



SRI SRI UNIVERSITY

World University Rankings 2022



Reduced Inequality

Promote Universal Social, Economic and Political Inclusion
Ensure Equal Opportunities and End Discrimination

A report for Times Higher Education Impact Ranking, 2022

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1. About Us

Sri Sri University, established as a State Private University in Odisha, India started its first academic year in 2012 and was envisioned by Global Humanitarian, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji. Under nine Faculties, the University provides a variety of crucial, distinctive, and cutting-edge undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes, short-term, diploma, and certificate courses, and Doctoral studies (Ph. D.), that offer the best of the East



and the finest of the West. The Art of Living Programme (Happiness Programme) is an essential component of the Sri Sri University curriculum. The programme equips learners with practical skills and practises for dealing with stress, such as yoga, meditation, and pranayama.

Sri Sri University offers a broad range of programmes ranging from 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 postgraduate 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), BAMS (Bachelor of Ayurveda, Medicine and Surgery) etc.

Sri Sri University, located on a vast 188-acre green luscious campus, takes pride in delivering a programme that develops both topic competence and life skills. Through its practically smoke-free, alcohol-free, drug-free, and fully vegetarian campus, it creates a distinct social atmosphere that fosters a rich learning environment and helps greatness in students. The University defines Excellence as an academic process of inspiring students to learn in ways that have a long-term, significant, and beneficial impact on how they think, act, and feel, which is reflected in 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 2: Zero Hunger. SDG13: Climate Action, and SDG15: Life on Land stand in the band of 201-300. Sri Sri University has been ranked **1st in Odisha, 7th in India, and 250th in the world** as per UI Green Metric Awards. Sri Sri University creates an annual report to assess progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

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.

2. Highlights

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. Social inequality triggers social unrest while economic inequality is attributed to economic instability. SDG 10 addresses inequalities within and among countries. It calls for nations to reduce equalities in income as well as those based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status within a country. The goal also addresses inequalities among countries and calls for support for safe migration and mobility of people.

The UN has defined 10 targets and 11 indicators for SDG 10. Targets specify the goals and Indicators represent the metrics by which the world aims to track whether these Targets are achieved. SDG 10 covers issues including reducing income inequalities (10.1), promoting universal social, economic and political inclusion (10.2), ensure equal opportunities and end discrimination (10.3), adopt fiscal and social policies that promotes equality (10.4), improved regulation of global financial markets and institutions (10.5), enhanced representation for developing countries in financial institutions (10.6), responsible and well-managed migration policies (10.7), special and differential treatment for developing countries (10.a), encourage development assistance and investment in least developed countries (10.b) and reduced transaction costs for migrant remittances (10.c).

Reducing both within and between-country inequality requires equitable resource distribution, investing in education and skills development, implementing social protection measures, combating discrimination, supporting marginalized groups and fostering international cooperation for fair trade and financial systems. The incomes of the poorest 40 per cent of the population had been growing faster than the national average in most countries. But emerging yet inconclusive evidence suggests

that COVID-19 may have put a dent in this positive trend of falling within-country inequality. The pandemic has also caused the largest rise in between-country inequality in three decades.

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.

3. Our Catchment

To impart holistic and value-integrated education in order to develop visionary thinkers with social-consciousness to lead and precipitate inevitable changes, with summative call for Learn – Lead – Serve. In order to enable students to achieve the highest levels of professional competence in an educational



environment that encourages human values so as to meet the needs of local, national and global economies, create centres for excellence on knowledge and research across fields of study.

The philosophy of the East is based on virtue. Ethics is addressed in the West's philosophy. Eastern philosophy is more about the spiritual while Western philosophy is more of a hands-on style. In order to be able to handle the situation in a balanced and smooth way, true success is measured by your inner strength. It is the eastern philosophy that prepares one to do so. In 2012, the University of Sri Lanka opened its doors and began to evolve as a centre for top-quality education in India, aiming at bringing together “Best of East & Best of West”. The university is uniquely placed to offer education combining Western innovation with the ancient values and wisdom of the East.

4. Inequalities and Our Policies

In order to achieve the goal by 2030, there are ten objectives. Indicators will be used to measure progress towards the objectives. The first seven targets are *outcome targets*: Reduce income inequalities; promote universal social, economic and political inclusion; ensure equal opportunities and end discrimination; adopt fiscal and social policies that promote equality; improve regulation of global financial markets and institutions; enhance representation for developing countries in financial institutions;



responsible and well-managed migration policies. The other three targets are *means of implementation targets*: Special and differential treatment for developing countries; encouraging development assistance and investment in least developed countries; reduce transaction costs for migrant remittances.

In the sense of religion, language, caste, ethnic origin and tribes, India is a country characterised by diverse societies. In view of this, it is in the interests of reducing inequality that policies based on multiple social dimensions should be implemented. A workplace where all people are treated with respect and dignity is a commitment of the University. The University's commitment is to ensure equal treatment for those belonging to different caste, gender, religion and ethnic groups. 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** 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. Sri Sri University reviews the policies annually for best practices.

5. Inequalities and Administrative Set-Up

A system for addressing inequalities in all forms has been set up by Sri Sri University. The university has established a committee on **Social Protection**, which provides redress mechanisms to deal with complaints of people belonging to the SCs, tribes and minorities. In particular, this Committee is committed to supporting the process by which students, employees and professionals from disadvantaged sections of society are empowered.

The Committee deals with the issues of scholarships to vulnerable groups, teacher training and remedial education as well as implementation of Unrepresented Rights. Two additional committees, namely the **Equal Opportunities Committee** and the **Internal Complaints Committee**, have also

been set up within the university to deal with any concerns raised by all sections of society



including those without representation. All issues, including the recruitment of workers from unrepresented groups, are addressed by the Equal Opportunities Committee.

6. Promotion of Humanity and Human Rights

There are a number of clubs at Sri Sri University dedicated to various goals. There a



re certain clubs working on social and human issues, like Fine Arts Club (Picture), Science Club, Fun & Trivia Club, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club, Movie Making Club etc. The clubs organise workshops, competitions, publications and other events on the campus with a view to promoting social issues and raising awareness of equality, human values and human rights. Picture - An Exhibition by the final year students of the Fine Arts Club on various themes of life and human values.

7. Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

The requirements of persons with disabilities are generally part of the plan in respect of all types of infrastructure at Sri Sri University. In the multi-story buildings of the university, lifts are available. The administrative wing, the dining hall and the theatre are equipped with ramps. In dormitory

rooms, where the facilities are specially designed for disabled students, accommodation is made available. In order to make it possible for students and employees with a disability to easily use them, wheelchair are available in all types of blocks. There are shuttle services on campus, however, shuttle services are available for all university stakeholders at no cost but preference shall be given to students and staff with disabilities.

In the Sri Sri University, yoga and meditation are daily practices. In the university of Sri Lanka, yoga and meditation are daily practices. The University is run by the well qualified and experienced teachers of the organization 'Art of Living', a university parent organisation in Sri Lanka. The role of teachers in the student mentoring, counselling and peer support programmes shall be played by them.



8. Other Services

In the Sri Sri University, they practise yoga and meditation on a daily basis. The university is supported by well trained and talented teachers who are members of the 'Art of Living' group, a parent organisation of Sri Lanka University. In the mentoring, counselling and peer support programmes for students, teachers play an important role. 'Vivechana' is a centre, which caters to Psychometric Assessments, Therapy (Psychotherapy & Physiotherapy) (Picture 1), Career Guidance (Picture 2), Empirical Research, Certificate Courses, and Collaboration (Picture 4). Sri Sri



Kaushal Vikas Kendra (Picture 2) of Sri Sri University operates under three wings. The in-house training, where housekeeping, hospitality, housing, and security guard training are conducted. They are offered jobs in a variety of ashrams run by the Art of Living after they have completed this course.