

3.3.1 Institution has created an eco-system for innovations, creation and transfer of knowledge supported by dedicated centers for research, entrepreneurship, community orientation, Incubation etc.

The initiatives of Arul Anandar College towards social transformation are channelized through various centres for community orientation, extension, innovation and empowerment.

Arrupe Centre for Policy Research (ACPR) undertakes many rural research programmes related to enhancing livelihood in collaboration with **Common Wealth of Learning**. ACPR facilitates horizontal learning among farmers through micro planning and participatory rural appraisal. It trains farmers on micro-enterprises like backyard poultry farming, value added products in millets, producing and marketing coir pith, etc. For their learning ACPR develops **Open Educational Resources** like voicemails, multimedia contents, YouTube videos and eBooks.

VETEX (VETerinary EXtension), an Animal Husbandry Clinic under the Department of RDS, provides practical training to the students of Rural Development Science in animal husbandry and offers professional skills in cattle management and cattle reproduction practices to the farmers. VETEX organizes veterinary camps and encourages better practices of animal rearing.

ARulanandar Initiative for Social Education (ARISE), an extension programme of the College adopts villages and carries out welfare activities such as health awareness programmes, livestock camps, campaign on government schemes and many of this kind to institutionalize social transformation in the rural livelihood through the approaches of *Lab to Land, Land to Lab, and Land to Land*. Students document people's life style and issues and assist them with knowledge and services.

Three Faculty members published three **Patents**.

DST-FIST Science Lab, DST-FIST Net Working Computer Lab and UGC-Agri Biotechnology Lab were established with highly defined laboratory tools and equipment to carry out innovative research endeavours. These laboratories are very useful for advanced students and researchers to carry out their research activities. MHRD Innovation and IPR Cell fosters novelty in research and promotes intellectual integrity.

Rural Action Development And Research (RADAR) conducts tailoring and typewriting courses to the rural youth. RADAR organises summer programmes for students

from local schools to familiarise them with higher education. **Computer Course for Rural Girls (CCRG)** conducts hands on courses for rural girls, especially for school dropouts.

The **Health Centre** of the College, an initiative by AAC-Alumni, extends medical services to the people of the neighbouring villages and students from our college and hostel.

The Institution has established **Ecology and Environment Centre** to promote a sense of environmental sustainability and eco-consciousness among the students and rural community. The Centre aims at creating opportunities to carry out environment oriented studies.

The Institution has established an **Empowerment Centre** with the purpose of empowering the marginalized by exercising need-based initiatives for livelihood sustainability.

These centres facilitate participatory learning and research which encourage student involvement with rural life and livelihood. Students also learn leadership skills and team spirit through organising camps, collecting data and doing fieldwork. The Institution integrates individual initiatives and innovations into its organic structure.