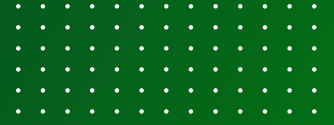




**SRI SRI**  
**UNIVERSITY**  
LEARN • LEAD • SERVE

# **SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024**





## Message

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*Given the global challenges with special reference to climate change and its impacts on every aspect of life, the sustainability approach is one of the measures in combating such challenges. Higher education institutions are one of the key stakeholders for the implementation of sustainable principles in various ways: through educating students, research, actions, raising awareness, and performing the outreach programmes. Sri Sri university is committed to follow all principles of sustainability and implement it to reduce the overall environmental footprints of its campus.*

*The university has expressed its commitment through constituting a committee and a team of resource persons dedicated to the activities related to the sustainability. Sri Sri University is actively engaged in the Sustainable Development Goals as part of the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings and UI Green Metric World University Rankings. The hard work of the team of our Resource Persons has been instrumental in performing outstanding work in such areas of sustainability. Our passion to sustainability has gone noticed and is in coherence with our mission and vision.*

*I strongly believe that our commitment and efforts towards sustainability will continue in the future and we will also contribute to global efforts.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J.P. Bhatt', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Prof. J.P. Bhatt

Chairperson

SDG-UI Green metric Committee

Sri Sri University, Cuttack, Odisha, India



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## About us

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Sri Sri University was established as a State Private University in Odisha, India, and began its first academic session in 2012. The University is envisioned and inspired by Global Humanitarian and Spiritual Leader, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji. Guided by this vision, university offers a wide spectrum of pivotal, unique, interdisciplinary, and cutting-edge undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, diploma and certificate courses, as well as Doctoral (Ph.D.) studies that integrate “the best of the East and the best of the West.” The University offers an impressive range of programmes across its ten Faculties, including innovative and emerging fields such as B.Sc. Data Science, B.Sc. Osteopathy, B.Sc. Psychology & Contemplative Studies, B.Sc. Food, Nutrition & Dietetics, B.Sc. Agri-Business, Bachelor in Interior Design, among many others. Postgraduate programmes include M.Sc. Osteopathy (first time in Asia), MBA (Entrepreneurship), MBA (General Management), MBA (Agri-Business Management), M.A./M.Sc. Psychology and Contemplative Behaviour, B.Sc. Environmental Science, B.Tech. & M.Tech. in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, etc.

Nestled within a sprawling 188-acre lush green campus, Sri Sri University is committed to cultivating an eco-conscious, sustainable, and holistic learning ecosystem. The campus functions as a green, serene, and climate-friendly environment, promoting practices such as energy conservation, biodiversity protection, natural farming, waste minimization, water stewardship, and sustainable landscaping. university’s campus is virtually smoke-free, alcohol-free, drug-free, and fully vegetarian, reflecting its dedication to health, sustainability, and mindful living. university defines “Excellence” as a continuous academic process that inspires students to learn in ways that create a sustained, substantial, and positive impact on how they think, act, and contribute, aligned with the core value of Learn, Lead, Serve. Located on a 188-acre lush green campus, Sri Sri University embodies sustainability through its environment-friendly, virtually smoke-free, alcohol-free, drug-free, and fully vegetarian campus culture. The university emphasizes education enriched with life skills, ethics, and values. Its definition of Excellence lies in cultivating sustained, meaningful learning that transforms how students think, act, and contribute aligned with its core value: Learn, Lead, Serve.





Plate 1: Overview of Sri Sri University Campus, Cuttack, Odisha

### ***Sustainability, Green Campus & Global Rankings***

Sri Sri University continues to be recognized globally for its commitment to sustainability, green practices, research, and academic quality:

#### ***Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025***

- Ranked 401–600 globally
- Ranked 70<sup>th</sup> globally for SDG 2: Zero Hunger
- Ranked in the band 101–200 globally for SDG 4 (Quality Education) & SDG 15 (Life on Land)
- Ranked in the band 201–300 globally for SDG 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation) & SDG 7 (Affordable & Clean Energy)
- Ranked in the band 301-400 globally for SDG 13 (Climate Action)

#### ***QS World University Rankings 2024***

- Ranked globally in the band 951–1000 globally
- Ranked in Asia in the band 651–700
- Ranked 174<sup>th</sup> in Southern Asia

#### ***UI GreenMetric World University Rankings 2024***

Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Odisha, 9<sup>th</sup> in India, and 264<sup>th</sup> globally

Recognised especially for green campus, sustainability practices, waste management, renewable energy initiatives, water conservation, and eco-friendly infrastructure. These achievements highlight the University's strong commitment to sustainability, green infrastructure, environmental stewardship, and climate resilience.



## Introduction

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Sri Sri University is deeply committed to advancing holistic and responsible development through an integrated approach to sustainability. Rooted in the universal principles of human well-being and environmental stewardship, the University aligns its vision and actions with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which collectively encompass the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of sustainable development. Institutional sustainability at university rests on the foundation of strengthening natural capital (biodiversity, water, soil, and clean energy), social capital (education, health, culture, and community engagement), and economic capital (inclusive growth and sustainable infrastructure). As a leading higher education institution, Sri Sri University is dedicated to building a green, resilient, and low-carbon campus through a comprehensive set of policies, practices, and community-led initiatives. The University has developed an institutional framework that empowers diverse stakeholders as students, faculty, staff, and community partners to participate actively in sustainability initiatives. Numerous student-led clubs, such as the Eco Club, Birding Club, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club, and the Animal Wellness Club, create dynamic platforms for experiential learning and awareness-building, fostering a culture of environmental responsibility and social consciousness.

Sri Sri University draws inspiration from the global humanitarian work of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, whose initiatives in peacebuilding, river rejuvenation, rural development, disaster relief, and environmental conservation demonstrate powerful alignment with the SDGs. His contributions reinforce the University's commitment to advancing sustainable development as part of its educational mission. Reflecting the breadth of the SDGs, university's sustainability efforts span across all 17 goals ranging from poverty alleviation, food security, quality education, gender equality, and health to climate action, clean energy, responsible consumption, and ecosystem conservation. Each milestone in this report represents the University's holistic implementation of these goals, ensuring that sustainability is not a stand-alone program, but an institutional ethos embedded in teaching, research, governance, and campus life. This Sustainability report presents a detailed overview of university's initiatives in energy efficiency, climate action, sustainable food systems, biodiversity protection, water management, responsible resource use, and green infrastructure. It highlights measurable progress, innovative practices, and community engagement that position Sri Sri University as a model for sustainable development in higher education. Through continuous improvement, strategic planning, and collective participation, Sri Sri University remains committed to shaping environmentally conscious, socially responsible, and globally aware citizens who contribute meaningfully to a sustainable and harmonious world.

## Commitment to Sustainability

Rooted in the parentage of The Art of Living (AOL) one of the world's largest volunteer-based organisations and inspired by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji's global legacy of humanitarian work over 45 years, Sri Sri University aspires to develop innovative solutions to pressing global



challenges. The University’s initiatives span areas such as conflict resolution, sustainable agriculture and natural farming, environmental conservation, arts and culture, and holistic well-being.

Reflecting its commitment to sustainability and societal impact, university has established several pioneering centres, including:

- Sri Sri University Resource Centre for Climate Change & Sustainability Education & Practices
- Sri Sri Advanced Global Centre for Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies,
- Sri Sri Centre for Advanced Research in Water Resources and Environment Management, among others.

These centres serve as hubs for research, capacity building, innovation, policy dialogue, and community engagement, reinforcing university’s position as a forward-looking green campus, a champion of sustainability education, and a catalyst for positive global impact.



Plate 2: Contributions of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and the Art of Living Foundation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

### Energy Efficiency Measures

Sri Sri University has become a benchmark for sustainability and energy conservation through a diverse range of initiatives that highlight its dedication to a greener and sustainable future. The university has made noteworthy progress in infrastructure and energy conservation. All air



conditioners on campus boast an ISSEER rating above 4.5, ensuring optimal energy efficiency. To further reduce power consumption, energy-efficient appliances, including over 500 BLDC motor ceiling fans and efficient groundwater pumps, have been incorporated. In addition, the campus employs Solar Water Heaters and Air Sourced Water Heaters, collectively saving notable electricity units each year. In the realm of solar energy, Sri Sri University has achieved remarkable milestones. The university has installed solar panels with a total capacity of 650 kWh on the rooftops of two major academic buildings. The Shruti and Kirti buildings [Academic blocks] are significant contributors, generating 1,700 kWh and 1,200 kWh daily, respectively. Solar installations, such as an 8 kW solar plant at the Sri Sri Kushal Vikas Kendra and 75 solar-powered streetlights, further enhance the university's renewable energy initiatives, highlighting its commitment to sustainability.



Plate 3: Initiatives on Energy Efficiency and Conservation

Sri Sri University has made significant strides in reducing its carbon emissions by integrating solar power, thereby substantially decreasing its dependence on non-renewable energy sources. From January 2024 to December 2024, the university's solar infrastructure offset 830,446 kWh/year of electricity, reducing the net electricity-related carbon footprint by 1.48%. This initiative underscores university 's commitment to addressing Scope 2 emissions and promoting



sustainable energy practices. Additionally, Sri Sri University offers a community station for renting electric vehicles, with special packages available for campus residents and students. This initiative not only reduces the carbon footprint but also represents one of university 's major efforts in energy conservation and sustainability. In recognition of these efforts, Sri Sri University was awarded the Odisha State Energy Conservation Award in 2024, establishing its reputation in energy conservation and demonstrating its commitment to environmental stewardship.

## Climate Action

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The university places a strong emphasis on education and outreach to advance sustainability across its campus and surrounding communities. Through an active Memorandum of Understanding with the Energy Swaraj Foundation, Sri Sri University has strengthened energy literacy among students, empowering them to contribute meaningfully to a sustainable future. University has hosted several national and international conferences focused on climate change, renewable energy, and green technologies, reinforcing its role as a hub for environmental dialogue and innovation. With support from a NFO grant (with City University, New York) the university established a solar-powered automatic weather station on campus, demonstrating its commitment to integrating advanced technologies for environmental monitoring. Key institutional initiatives include the implementation of an Energy Use Policy, the Energy Pledge, and the Climate Action Plan. The “SSU Climate Hour” initiative has yielded notable results, including an estimated reduction of about 250 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Additionally, the university has installed PM<sub>2.5</sub> and AQI monitoring systems to track air quality and promote environmental awareness. A large-scale plantation drive has transformed previously barren areas into thriving green landscapes, significantly enhancing campus biodiversity. Sustainability-related themes including Environmental Science, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development are embedded in both undergraduate and postgraduate curricula, ensuring that students receive comprehensive environmental education. The university also engages in various community-focused activities such as beach-cleaning campaigns and awareness drives on reducing single-use plastics. These initiatives extend sustainability awareness to public spaces and encourage environmentally responsible behavior among students and local communities.



Plate 4: Student Engagement in Plantation Drives and Environmental Stewardship Activities

### Green Campus

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Sri Sri University is deeply committed to nurturing a green, healthy, and ecologically balanced campus through its policies, practices, and community engagement. The university follows a holistic sustainability framework that integrates environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and responsible resource management into everyday institutional operations. To maintain a green and sustainable environment, the university undertakes regular tree plantation drives, enforces smoke-free measures, and strictly promotes a ban on single-use plastic across the campus. Water conservation remains a key priority, reflected in its wastewater treatment systems, rainwater harvesting structures, and a robust water reuse policy. The campus has two Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) that ensure treated water is reused for horticulture and other non-potable purposes, thereby reducing freshwater dependency. The university has instituted several forward-looking environmental policies such as the Plastic Use Policy, Sustainably Farmed Food Policy, Zero Emission Policy, Hazardous Waste Management Policy, Alien Species Reduction Policy, and Land-Sensitive Waste Disposal Policy. Through these guidelines, the institution ensures scientific and responsible processes for the collection, transport, segregation, recycling, and disposal of all types of solid waste. Sustainable mobility is actively encouraged, with students and staff motivated to adopt zero-emission vehicles and electric vehicles through awareness drives, dedicated parking, and campus-friendly mobility infrastructure. Biodiversity conservation is a central pillar of the university's vision for a green campus. With over 1.5 lakh (150,000+) trees, 100+ tree species, and thriving ecosystems, the campus is a living biodiversity hotspot. More than 91 species of birds, 8 species of large mammals, 20+ species of herpetofauna, and 50 species of



butterflies have been recorded, reflecting the ecological richness of the landscape. The Campus Gaushala (cow shelter) further contributes to ecosystem linkages by supporting nutrient cycling, organic farming practices, and indigenous breed conservation. Students play a significant role in promoting environmental stewardship. Various student-led clubs such as the Eco Club, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Club, and the Birding Club, Animal wellness clubs organize activities including awareness campaigns, poster competitions, plantation drives, nature walks, webinars, and conservation workshops. These initiatives build a culture of participation and collective responsibility toward environmental protection. To ensure continual progress and accountability, Sri Sri University undergoes regular Green Audits, Environment Audits, and Energy Audits, and remains committed to fulfilling all compliance requirements associated with these standards. Through education, action, and policy, Sri Sri University actively supports sustainable land ecosystems and serves as a model for responsible environmental governance. The university's green campus is not only a space for learning but also a living example of ecological harmony and sustainability in practice.



Plate 5: Green Campus Infrastructure Featuring Landscaped Lawns and Tree Cover



## Sustainable Farming

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Sri Sri University demonstrates a deep commitment to ecological stewardship through its comprehensive and well-integrated sustainable farming practices. Sri Sri University emphasizes environmental restoration, chemical-free agriculture, and the production of wholesome food that nurtures both body and mind. A total of 40.44 acres of land is dedicated exclusively to sustainable and regenerative food production, forming a vital component of the University's eco-friendly campus ecosystem. The campus follows a holistic agricultural model that incorporates organic farming, natural farming, permaculture, in-situ composting, and soil rejuvenation measures. The university refrains entirely from the use of agrochemicals, ensuring 100% chemical-free and pesticide-free agriculture. Natural fertilizers such as Jeevamrit, cow dung manure, and neem-based formulations are prepared on-site, supporting soil health and long-term fertility. Efforts such as seed preservation and the protection of genetic diversity across crops, seeds, and livestock further strengthen the resilience of the farm ecosystem. A fully functional Goshala (cowshed) on campus supports sustainable dairy production while contributing inputs such as cow dung and urine for organic fertilizer preparation. In addition, the University maintains medicinal gardens, engages in afforestation, and promotes integrated practices that link crop cultivation, livestock care, and soil health. The fresh seasonal vegetables grown on campus are regularly supplied to the FSSAI-certified central kitchen and six food cafeterias, enabling access to sustainable, hygienic, and 100% vegetarian food choices for students and staff. This closed-loop system minimizes environmental impact while promoting responsible consumption. In terms of resource efficiency, Sri Sri University has achieved notable progress, including a notable reduction in campus food waste in 2024 compared with the previous year. The sustainable food policy is reviewed annually, ensuring continual improvement and alignment with global sustainability goals. Through these integrated initiatives, Sri Sri University not only advances sustainable agriculture on campus but also serves as a model for environmentally conscious food systems in higher education.





Plate 6: Sustainable Agricultural Practices Implemented at Sri Sri University

## Water Management

Sri Sri University adopts an integrated and sustainable approach to water management across its 188-acre campus, ensuring conservation, responsible use, and long-term resource security. The university harvests nearly 15–20 lakh liters of rainwater every year by utilizing its natural laterite rock quarries. This harvested water supports horticulture, agriculture, and irrigation needs on campus, while two dedicated rainwater harvesting structures further enhance groundwater recharge. To ensure a reliable supply of clean water, the campus is equipped with 2 Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) that use sand and activated carbon filtration systems to remove iron, odors, and other impurities. University also maintains a robust wastewater recycling system through 2 Biological Sewage Treatment Plants (Bio-STPs), each with a capacity of 2.5 lakh liters per day. Together, they recycle nearly 80% of wastewater generated from hostels, kitchens, and residential areas. The treated water is reused for flushing, irrigation, landscaping, and vehicle washing. Regular third-party assessments ensure that treated water consistently meets BIS and WHO standards, including norms for Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). University integrates advanced water-saving technologies throughout the campus. A micro-irrigation system reduces water use by up to 60%, while more than 1,099 dual-flush and sensor-based toilets enable significant water savings up to 70% when compared to traditional systems. The campus has also installed over 60 sensor-based water-conscious flush units and IoT-enabled washing machines and dishwashers that reduce water consumption by nearly 90%. A zero-overflow strategy is maintained using sensor-controlled water level monitoring systems, preventing unnecessary water loss.



Water conservation is further strengthened through community participation. University regularly organizes awareness campaigns, plantation drives, and events such as World Water Day and Van Mahotsav, engaging students, faculty, and staff in responsible water practices. Clubs like the Eco-Club and Rovers & Rangers play an active role in promoting sustainable water use and pollution prevention. Beyond the campus, university contributes indirectly to regional water restoration through its parent organization, The Art of Living, which has rejuvenated more than 70 tributaries across five states. These combined efforts, along with adherence to sustainability standards, have earned the university multiple recognitions, including Green Audit, Environment Audit, and Energy Audit certifications. Through its focus on reducing consumption, recycling treated water, and adopting advanced water-efficient technologies, Sri Sri University sets a benchmark in water management and environmental stewardship.



Plate 7: Water Conservation Systems and Supporting Infrastructure



## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Sri Sri University

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a comprehensive global framework for addressing the world’s most pressing economic, environmental, and social challenges. They guide institutions in promoting inclusive growth, protecting natural ecosystems, and enhancing human well-being. In the following sections, each SDG is examined in detail to reflect Sri Sri University’s contributions and impact.



Plate 8. Sustainable development Goals (SDGs) (source: [www.un.org](http://www.un.org))



### SDG1: No Poverty

Sri Sri University advances SDG 1 through targeted community development, livelihood enhancement, research-driven agricultural solutions, and structured capacity-building programs designed to uplift vulnerable groups in nearby rural areas. university’s strategy combines education, outreach, and innovation, ensuring that poverty reduction remains both measurable and sustainable. Through its collaboration with the Sri Sri Rural Development Program (SSRDP), the Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Management Studies, and the University’s student units, university implements a wide range of interventions to strengthen economic resilience in surrounding communities. In the reporting period, over 1,200 beneficiaries from nearby villages



participated in university-supported livelihood training programs, including organic farming, integrated pest management, natural composting, and farm mechanization. Additionally, 350+ farmers received hands-on exposure to climate resilient agricultural practices that directly reduce cost of cultivation and increase yield stability. university's agriculture faculty contributed to poverty alleviation through research on sustainable farming models. Demonstration projects such as line planting, seed treatment, varietal trials, and soil organic matter restoration—benefited nine village clusters, helping farmers reduce agrochemical dependence by 20–30%, thereby improving net household income. The University's organic composting and integrated farm system practices also support on-site training, enabling families to adopt low-cost, high-impact methods for improving productivity. Education remains central to university's SDG 1 approach. Courses on rural development, community wellbeing, green entrepreneurship, microfinance, and sustainable agri-business equip students with real-world understanding of socio-economic challenges. More than 600 students engaged in field-based learning, internships, and service-based coursework related to poverty reduction. Through its incubation and innovation ecosystem, university also supported 11 student-led projects addressing local economic upliftment, small business development, and sustainable livelihood models.

Sri Sri University conducts continuous outreach programs that address conditions contributing to poverty. Health and hygiene awareness sessions reached 700 community members, while financial literacy workshops covering budgeting, savings, and government welfare schemes—supported 300 women and youth. Through water conservation demonstrations, nutritional education camps, and skill development programs, the University contributes to improving long-term community resilience. Institutional policies further reinforce inclusion. university's sustainable procurement, green campus, farm-to-campus food system, and gender equity measures ensure equitable access and strengthen institutional accountability. Campus-based livelihood models—organic food production, medicinal garden cultivation, natural dairy practices, and eco-farming—operate both as income generating micro-systems and as live laboratory exposure for rural households. Together, these initiatives demonstrate Sri Sri University's integrated and data-backed commitment to SDG 1. By combining research, community partnerships, grassroots training, and student engagement, university continues to enhance the economic stability, capacity, and wellbeing of underserved communities in the region.



Plate 9: University Initiatives Contributing to Poverty Alleviation (SDG 1)



## SDG2: Zero Hunger

Hunger arises when individuals cannot meet their basic nutritional needs due to physical or financial constraints. The Covid-19 pandemic significantly worsened this issue, with 30% of the global population experiencing food insecurity in 2020. In response, Sri Sri University advances SDG 2 through a systemic approach that integrates sustainable agriculture, food security, nutrition education, responsible food service management, and community outreach. The University’s operational policies, academic programs, and field initiatives collectively reduce hunger, improve access to nutritious food, and strengthen sustainable farming systems in the region. A core component of university’s commitment to Zero Hunger is its structured food-waste monitoring system. In 2024–25, the University generated 14,399.4 kg of total food waste, including 6,376 kg vegetable waste, 5,983.3 kg food waste, and 2,040.1 kg dry waste. Monthly tracking revealed variations ranging from 673.5 kg (June) to 1,581.3 kg (December). This real-time monitoring is carried out through the mess committee and ISO-certified central kitchen, where wet and dry waste are segregated and repurposed. A portion of dry food waste is used as cattle fodder for the campus dairy (housing 67 native cows) and in composting units, while liquid waste is treated through the University’s STPs. These practices substantially reduce environmental impact and support sustainable recycling of resources. To ensure no student or staff faces food insecurity, university provides access to one central kitchen, five cafeterias, and



multiple food outlets, supplying affordable, nutritious, hygienic food from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Approximately 30% of fresh produce, including fruits, vegetables, and cereals, is organically grown within the campus, supporting resilient food systems and reducing reliance on external supply chains. Through academic programs and community engagement, university strengthens agricultural self-reliance and nutrition awareness. The Faculty of Agriculture—one of the University’s largest faculties offers 665 enrolled students across B.Sc. Agriculture, Horticulture, Agribusiness, Food & Nutrition, and master’s programs. Students participate in hands-on programs such as RAWE, KVK trainings, industrial attachments, and community projects across all 33 districts of Odisha, directly contributing to local food and livelihood systems.

Sri Sri University organizes seminars, field demonstrations, and training programs to support local farmers, SHGs, and food producers. More than 40 acres of organic farmland serve as live-learning spaces for both students and community members. Demonstration units for mushroom cultivation, apiculture, azolla production, composting, precision agriculture, and protected cultivation (greenhouse and polyhouse) provide practical, low-cost models that farmers can replicate. Modern soil and water testing laboratories further support regional farming communities by offering accessible diagnostics at affordable rates. The University also addresses national food security priorities through awareness programs on nutrition, workshops on hidden hunger, and dissemination of research-based best practices in sustainable agriculture. Through Sri Sri Innovation Pvt. Ltd., university supports food-based startups, encourages product development, and advances agro-based innovations that contribute to long-term food system resilience. Together, these initiatives demonstrate Sri Sri University’s strong, evidence-driven commitment to SDG 2. By reducing food waste, ensuring accessible nutrition on campus, strengthening agricultural education, and supporting local farming communities, university substantially contributes to Zero Hunger at institutional, local, and regional levels.





Plate 10: Agricultural Fields and Campus-Based Actions Addressing Food Security (SDG 2)



### **SDG3: Good Health and Well-being**

Sri Sri University's work under SDG 3 reflects an extensive, evidence based approach to strengthening health and well-being across campus and surrounding communities. In 2024, the university documented 644 total graduates, including 60 graduates in health professions, underscoring its growing contribution to the healthcare workforce. Institutional collaborations also expanded significantly, with 19 active MoUs including 4 international partnerships with institutions in Nepal, Germany, the UK, and the USA, and 15 national agreements with hospitals, universities, and research centres. These collaborations support joint research, clinical training, and integrative health innovations linking Ayurveda, osteopathy, yoga, and modern medical science. The year saw 42 health outreach activities, illustrating university's strong engagement with diverse groups from schoolchildren and healthcare workers to underserved communities. Major events included International Yoga Day, World Hepatitis Day, Osteopathy health camps in Bhubaneswar, Patia, and Kolkata (benefiting over 272 individuals in one camp alone), CPR and artificial-respiration training, nutrition drives, and mental-health interventions such as the "Inside Out: Arghhhhhh" emotional-wellness event and film based psychological awareness sessions.

Sexual and reproductive health programmes, such as Project Pavitra, World Breastfeeding Week, and cervical and breast cancer awareness sessions, strengthened SRH literacy and preventive care. Students also took part in yoga-based menstrual health workshops and population-awareness events. university further supports community health through shared access to its



sports infrastructure cricket grounds, gymnasiums, yoga halls, and courts for basketball, football, and traditional sports hosting inter-school tournaments and the annual Collympics Sports Fest. A structured mental-health ecosystem, comprising daily meditation for staff, yearlong counselling (Vivechana), weekly satsangs, and foundational programs like Happiness Connect, reinforces emotional resilience across the institution. Collectively, these initiatives position university as an active contributor to holistic well-being and public health advancement.



Plate 11: Key Events and Achievements Promoting Health and Well-being (SDG 3)



### **SDG4: Quality Education**

Sri Sri University's commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality Education) is deeply inspired by its parent organization, the Art of Living. Guided by Pujya Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, the Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Vidya Mandir Trust and the Art of Living Foundation have positively transformed the lives of over 450 million people across 156 countries through initiatives in education, women's empowerment, and conflict resolution. The trust operates more than 100 educational institutions, providing value-based and holistic education to over 50,000 students. Following the vision and mission of Pujya Gurudev Sri Ravi Shankar Ji, Sri Sri University is committed to enhance and promote the quality education.

Aligned with New Education Policy 2020, Sri Sri University implements innovative frameworks like flexible curricula, multidisciplinary education, and mentorship. The University has



consistently advanced Sustainable Development Goal 4 by fostering an educational environment that is inclusive, research-driven, community-oriented, and deeply committed to lifelong learning. Sri Sri University has strengthened its commitment to SDG 4 through impactful research, inclusive academic practices, and sustained community engagement. With special reference to quality education. Over 20 research articles (Scopus-indexed studies) on AI in education, digital learning ecosystems, value-based education, and holistic student development, positioning university as a contributor to national conversations on the future of learning. Equity remained a major focus, with 207 first-generation learners enrolled, accounting for 24% of the undergraduate population (846 students) and maintaining an almost equal gender ratio of 49.3% female and 50.7% male. High participation was seen in faculties such as Health & Wellness (34%), Architecture (32%), Ayurvedic Sciences (31%), and Engineering (28%), reflecting broad academic access. Through Team Udayam [a team of students, staff and faculty members], The university advanced lifelong learning by conducting wellness assessments, environmental education drives like seed-ball dispersal, cultural learning sessions, and humanitarian outreach including blanket and grain donation programs for vulnerable communities. The University further extended its educational influence across 10+ districts of Odisha, organizing yoga and meditation workshops, cultural programs, robotics and health-awareness events, and community lectures that reached school students, professionals, and local households. Creative and skill-based initiatives career counselling, music outreach, dance workshops, and public exhibitions such as the Sustainable School Model and the India Map of First-Generation Learners reinforced University’s larger mission of shaping inclusive, transformative, and socially responsive education. Sri Sri University work towards SDG 4 is inspired by parent organization art of living. Under the guidance of Pujya Gurudev Sri Ravishankar, Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir Trust and Art of Living Foundation have positively impacted 450 million people across 156 countries, emphasizing education, women’s empowerment, and conflict resolution. Focused on SDG4 (Quality Education), the trust runs over 100 educational institutions, serving 50,000 students with value-based, holistic education.





Plate 12: Academic and Community Contributions Advancing Quality Education (SDG 4)



### **SDG5: Gender Equality**

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In alignment with SDG5: Gender Equality, Sri Sri University is actively fostering an inclusive environment for its students and staff, with a focus on promoting social equity and gender parity. The university implements various initiatives such as women’s mentoring schemes where senior women professionals guide young female students and employees. Leadership roles for women are encouraged, and the university strives to achieve gender-balanced faculty and student bodies. Policies for non-discrimination against women and transgender individuals are firmly in place, ensuring equal opportunities in education and employment. Remarkably, the university tracks women’s application, acceptance, and completion rates through systematic measures to enhance access to higher education. Efforts are particularly directed toward increasing the representation of women in underrepresented fields such as STEM. Currently, 33% of senior academic staff are women, with a target to raise this proportion to 50% by 2030. Maternity and paternity leave policies, along with childcare facilities for students and staff, further support work-life balance. The university's women’s forum, “Charchika,” addresses gender-related issues, mentoring needs, and professional growth. Activities such as the W20 program on maternal care, training workshops for village women on climate change, and International Women’s Day celebrations highlight Sri Sri University’s commitment to gender equality. Through



these measures, Sri Sri University continues to progress toward creating a more inclusive and equitable academic community.



Plate 13: Leadership Initiatives and Milestones Supporting Gender Equality (SDG 5)



### SDG6: Clean water and sanitation

Sri Sri University aligns its water sustainability efforts with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6, embedding water stewardship across academics, campus infrastructure, operations, and community engagement. The university has adopted an integrated water management system supported by policies, advanced infrastructure, and regular monitoring. The University’s average daily water consumption is about 650 m<sup>3</sup>, serving a population of roughly 6,850 individuals, which corresponds to 168 litres per person per day. The university harvests an estimated 1,500-2,000 m<sup>3</sup> of stormwater annually and channels it to Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) for reuse. Three WTPs with capacities of 40,000 LPH, 6,000 LPH, and 4,000 LPH ensure treated water meets BIS standards, with over 80 percent reused on campus.

A 250 KLD Biological Sewage Treatment Plant further treats wastewater, enabling 85 percent reuse for irrigation, flushing, and landscape maintenance. The campus follows a strict zero-discharge policy. Water-efficient infrastructure includes dual-flush systems, low-flow aerators, sensor-based urinals, IoT-enabled washing machines, and smart water-level controllers, achieving an overall 93.64 percent efficiency across 3,248 appliances. Drought-tolerant



plantation, drip irrigation, and sustainable landscape practices further reduce freshwater demand. Community initiatives extend the university’s impact beyond campus through RO-based summer drinking water camps, school awareness programmes, agricultural training, plastic-free campaigns, FDPs, and environmental cleanups.

The Art of Living’s contributions more than 70 river rejuvenations, 81.2 million saplings planted, and support for over 45,000 beneficiaries through water purification technologies strengthen the university’s outreach. Collectively, university demonstrates a robust, circular, and community-driven model of water sustainability aligned with SDG 6.



Plate 14: Infrastructure and Institutional Measures for Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)



### **SDG7: Sustainable and Clean Energy**

Sri Sri University’s approach is grounded in practical implementation, policy alignment, research collaborations, and community partnerships. The University continuously strengthens energy efficiency in its infrastructure through responsible design, energy-efficient appliances, natural ventilation planning, and structured monitoring using digital meters in every campus building. Its construction and renovation practices emphasize reduced heat absorption, local materials, LED lighting, and sustainable architectural layouts. A major highlight of university’s clean energy transition is its expanding solar infrastructure. The University operates 8 kW rooftop solar systems, producing approximately 35 units per day (≈13,000 units annually). Alongside this, 105 solar-powered streetlights generate around 38,325 units per year, significantly reducing



dependence on conventional energy. university's campus-wide solar operations achieved a peak daily generation of 2,998 kWh, amounting to 830,446 kWh annually, with the Shruti (1,700 kWh/day) and Kirti (1,200 kWh/day) buildings emerging as the largest contributors. Against a total annual electricity demand of 2,794,202 kWh, solar power offsets nearly 30%, bringing net consumption down to 1,963,756 kWh.

Energy efficiency interventions across appliances continue to scale. The campus currently uses 6,214 LED-based lighting units, 3,225 energy-efficient fans, 191 solar/LED streetlights, and 614 high-efficiency (ISSER > 4.5) air conditioners. These measures collectively contribute to university's reduced energy-use density of 0.0665 GJ/m<sup>2</sup>, reflecting a strong alignment with international energy-efficiency norms. Beyond operations, university actively engages with communities and industry partners to promote clean energy adoption. Collaborations with organizations such as Climate Reality Project (USA), Sparsh Foundation, and Schneider Electric strengthen research and vocational training in renewable energy systems. The University's training centre has successfully upskilled 240 participants under the NSDC-PMKVY 4.0 scheme in emerging roles such as Solar PV Installer (Suryamitra). Carbon reduction efforts form an essential pillar of university's sustainability framework. The University promotes eco-friendly mobility, electric vehicle charging, bicycle use, and adoption of natural gas, complemented by ongoing plantation drives both on campus and in surrounding communities. These initiatives not only support carbon sequestration but also strengthen university's green campus identity. Through its integrated actions spanning research, education, infrastructure, operations, and outreach Sri Sri University positions itself as a model institution that bridges ecological responsibility with academic leadership. Its continued alignment with SDG-7 and its long-term energy strategy mark university as a forward-thinking institution committed to advancing a clean, resilient, and sustainable energy future for India and the world.



### **SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Sri Sri University advances Sustainable Development Goal 8 by strengthening employability, entrepreneurship and inclusive economic growth. Through industry-aligned training, internships and certifications under its NCVET-recognized Skill Training & Industry Collaboration Cell, the University enhances job readiness for students and local youth. SSUInnovation Pvt. Ltd., a Startup Odisha-approved and MSME-recognized incubator, has supported over 200 startups, with 150 graduates generating 2,500+ jobs and more than USD 515 million in revenue. The 2024-25



placement cycle saw 64 new recruiters, participation from unicorn companies and a steady rise in paid internships. Community initiatives including organic farming, Agri-skilling and rural entrepreneurship continue to boost livelihoods. Ethical employment policies, gender equity and strong worker protections reinforce university's commitment to fair, sustainable and inclusive economic development.



Plate 15. glimpses of the events, actions, and achievements of students, staff and faculty members and other contributors towards SDG 8



## **SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

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Sri Sri University, inspired by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji's vision to create entrepreneurs, offers a two-year full-time MBA in Entrepreneurship, approved by AICTE, making it the only such program in Eastern India. Sri Sri University significantly advances SDG 9 through a structured ecosystem of research, entrepreneurship support, and sustainable campus development. At the center of its innovation framework is SSUInnovation Pvt. Ltd., a recognized incubator under Startup Odisha and registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). Since its inception, the incubator has supported 200+ early-stage ventures, with 150 formally incubated startups collectively generating 2,500+ jobs and over USD 515 million (approx. INR 4,200 crore) in revenue. Notable ventures include technology, agritech, wellness, creative arts, and sustainable development startups emerging from the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Health & Wellness, and Faculty of Architecture. The University's Skill Training & Industry Collaboration Cell (STICC), aligned with NCVET, delivers industry-focused certifications in digital technologies, design tools, sustainable construction materials, entrepreneurship, and technical trades. university's infrastructure enables innovation-driven learning through smart classrooms, mechanical and engineering labs, an automatic solar weather station, and interdisciplinary project spaces. The 2024 recruitment cycle attracted 64 companies, including unicorn and high-growth tech firms, reflecting university's rising industry relevance. Sustainable physical infrastructure forms a second pillar of SDG 9 implementation. The campus integrates solar-powered lighting, rainwater harvesting, wastewater treatment plants, vehicular emission controls, and plastic reduction policies, ensuring resource-efficient operations. Community outreach extends university's technological influence to rural Odisha through agri-innovation programs, digital literacy workshops, organic farming demonstrations and entrepreneurship training delivered by units like Team Udayam. Together, these initiatives position Sri Sri University as an emerging eastern India hub for sustainable innovation, resilient infrastructure, and inclusive industrial growth.



## **SDG10: Reduce inequalities**

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Sri Sri University's work toward SDG 10 reflects a campus environment intentionally shaped to expand opportunity and reduce social and economic disparities. The university's commitment is most visible in the structures it has put in place: the Committee for Social Protection, the Equal Opportunities Committee, and the Internal Complaints Committee, all of which collectively ensure that concerns related to caste, class, ethnicity, disability, or minority status are addressed with clarity and fairness. Policies such as 10% EWS reservation, 4% reservation for persons with disabilities, and special consideration for sports achievers, children of martyrs, and Kashmiri migrants reinforce its inclusive admissions framework.

Daily life on campus incorporates practices that promote well-being and emotional balance, particularly through the mandatory Happiness Program and widespread participation in Sudarshan Kriya, meditation, and yoga sessions. These practices are extended to all university members, including Class D staff, making wellness a shared institutional experience rather than an optional activity. A strong culture of outreach brings the university into close partnership with surrounding communities. Students regularly organize health and hygiene camps, blood-donation drives, cleanliness initiatives, road-safety sessions, and creative workshops for schoolchildren. Through NSS, Rover Ranger activities, and student-led clubs, the university's focus on human dignity and social responsibility becomes a lived experience rather than a policy statement.

Accessibility remains a central concern, reflected in ramps, elevators, wheelchair support, priority shuttle services, and dedicated hostel facilities for persons with disabilities. The presence of Sri Sri Gurukul, fully supported by the university, further reflects a philosophy that blends traditional wisdom with contemporary inclusivity. Together, these elements create a campus where equality is actively practiced, not merely encouraged.



## **SDG11: Sustainable Cities & Communities**

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Sri Sri University actively advances Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by integrating cultural preservation, sustainable infrastructure, and inclusive



public engagement into its campus ecosystem. The university strengthens cultural vibrancy by promoting local arts through regular workshops, exhibitions, and competitions, with public galleries that display student-created artworks. The gallery shown in the image reflects this commitment, showcasing diverse works in an accessible exhibition space. These cultural efforts are driven by the Faculty of Arts, Communication, and Indic Studies (FACIS), which enables high levels of student participation and fosters deeper community connections. Sustainability is embedded in campus design. Key buildings including the prominent Gurukul block are constructed using locally sourced materials such as rammed earth and laterite, reducing environmental footprint. The use of vernacular architecture, jack-arch roofing, and passive design strategies enhances energy efficiency, thermal comfort, and low-maintenance performance. Sri Sri University further collaborates with local planning authorities and industry partners to support resilient housing prototypes and sustainable urban development solutions. The campus adheres to a green infrastructure framework, emphasizing pedestrian-friendly layouts, eco-conscious building practices, and nature-integrated public spaces. The university preserves intangible cultural heritage by integrating Sanskrit studies, classical Indian knowledge systems, and Indic cultural programs into its academic and community activities. Through these combined cultural and environmental contributions, Sri Sri University stands out as a leading institution in implementing SDG 11, ensuring sustainability, inclusivity, heritage preservation, and community well-being.





Plate 16: Programs and Activities Advancing Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)



### **SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production**

Sri Sri University strictly adheres to organic food production technologies, ensuring sustainable practices to enhance soil fertility through green manure, pulse crops, and farmyard manure from its Goshala. To reinforce sustainability, the university has framed a Sustainably Farmed Food Policy and established a robust Food Waste Management Policy. Food waste from hostels, mess, and canteens is repurposed into vermicompost, fed to animals in the cowshed, or managed through Cuttack Municipal Corporation. The university complies with Hazardous and Other Wastes Rules, 2016, and Bio-medical Waste Rules, 2016, partnering with 'Sani Clean' for bio-medical waste collection and treatment. Waste is systematically segregated into wet and dry categories, stored in designated containers, and disposed of by licensed contractors. Plastic waste is managed through a strict Plastic Use Policy, encouraging reusable cotton bags, placing color-coded bins, and conducting awareness campaigns against single-use plastics. Sri Sri University benefits from its parent organization, the Art of Living (AOL), renowned for its contributions to environmental conservation and sustainability. Active student clubs like NSS, NCC, and ORION engage in initiatives such as organic farming awareness, plantation drives, and ocean cleaning.

The university minimizes food waste through education and tracking systems, repurposing waste into compost or animal feed. These efforts underscore its commitment to sustainable living and environmental conservation. Activities like blood donation camps, plantation drives, and waste segregation exemplify its holistic approach to sustainability.



Plate 17. Conscious use of resources, waste to worth and other events related to SDG 12



### **SDG13: Climate action**

Sri Sri University has built a strong sustainability ecosystem through its Climate Action Plan, which focuses on renewable energy transition, efficient energy use, biodiversity restoration, water conservation, sustainable farming, and climate education. The University has significantly



strengthened its renewable energy portfolio through the installation of 650 kW of rooftop solar panels, along with 75 solar streetlights and Air-Sourced Water Heaters, substantially reducing dependence on conventional energy sources. In 2024 alone, university’s solar systems offset 830,446 kWh of electricity, contributing to a 1.48% reduction in the campus’s net carbon footprint. The campus is equipped with advanced environmental monitoring systems, including PM2.5 and AQI monitoring (Aurassure pvt. Ltd.), enabling real-time air quality assessment and awareness. University’s water management infrastructure includes 2 Water Treatment Plants, 2 Biological Sewage Treatment Plants (2.5 lakh L/day each), and rainwater harvesting structures that collectively harvest 15–20 lakh liters of rainwater every year. The University practices 100% chemical-free farming on its agricultural lands using Jeevamrit, in-situ composting, neem-based inputs, and support from a dedicated goshala. Throughout 2024, university conducted multiple sustainability-focused events: an international workshop on climate education, W20–G20 sessions on women and climate resilience, digital poster competitions, campus cleaning and landscaping drives, a plant donation drive, medicinal plantation activities, and disaster management training. Student-led clubs including the Eco Club, Heritage Club, Birding Club, and Fitness & Nutrition Club played a central role in mobilizing participation.

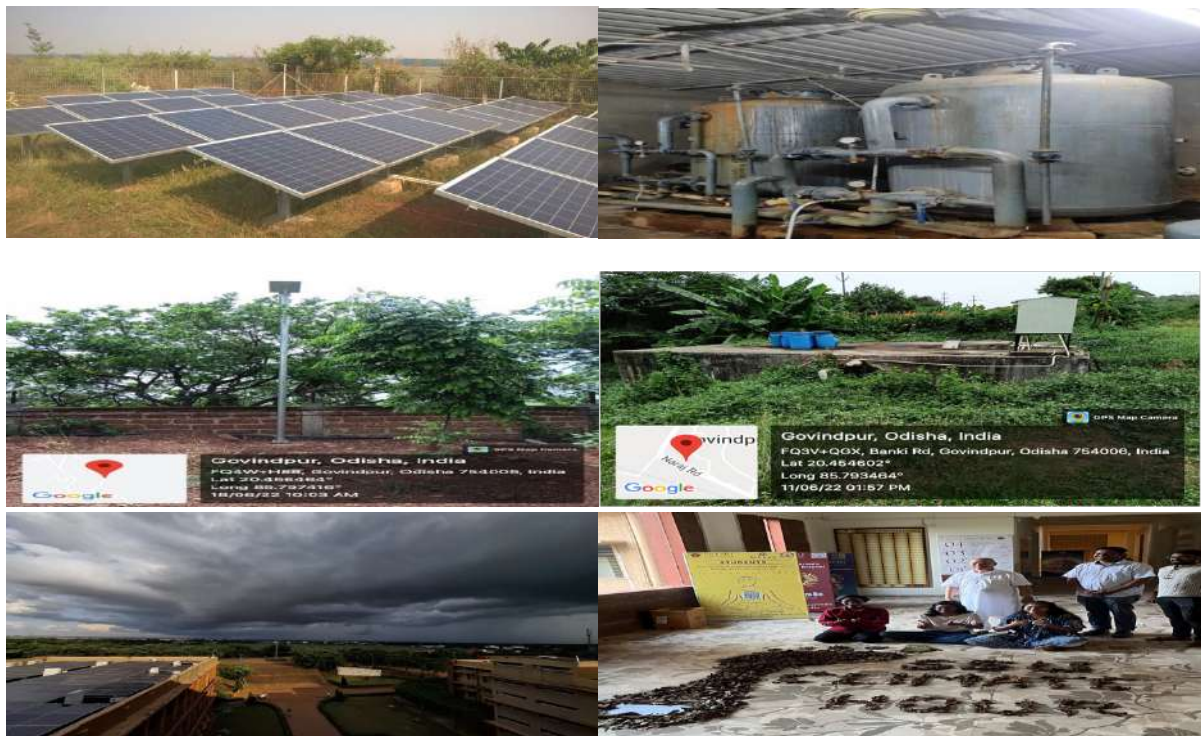


Plate 18: Efforts for climate action (SDG 13)



## **SDG14: Life Below Water**

Sri Sri University demonstrates a strong and evolving commitment to protecting aquatic ecosystems and advancing SDG 14: Life Below Water. The university plays an active role in conserving wetlands through strict protection measures, regular ecological monitoring, and student-led water quality analysis, ensuring that these fragile habitats remain undisturbed and ecologically balanced. University's water management system sets a benchmark for sustainable practice, integrating rainwater harvesting, wastewater treatment, drip irrigation, and sensor-based water-saving technologies, collectively enabling efficient water use and significantly reducing environmental impact. A major highlight was University's hosting of the National Conference on "Life Below Water: Achieving Sustainable Development Goal," which brought researchers, experts, and conservation practitioners together to discuss aquatic sustainability. During this event, two important books were launched: "Mahanadi River: Environmental Challenges and Way Forward" and "Atlas of Himalayan Diatoms," further strengthening university's academic contribution to freshwater and marine research.

The university also extends its stewardship beyond campus. Through its NCC Naval Wing with 50 cadets, university actively engages students in water-focused awareness, marine protection activities, and leadership training. Additionally, student groups and clubs regularly conduct beach cleaning drives, lake conservation activities, and community campaigns, reinforcing university's outreach in preserving aquatic environments. University's application of the 3R principles—Reduce, Reuse, recycle has enabled a 65% reduction in water consumption, with treated and upcycled water utilized across campus for sustainable purposes. By integrating research, community involvement, and environmentally responsible infrastructure, Sri Sri University stands as a beacon of aquatic conservation, demonstrating that education and ecological preservation can advance together to protect life below water and ensure a sustainable future.



Plate 19. Book Launches, MoU Signings, and NCC Naval Wing Activities Supporting Life Below Water (SDG 14)



## SDG15: Life on Land

Through its courses in Environmental Science and Agriculture, the university fosters an academic understanding of biodiversity conservation and sustainable farming, preparing future leaders to address environmental challenges. Complementing formal education, outreach programs, such as village training sessions and webinars on biodiversity, ensure the dissemination of knowledge to local and regional communities.

Sri Sri University's innovative practices, including organic farming, in-situ composting, and permaculture, underscore its focus on sustainable food production. The campus itself serves as a living example of biodiversity conservation, hosting a variety of native flora and fauna while systematically monitoring species and adopting restoration plans for those under threat. Community-focused initiatives, such as plantation drives, beach cleanups, and environmental awareness campaigns, highlight the university's dedication to engaging with stakeholders beyond the campus. Policy frameworks, such as water reuse and hazardous waste management, support sustainable practices and align with broader environmental goals. Through clubs like the Eco Club and Birding Club, the university fosters a culture of environmental awareness among students, faculty, and staff. Its prohibition of invasive species and emphasis on native flora reflect a thoughtful approach to ecological restoration. The integration of green building practices and utilization of degraded land further demonstrate its commitment to sustainability.





Plate 20 a. Wildlife Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Efforts (SDG 15: Life on Land)



Plate 20b. Wildlife Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Efforts (SDG 15: Life on Land)



## **SDG16: Peace Justice and strong institution**

Aligning to vision of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravishankar Ji, brand ambassador of world peace, Sri Sri university is committed to SDG 16. University made efforts to advance peace, justice, and strong institutions through structured governance, community engagement, and values-based education. Institutional integrity is upheld through key bodies such as the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) with representation from the Board of Governance, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and local stakeholders alongside the Student Grievance Redressal Committee, Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) formed under the 2013 Act, and a multi-member Anti-Ragging Committee. Annual reviews using the PDCA cycle and SWOT analysis reinforce transparency and continuous improvement. The university documents extensive student participation through the NSS, NCC (Army wing and Naval Wing), and Rover–Ranger units, which lead a range of service-driven activities. Notable events include village cleaning and campus sanitation drives, plantation campaigns, medical outreach camps, rural development activities, and agriculture-support initiatives with local farmers. Awareness programmes such as seminars on mental health, digital safety workshops, environmental sustainability talks, gender sensitization sessions, and ethics and leadership events enhance civic responsibility across the campus.

Well-being and peacebuilding are strengthened through daily yoga, guided meditation, and Sudarshan Kriya sessions facilitated by certified instructors, complemented by the support of the Counselling and Wellness Cell. Annual peace observances and training in non-violent communication and conflict management further anchor the university’s culture of harmony. Engagement with external stakeholders including panchayats, NGOs, schools, and community groups is reflected in village adoption programmes, Ayurveda and osteopathy health camps, and rural immersion visits. Research contributions in peacebuilding, governance, and social justice extend the university’s impact beyond the campus, underscoring its integrated approach to operationalizing SDG 16.





Plate 21. Reflections of efforts towards peace, justice and building a strong institution



### **SDG17: Partnership for the goals**

The institution's development initiatives during the year reflect a steadily expanding network of collaborations that strengthened research, community engagement, and environmental stewardship. More than 18 active national and international partnerships supported academic exchange, field-based projects, and joint capacity-building efforts, creating a strong foundation for interdisciplinary impact. Collaborations with government agencies and local organizations enabled livelihood enhancement and nutrition awareness programmes, reaching over 1,200 community beneficiaries. Health-related partnerships contributed significantly to research productivity, resulting in 61 documented publications and studies, along with wellness camps and training sessions that promoted preventive care and community well-being.

Guided by its parent organizations whose outreach spans 450 million people across 180 countries the university continued to integrate value-based learning and teacher enrichment into its educational model. Water related collaborations enabled watershed planning, water-quality assessments, and conservation drives focused on safeguarding local ecosystems. Cultural institutions and urban development partners supported programmes on inclusive community development, accessibility, and heritage conservation. These initiatives were backed by over 26 scholarly outputs on sustainable urban practices and 23 thematic documents on social equity, strengthening the knowledge base for ongoing interventions.

Environmental partnerships played a pivotal role in expanding campus and community-based ecological restoration. Joint plantation drives and biodiversity studies, supported by student clubs and faculty teams, earned the institution the Parivesh Bandhu Award for its contribution to rural greening efforts. A major highlight of the year was the National Conference on Life Below Water, which convened researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to advance scientific understanding of aquatic ecosystems. The event also witnessed the launch of two significant publications—



*Mahanadi River: Environmental Challenges and the Way Forward* and *Diatoms Atlas of Himalaya*. In addition, the NCC Naval Unit with 50 cadets carried out recurring beach-cleaning programmes in collaboration with coastal authorities, reinforcing the institution’s commitment to joint action for environmental protection. Overall, the institution demonstrated a cohesive approach to collaboration, leveraging partnerships, research, and community programmes to create measurable and meaningful impact.



Plate 22. Glimpses of the MoUs, and collaboration at state, national and international level



## Summary

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Sri Sri University presents a comprehensive account of its sustainability vision through a blend of ecological stewardship, academic innovation, and community engagement. Established on a 188 acre green campus, the university integrates environmental protection with value-based education, supported by global recognition such as its Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025 position (401–600 globally, 70<sup>th</sup> worldwide for Zero Hunger), QS World University Rankings 2024 placement (951–1000 globally), and UI Green Metric ranking as 1<sup>st</sup> in Odisha and 9<sup>th</sup> in India. Significant progress has been achieved in renewable energy adoption. The campus operates 650 kW of rooftop solar systems generating up to 2,998 kWh per day and 830,446 kWh annually, reducing electricity-related carbon footprint by 1.48%. Buildings such as Shruti and Kirti produce 1,700 kWh/day and 1,200 kWh/day respectively. Energy-efficient appliances over 6,214 LED lights, 3,225 efficient fans, and ISSER 4.5+ AC units, further reduce usage, and the university received the Odisha State Energy Conservation Award 2024.

Climate action is advanced through MoUs with the Energy Swaraj Foundation, a solar-powered automatic weather station, PM2.5 and AQI monitoring systems, and the “SSU Climate Hour,” which alone reduced approximately 250 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. Regular conferences on climate education, plantation drives, and plastic-free campaigns strengthen its outreach. The campus functions as a model green ecosystem with more than 150,000 trees, 91 bird species, 20+ herpetofauna species, and 50 butterfly species. Biodiversity is supported by a functional goshala, organic farms, medicinal gardens, and student-led clubs such as the Eco Club and Birding Club. Sustainable farming spans 40.44 acres of chemical-free agriculture, producing 30% of the campus’s fresh food supply. On-campus food waste measured at 14,399.4 kg in 2024–25 is carefully segregated and repurposed through composting and cattle feed. Water stewardship is demonstrated through harvesting 15–20 lakh liters of rainwater annually, operation of 2 Water Treatment Plants and two 2.5-lakh-litre/day STPs that recycle 80% of wastewater, and campus-wide adoption of IoT-enabled appliances, sensor-based flush systems, and drip irrigation reducing consumption by up to 70%. University-wide efficiency across 3,248 devices stands at 93.64%.

Academic contributions to SDGs are substantial. Research output includes more than 20 Scopus-indexed works on quality education and sustainability, 61 health-related studies, 26 publications on urban sustainability, and 23 works on social equity. Across SDG programmes, over 600 students participated in fieldwork and 1,200 community members benefited from livelihood and training initiatives. The university's incubation ecosystem has supported more than 200 startups, with 150 generating over 2,500 jobs and USD 515 million in revenue. Major events strengthened



thematic engagement International Yoga Day, biodiversity workshops, health camps benefiting hundreds, and extensive outreach through NSS, NCC (including a 50-cadet Naval Wing), and Rover–Ranger units. A highlight was the National Conference on *Life Below Water; Achieving sustainable development goals*, and launch of two academic books, *Mahanadi River: Environmental Challenges and Way Forward* and *Atlas of Himalayan Diatoms*. Regular beach-cleaning programmes reinforce leadership in aquatic conservation. Policies on plastic-free campus operations, sustainable food systems, responsible waste management, hazardous waste handling, water reuse, and zero emissions ensure science-based governance. Infrastructure rooted in vernacular architecture, pedestrian-friendly planning, renewable energy integration, and climate-responsive buildings further positions the university as a sustainable campus.

Guided by Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar’s global humanitarian legacy spanning 450 million people in more than 180 countries, the university embeds peace, inclusivity, and strong institutions through transparent governance, anti-ragging systems, grievance redressal committees, and regular wellness programs including yoga, meditation, and mental-health services.

The report captures Sri Sri University’s integrated progress across environmental, academic, and societal dimensions, positioning it as a model institution demonstrating how education, sustainability, and community welfare can advance together toward global development goals.


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“Life can only come out of life and only life can sustain life... Our environment is our first body ... We need to attend to the human psyche ... If compassion and care are kindled within the self ... they reflect in the environment ... People should ... see God in nature and in people.”

- Pujya Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Ji

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