

Dear Fathers & Brothers,

I am placing before the whole Province 'The State of the Province' as promised on 25 May 2016, when I presented the same in XISS auditorium.

We had still not recovered from the shock of losing Fr. Ranjit Pascal Toppo and lo and behold we had another shocker in the sad and untimely demise of Fr. Paul Vijay Minj. The whole province has experienced the pain and agony in the loss of these young men. We have felt the same in the deaths of other brethren during the past years – some of them very young. Maybe, God is giving us a message through these events! While we continue praying for the Eternal Peace of those who have gone before us, I would also like to appeal to the whole province to take a good care our health. It is true that sudden deaths cannot be prevented. However, if there are signs and symptoms which call for our immediate attention, let us not neglect them. It is from this point of view that we have constituted a new commission called 'Health Commission', which will be activated shortly. The plan also is to have a health survey of the province men, in order to have a data bank in view of some concrete measures – preventive and curative -- to improve the health status of the province.

My best wishes and prayers!

Fr. Joseph Marianus Kujur, SJ
Provincial Superior

STATE OF THE PROVINCE 2015-16

[1] Introduction

The day before yesterday, on 22nd May 2016, I completed two years in the Provincial's office. The year 2015-16 was much more challenging than the first year in many ways. However, it was again a good learning experience for me. This Annual Report 2016 of the Province is based on my interactions with various commissions, superiors, directors of works, individual Jesuits and collaborators.

Ranchi Province at the crossroads – the Context

We are at the crossroads of the history of Jharkhand! While the restructuring discourse in the Society amidst the emerging trends of a global decline in the religious vocations has become the talk of the town. The framework of the state and democracy in the context of Adivasis in India in general and in Jharkhand in particular, grips the Jesuits of Ranchi, even as they strive to be part of Universal Mission of the Society.

At the level of Universal Society, there is more and more demand of the well qualified and competent Ranchi Jesuits to collaborate in supporting frontier and periphery missions as much as supporting the international/Roman Houses.

At the level of South Asian Jesuit Assistency, there are discussions on the need for structural changes by way of collapsing the province boundaries for the Universal Mission of the Society.

At the level of the Archdiocese, there are requests for greater collaboration in matters of streamlining finance and supporting various commissions.

At the level of the Province, the Spiritual Animation Process (SAP) has enthused most of the province-men to think within the larger framework of the Society, going beyond the province boundaries, having serious implications and wider ramifications.

Thus, the context, in which the Ranchi Jesuits bear witness to the Gospel values, is well articulated in the letter of Father General to the whole Society (*Rome, 8 September 2015, Fest of Nativity of Mary*):

- To be joyful witness to the Gospel and to care for His Church.
- To be ambassadors of Christ's message of reconciliation; thus to be agents of his peace, mercy and justice – as individuals and as communities.
- To a path of spiritual renewal through a fresh appropriation of our Ignatian spiritual heritage.
- To foster an inclusive yet critical dialogue about the future of our planet, engaging nations, cultures, religions and economic and political systems in this search.
- To be present among people who have been agonizingly uprooted from their homes in overwhelming numbers; in particular, to accompany vulnerable migrants, refugees, indigenous and homeless people.
- To care for our human and natural environment, to develop sustainable ecological and social practices both within our Jesuit communities and apostolates, as well as in our local communities, that will heal our broken world.

[2] This present report covers a wide spectrum of areas as follows (Contents):

[2.1] Vocations (promotion, prospects for the future, perseverance);

[2.2] Life in the Spirit and the vows

[2.3] Province Commissions

[2.3.1] Brothers Commission

[2.3.2] Building Commission

[2.3.3] Communication and Media Commission

[2.3.4] Formation Commission

[2.3.5] Health Commission

[2.3.6] Middle Schools Commission

[2.3.7] High Schools Commission

[2.3.8] Higher Education Commission

[2.3.9] Pastoral Apostolate Commission

[2.3.10] Social Apostolate Commission/ Dialogue & Human Rights Commission

[2.3.11] Temporal Administration Commission/Finance Commission

[2.3.12] Youth Commission

[3] Collaboration as our charism

[4] Ranchi Missionaries in Foreign Territories

[5] The roadmap of the Province

[2.1] Vocations

The last two years have been a lean period for the province with 3 ordinations in 2014-15 and 2 in the year 2015-16. However, 2016-17 will see 5 of our deacons' ordination. Next year again, if everything goes well, we will have 8 ordinations. We hope and pray that this trend continues and the state of vocation to the Society in the province is stable.

Ranchi Province has 2 Apostolic Schools and 1 Minor Seminary, where vocations are nurtured. We also have quite a few vocations from outside the Apostolic school framework.

Parish priests and Jesuits working in schools are the vocation promoters. Even many religious and laypersons are indirectly helping us get vocations. This year Summer Camp cum Vocation Camp was held at Minor Seminary for a month in April. Initially 102 candidates turned up but 97 of them persevered till the end. Among them 70 are selected for the Minor Seminary Ranchi. It is to be noted that many were also from non-Apostolic Schools who seem to be quite genuine and well-motivated. We are happy to get vocations from Assam, Andamans as well as some from Odisha. Therefore, I appreciate the parish priests, Jesuit-teachers and others for consciously promoting vocations for the Society.

NUMBER OF JUNIORS RECEIVING FIRST VOWS RANCHI JESUITS (2011-2016)				
Years	Samtoli A.S.	Gumla A.S.	Others	Total
2011	02	02	01	05
2012	05	04	02	11
2013	01	02	01	04
2014	03	05	05	13
2015	02	04	03	09
2016	07	03	04	14
Total	20	20	16	56

Source: *Kerketta Raymond, SJ, Novice Master, 06 May 2016.*

The table above is self-revealing. It also raises a concern about very few vocations from Apostolic Schools. Samtoli and Gumla Apostolic schools, for instance, provided only 20 novices each professing their first vows from 2011 to 2016, within a period of 6 years. From outside the Apostolic schools the Province received 16 novices taking their first vows in 6 years.

[2.2] Life in the Spirit and the vows (prayer, daily Mass, annual Ignatian retreat, the vows, availability) and a Spiritual Renewal

It is heartening to know that the Province men are very particular about “life in the Spirit and their vows”. They feel a sense of satisfaction. There is a sense of belonging to the Society. There is a sense of pride in being Jesuits. That the province is serious about Life in the Spirit, is obvious from the follow-up of the Ranchi Province Days 2015.

[2.2.1] A follow-up of Ranchi Province Days (20-22 May 2015) - “Renewal of the Consecrated Life for Effective Mission: Our Response and the Challenges”

My deep appreciation for the Coordination Committee of the PD-15, which facilitated the programme in such a smooth and effective fashion despite some initial bottlenecks!

The above theme was as part of the 200th year celebration of the restoration of the Society of Jesus. The province collectively tried to respond to Father General’s call to prayerfully reflect on the question – “Meditating on the Call of the Eternal King, what do we discern to be the three most important calls that the Lord makes to the whole Society?” This basically refers to our personal and communitarian experience of Jesuit life and work.

The theme had two parts – (a) The call to a deep intimacy with Jesus, and (b) How this call can be translated into a renewed mission in the context of the present challenges. In relation to both the parts some challenges were identified and suggestions made to address them during the remaining part of the

year 2015-16, to be able to assess ourselves and enhance our quality of commitment and personal integrity before the next Province Days-2016.

Although we had said in the circular dated 29 August 2015, we shall have the reporting of the sharing on the above topic, devoting one session, we have changed the dynamics and I am presenting to the House a summarized version of the reports for 3 reasons – (a) all reports have not come, (b) to avoid redundancy as the synthesis of the reports is included in the state of the province, which in fact is the '**real state of the province**' concerning spiritual renewal, and (c) we will take the outcome of the sharing forward by narrowing down to **ONE** thrust area, on which the entire province will focus in the year 2016-17, even while following up the last year's action plan.

[2.2.2] Findings of the Group Discussion during Province Days 2015:

[2.2.2.1] Where are we – individuals, communities and in apostolate as regard the process of renewal we started at the Bi-Centenary of the Restoration of the Society?

We, as individuals and as a community, have experienced intimacy with God. Our deep rootedness in Christ is sustaining us. We have a deep sense of belonging to the Society. We experience solidarity in our everyday life. We feel accepted. We share with one another what we have and what we are. We try to excel in all that we do. We are committed to the cause of the poor and the downtrodden. We are available for any work that is entrusted to us by the Society. We try to be men of prayer. We are open to work for the Universal Church. In spite of all these positive vibes, we often feel frustrated, broken, depressed and challenged to be men of more integrity, generosity, magnanimity and inner freedom.

[2.2.2.2] What are the concrete challenges, we Jesuits of Ranchi Province face in our day today life to live the consecrated life more radically and meaningfully?

- a. **Impact of globalization in our life in terms of:** (a) a consumerist life style, (b) clear signs of secularization, (c) weakening identification and accompaniment of the poor and the marginalized, (d) lack of interest and participation in people's struggles against displacement, human rights violations, indiscreet privatization of public sector enterprises, and anti-Christian and anti-minority propaganda, etc.
- b. **Confusing our Mission with our day-to-day activities and institutions.**
- c. **Mediocrity (lack of professionalism) and not MAGIS in approach to:** (a) our apostolic work, (b) our Jesuit way of life, (c) our intellectual pursuit, and (d) our relationships.
- d. **Compromise on our day-to-day (routine) spiritual exercises and their genuine and concrete implementation in terms of a lived-in spirituality:** (a) praying together and praying for each other, (b) sharing with one another one's life, joys, happiness, brokenness and struggles of life, (c) mutual support, solidarity and accompaniment, (d) lack of integration of prayer and work, etc.
- e. **Crisis in our community life in terms of:** (a) perennial tension, (b) individualism, (c) lack of mutual trust, and (d) absence of participation of everybody in decision making process.
- f. **In-ordinate attachments to:** (a) material things, (b) people, friends, families, and (c) some of our pet ideas with a sense of arrogance and stubbornness.
- g. **Absence of Ignatian generosity for going to the frontiers: apostolic availability.**
- h. **Absence of humility and trust for collaboration:** (a) with laity, (b) other Religious persons, and (c) among Jesuits.

[2.2.2.3] What concrete steps should we take to go to the roots of Ignatian spirituality in everyday life to deepen our religious vocation and renew our consecrated life? – for reflection, sharing & follow up:

What concrete steps shall **I PERSONALLY** & **WE as a COMMUNITY** take to enhance **MY/OUR** personal quality and integrity in matters of: (a) spiritual renewal, (b) community life, (c) relationship with others, (d) collaboration, (e) intellectual pursuit, (f) pastoral effectiveness, (g) anti-poverty tendencies and inordinate

attachments, (h) inner freedom for frontier missions, and (i) identification with the poor and the marginalized in their daily struggles for survival?

[2.2.3] Response: Our genuine efforts to be more authentic to our call (Renewal)

One of the communities had already made the Community Action Plan in 2013 and implemented it with at least two annual reviews. Going through the points given for a follow up with reference to Province Days-2015, it was found that almost all the areas were covered within their scheme of action plan. Therefore, the community members took this as the basis of the follow up of the renewal individually and community-wise, and shared what they had been doing so far and what they had achieved so far.

I appreciate the communities that have submitted the report of the follow-up. I also encourage those communities which have not been able to put in a serious effort in this 'spiritual renewal process'. I hope that the next year will see a more pro-active involvement in the process as has been the case with some of the communities.

I have the pleasure of placing before this august House a brief of all the reports for taking this forward:

1. Spiritual Renewal

Common spiritual exercise, such as regular Holy Mass, evening prayers, etc., are held with renewed vigour as well as common meals with good attendance. Some communities have regular Monthly Recollections with talks, adorations and meditations, confessions and benediction. They say, "This helps us to keep in tune with spiritual life. This has also given opportunities for personal and community renewal -- at the personal level, time for introspection, prayer and reflection, spiritual reading etc. Some of us have missed the Annual Retreat one year or two. Some have not gone for it at all. As a concrete manifestation of our renewal we seem to work sincerely and honestly, not letting others suffer due to neglect of our own duties and responsibilities. More generous in service, more charitable in our thoughts, words and action, more altruism in our relationship, more willing in availing ourselves for spiritual ministries, more readily available for any mission given, such are some attitudes and behavior as outcome of our efforts of renewal. Of course, Individualism, selfishness, pride, peer-groupism, laxities in Mass and evening prayers do manifest in our community as human weakness but we are aware of these lapses and failures. We bring them up in our community meetings and deliberate on them frankly and resolve to improve on them. We are trying to overcome them at individual as well as at the community level.

2. Community Life

Community is not in the air/abstract but in the group of some persons living together under some basic and minimum organized/routing life in time and space. Hence assessing community life inevitably means our life and relationships among ourselves, cooperation and collaborations in our actions and activities, and celebrating together even bearing hardships together. As an outcome of renewal some communities have restricted a great deal their celebrations and Birthdays, drinks, etc., in terms of extent and frequencies. It was done by the community.

The idea is to make a vibrant community through mutual caring, sharing and bearing with one another and making the community a place joyful to live and work. According to the members, "This is our set goal, a long term objective. We are trying to strive towards this goal ever closely. However, we are aware of our limitations and weakness. In our common striving we also face obstacles. There are conflicting views, differences of opinions and ways of seeing on some matters and even disagreements. Yet, instead of discouraging ourselves we try to take all these in good stride and push ahead. In spite of some individual negative attitudes and behavior we as a community try to move onward, provide opportunities to bring joy and happiness for all in the community. Caring and sharing brings togetherness and gives unity of purpose."

In view of making our community good and to give witness to the life of poverty we engaged in soul searching whether we are transparent and accountable with regard to money matters; whether our vehicles and resources are availed more for the families, dear and near ones alone and not for real mission purposes; whether our personal Bank A/C is kept a secret and family members' names are given as nominees; whether we use the salaries or whatever income as OUR money, not following Society's Way of Proceeding; also violating Government rules and regulations regarding finance.

3. Collaboration and cooperation

There is spontaneous and willing cooperation now among member of the community to a great extent and collaboration of resources and among departments when and where needed. This leads to mutual sharing of facilities, infrastructures like vehicles, computers internets, and halls, chapels, guest rooms, etc. fostering being helpful to one another. There are joint ventures, like in organizing games and sports that have brought the members together. At the very initial stage of the follow up actions, there were sharing sessions about our life, family background, interests, concerns and responsibilities and even expectations from one another. This exercise proved to be very useful and important as a starting point. This was the spadework/ground work to build up a vibrant community that would be characterized by loving, sharing and caring, even bearing with one another in community living.

4. Relationship with others

Many communities have expressed that their relationships are open, cordial and friendly among themselves. They try to be friendly with outsiders as well. Through games and sports, the school in particular, have tried to build up a network of various institutions, and authorities with whom they can share their facilities, programmes, ideals even woes and worries. It is a golden opportunity for building a wider family of educationists and such institutions. In this way the Jesuits are giving humble leadership. These are the concrete parameters of their relationship, living and working in the community.

5. Intellectual pursuit

Some members of the community are engaged in intellectual pursuit. In a very special way, in writing works or learned approach to ministries, in terms of research on tribal culture and religion, composing hymns and seasonal songs and publications. For instance, in Gumla, Fr. John is fully engaged in this work. Fr. Christopher is working on the topic - 'Witchcraft and Gender Discrimination' - a study undertaken by him while at ISI, Delhi. He is working on it to eventually publish it in a book form. Besides, trying to give quality education and formation as far as possible to the students in the school and Inter College is part of the intellectual pursuit.

A couple of other Jesuits are also engaged in intellectual apostolate. However, we need to understand what "intellectual apostolate" means. During the last JCSA meeting in Bangalore, it was said that mere accumulation of knowledge is not "intellectual activity". The real intellectual ministry implies "creation of knowledge" and a "learned approach to all ministries". Each member of the province is invited to engage in the learned approach to ministries.

6. Pastoral Effectiveness

The priest members of the community regularly take up weekly Mass for local institutions as assigned, give recollections, talks, retreats to them on demand, hear confessions, help out in Parish Mass and during Christmas and Holy Week services take active part in liturgy. Hearing confessions on the basis of appointment by the Diocese is regular.

7. Social Ministries

Social ministries include, legal advice, guiding clients in fighting their cases in the court, directions for approach, partaking of some of the public meetings, demonstrations, *dharnas*, organizing people for some social cause, like CHILDLINE – 1098, forming Communal Harmony Unit like Sarva Dharma Sadbhavna Manch (SADSAM), taking care of the villagers and creating and training leaders among them for their own development....etc. All of these activities can come under this sector.

8. Anti-Poverty, Inordinate Attachments, Identification with the Poor

They all go in one line with life in accordance with the Vow of Poverty. The general observance of the community members makes it clear that none manifests any visibly anti-poverty behavior or strong undue attachments to things or people among community members. On the contrary, the members said, “We are moderate in our food and apparel, celebrations are fewer, moderate and somber on B’ Days and feast days. Drinks are cut down much in frequencies and quantity. Nobody exhibits rich dress or extravaganza. We feel comfortable with ordinary people, our workers and staff and coworkers. We are also working in the villagers. We are busy organizing women and working with poor village farmers and group entrepreneurs. However, the use of vehicles in our way of going about needs watchfulness.” We need to take good care of the things of the house, and not be extravagant in living style.

9. Concrete ways of living the vow of poverty

With our given aptitudes and talents, especially in agriculture, some of ours are taking great interest in farms and gardening, producing for the community and helping the savings. Through legal aids some of ours are helping the poor people to fight their cases in the court. Ours are also taking part in the life of the people and their just cause.

10. Identification with the poor and the marginalized in their daily struggles for survival

- Supporting the anti-displacement social organizations’ agitation and demand for fair and just compensation for the displaced people (participation in the *Dharna* at the Birsa Chowk on 21st December 2015 and addressing the gathering of displaced people on their legitimate struggle).
- Supporting the struggle of the Jharkhand Nagrik Prayas (JNP), a civil society organization spearheading the cause of the poor especially in the health sector. More particularly, joining the protest rallies and sitting on the *dharnas* in the premises of the Sadar Hospital against the Government’s move to privatize it. Providing the facilities of XISS for the JNP’s frequent meetings and other programmes like Honouring the Doctors of Jharkhand on 9th April 2016.
- Engagement in different ministries:
 - a. Spiritual care of some 6 or 7 religious communities
 - b. Catering to the needs of some religious and some Bishops
 - c. Collaborating not only with the Clergy but also with the Laity through the Marriage Encounter Programmes which include three kinds of programmes: Marriage Encounter Proper meant for married couples/ Priests/ Religious Sisters; Marriage Preparation [Engaged Encounter] for those going to be married; and a third Youth Programme for college boys and girls. This last programme is given even to the Novices of different congregations and to the seminarians.
 - d. Human Formation for the Jesuit Novices at Jharna.
 - e. Some Political and Social activities: Regarding the human and Tribal rights, conscientization of political leaders and Social workers not excluding Ecclesiastical authorities, through the distribution of appropriate and critical books. Against the Religious Fundamentalism truth is brought to light so that Truth shall prevail and sanity may return in the society in general.

- f. Trying to be the part of the Peoples' life, sick, old, etc., by visiting them.
- g. Writing articles on suffering and brokenness of the people

11. Inner freedom for frontier mission

It is connected with one's attitude and disposition to be available for any mission even frontier ones. Some of the communities said that they keep praying for the gift of proper disposition and genuine inner freedom.

[2.3] Province Commissions

[2.3.1] Brothers Commission

Jesuit Brothers of Ranchi Province participate actively in the mission of the Society of Jesus. At present there are 21 Brothers in the province and they are working in different Jesuit communities. The main goal of Brothers' Commission is to promote vocation for Brotherhood. The commission has made an action plan to promote vocation for brotherhood for three years. An advertisement for Brothers' vocation in the Nishkalanka is the feature of every month. The fruits of the action plan are visible in two candidates Johnson Kachhap from Ulhatu parish, Ranchi diocese, and Felix Hassa Purty from Sarwada parish, Khunti diocese, who joined Jeevan Deep pre-novitiate, Khunti.

[2.3.2] Building Commission

The Building Commission has worked hard to publish the Province Building Policy. My congratulations to the Secretary of the Commission Fr George Kerketta and his team!

Recently completed projects – Up to May 2016 – are in Bundu, Kochang, Dolda, Khunti, Simdega, Dhurwa, Gumla, Doreya, Prothrapur, and XIPT.

The estimated cost for these 12 projects was 5,72,59,352 Indian rupees. Project funding was available to the tune of 3,85,14,930 INR and Province funding was done to the tune of 2,42,26,087 INR.

The dependency on Foreign Funding was very high: **67.26%**

There are 13 ongoing projects in the province right now—Simdega, Dolda, Jharain, Khunti, Samtoli, Dhurwa, Gumla, Rumtukel, Manresa Infirmary, St. Xavier's College Ranchi, St. John's English Medium School Ranchi, St. Xavier's School Doranda. The estimated cost for the first 10 projects is 5,87,99,080 rupees of which **45.19 per cent** (Rs. 2,65,75,048) is dependent on **Foreign Funding**. The province/local funding of the same is to the tune of **Rs. 3,22,24,032**.

Projects in the pipeline:

There are 9 projects in the pipe line -- St. Xavier's College Simdega (5 yrs), Inter College Bundu (15 months), Prabhat Tara English Medium Dhurwa (18 months), Boys Hostel Rengarih (1 yr), new church Kanke (19 months), St. Xavier's College extension Ranchi (5 yrs), Middle school extension Bingaon (10 months).

Foreign Funding expected for the above projects is 15 %

New Projects – in Need (2016-20)

Please note:

- a. In the next 5 years, we need projects in Bundu, Vijaygiri, Samtoli, Dorea, Gumla, Lohardaga, Rengarih, Noadih, Khunti, Maranghada, Keondtanr, Bingaon, Rumtukel, Jharain, Muri, Soso, Sogra, etc.

- b. The total estimate is more than 16 crores of which 13 crore (**85%**) will be expected from foreign funding and a little more than 2.5 crores will be mobilized locally and from the province.
- c. Estimate is tentative
- d. Price will go up by the time project gets approved
- e. Foreign funding proposal is very high so local contribution should go up which is possible by Province funding and contribution from local contribution as time comes

[2.3.3] Communication and Media Commission

Communication Commission consists of three apostolates, namely, culture and communication through Satya Bharati, Ranchi, spreading God’s message through Catholic Press, Ranchi and Rural Animation and Empowerment through AROUSE, Gumla.

There are publications of books and productions of CDs

Jesuits in Communication (JESCOM): Fr Alex attended the annual meeting of JESCOM Held at Xavier University, Bhubaneshwar from 07 to 09 November 2015.

SIGNIS BIJHAN: The Annual Signis Bijhan Meeting 2015 was held in Satya Bharati on 21 and 22 of November. Members working for Communication in Bihar and Jharkhand gathered in Satya Bharati.

Vatican Radio: As usual many listeners from Vatican Radio sent their letters, appreciating, commenting and suggesting for the betterment of the Vatican Radio. The monthly magazine ‘Vatican Bharati’ was published every month and sent to the listeners.

Art and Music: Throughout the year many students came for guitar, keyboard and vocal class.

[2.3.4] Formation Commission

Overall Observation: What is your overall observation about the formation of ours in Ranchi Province?

Overall, the observation about the formation of ours in Ranchi province is quite positive. In general, our formees are well-disposed, receptive, sincere, open to growth, reliable, responsible, sensitive, faithful and loyal, confident and well convinced.

Numerically, Ranchi Province stands third in the Assistancy after Madurai and Karnataka. Here the number of formees at different stages of formation from Novitiate to theology is presented. By seeing the statistic we may feel proud that we are still getting quite many vocations. However, looking at the trend, we also realize that in the early stages, number is pretty high, which gradually increasingly decreases over a period of time. Therefore, one of our concerns is: There are many candidates at the initial stages but perseverance rate seems to be low. How to address this issue is a challenge for the Province?

The numerical strength of the province is clear from the data in the table below:

SN	Stage of Formation	Number of candidates
01	Ordinations	02
02	Deacons	05
03	Theology II	05
04	Theology I	08
05	Regency III	01
06	Regency II	06
07	Regency I	09
08	Higher Studies	00

09	College III	18
10	College II	04
11	College I	13
12	Fresh Juniors	12
13	Brothers before Tertianship [Stephen Kandir, Tele Horo]	02
13	Novitiate I	19
14	Novitiate II	16
	Total	120

Initially 39 candidates joined the **Pre-Novitiate** (2015-16) but 27 of them persevered till the end. The 4-sheet interviews for selection for the Novitiate was conducted in April (19-20, 2016). As many as 15 are selected for the Novitiate for the year 2016-18.

The Province has re-started sending some scholastics abroad for studies of philosophy and theology with a view of bringing in enriching perspectives. At present 3 are in Rome (PUG) doing their first cycle of theology, 2 are in Madrid after learning Spanish for a year, who join theology this year. Province plans this year to send 2 to Paris for the first cycle of theology, 2 scholastics for philosophy in Germany. Province is sending one to Cambodia for regency.

In order to reorient the formation which will help the formees to face a new context challenged by new frontiers, the following perspectives need to be gradually incorporated and deepened into the different stages of formation:

- (a) Preparing men for universal mission from the novitiate onwards. That we join the Society and not a province, needs to be reiterated.
- (b) Stress on Integral Formation
- (c) Spiritual depth- familiarity with our charism, way of life, our way of proceeding
- (d) Intellectual depth: call to learned ministry
- (e) Formation in and for Mission
- (f) Competency and Creativity
- (g) Collaboration
- (h) Eco-sensitive and Eco-active

[2.3.5] Health Commission

Socius Father Sudhir Kumar Minj is the Secretary of the Province Health Commission. He takes care of the health of the province-men along with Brother Telesphore Horo, who has been cheerfully attending the sick members and accompanying them whenever they have to visit the doctors and undergo check-up in clinics or in the hospitals or in any other need.

As on 1 January 2016, the Province had 374 members with 221 priests, 131 Scholastics [including 36 novices] and 22 Brothers. Thus, there is an overall increase of two members over the previous year. According to the age-group, the Province has the following index of the members:

Age	19-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	Total
No.	94	55	61	72	44	26	15	7	374

According to this data above, 48 members of the Province fall within the age-group of 70-90+ but if it is lowered up to 60 and above then their number is nearly doubled with 86 members who will require sooner or later some medical care. However, age-group alone cannot be a determining factor for necessity of such medical care. There are quite a few Jesuits in the Province in the higher age group who enjoy fairly good

health so far. On the other hand, there have been number of cases where the Jesuits from lower age-group had to undergo medical treatment.

There were 18 Jesuits, 8 priests and 10 scholastics of the Province, who were admitted in the Health Centre at Ara Gate for treatment in the last quarter of this year. Besides these, 10 others [9 Priests and 1 Brother] were also admitted in the Health Centre or in hospitals during the year. Moreover, there were some others who had to consult physicians for one complaint or the other.

Right now there are 4 Jesuits under serious health conditions – Fr Britius Ekka had open heart surgery in Birla Hospital Kolkata. He is improving. Fr Patras Ekka has to go to the hospital twice a week for dialysis. Fr Linus Kujur in Rome too has to go in for dialysis twice a week. Fr Ranjit Toppo is diagnosed with cancer and he is fighting for life in Ara Gate. We are trying whatever the best options and doctors available. Please pray for him seriously and sincerely through the intercession of Father Constant Lievens for his recovery.

Apart from these, there are twelve Jesuits [8 Priests and 3 Brothers] in the Province infirmary or in Manresa House who require constant medical care and assistance because of their old age, physical disability or permanent nature of their ailment. Two elderly Brothers stay in Agricultural Training Centre Namkum while two others in St. John's School Community and St. Xavier's College Ranchi. It helps the community members to be a little more sensitive towards our senior members of the Province. Let us pray for the other three as well as all the sick of the province.

Health care of the Province men requires annually a huge sum of money. The Province is lucky to have a good amount in its Aged and Sick Fund to bear all the expenses of its members.

The Province Infirmary can accommodate currently 10 inmates at the maximum. Thanks to the House Physician, Dr Samir Kujur, who visits the inmates in the infirmary every week and others who may need some consultation. Due to the growing number of members in the higher age-group, need for expanding the present Infirmary of the Province seems necessary. The work has started.

Rest in peace - the departed soul

Eight of our Companions were called by Our Lord to their heavenly reward over the last one year. Fr Vijay Kamath and Br Jozef De Bock passed away respectively in Ranchi and in Leuven, Belgium, due to their age related problems. Fr Albinus Tete died in Lohardaga due to his age and heart problem, while Fr Albert Kullu had long sufferings due to diabetes. The sudden death of Fr Isayas Xess at Orchid Medical Centre Ranchi, after he suffered a massive heart attack while he was preparing himself for his final vows at the Spirituality Centre, Jharna, came as a big pain of loss of the man who was known for his simplicity and hard work. The death of the NS Jugal Naresh Kujur by drowning in the pond of Manresa House Ranchi was very shocking for us all. Br. Blacius Ekka quietly passed away in his room in the Province Infirmary due to his age-long trouble of breathing. Sudden death of Fr Florent Jonckheere by falling from the staircase in St. Albert's College Ranchi, was very saddening.

[2.3.6] Middle Schools Commission

The nature of problems that the Middle Schools grapple with in day-to-day life, were different from those of the High Schools. There was, however, no mechanism in the province to address the problem. It was, therefore, proposed to have a separate commission to cater to the needs of the Middle Schools. Fr Brice Bilung is the Province Secretary of the Commission. The High School Commission for Education and Middle School Commission for Education mutually coordinate all their programmes and strategies.

[2.3.7] High Schools Commission

Congratulations to the Secretary of the Province Education Commission and the Central Zone Education Bureau for publishing much awaited Province Education Policy. Education Commission, following up on the Boston thrust, has been conducting many programmes across the province

Central Zone Education Bureau (CZEB)

The Ranchi Provincial officially blessed and inaugurated the office of the Central Zone Education Bureau on July 17, 2015. The Office of the Bureau started functioning from September 1, 2015. Fr Ajit (Principal St. Xavier's School, Ranchi) and Fr Florence (Principal St. John's School, Ranchi) are appointed as the Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively. The Bureau has become a pride of the province now as the national Education Secretary and also some people in Rome are very much impressed by what is happening in the Bureau.

[2.3.8] Higher Education Commission

Expanding the Jesuit Higher Education Network:

At the invitation of Fr Michael Garanzini, SJ, Secretary for Higher Education of the Society of Jesus, about 200 Jesuits and their collaborators participated in the International Conference on the theme *Expanding the Jesuit Higher Education Network: Collaboration for Social Justice*, at the Catholic University of Melbourne, Australia, from 7 to 10 July 2015. There were 50 delegates from India from different Provinces. Fr Nicholas Tete, SJ, and Fr Alex Ekka, SJ, represented Ranchi Province.

The context of Higher Education and Intellectual apostolate can be understood at three levels -- Society, Assistancy and Province. We have become aware of our contributions in the Higher Education and the opportunities that await us for more contribution.

[2.3.9] Pastoral Apostolate Commission

At Present Ranchi Province caters to the pastoral needs of the people in many parishes in the Dioceses of Ranchi, Khunti, Simdega, Gumla, Assam, and the Andamans. There are 61 Jesuit pastors shepherding 74429 believers in different dioceses of Jharkhand while 6 are looking after 5676 Christians in the Andamans. Similarly, 12 Jesuits are engaged in the pastoral field in Assam leading 74429 Catholics. Ranchi hosted a seminar for JEPASA at Ranchi from 22 to 26 October 2015. It was very interesting and inspiring to share our strength and to learn from our weaknesses.

[2.3.10] Social Apostolate Commission/ Dialogue & Human Rights Commission

Ever since the encyclical *Laudato Si'* was promulgated on June 18, 2015 by the Vatican; it ignited worldwide discussion and debate. Ranchi was no exception. The Commission was asked to take up the matter and it did organize a *Round Table Conference* on the encyclical, perhaps the first of its kind in the history of the church in Chotanagpur.

Fifth JEMAI National Tribal Festival at Ranchi

The 5th JEMAI National Tribal Festival coordinated by Fr Alex Ekka was held at St. John's School premises in Ranchi from 23 to 26 October 2015, for more than 500 tribals and their collaborators from various states of the country. A conference was part of the festival with the theme *Promoting Livelihood among Tribals in India*. The organizers of the event were the XISS staff and students and hosts were the members of St. John's School Community.

Prison Ministry

When Fr Ephrem Ba'a SJ took over from late Fr Christian De Brouwer, he was asked by the National Coordinator Prison Ministry India (PMI) sometime in April 2003, to give a new direction to this great initiative. From the year 2007, Fr Pradeep Kujur from St. Xavier's College, Ranchi was also permitted to say Mass in the Jail. At present the number of sisters attending the Sunday Mass in the jail has increased up to 12. In Ranchi Central Jail - Fr Ephrem Ba'a SJ and Fr Pradeep Kujur SJ and the sisters of various congregations are involved in the prison ministry. In Gumla District Jail - Fr Anselm Ekka SJ from St. Ignatius High School, Gumla and some M.C. Sisters, and in Simdega District Jail - Fr John Tirkey and Irenius To'ppo SJ from St. Mary's High School Samtoli are involved in the prison ministry.

[2.3.11] Temporal Administration Commission/Finance Commission (Thanks to Revisor Pradeep Kujur & Acting Treasurer Vijay Manohar Tirkey)

Salary for the Private Teachers of the poor schools:

There is a big concern for the salary of the private teachers of the poor schools. The salary of the private schools is very low. Ranchi Province has been helping such teachers from the Rainbow Project. In the last financial year **Rs 33,67,179=00** (Rupees thirty three lakhs sixty seven thousand one hundred and seventy nine only) were granted to Primary and Middle Schools of Vijaygiri, Kochang, Dolda, Jharine, Maranghada, Rumtukel, Sogra, Keondtanr; High Schools of Rumtukel, Keondtanr, Dorea and Vijatgiri. In the last one year we have been able to create corpus for the private teachers in view of increasing their salary in the near future. At present this corpus has **Rs.2,22,16,661=00** (Rupees two crore twenty two lakhs sixteen thousand six hundred sixty one only).

Local Contribution:

Local contribution is meant to meet the day-to-day expenses or common expenses of the Province. In the last financial year 2015-16 the Province received **33,67,000=00** (Rupees thirty three lakhs sixty seven thousand only) from different Houses and works for the Common Expenses of the Province.

i. Contribution for Infirmary Building:

Different Communalities and Institutions of the Province have generously contributed **Rs. 80,65,285=00** (Rupees eighty lakhs sixty five thousand two hundred eighty five only) for the extension of the Infirmary Building in the Financial Year 2015-16. I want to put on record that Father General appreciates our generosity. In fact, we first applied to the FACSI fund for financial help for the Infirmary, which was rejected as the FACSI does not cover infirmary expenses. However, Fr Lisbert advised us to apply to the funds of father General as our local contribution was very impressive. Behold, Father General extended 35,000 Euro for our infirmary. The moral of the story: If we are generous, others will be generous to us too.

ii. Contribution to purchase land in Porthrapur, Andamans:

Major Houses/Institutions (St Xavier's College Ranchi, XISS, St John's Ranchi, St. Xavier's Doranda and Assam Mission) of our Province have generously contributed **Rs. 1,10,000,00** to purchase a piece of land in Porthrapu, Andamans in the Financial Year 2014-15. Thirteen hundred square meters land has been purchased and the boundary walls constructed to protect the property in Prothrapur.

iii. Contribution for renovations and other needs:

St. Xavier's College Ranchi, St. Xavier's Doranda and XISS have gone out of the way to support some of the renovation works apart from other support.

St. Xavier's College Ranchi has pledged to support the upcoming degree college in Simdega. I take this opportunity to thank and appreciate the Heads of various institutions mentioned above, for their generosity and magnanimity.

iv. Contribution of the Province Fund:

The Province has contributed its own fund for the constructions of the following Building in the Financial Year 2015-16:

Sl. No.	Institutions	Amount (in Rupees)
1	St. Xavier's College, Simdega	49,50,000.00
2	English Medium School, Khunti	7,36,820.00
3	English Medium School, Samtoli	8,17,600.00
4	Rumtukel	6,94,056.00
5	St.Xavier's Hostel, Bundu	<u>2,50,000.00</u>
	Total	74,48,476.00

[2.3.12] Youth Commission

Ranchi Province Youth Commission functions in 4 different segments namely - Jeevan Prawesh, CLC, These four segments have their own space and time for organizing the programmes for the youth at different levels. We do bring all these groups in one platform, under the umbrella of MAGIS. Many significant efforts have been made and quite a good number of events and activities were organized by different entities of the Youth Commission.

[3] Collaboration as our charism

Ranchi Jesuits are involved in collaborating with the local Bishops by sharing personnel, helping in planning and other resources. For instance, Ranchi Jesuits collaborate with the Bishop of Khunti in the pastoral care of God's people in seven parishes of that diocese. In the Ranchi Archdiocese, the Province has been instrumental in working in collaboration with other Ranchi based Major Superiors to help the local church in managing and administering resources, personnel and works. Accordingly, two of the Ranchi Jesuits - Fr John Ekka and Ajay P. Minj are assisting the Archdiocese in financial management. Similarly, Jesuits work in different commissions of the Archdiocese. Fr Francis Minj functions as the secretary to the Jharkhand-Andaman Bishops doctrinal commission. Moreover, four Jesuits - Fr Erik Breye, Fr Sudhir Kujur, Fr Vincent Toppo, Fr Sudhir Minj teach at the St. Albert's Regional Major Seminary. Our prestigious institutions in Ranchi, such as St. Xavier's College, St. Xavier's Doranda, XISS and St. John's Ranchi, are also collaborating with the diocese by extending their moral support in terms of admissions and also occasional small financial support through the curia.

Although we are already in collaboration with 10 odd Religious Organizations in Ranchi and in Assam Mission, we are entering into a new phase of collaboration with the Loreto Sisters to run St Ignatius English Medium School Gumla. We are also negotiating with the Asha Niwas Sisters to enter into collaboration to run the Khunti English Medium School.

[4] Ranchi Missionaries in Foreign Territories

Our men are doing wonderful work in Rome, Guyana, Cambodia, Tanzania, Jerusalem and Egypt. Our students are in Madrid and Paris.

Sabbatical in Berkley (USA)

Sudhir Kumar Kujur is catching up with the periodic assignments for the courses, 'Spiritual Direction Practicum' and 'Ignatian Vision and Cultures', at the Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara University Berkeley (JSTB), California!

Life and Works in Andamans

There are 14 parishes in the Diocese and 7 Jesuits are working in 3 parishes remarkably – Diglipur, Ramnagar and Prothrapur. Spiritual Director of the Diocese Fr George Beck from Dumka Province is residing at Stella Maris Cathedral.

Instilling Hope towards a Fuller Life

The Assam Mission is 9 years old. New initiatives have already begun from the scratch and it clearly enumerates the existential situation of the mission. There was no proper infra structure to start with. Assam Mission, today, is steadily marching ahead with its glorious past, challenging the present and a hoping for a successful future. Assam Jesuit Mission consists of 7 major centers aligned with different sub-centers where a lot of developmental activities are going on.

The following are the centres: [1] Balipara Parish -- St. John's school Balipara [2] Kathalguri in the western part of the Mission -- Jacobpur [3] Pengaree [4] Manas Bansbari [5] Mushalpur [6] St. Xavier's College Sonabheel [7] Tezpur – (a) Gana Chetna Samaj, Tezpur (b) Jesuit Curia Office Tezpur

Going beyond the boundaries for Relief work: the NEPAL EARTHQUAKE

Fr Suman Baxla went to Nepal for about 2 months to coordinate the earthquake relief work before going to the Andamans. Later on the Vidya Jyoti scholastics went there for the relief work. All of them had a very enriching experience.

Observations concerning perception of haves and have-nots: Equality in the Province and not class formation:

- Every Jesuit is equal whether he is in an institution or in a poor parish
- Manresa House is the Mother House – everybody is most welcome to stay in Manresa. I have removed from the catalogue the names of some of us either in national or international Houses, who were affiliated to certain institutions so that there is no perception that some of us can stay only in certain institutions with better facilities. We will try to give Manresa House a face lift by beautifying the front part. Manresa House should be able to host the JCSA meeting in 2018 or 2019. Now the income of Manresa House by its earning members will be quite high and Manresa should be able to handle major renovation works on its own.
- Laptop for scholastics during formation is not encouraged –The Assistancy policy as of now is not in favour. We follow that. If some scholastics are allowed and others not, it will create division and class formation, which is against the spirit of the Society. I thank the scholastics affected by my decision for understanding me.
- Health Insurance Policy: I thank St. Xavier's College for giving me this idea. There was a proposal that Jesuits of SXC be allowed to purchase health policy for themselves. I declined only for one reason – let every Jesuit have the same health policy so that there is no perception that some members of the province are more privileged than the others.

[5] The Roadmap of the Province

The roadmap of the Province, captured in the Phesama Statement-2014 (JCSA, Phesama, Nagaland, 27 Oct-01 Nov 2014), focuses on the following aspects:

- Desire to give a generous and bold response to the invitation of Father General regarding restructuring as a corporate body.

- Recognizing the *kairos* in the church, in the style and ministry of Pope Francis, in the paschal joy experienced by our companions at the bicentenary celebrations of the restoration of the Society and in the imminent convocation of GC 36.
- Acknowledging and rediscovering, in practice, that our Jesuit vocation is to the universal Society. We join the Society of Jesus, not a province, and are available to be sent anywhere on mission that is both universal and local.
- Searching for the *magis* of more interior freedom for greater and more universal availability, striving for renewal of our structures at the service of our mission, and reminding ourselves that we are invited to creative fidelity, leaving aside all traces of mediocrity.
- Taking up frontier missions with 'commitment, competency and collaboration' in a spirit of Ignatian discernment, keeping in mind the need to optimize our human and material resources.
- Setting aside five per cent of our men for the common works of the South Asian Conference and five per cent for the needs of the universal Society.
- Taking forward the process of redrawing boundaries for greater apostolic availability, without being unduly conditioned by the exigencies of language, culture and civil borders.
- Revisiting our formation programme in order to instil in our men a greater passion for Christ and His mission, and to become learned, and skilled in ministries, imbued with the spirit of collaboration and dialogue.
- Working out viable and concrete programme of collaboration at the inter-provincial, zonal and Assistancy levels, and thus maximizing the use of our resources.
- Rationalizing our commissions at province, zone and Conference levels and supporting structures of collaboration with the Ignatian family of the laity and the religious, in order to promote the Ignatian charism.

[5.1] Health Commission - a roadmap for a healthy province (physically)

- We will be able to work in the vineyard of the Lord if we are healthy
- A health survey to map the health of the province-men
- Monitoring by Health Commission of those with health concerns
- Better health care & better facilities in the infirmary for the province-men
- Health Insurance - common for all after ordination (Ref. St. Xavier's College)

[5.2] Formation Commission

There is need to revisit Novitiate: to make spiritual exercises and experiments as sites of in-depth reflections, analysis and articulation in today's context, which calls for a change in our pedagogy; **Juniorate:** which is not only a place to learn English language but also a centre to sow the seed of intellectual temper; and **College studies/PG:** to chalk out concrete programmes to see how a Jesuit reflects on the social realities and signs of the times. Spiritual and intellectual ministries need to be visible. Hence, there should be spiritual and intellectual inputs in all others ministries. It will be helpful to make critical reflection accessible to all - looking at things from different angles. Good practices can be collated and shared with others.

[5.3] Finance Commission

- Financial Planning for the province - for self-sustenance, self-funding, generating local resources
- Centralization of finance for a better present and better tomorrow
- Cess for Private Teachers' Fund - Classification of all Institutions into 4 categories - A, B, C & D. The figures below are only examples for our understanding.

A = Annual turnover Rs.10,00,00,000 (annual 100/- per student) x 1000 = 100000

B = Annual turnover Rs.5,00,00,000 (annual 50/- per student) x 1000 = 50000

C = Annual turnover Rs.1,00,00,000 (annual 25/- per student) x 1000 = 25000

D = All the others (Annual 10/ per student) x 1000 = 10000

Please note: The annual regular contribution to the Private Teachers' Fund will build up the capital fund and in the long run it will sustain the schools in the rural areas where the sources of income are meager.

- All will be encouraged to be as generous as they can.
- Finance Coordinator in each zone – budget sessions in zones – to ensure transparency and accountability

[5.4] Education Commission

- Congratulations to all the Principals of various Jesuit schools on good results of Xth and XIIth.
- Efforts to have all-round development of students in our schools
- Our schools should be best in everything – academics, sports, games, quiz, dramatics, etc.
- Discernment whether Province Education Commission should stand on its own or be merged with the Central Education Bureau
- More Jesuits with TET, B. Ed. & M. Ed., NET, etc.

[5.5] Higher Education Commission

- Preparing men for centres of higher learning – some men in the pipeline, need many more
- Opening of the new degree college in Simdega – **St. Xavier's College Simdega** – Admissions are open
- To prepare and motivate our men to be creators of knowledge and not merely accumulators – we need researchers, writers, guides, educationists and not only teachers

[5.6] Brothers Commission

- Need a more sustainable and aggressive promotion of Brothers vocation
- Go round from schools to school, hostel to hostel – inspire boys

[5.7] Pastoral Apostolate Commission

- A possibility of central zone collaboration in the area of pastoral ministry
- More vibrancy by bringing in a learned approach to pastoral ministry
- Training of our pastors in Pune and in Manila – pastoral psychology, other specializations, such as counseling, spirituality, MSW, etc. required for a socio-pastoral approach (Ref. Provincial of Belgium – heavy investment in education but not in spirituality)

[5.8] Social Apostolate Commission/ Dialogue & Human Rights Commission

- Strengthening of Hoffmann Law Associates
- Coordination between Hoffmann Law Associates and Bagaicha
- Legal aid to the poor
- Para-legal training programmes
- Addressing the issues affecting tribal life and culture – domicile, displacement, migration, trafficking, land alienation, human rights violations, etc.
- Dialogue with the Sarna brethren
- Addressing the issue of communalization and suffronisation

[5.9] Youth Commission

- Where are our youth? Where are our youth animators?
- Make them more visible – engage them in social analysis and serious reflections on the emerging anti-life, anti-minority, anti-ativas, anti-democratic trends

- Father General wants a strong AICUF and a strong CLC

[5.10] Spiritual and Intellectual temper

Concrete steps to promote spiritual and intellectual temper: We need to groom our youngsters to be mature spiritually and intellectually. Like Missionaries in the past, who came and addressed the novices inspiring them, researchers and others with caliber be encouraged to address and interact with them periodically. Right kind of inputs need to be given right from the beginning. Skill development of our men and exercise in critical reflections and their publication can be done in newsletters all through their Jesuit life. A holistic formation needs to be emphasized right from the beginning – a formation that integrates spiritual, social, psychological, political, cultural and intellectual dimensions and does not only focus on the naïve understanding of spirituality. Writing capabilities of our scholastics can be made visible in the publication of quarterly or biannual journals, bulletins or magazines. Reflection and critical thinking with non-Jesuits and civil society groups should be encouraged.

Motivating Jesuits to make learned ministry as a way of life

This should be the defining characteristic of every Jesuit. We should bring in visibility in the intellectual apostolate; make it more attractive. We should call eminent people – academics, scholars, intellectual activists and others – to speak to us from time to time. We need to encourage reading practice and provide opportunity for our men. It will be good to make our conversations in the community -- in the dining hall and in other places -- of some depth and not casual, as is the case in many of our Houses. Our daily homilies can also be of certain standard, which call for our regular reading habits and updating of our knowledge. Our presentations at various fora can reflect intellectual rigour and research. If a Jesuit of a community goes out for some programme or the other, when back, he shares with the community about his experience and engages the community in a serious reflection. Let us identify potential men and send them for higher studies in social sciences and other disciplines. Those in higher education should contribute minimum two articles annually. Ph. D. scholars should contribute minimum one article annually.

One thrust area needed for the Province at this point of time - 'Depth'

'Depth' – spiritual and intellectual – is desirable at every stage and in every sector, whether it be spiritual ministry or intellectual, educational, social and pastoral. There is to be a learned approach to all ministries. Hence, the study of scientific and other academic disciplines will help us go to the root causes of human exploitation and of wounded creation, and guide us in serving the common good. With a sound spirituality and balanced intellect, we will be able “to follow new paths together, seeking and nurturing authentic partners for our common mission: fostering a genuine culture of care for one another and for our environment”. The 'Laudato Si' of Pope Francis poses a challenge before the Ranchi Jesuits to protect 'Mother Earth' before she is destroyed completely. We need to protect our common Mother for the sake of present and future generations so that we “seek a world of peace and harmony”.

Depth dimension in various ministries – is one thrust area that is so very important for the Province at this point of time. This depth dimension calls for intellectual, spiritual and emotional maturity. The expectation of depth in all we do calls for training of our men in social sciences, pastoral psychology, spirituality, counseling, indigenous knowledge system and others, to inculcate in them intellectual rigour. In order to promote depth in our Assistancy, we should encourage at least a Master's Degree of our men in whatever ministries they are engaged.