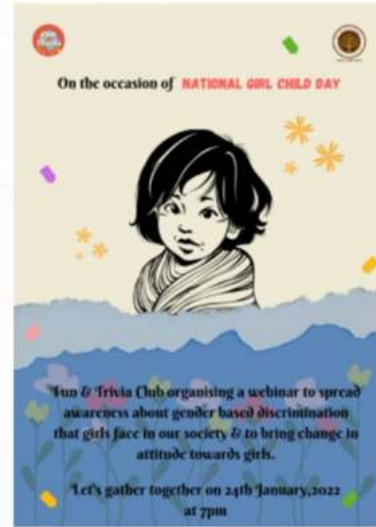




Learn Lead Serve

Sri Sri University



Inequalities
Discrimination
Disabilities
Human Rights
Humanity

Sustainable Development Goals

SDG-10 Progress Report 2021



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About Us

Sri Sri University was established as a State Private University in Odisha, India which started its first academic year in 2012 and has been envisioned by Global Humanitarian, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji. The University offers a range of pivotal, unique, and cutting-edge undergraduate, postgraduate degree programs under eight Faculties, short-term, diploma, and certificate courses, Doctoral studies (Ph. D.), that offers the best of the East and offers the best of the West.

The impressive list of undergraduate programmes offered at Sri Sri University includes B. Sc. (Data Science), B. Sc. (Osteopathy), B. Sc. (Psychology & Contemplative Studies), B. Sc. (Food, Nutrition, and Dietetics), B. Sc. (Agri-business), Bachelor in Interior Design, etc., and that of post graduate programmes offered includes M.Sc. Osteopathy (first time in Asia), MBA (Entrepreneurship), MBA (General Management), MBA (Agri-Business Management), M.Com., M.A./M.Sc. in Psychology and Contemplative Behaviour, M.Sc. Environment Science, B. Tech. & M. Tech. (Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning), etc.

Located in a sprawling 188- acre green lush campus, Sri Sri University takes pride in offering a curriculum that enriches both domain expertise and life skills. It provides a unique social culture that nurtures a rich learning environment and aids excellence in students through its virtually smoke-free, alcohol-free, drug-free, and completely vegetarian campus. The University defines Excellence as an academic process of motivating the students to learn in ways that make a sustained, substantial, and positive influence on how they think, act, and feel which defines our core value of **Learn-Lead-Serve**.



Sri Sri University has been ranked by Times Higher Education World University Impact Rankings on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the band of 601-800 based on all 17 SDGs. In the top four individual SDGs, Sri Sri University was ranked in the band of **101-200** for SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production. For the SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG6: Clean Water & Sanitation, and SDG7: Affordable and Clean Energy stand in the band of 201-300. Sri Sri University has been ranked **1st in Odisha, 6th in India, and 248th in the world** as per UI Green Metric Awards World University Rankings 2021 which is a quantum jump from 2020's ranking which was 3th in Odisha, 7th in India, and 304th in the world.

Being from the parentage of the Art of Living, one of the largest volunteer based organization in the world, and given the stature of the work of our founder Poojya Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji in the last four decades, we aspire to contribute in finding solutions to the problems faced by the world at large by way of conflict resolution, agriculture, Arts & Crafts, etc. Few of our initiatives in this regard includes the creation of Sri Sri University Resource Centre for Climate Change & Sustainability Education & Practices, Sri Sri Advanced Global Centre for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies, and Sri Sri Centre for Advanced Research in Water Resources and Environment Management, to name a few.

Introduction

Inequality affects the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development differently. Inequality occurs in various forms of discrimination on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity and gender. It generally



impedes access of underrepresented groups to education, employment prospects, social justice etc. In developing countries, unrepresented groups (economically weaker section, minorities, ethnic groups, tribal, etc) have a much higher share of the population, which affects the economy differently. Lack of education and skills is a serious problem for many people, which adversely affects the economy. The social inequality triggers the social unrest while economic inequality is attributed to the economic instability.

Economic inequality is negatively correlated with environmental quality and is not considered good for environmental sustainability. Considering the facts that nearly 800 million people are living in extreme poverty, and only 1% of the population controls more than 50% wealth of the world. Also, the people from economically weaker sections give priority to their livelihood, which is embedded in the environment and natural resources. There are justified causes that the disadvantage groups are not able to develop adaptive response to the climate change, which is one of the major global environmental concerns and important goals of the agenda 2030. These groups are more susceptible to the climate change and are not able to cope with the adverse impacts of the climate change. One can understand that reduction in inequality is essential to address all the dimensions (social, environmental, economic, and political) of the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The reducing inequalities are directly linked to other sustainable development goals like SDG1 (No Poverty), SDG2 (Zero Hunger), SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG4 (Quality Education), SDG5 (Gender Equality), SDG6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and SDG8 (Decent



Work and Economic growth). Our efforts to reduce inequality can be an important contribution to achieving other Sustainable Development Goals mentioned above.

Our Catchment

Sri Sri University campus with both residential and non-residential facilities is set over a vast landscape of 188 acres o, on a hilltop beside the bank of the tributary of river Mahanadi at the outskirts of Cuttack. The university has been envisioned by Global Humanitarian, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji. The University offers a range of pivotal, unique, and cutting-edge undergraduate, postgraduate degree programs under eight Faculties, short-term, diploma, and certificate courses, Doctoral studies (Ph. D.). The academic structure of the University attracts the students across the India and students of various countries, especially developing countries.

Inequalities & Our Policies

India is a nation with diverse societies in terms of religions, language, caste, ethnicity, and tribal societies. Given this, the policies with multiple social dimensions are very much warranted to reduce inequality. The university is committed to a work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. The university is committed to maintain equality with respect to caste, gender, religion, ethnicity, etc. Sri Sri University has different policies in place, which address the issues of discrimination in the admission process,



accommodation, gender inequality, social protection, persons with disabilities, etc. The important policies are **Admission Reservation Policy**, **Employee Accommodation Policy**, **Reservation Policy**, and **Anti-discrimination Policy**. **Admission Reservation Policy** favors the unrepresented social groups like Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and has reserved the seats in each course running in the University. The **Employee Accommodation Policy** gives **preference** to SC, ST, minorities, and persons with disabilities in providing accommodation even out of turn. The reservation Policy aims to provide reservation for the people belonging to SC, ST, OBC, minorities in the employment.



Inequalities & Administrative Set-Up

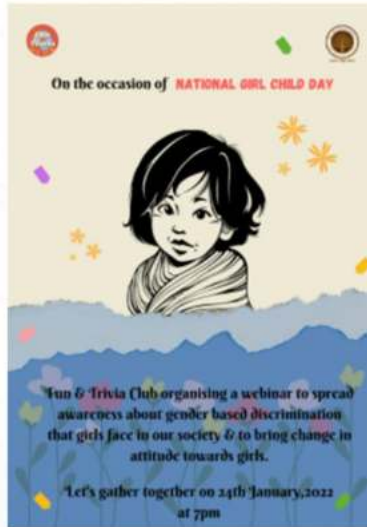
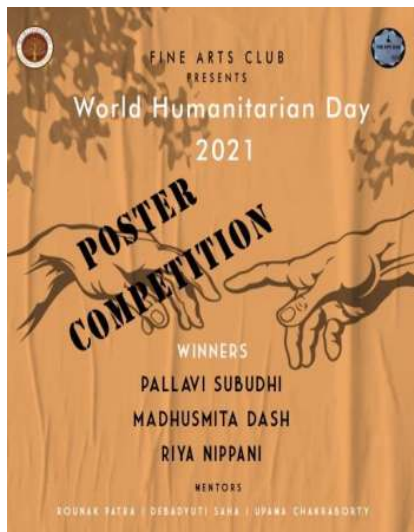
Sri Sri University has developed a set-up to address the inequalities in all forms. The university has constituted a committee for the **Social Protection**, which has a redressal mechanism to resolve the grievances of the people belonging to



Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, minorities, etc. This committee is also committed to facilitate the process of empowerment of students, staff and faculty coming especially from backward sections of society. The committee addresses the concerns related to the scholarships to vulnerable groups, coaching and remedial classes, and implementation of the rights of unrepresented. In addition, university has constituted two more committees like **Equal Opportunities Cell Committee**, and **Internal Complaint Committee**, addressing the concerns of all including unrepresented groups. The Equal Opportunity Cell Committee' addresses the all issues including recruitment of employees under unrepresented groups.

Promotion of Humanity & Human Rights

Many clubs in Sri Sri University are functioning with different aims. Some of the clubs like Fine Arts Club, Science Club, Fun & Trivia Club, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club, Movie making Club etc have been working in social issues and humanity. In order to promote the social issues, and to raise awareness on equality and human rights, the clubs organize webinars, competition, publishing newsletters, and other related events in the university campus.



Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

In all types of infrastructure available in the Sri Sri University, the requirements of the persons with disabilities are essentially included in the planning. Lifts are available in the multistorey buildings of the university. The ramps are available in the administrative block, dining hall and auditorium. The accommodation for the students with disabilities is provided in the hostels, where the toilets are specifically designed for such students. The wheel chairs are available in all types of blocks, so that it can be made easily available to the students with disabilities. The university has shuttle services inside the campus. Although, shuttle services are available for all stakeholders in the university at no cost, but persons (students, staff) with disabilities are given preferences.



Other Services

Yoga and meditation are regular practices in the Sri Sri University. The university served by the well qualified and skilled teachers belonging to the ‘Art of Living’ (a parent organization of Sri Sri University). The teachers play their role in mentoring, counseling, and peer support programmes for students. ‘Vivechana’ is a centre, which caters to Psychometric Assessments, Therapy (Psychotherapy & Physiotherapy), Career Guidance, Empirical Research, Certificate Course, and Collaboration. Sri Sri Kaushal Vikas Kendra of Sri Sri University operates under three wings. The in-house training, where housekeeping, hospitality, housing, and security guard training are conducted. Post successful completion of the same they are offered jobs in different Art of Living ashrams.