

7.1.8. Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and other diversities.

The College institutionalised inclusiveness by extending equitable access to the students from socially disadvantaged communities and women through the following means.

Priority in **admission** to socially and economically weaker sections and women. Dalit and woman members of faculty in the admission committee to ensure the admission of the marginalised sections and women. The impact of this inclusive policy is observable from the percentage of admission of students from Scheduled Caste Communities and Most Backward Communities (MBC).

Opening the portals of the College for the **women** in the year 2001 yielded a positive impact on women education in a social environment where incidence of female infanticide was rampant.

The College uses the provisions of its Autonomy to introduce courses on **Human Rights, Women's writing** and **Development of the marginalised** etc. highlighting the importance of social inclusiveness.

Many students who hail from the neighbouring villages not only belong to socially disadvantaged communities but also to economically poor background and mainly depend on the **government scholarship**.

Students who hail from economically weaker families are supported with fee concession, and also **management scholarships**.

Poor students are also provided with opportunities to **earn while learn** by hiring their service in the college library and RDS farms.

Love for all religions is inculcated by including readings from sacred scriptures of all religions in the **Morning Prayers**. The College organises retreat and prayer services for students from the Hindu communities and Christian denominations separately, led by preachers and spiritual guides from the respective religions.

An introductory **exposure to all religions** is given through the Foundation Course on "Religious Literacy and Peace Ethics".

Local religious traditions and rituals are documented by PG Philosophy students as part of their course on "**Philosophy, Anthropology and Sociology of Religions**". Final year UG and

PG Philosophy students visit religious heritages in and around Madurai as part of their courses on Indian Philosophy. Symbols of all religions are displayed in the Prayer Hall.

International Students Forum and Inter-State Students Forum function on the campus to make students from other cultural backgrounds at home with the local situation. Through these forums the different cultural traditions are exhibited to widen the cultural horizon and to appreciate different traditions.

Special facilities are created for the **Divyangjan students**. Their mobility is supported with the provision of ramps and wheelchairs. Special restroom facilities have been provided in the college premises. Audio-visual and Braille facilities are available for them on the ground floor of the library. During the examination, scribes are arranged for the needy.

Thatha-Patti Club (Grandparents club) inculcates in students a sense of respect and care towards the aged and the destitute.