



SDG 16

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Peace, Governance, Anti-corruption, Rule of law, Protection from abuse, Reduce Violence



Sustainable Development Goals

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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.

Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goal 16 is about "peace, justice and strong institutions." One of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations in 2015, the official wording is: "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels."

Sri Sri University has Peace and Good Governance as two of the most powerful pillars on which the institute stands and operates. The nature centric campus itself is an example how inclusive growth, without damaging the ecosystem, is imbibed in every aspect of the institution. With respect to certain anti-social or anti-peace practices, the university has a strong zero-tolerance approach and does not compromise when it comes taking a firm stand against such practices. Every individual is looked upon as a human first and a resource later, which is the reason for a diverse group of people to have come here from across the globe and work together in harmony. Achieving the SDG targets is more of an outcome of the vision and nature of SSU than a goal-oriented approach. Saying that, the university understand that excellence is an ongoing process and hence strives to do better every next time with the same focus and more vigor.

Targets

GOAL 16.2: University Governance Measures

Goal 16.2.1: Elected representation

Goal 16.2.2: Students' union

Goal 16.2.3: Identify and engage with local stakeholders

Goal 16.2.4: Participatory bodies for stakeholder engagement

Goal 16.2.5: University principles on corruption and bribery

Goal 16.2.6: Academic freedom policy

Goal 16.2.7: Publish financial data

GOAL 16.3: Working with the Government

Goal 16.3.1: Provide expert advice to government

Goal 16.3.2: Policy- and lawmakers outreach and education

Goal 16.3.3: Participation in government research

Goal 16.3.4: Neutral platform to discuss issues

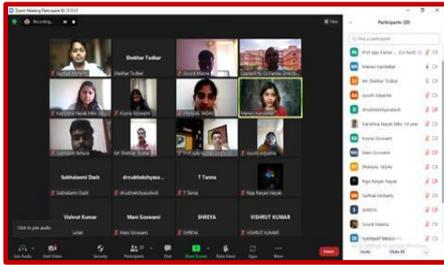
Introduction

Peace, stability, human rights, and effective governance based on the rule of law are important conduits for sustainable development. We are living in a world that is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy sustained levels of peace, security, and prosperity while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is by no means inevitable and must be addressed.

High levels of armed violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on a country's development, affecting economic growth and often resulting in long standing grievances among communities that can last for generations. Sexual violence, crime, exploitation, and torture are also prevalent where there is conflict or no rule of law, and countries must take measures to protect those who are most at risk.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights is key to this process, as is reducing the flow of illicit arms and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

Inner Peace Brings Resilience: A Tried And Tested Solution



For nearly four decades now, The Art of Living, a sister concern of SSU, from which the university derives its DNA from, has offered programs that promote peace and well-being at the individual, community, and global levels.

- At individual level: Programs to eliminate stress and promote well-being, caring and compassion in adults, youth, children.
- At community level: Programs to promote socio-economic development projects for disadvantaged groups, rehabilitation of prisoners and warring social groups.
- At global level: Peace initiatives to end violence in Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel, Kashmir, Kosovo, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Colombia.

The A-B-C: Awareness-Belonging-Commitment is the framework for societal change. The awareness about the workings of one's mind; when individuals become more aware of their thoughts and emotions, they connect better with themselves; when awareness is heightened, the connection and the sense of belonging with all men and women is enhanced; the realization of inter-connectedness automatically and intrinsically brings forth the commitment – not just for oneself, but for society at large. As we move towards a post-COVID world; this principle has been used to transform the world for generations to come.

University Governance Measures

Elected Representation

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell, one of the highest governing bodies of the University has members from the BOG, the teaching staff, the non-teaching staff, the student's body, alumni members, and the local stake holders, making it a perfect example of inclusive decision making. The Board of Governance (BOG) is the highest decision-making body at the University. It is led by the dynamic Prof. Rajita Kulkarni who is the President on the board. The mix of inhouse members and external dignitaries makes it a versatile and competent decision-making body.

Student Council

The student Council of Sri Sri University comprises of students from most of its faculty. Every faculty is represented by two student members and take part in the meetings involving students concerns. The Council meets regularly to discuss the ongoing issues pertaining to academic and

non-academic affairs. Even during the pandemic, the virtual platforms helped the council to continue with their efforts with enthusiasm.

Identify and Engage with Local Stakeholders

Sri Sri University takes pride in reaching out to the villagers of the nearby areas and helping them meet their needs related to health care, education, and employment. The department of Osteopathy regularly conducts camps for the people living near the campus. The Ayurveda hospital has become a boon for the villagers, who otherwise had to travel a long distance for quality medical facility. The Faculty of Agriculture has been constantly engaging with the local farmers to improve their yield and productivity, while also learning from their experiences.



SSU, in line with its goal of contributing towards raising the standard of living of the people near the campus, provides permanent job opportunities in the semi-skilled and unskilled work. The drivers, cook, plumbers, cleaners, etc. are hired mainly from the local areas and are also taught mindfulness through yoga activities and camps.

The University in its approach to reach out to the stakeholders is guided by the policy document which is prepared by keeping in minds the needs of the stakeholders and the vision of the institute.

University Principles on Corruption and Bribery

Sri Sri University gives utmost importance to ethics and practices it at every level. The teachers, staff, and students, all are instructed about the mal-practices that are not to be compromised upon. In this regard, the University follows the guidelines mentioned in its Policy document on bribery and corruption.

Academic Freedom Policy

The university's mission is centered on promoting academic freedom. Without the freedom to research and disseminate information without worrying about repercussions, especially information that is disagreeable to political groups or authorities, knowledge cannot grow. The freedom to express opinions on topics related to the institution and its policies, as well as on topics of general public interest, is a part of academic freedom. Faculty members should avoid sounding like they are speaking or writing on behalf of the university when doing so. They ought to understand that holding a position of authority in the community entails a responsibility to be truthful, to use appropriate restraint, and to respect others' freedoms of speech.

Working with the Government

Provide Expert Advice to Government

Giving utmost respect to the law of the land, Sri Sri University proactively participates in the policy making and implementation of these policies, considering it as one of its duty and objective. The university has its presence in many boards and committees at local, national, and even international stages, with many of its members serving in leadership role of various government agencies.

<p>Prof. (Mrs.) Rajita Kulkarni (President, Sri Sri University)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Member of the Court At Indian Institute of Science (IISc)● President – World Forum for Ethics in Business● Board Member – AOL Health & Education Trust, USA● Global Board Member, TLEX Institute● Mentor of Change – Atal Innovation Mission, Niti Ayog, Govt. of India	
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<p>Prof. (Dr.) Ajay Kumar Singh (Vice Chancellor, Sri Sri University)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate Member at IIT Bhubaneswar • Member of National Level Commerce Committee 	
<p>Prof. (Dr.) B R Sharma (Executive Registrar Non Member Secretary)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) at Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) • Peer Reviewer Yoga Expert for “mYoga applications” (WHO) 	
<p>Ar. Rajkunwar Nayak (Head and Dean, Faculty of Architecture)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chief Co Ordinator and the Consultant–Vision 2030 for the State Capital Region – Government of Odisha. • The Sr. Urban Planning Consultant for the Government of Odisha for the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana on behalf of ASCI – Hyderabad. 	
<p>Shri. Puru Dadheech (Director, Sri Sri Center for Advanced Research in Kathak)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padmashri Awardee, the 4th highest civilian award of India • Part of many institutes and forums of Kathak and Forming Arts. 	

<p>Dr. Vijaya Lakshmi Mohanty (Director, HRDC, Associate Professor)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of Indian Institute of Public Administration 	
<p>Dr. Tirthankar Ghosh (HOD, Faculty of Health and Wellness)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ergonomist, International Commission on Occupational Health, Ergonomist. • On Board of Director, International Association of Physical Education and Sports • Member, Indian Association of Biomedical Scientists 	
<p>Dr. Barada P. Panigrahy (CEO, SSU Innovation Foundation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentor, StartUp Odisha, Govt of Odisha. 	
<p>Mr. Satyajeet Arya (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Science)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member, Special Committee on Disaster Management Education, Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha. 	

<p>Mr. Satyajeet Arya (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Science)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert, NABET (National Accreditation) 	
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Policy and Lawmakers Outreach and Education

Education, training, and coaching is not something that is the need of students only, but rather is something that even a professional would need to have throughout the career. Being a knowledge hub of multiple disciplines, and teaching life lessons beyond academics, Sri Sri University has the expertise to meet the knowledge requirement of government professionals from various departments and verticals.

Over the years, the University has taken a lead in training professionals in yoga, mindfulness, ethics, disaster management, osteopathy, leadership, management, ethics, etc.

Indian Navy: The Indian Navy, Ministry of Defense, Government of India having a Sailor Training Establishment at INS Chilka, in its objective to upgrade the skills and qualifications of its personnel and provide additional opportunities for Education for the children of its personnel, have signed a MoU with SSU. Both the parties have agreed to develop a framework for collaboration through:

- a) Providing an opportunity for Education for the wards of the Indian Navy Personnel in to various courses/programs at Sri Sri University.
- (b) Conducting training for Indian Navy personnel in identified areas for skill up gradation and human values through Art of Living Program.
- (c) Organizing Pre-Release Courses (PRC) for the retiring Sailors to prepare them in starting Self-employment ventures.

ASSCHOM: ASSCHOM has signed a MoU with SSU to work together on various green initiatives, where SSU can use its expertise to train and develop the work force needed for the goal. These may include national and international award programmes, cooperation in the field

of conducting outreach campaigns, exhibitions, and technical assessments in the fields related to sustainability. This may also include but is not limited to water efficiency, energy efficiency, green building certification programmes, environmental audits, industry connect programmes, implementation of government schemes, sustainability audits, green infrastructure, and research studies. ASSOCHAM proposes to launch joint programmes with SSU in consultation with the core team foreseeing a long-term relationship to pursue national and international interests.

Odisha Financial Services Department

Sri Sri University conducted an exposure visit for the probationary officers of Odisha Financial Services.



National Institute of Disaster Management:

The role of spirituality and leadership in handling and managing disaster was explained during this event hosted jointly by NIDM and SSU.

Through its sister concerns like Art of Living, SSU has reached to millions of people and helped them foster in their careers and personal life too.

District Jail of Kathua

The Art of Living teachers conducted a meditation camp at the Kathua prison. The inmates were taught breathing techniques, yoga, and were shared with



spiritual knowledge which would help them transform from within.

Participation in Government Research

Quality Research in the field of academics and beyond has been one of the main objectives of Sri Sri University since its inception. The vision of combining the best of East and West is evident in the research work too, as many India centric topics are being researched using the best practices of western world. SSU has joined hands with many government institutes and organizations at the state and national level to conduct research work in various domains. Sri Sri University has tied up with multiple national and international institutes to carry out research in the fields of technology, agriculture, management, engineering, biosciences, etc. The researchers are not only focused at improving the knowledge of the parties involved, but also work towards betterment of human society at large.

Neutral Platform to Discuss Issues

The Global Resource Centre in Sri Sri University has been established to emerge as a center of excellence in the innovative fields of studies and relevant societal and environmental issues. It has been mandated that the Global Resource Centre would be responsible for providing out-of-the-box solutions for real-time issues, affecting the multi-layered structure of our country. Under this banner, four sub-division of departments exist, which are independent in nature in terms of their functioning and operations, and work in the sphere of political and administrative causes, viz.

1. Sri Sri Advanced Global Centre for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies (SSAGC-CRPS)
2. Sri Sri University Resource Centre for Climate Change & Sustainability Education & Practices
3. Sri Sri Advanced Global Centre for Indigenous Studies (SSAG-CIS)
4. Sri Sri Centre for Advanced Research in Water Resources and Environment Management (SSCARWREM)

Sri Sri Advanced Global Centre for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies (SSAGC-CRPS)

SDG16: Progress Report

- **Vision**

To contribute towards the establishment of World Peace by the timeless universal human values of peace, humanity, happiness, non-violence, conflict resolution, stress-free living espoused by the Art of Living Organization founded by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to create Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (one-world family) a reality.

- **Mission**

The Center aims to catalyse P peace education, multi-faith studies, multi-cultural dialogues, conflict resolution methodologies and to celebrate the diversities for a sustainably developed world through information, education, and right communication.

This dedicated Center at Sri Sri University aims to focus on conflict resolution and peacebuilding around the world through awareness, advocacy, and action. Built on the global experiences of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, a world-renowned humanitarian and spiritual leader, the multi-disciplinary center aims to study, analyse, publish, and advocate innovative methods of conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

Programs Initiated

Sri Sri Advanced Global Center for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies (SSAGC- CRPS), Sri Sri University organized a National Webinar on "The Art of Making Peace in Panchatantra "

on Tuesday, **20th July 2021** (Ekadasi). Prof B R Sharma, Executive Registrar, Sri Sri University and Sri Bharat Dash, Founder Katha Pratha were the speakers for the event.



Sri Sri Advanced Global Center for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies (SSAGC-CRPS), Sri Sri University organized a National Webinar on 'Implications of the Afghanistan Crisis for World Peace' on the occasion of International Day of Peace on **21st September 2021**. The webinar was graced by Brigadier Dr. L.C. Patnaik, Former Chairperson, Odisha Public Service Commission was the Keynote Speaker.

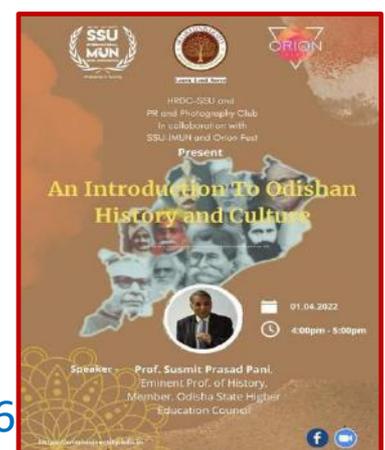
The Center conducted an interactive session with Prof. Ananta Kumar Giri Eminent Professor, MIDS (<https://www.mids.ac.in/ananta/>) "Towards a New Dharma of Peace Building Conflict Transformations and Alternative Planetary Futures " on 27th December 2021. He also delivered a special lecture on Corporate Spiritual Responsibility to postgraduate and undergraduate students of FCMS as well.



A National Seminar was organised jointly by Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC), Sri Sri University (SSU), Cuttack and Research for Resurgence Foundation (RFRF), Nagpur on **5th March 2022** at Sri Sri University. The event was themed as “Bharat @ 2047: Re-establishing Bharat as Vishwaguru through National Education Policy 2020”. The national seminar was organized to deliberate how the present generation

would like to see India 100 years after her political independence and what can the citizen do to ensure India as a super power.

A national Seminar on ‘Indian Insights on Sustainability’ by HRDC-SSU collaboration with Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Science was organised by Sri Sri University on **7th April 2022**. The key note speaker of the event was Shri Satya Narayan Sahu. Shri



served late Shri K.R.Narayanan, President of India, as Officer on Special Duty and Press Secretary and had a tenure as Director in Prime Minister's Office during 2004 and 2009 and as Joint Secretary in Rajya Sabha Secretariat.