

## REPORT

### Total Lunar Eclipse

A total lunar eclipse occurred on **January 31, 2018**. The Moon was near its perigee on January 30 and so may be described as a "supermoon". The previous supermoon lunar eclipse was in September 2015. As this supermoon was also a **blue moon** (the second full moon in a calendar month), it was referred to as a "super blue blood moon"; "blood" refers to the typical red color of the Moon during a total lunar eclipse. This was a "supermoon", as the Moon was near to its closest distance to earth in its elliptical orbit, making it 7% larger in apparent diameter or 14% larger in area, than an average full moon. The previous supermoon lunar eclipse was the September 2015 lunar eclipse.

To observe this **rare astronomical event** home made built telescope (by Dr. Kalyani Date, Post Doctoral Fellow at University of Mumbai) was set up on the premises of XIE, Mahim. **Fr. Francis D'melo, Director XIE** gave us the permission to use the college premises to set up the telescope. I (Dr. Ashutosh Valavade) am grateful to Dr. Kalyani Date, Dr. Narayan Karmakar and Dr. Abhijeet Bhogale (researchers from University of Mumbai) for been present and interacting at length with our students.

Prof. Sameer Hadkar, Assistant Prof in the Dept of BSH from DBIT along with **six DBIT students also** attended this programme.

It was indeed a thrilling experience. I wish DBIT and XIE share such moments together in future.

Photographs of the events:-



