial landscape, emphasizing emerging opportunities and the importance of cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset in today's dynamic business world. His session encouraged students to approach innovation with curiosity and confidence.

#### ***2. Yuva Samvaad – National Youth Day Celebration (January 12, 2026)***

A speaker session titled 'Yuva Samvaad' was organised on the occasion of National Youth Day in collaboration with IIC and the Politics Association. Sessions included 'From Ideas to Impact: Storytelling for Startups' by Dr. Yogesh Kamath (Founder, Story Tribe) and 'Youth Icons' by Ideabaaz show participants and founders of Print Buddy, Mr. Chinmay Kuperkar and Mr. Shubham Pillay.

## **Photographs from Events Conducted by IIC-SIES ASCS (2025-26)**



*1. Mr. Krishnan Ramachandran delivering a lecture on 'Entrepreneurship 101' organised by IIC-SIES ASCS in collaboration with Nirmitee Kendra on 24th July 2025*



*2. Mr. Rushabh Vora, Co-Founder & CEO of Innovision, delivering a lecture on AI as part of the event 'ThinkTech – Where AI Meets Ethics' organised by IIC-SIES ASCS in collaboration with Nirmitee Kendra on August 5, 2025*



3. Ms. Hetal Mundra interacting with students during her session on 'Design Thinking' organised as part of Research Innovation Week titled 'From Jigyasa to Nirmitee' held on September 17, 2025



4. Ms. Anjali Nadar interacting with students during the session on 'How to Pitch'



5. Mr. Chintan Bakshi and Mr. Akhil Nair interacting with students during the Problem Solving & Ideation Workshop conducted on December 20, 2025



6. Participants in action during the Zero Day Hackathon powered by Nexa Works in collaboration with IIC-SIES ASCS & Nirmitee Kendra held on December 25 & 26, 2025



7. First, Second and Third prize winners of Zero Day Hackathon receiving the prizes from I/C Principal Dr. Satish Sarfare



8. IIC-SIES ASCS team receiving the Best Poster Award at IIC Regional Meet 2025



*9. Ms. Safa Syed with the Best Contingent Leader (CL) award in the intercollegiate competition 'Finfeista' organised by SIES Nerul*

## Testimonials

*“We have been making significant steps in nurturing entrepreneurial talent among students through the Nirmitee Kendra (E-Cell and Skill Hub Under RUSA) since its inception in 2019. The onset of the IIC-SIESASCS marks a distinct chapter in this journey. The entrepreneurial and innovation activities have become more streamlined with the onset of IIC-SIES ASCS. However as a nascent IIC chapter we still have a long way to go. We are sure that we will improve our performance with the timely guidelines and orientation given by the MoE’s Innovation Cell and AICTE.”*

**~ Sampath V. Sambasivan, President, IIC-ASCS**

*“The guidance from MoE’s Innovation Cell is a great asset to plan entrepreneurial and innovation related activities on campus. Timely webinars and orientation sessions have proved extremely helpful for us as a newly joined IIC institution.”*

**~ Mr. Saravanan Nadar, Coordinator, IIC-SIES ASCS.**

*“My association with IIC-SIES ASCS has provided me with great practical insights into what I learn as a student of management studies inside the classroom. The business prototype display conducted gave me an opportunity to present my business idea and receive feedback.”*

**~ Ms. Ananya Salonkar, TYBMS, IPR Coordinator, Student Council, IIC-SIES ASCS.**

*“I have been one of the beneficiaries of the seed money provided for prototype development by Nirmitee Kendra (E-Cell & Skill Hub Under RUSA). It paved the foundations of my entrepreneurial journey. I am happy to contribute to the IIC-SIES ASCS as an external member. The IIC-SIES ASCS is providing me a platform to make creative contributions to the College which made me what I am today.”*

**~ Mr. Smit Oswal Jain, Founder – Speaking Dumpster, External Member, IIC-SIES ASCS.**

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