

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVITY

The world is facing severe challenges and requires an inclusive attitude to enable staff and teachers to develop their full potential and to meet the challenges in Life. Inclusiveness as defined in the Salamanca statement by UNESCO entails recognition of the need to work towards education for all, which includes everybody who celebrates differences, supports learning and responds to individual needs. Educational policies and practices often assume that student populations are homogeneous in their perception and learning. They often ignore the students' situatedness in their personal life which influences their perception and experience. It is important that all students should learn together regardless of their differences, diversity and disabilities. The college promotes an environment in which all students feel valued, respected and have access to opportunities.

Sri Venkateswara College strives to strengthen social cohesion and promote greater solidarity and harmony among students through various initiatives and activities. It trains students to adhere to the principles of cultural tolerance, gender inclusivity, overcome religious, regional prejudices, and linguistic differences. Inclusiveness and tolerance are crucial for shared vision and future development of the institution. Teaching the values and skills for learning to coexist is a priority at Sri Venkateswara College. The college endeavours to prepare students to become socially conscious and responsible global citizens.

Fostering the Spirit of Inclusiveness

Sri Venkateswara College believes in fostering an inclusive environment where every stakeholder feels valued, respected and encouraged. Inclusive learning and teaching focuses on a learning experience that respects diversity and enables participation. The pedagogical practices adopted by the college recognises varied learning needs and preferences of students and address them appropriately. Such practices ensure a level playing field for all the students.

Cultural Inclusivity:

Creating an inclusive cultural environment is important for promoting harmony. Sri Venkateswara prepares students to learn in a supportive space free from prejudice and discrimination. The classroom environment sensitizes students to respect every culture, belief and language. Students are encouraged to respect cultural diversity through celebrations of different festivals in the campus and at the hostel. Living in the hostel with fellow residents from different cultural, regional, religious and linguistic backgrounds inculcates in students a spirit of self reliance and teaches them to be accommodating respectful towards each other.

Gender Inclusivity:

The Women Development Cell (WDC) of Sri Venkateswara College organises gender sensitization programs through partnerships with NGO's and campaigns. The WDC of SV College organises Pride March and workshops every year to sensitize teachers and students towards gender issues. To celebrate gender equity, WDC also released a poster on International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOBIT) in May 2020. The aim was to recognize the voice of the LGBTQ+ community, taking the theme as "Break The Silence: On the stigma and discrimination experienced by LGBTQ+ people". The month of June is recognized as the Pride month, commemorating the Stonewall Riots which took place in June in New York City, USA. WDC put up an online survey to know what 'Pride' means to the different students of our college. WDC hopes to keep up with its gender sensitization projects to make our campus and the larger society a safe space.

Regional Inclusivity:

Sri Venkateswara college in its admission norms, institutional arrangements and social practices adheres to the policy of regional inclusivity. Students from all over India are admitted in our College representing pan Indian culture. Special concessions are given to Kashmiri migrants in admission. Telugu and Tamil languages are taught in the College as Modern Indian languages and Discipline courses. Sri Venkateswara college conducts activities and events to promote Indian art, language and culture. The visit to Buddhist Lamas from the Tawang Monastery and to Kipti village helped students to understand the current status of Monpa Language and to inculcate the need to preserve lost languages. The College also offered a certificate program in Indian Music & culture in 2018 that helped students learn about cultural diversity in art forms across the country.

The Northeast student's association (NESA) of Sri Venkateswara College integrates students from the North Eastern States into the mainstream addressing everyday challenges faced by them thereby providing a friendly atmosphere far away from home. The Cell spreads awareness among people, especially the College fraternity, to acquaint them with the lesser-known cultures of Northeast India, which is a significant step towards national integration. NESA conducts orientation and fresher's programmes to welcome students to the academic and cultural environment of the college. NESA celebrates its annual festival "ONENESS" in a multi-dimensional event. It includes lectures by eminent personalities and a cultural festival depicting the regions' literature, food, clothing, contemporary developments as well as the challenges faced.

Socio Economic Inclusivity:

Sri Venkateswara college accommodates students from different social and economic backgrounds. The College provide assistance to students from economically weaker sections by having separate cut offs for students of EWS category. Book banks are created to provide students from economic weaker sections with reading material and subject books.

Inclusivity for the differently-abled:

The college has a well constituted Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) that addresses issues and needs of differently-abled students. The EOC has members from teaching staff as well as students and volunteers. It takes care of specific requirements of the differently abled students of the college, and takes up their issues such as providing physical facilities and logistic support with the administration. Volunteers of EOC help the differently abled students in work related to their examinations, admit cards etc. The College practices inclusive education not only as a program but also as an ideology to recognize and respect every individual's potential in teaching and learning process.

Women Development cell activities Link to reports:

http://www.svc.ac.in/SVC_MAIN/WDC/Wdc.php

Equal opportunity cell activities Link to reports:

http://www.svc.ac.in/SVC_MAIN/Societies/EOC/Eoc.php