

SCIE NEWSLETTER



SCIE

॥वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE) is the central department of Symbiosis created solely for designing and managing all internationalisation endeavours for the university. This department takes care of *all things international*: from branding Symbiosis globally, promoting programs and recruiting international students, creating a *home away from home* for all international students studying in Pune, nurturing the spirit of multicultural inclusion and diversity at all campuses, offering leadership opportunities through the vibrant International Student Council to working with carefully selected, like minded international partner universities, designing joint academic collaborations, and ensuring internationalisation@home to all staff and students across the university.



SIU

॥वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

Symbiosis International University (SIU) was envisioned by Founder **Prof. (Dr.) S. B. Mujumdar** with an aim to *promote international understanding through quality education*. One of its main objectives is to develop students who not only work towards growth in their professional careers and personal lives, but also consider themselves as ambassadors for living (and evangelising) the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', 'the world is one family'.

RANKINGS & ACCREDITATION



Accomplishments:

We extend our heartiest congratulations to **Dr. Rajiv Yeravdekar, Provost, Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences, Symbiosis International (Deemed University)**, on being conferred the prestigious '**Fellowship of the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (FRCOG)**', London, a truly distinguished global recognition of his exemplary contributions to women's healthcare and medical education.

This honour, conferred on Friday, 12 December 2025, is a testament to his visionary leadership, academic excellence, and unwavering commitment to advancing healthcare standards. His work continues to inspire generations of healthcare professionals and significantly strengthens the global standing of medical education and practice.

As Provost, FOMHS, SIU, his dedication, integrity, and passion have had a profound impact on institutional growth, innovation, and excellence. This remarkable achievement brings immense pride to SIU and the entire medical fraternity.

International Collaborations:

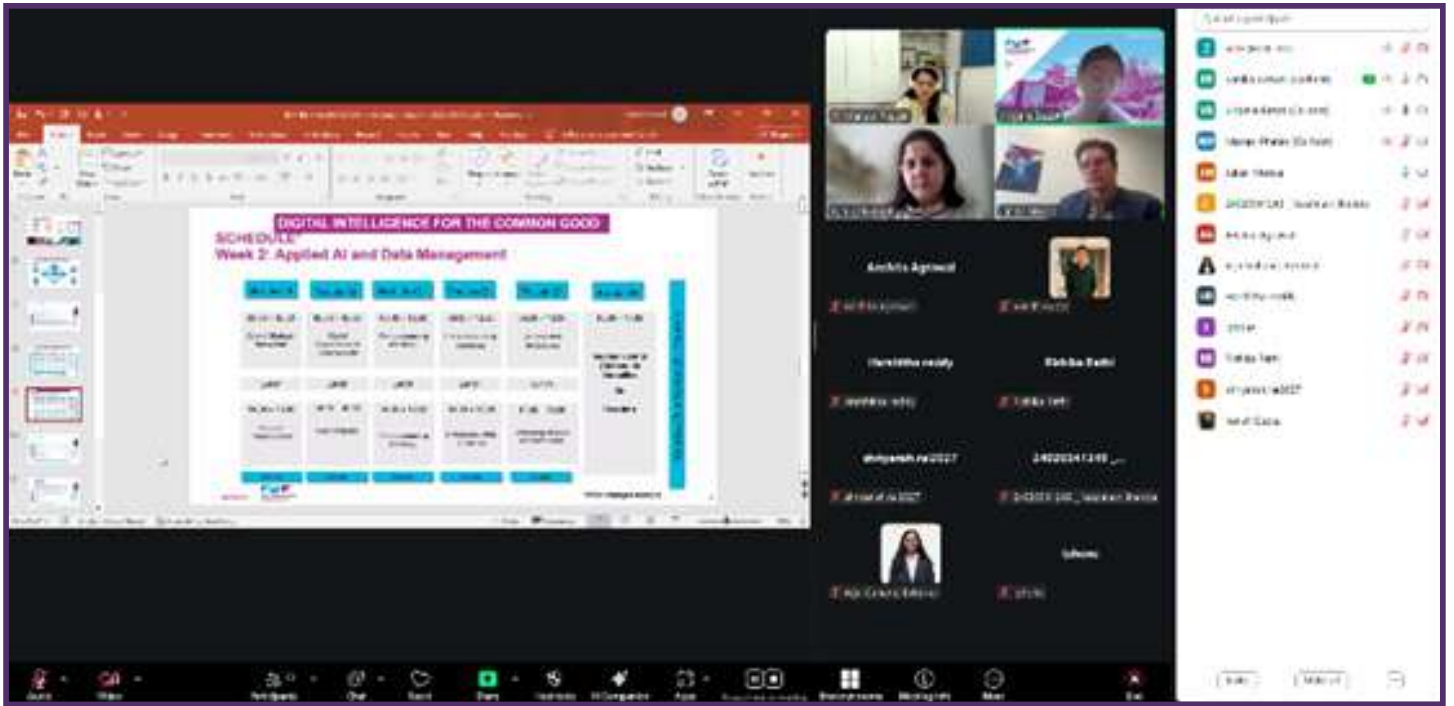


Dr. S V K Bharathi and Dr. Mandar Pande visited Hochschule Mainz, Germany, for a week (1-11 Dec) for an academic exchange.



Dr. T P Singh, Director, Symbiosis Institute of Geoinformatics (SIG), Dr. Ketan Kotecha, Director, Symbiosis Institute of Technology (SIT), Pune and Dr. Meena Laad visited RUDN, Russia for the Space Tech forum.





IMT University, France along with SCIE conducted an 'Orientation Session' for the students who will be travelling to France for a Winter school along with Dr. Gauri Joshi, Symbiosis Centre for Management and Human Resource Development (SCMHRD)



SCIE facilitated a recce visit for Mr. Elango, Ms. Min, and Ms. Yoke Ling from Singapore Polytechnic (SP) to explore the possibility for the upcoming LEX program in March 2026.



Pune, Maharashtra, India

Symbiosis School of Economics, Shivajinagar, Pune,



Pune, Maharashtra, India

Symbiosis School of Economics, Shivajinagar, Pune,

Dr. Sayuri Shirai, Professor from Keio University, Tokyo conducted a session on "Climate change and sustainable Finance" for the students of Symbiosis School of Economics (SSE) on 16th December.



Symbiosis International (Deemed University) had the pleasure of hosting a high-level delegation representing leading French higher education institutions, including France Universités, Conférence des Grandes Écoles (CGE), CEDEFI, Campus France, and the Consulate General of France on 18th December.

The visit featured insightful discussions with SIU leadership, parallel academic meetings across disciplines, and a campus tour - fostering dialogue on future academic collaboration, mobility, and research partnerships.



Events and Student Relations:



The 22nd SIU Convocation ceremony was held on 20th December, 2025, Saturday at SIU Lavale Hill top. **Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India, was the Chief Guest for the ceremony.** Students from 22 countries including the council, learnt and sang a beautiful rendition of the Indian National Anthem while foreign nationals from 36 countries took part in the ceremonial flag presentation.



Mr. Basher Mohamad from Syria studying at **Symbiosis School of Culinary Arts and Nutritional Sciences (SSCANS)** was declared as **'The Outstanding Foreign Student of The Year' - 2025** and was awarded a plaque and Cheque of Rs. 1,00,000/- on 20th December 2025 during the SIU Convocation Ceremony.



Dr. S. Jaishankar awarded gold medals to the winners of the **Chancellor's Gold Medal Award for the Best Outgoing International Student 2025** during the SIU Convocation ceremony.

The winners of the awards were:

Mr. Roshan Kumar Yadav from Nepal – SIT – At UG Level

Ms. Maikano Khadija Abdullahi from Nigeria– SIHS – At PG Level

Symbiosis International Students' Sports Meet 2025-26 (SISSM):

We organise annual sports meet for foreign nationals within and outside Symbiosis in the months of November and December. SCIE appointed a students' sports committee consisting of 20 members to handle various aspects of the Symbiosis International Students' Sports Meet (SISSM) 2025, including organization, advertising, participant engagement, document verification, and overall assistance to SCIE. The theme for the event, as in previous years, was 'Play for Peace,' emphasizing the spirit of unity and harmony through sports.

SISSM 2025 took place with technical support from Symbiosis Department of Sports, Recreation and Wellness (DSRW). The Sports Committee took on the responsibility of verifying the documents submitted by the participants.

A diverse range of sports activities were organized for both girls and boys, including Table Tennis, Pool, Chess, Badminton, Swimming, Basketball, Volleyball, Futsal, and Football. The sports were conducted from 6th - 22nd December, 2025.

A total of 150 students from 42 countries, participated in the sports activities, showcasing the international nature of the event.

Swimming: A total of 14 countries participated in swimming competition.

- Men's category was won by Nepal with Mauritius as the runner up
- Women's category was won by Iran with Zimbabwe being the runner up

Pool: Pool was played by 19 Men from 15 countries and 4 Women from 3 countries.

- Sudan won the Men's Final against Yemen
- Nepal won the Women's Final against Nigeria

Chess: 20 male players from 10 countries and 9 female players from 5 countries took part in the Chess competition.

- Sudan won the Men's final against Bangladesh
- Sri Lanka won the Female's final against Bangladesh

Badminton: A total of 112 countries in the Men's event and 8 Countries in the Women's event participated

- Men's - Singles - Nepal won against Bangladesh
- Men's - Doubles - Nepal won against Nigeria
- Women's - Singles – Bangladesh won against Vietnam
- Women's - Doubles - Nepal won against Vietnam

Table Tennis: The Table Tennis game was played amongst 11 countries for Men's category and by 6 countries for Women's category

- Men's - Singles – Iran won against Nepal
- Men's - Doubles – Nepal won against Uzbekistan
- Women's - Singles – Saudi Arabia won against D. R. Congo

Basketball: The Basketball competition was played by 11 countries for the Men's category and by 5 countries for Women's category

- Men's - South Sudan won against Nepal
- Women's - Bhutan won against South Sudan

Volleyball: The Volleyball competition was played by 13 countries for the Men's category and by 8 countries for Women's category

- Men's – Iran won against Bangladesh
- Women's - Turkmenistan won against Bhutan

Football, is the most awaited game of SISSM, each year. Students represent their country with great gusto and look forward to winning the coveted trophies. The Inaugural Function of the Football Competition took place on 16th December, 2025 with great pomp and fare, with Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar ma'am presiding over the function. The Football and Futsal matches were held on 16th 17th, 18th, 21st and 22nd December, 2025.

Football and Futsal: A total of 14 teams for Men's category and 7 teams for Women's category participated

- South Sudan won the Men's Final against The Gambia
- Zimbabwe won the Women's Final against Bhutan

Overall, the event was a grand success, fostering sportsmanship, international collaboration, and the pursuit of peace through athletic competition.



Bhutan's National Day Celebration:

The Bhutanese students from Symbiosis celebrated their country, Bhutan's 118th National Day in collaboration with SCIE at the Moringa Auditorium, Lavale Hill Base on 17th December, 2025 in the morning. The blissful event began with a 'Marchang Ceremony' and the lighting of a lamp at the hands of Ms. Amruta Ruikar, HoD – International Admissions and International Promotions, SCIE, who was the Chief Guest for the function.

The students recited the national anthem of Bhutan bringing in a sense of pride. This was followed by a momentous occasion and an important part of the national day celebration – the inspiring speech by The King of Bhutan, his Majesty, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, which was broadcasted live from the historic Lingkathang of Wangduechhoeling Palace, Bumthang, Bhutan. The students attentively listened to his Majesty vision for a brighter, happier, developed and prosperous country of Bhutan.

The students celebrated their rich culture by presenting cultural songs and dance of Bhutan. The amazing performances received huge cheers from the audience.

This celebration reinforced the strong bonds we share with the student community, while also providing them a platform to showcase their rich cultural heritage and traditions, fostering an inclusive environment on campus. Such celebrations provide an enriching student experience, creating awareness of the rich cultures across the world.



Christmas Celebration:

The Christmas celebration was organised on 23rd December, 2025 by SCIE at Symbiosis, Senapati Bapat Road Campus. Around 650 international students attended this festive and joyous celebration. The Christmas cheer was definitely in the air with carols, hymns and festive songs being sung and played. Students enjoyed delicious food for dinner. A special appearance of Santa Claus brought a big round of cheer from the students who were presented with gifts. Everyone enjoyed clicking photos by the beautifully decorated Christmas tree.

The presence and welcoming address of **Hon'ble Dr. S. B. Mujumdar, Founder and President of Symbiosis, along with Mrs. S. S. Mujumdar, Hon. Director of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial and Museum**, added a touch of significance to the celebration.



Council Trip:

The council along with the SCIE staff from the Events and Student Relations team took a 1 day trip to Mahabaleshwar to explore the sights and sounds of the famed hill station nestled in the western ghats of Maharashtra. The trip started off early morning with a bus ride to the highly anticipated **strawberry picking session at the Bhilare farms**, where everyone indulged in selecting the brightest and juiciest of strawberries! It was followed by a delicious lunch at the well known restaurant in the market of Mahabaleshwar. From here on the journey came to its final pitstop – the **famous Mapro Gardens**, where they serve strawberry in a variety of forms – juices, spreads, jams, milkshakes and of course the quintessential Strawberry and Cream of the Mapro Gardens!

This introduced the students to the concept of 'farm to table' in a perfect way.

This joyous trip served as an informal bonding session for the staff and council members deeping their already strong bond further.





International Admissions and Promotions:

SCIE participated in International Educational Fairs in the month of November and December 2025

Manama, Bahrain – 21st & 22nd November 2025

Muscat & Sohar, Oman – 3rd to 8th December 2025

Qatar – 10th to 13th December 2025



Bahrain Fair: The inaugural ceremony was graced by Mr. Rajiv Kumar Mishra – Counsellor, Embassy of India in Bahrain.



Oman Fair: Inaugurated by Shri Pradeep Kumar – Consulate General, Indian Embassy in Oman



Qatar Fair: Inaugurated by the Principal of MES School

The primary objective of the education fair was to **strengthen Symbiosis brand and visibility** in these countries and to highlight the wide range of degree programs and offerings, attract potential students, and build meaningful networks with key stakeholders such as schools, institutions, educators, and service providers.

This marked the first time Symbiosis entered the Qatar market for promotional activities. The education fair proved to be quite effective in all these countries, as it attracted a large Indian community.

Engagement and Student Interest:

The event provided an excellent opportunity to interact with a large number of Indian students and parents who were keen to explore various study options at Symbiosis. The programs that generated the highest level of interest included B. Com with ACCA, Computer Science Engineering, Psychology, and MBBS.

It was observed that prospective students showed limited interest in general management programs. Instead, there is a clear trend toward pursuing more specialized, contemporary, and academically challenging programs that offer strong knowledge foundations, enhanced employability, and opportunities for entrepreneurship and start-ups.

Parents displayed keen interest in understanding the career prospects associated with each program. Placement support, employability outcomes, and expected salary packages were identified as key decision-making factors. Overall, the fair resulted in the generation of a substantial number of quality leads, underscoring its effectiveness as a successful outreach and recruitment initiative.

India–Oman Education Partnership Summit 2025:

AFAIRS Exhibitions & Media, in association with the Embassy of India, Muscat, had organised the India–Oman Education Partnership Summit 2025 on 4th December at the Embassy of India, Muscat.

Around 25 university representatives from India participated in the event. This prestigious bilateral summit was designed to strengthen academic, research, and skill-development collaborations between India and Oman. The platform brought together senior policymakers from the Omani universities, Indian higher education institutions, and leading school educators to explore new avenues of international cooperation.



Participation and Discussions held:

B to B meetings with the Omani universities for international collaboration opportunities, Joint Research programs and Faculty & student exchange programs.

The event also included an online presentation by Mr. Hassan Taqi Al Zaabi, Deputy Director in Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation of Oman. Counsellors, teachers and school administrators from Indian schools in Oman were also present. A panel discussion on strengthening India–Oman collaboration in the education sector was conducted. The participants were: Dr. Arwa A Alhinai – Deputy Head – Dept of General Education & Acting Director – Dept of Marketing and Communication – Modern College of Business and Science, Oman and Dr. Ahmed Hassan Al Bulushi – Dean of College of Engineering – National University Science and Technology, Oman.



Take aways from the Summit:

Growing Demand for International Education

Importance of Government and Embassy Engagement

Opportunities for Outreach and Brand Building

Visit to Indian schools: SCIE team visited the Indian & local schools to provide detailed insights about admissions, scholarships, and career prospects so that students gain comprehensive information to make informed decisions about their education.

SCES:

Erasmus+ 2026 : Funding Opportunities

Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur
 Head – International Initiatives,
 Symbiosis Centre for International
 Education (SCIE), Noida
 Head – Symbiosis Centre for European
 Studies (SCES)

Prof. (Dr.) Neeta Inamdar
 Dean - Faculty of Education
 Jean Monnet Chair Professor
 Advisor - SCES

Symbiosis Centre for European Studies (SCES) as a strategic partner

Pre-proposal

- Workshops on proposal specifics
- Action selection guidance
- Strategic partner identification
- Access to application portal
- Pre-submission review support

• **Tip:** Proposals that visibly anchor their work in a dedicated EU-focused centre signal institutional seriousness. Explicitly positioning SCES as a coordinating or consolidating hub strengthens credibility in the eyes of EU evaluators.

Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur and Dr. Neeta Inamdar led a workshop on Erasmus+ funding opportunities, focussing on key funding calls as well as practical tips and strategies for developing strong and competitive project proposals



Symbiosis International (Deemed University) was pleased to host a high-level delegation representing leading French higher education institutions, including France Universités, Conférence des Grandes Écoles (CGE), CEDEFI, Campus France, and the Consulate General of France. The delegation comprised Prof. François Louis André Pernot and Mr. Antonio Bento de Oliveira Neves (France Universités); Mr. Hugues Brunet and Ms. Marie Sarah Salvan (Conférence des Grandes Écoles – CGE); Ms. Jelena Đorđević (CEDEFI); Dr. Philippe Maurin and Mr. Angel Fortin (Consulate General of France in Mumbai); and Ms. Rini Abraham, Campus France Manager for the Pune Region and the State of Goa. The programme featured insightful discussions with SIU leadership, parallel academic meetings across disciplines, and a campus tour—fostering dialogue on future academic collaboration, student and faculty mobility, and research partnerships between India and France. Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur, Head – International Initiatives, Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE), Noida and Head, Symbiosis Centre for European Studies (SCES), and Dr. Anita Patankar, Director – Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE), joined the interaction virtually, contributing valuable perspectives to the discussions.

MoU's signed:

- Institut Mines-Telecom Business School, France

SCIE - Noida:



▶ **Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur**, Head – International Initiatives, Symbiosis Centre for International Education (SCIE), Noida, participated in the **European Association for International Education (EAIE) Board and General Council workshops and meetings** held in Amsterdam from 9-12 December, 2025



▶ **Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur** with **Dr. Firas Sabah Salih Al-Turaihi**, Cultural Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq to India, discussing the Golden Jubilee Scholarships and exploring potential academic collaborations and institutional partnerships with higher education institutions in Iraq.

During the meeting, Dr. Piplani-Kapur also formally handed over a letter for further discussion with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Republic of Iraq.

▶ **Dr. Nidhi Piplani Kapur** with **Mr. Mahmoud Ejweli**, Academic Attache, Embassy of the State of Libya to India discussing Golden Jubilee Scholarships, as well as potential collaborations and partnerships with institutions in Libya

